



# Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia

## Hunting & Conservation Branch (SA) Inc

PO Box 188 Kent Town SA 5071

[www.hunt-cons.asn.au](http://www.hunt-cons.asn.au)



# THE H&C NEWS

## Annual General Meeting Wednesday 21st September 2011

7.00 pm At GAZA Sports & Community Club, Corner of Main North East Rd and Wellington St Klemzig.

### CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

|                 |   |                |
|-----------------|---|----------------|
| 13/09/11        | H&C Council (meeting 7.00pm CWA)          | Council        |
| 17/09/11        | Accreditation Course (theory)             | Gil H          |
| <b>21/09/11</b> | <b>H&amp;C AGM 7pm at Gaza Comm Club</b>  | <b>Council</b> |
| 10 - 14/10/11   | Bimbowrie CR & Boolcoommatta – cull       | Phil J         |
| 16/10/11        | Range Day at NESSCI Range                 | George S       |
| 18/10/11        | H&C Council (meeting 7.00pm CWA)          | Council        |
| 25 - 28/11/11   | FFPP – cull                               | Kaz H          |
| 07 - 11/11/11   | Dutchman Stern CP – cull                  | Kaz H          |
| 12/11/11        | Range Day at Monarto – 10am – 4pm         | Council        |
| 15/11/11        | H&C Council (meeting 7.00pm CWA)          | Council        |
| 20 - 25/11/11   | Vulkathunha-Gammon RNP – cull             | Gil H          |
| 07/12/11        | H&C General Meeting 7pm at Gaza Comm Club | Council        |
| 11 - 14/12/11   | Brookfield                                | Brian W        |
| 10/12/11        | SSAA State AGM 12noon at CWA              | Council        |
| 13/12/11        | H&C Council (meeting 7.00pm CWA)          | Council        |

NB: - All cull dates cover shooting from first sunrise to last sunset excepting FFPP and PESTCAM which are from first sunset to last sunrise.

OFF PROGRAM (IRREGULAR) ACTIVITIES – please check with Activity Coordinator for details before registering.

|   |                                    |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Barossa/Hills – quick response/SA Water/Forestry SA | Graham H 8337 5388                 |
| Fleurieu – Forestry SA                              | Jim A 8390 1882                    |
| Telowie/Burra/Redbanks                              | Shane F 8634 4362                  |
| Everard/Thackaringa/Mantung                         | Rick F 0418 824 461                |
| Kangaroo Island                                     | Jorge N 8357 0903                  |
| Buckaringa (3/11, 7/11, 11/11) / Yookamurra         | Mark P 8380 5336                   |
| Midweek Range (Monarto)                             | Graham H 8337 5388                 |
| SA North-East private reserves & Corella culls      | Phil J 0408431750                  |
| Gluepot   | Phil J 0408431750                  |
| Lameroo District                                    | Evan R 8764 2169                   |
| Mt Brown CP   | Rob & Sue S 8636 2691              |
| Brookfield CP                                       | Brian W 0408854124                 |
| Witchelina Project (work bee & hunt)                | Graham H 83375388 & Kaz H 83393507 |

Every effort will be made not to make changes, but PLEASE CHECK ACTIVITY PROGRAM FOR UPDATES ON WEBSITE ([www.hunt-cons.asn.au](http://www.hunt-cons.asn.au)) and/or Activity Coordinator.



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### A Few Thoughts about Rifles, Calibres, Bullets and Accessories

#### First Instalment

Travelling to remote areas on H&C goat culls affords members plenty of time to debate the pros and cons of favourite rifles and calibres, but the trip home is often more informed in the light of actual field performance observed during the preceding week of hunting. When all is said and done, there are many calibres that will perform satisfactorily as a goat-gun, but as in most things, some are better than others, so first of all let's consider the range of possible goat calibres.

#### ON THE SUBJECT OF CALIBRES

##### **.224 calibres [.222 .223 .22-250 etc]**

H&C operations in South Australia these days tend more towards population control, rather than the knock-down-in-numbers shooting of a decade ago and consequently our quarry can be harder to find and far more difficult to approach than 'back in the bad old days'. For this reason, the .224 calibre class of cartridges offers only marginal performance as a goat killer. For close-quarters action they're fine, given appropriate bullet construction and placement, but long range shots can become decidedly iffy and wounded animals are highly probable at anything over 150 metres unless shot placement is perfect. Thus the .224 calibres limit the effective range at which goats can be engaged and in an environment where goat densities are lower, this is not an advantage to an animal-control hunter. Certain activities undertaken by H&C are calibre-limited to .224 calibre, so they're a good calibre-class to have, but as goat CULLING calibres, they fall far short of being ideal.

##### **6mm calibres**

Winchester's .243 is often thought of as an 'all-rounder' and has much to recommend it over the .224s. Having considerably more knock down power makes this a much better calibre for goats. Another possible advantage of the .243 Winchester is that it is a standard NPWS calibre, so in the event of running short of ammunition, it MIGHT be possible to obtain some in remote areas from a park ranger. For a hunter who is limited to just one calibre for all his or her hunting needs, a rifle in the 6mm-class is very hard to beat. It's a calibre capable of fine accuracy and possesses ample power to knock down goats out to 200m or so with good shot placement. With both light recoil and fine accuracy, the .243 is hard to criticise as a goat calibre. Being so near perfect for the job, its only failing is that it lacks the power to handle larger jobs. If you can afford the luxury of owning a .224, a .243 and a .30 calibre firearm, you will be well served by a lightweight .243 rifle in the hills hunting goats.

##### **.25 and 6.5mm/.264 calibres**

Calibres like the .257 Roberts and .25-06 are well suited for use on goats and incrementally extend the effective range beyond that achievable with the 6mms. Bullets in the

100 – 120 grain weight range travelling fast have plenty of power to knock down even the biggest billie at ranges out to 300m and are well suited to H&C work. There are those who propose the .25-06 as the 'true all-rounder' for all Australian game, but like all so-called 'all-rounders', it is bound to come up short somewhere. What it is, is a damn-near perfect goat calibre in the right hands. Power, accuracy and flat trajectory over a full 300m will kill reliably with good shot placement every time. The only thing against it is that they are not common calibres and ammunition might be difficult to obtain in out of the way places. Another popular member of this group is the 6.5 x 55 Swedish, for those 'Europhiles' among us. Long renowned as a superbly accurate calibre, polymer-tipped hunting bullets are extremely effective on goats at all practical ranges.

##### **.270/7mm calibres [.277/.284]**

Bigger is better as the ranges increase and the 7mm/08 is seeing more and more hunters with long range shooting skills converting to that calibre. Popular for Metallic Silhouette shooting out to 500m, the potential for superb accuracy using 140-grain bullets has extended the effective goat-killing range of this calibre out past 400m in the right hands. Of course, range finders as well as wind-reading skills and high-end marksmanship are all called for if kills are to be recorded at such extreme ranges, but cartridges in this class certainly carry the energy required to do the job. The .270 and 7mm calibres also carry over into the heavier-game field and are suitable on deer right up to sambar and even camels or donkeys. To be honest, I once considered the .270 a bit too powerful for goats until I discovered the right projectile for these light-framed animals – but more on that later.

##### **.30 calibres**

It would be hard to find a better goat killing calibre than the .308 Winchester. It would also be hard to find a more versatile calibre for the hand loader, with bullets available in weights ranging from 110 grains up to over 200. For goats, the standard 150-grain factory load will put down a goat as far away as you can hit it – and this is the only limitation on the calibre. Long a military sniper's calibre, hits on human targets have been recorded at over 1000 metres, but remember that unlike in Hollywood where anybody can pick up a sniper rifle and hit someone at that range, it's different in the real world. Without a well-tuned rifle and a range finder at minimum, hits on goats beyond 350 metres are unlikely, because for all its power, the .308 is not blessed with a spectacularly flat trajectory. This means holdover estimations that quickly bring it back into the pack in most shooters' hands. The .308's slightly bigger, older brother – the .30/06 is another very versatile calibre in this class and well worth considering, especially when bullets over 200-grains are required.



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### Bigger than .308/.30-06?

Things like the .300 Winchester Magnum, .35 Whelen, and .375 Holland and Holland have doubtless been used on goats and no doubt with instantly fatal results, but they are excessively powerful and not for the new shooter or the faint hearted. The .375 H&H enjoys a reputation for excellent accuracy, but blowing goats in two is just a tad more than is needed in order to achieve a feral animal control outcome. Even the .300 Win Mag is bordering on the ridiculous for all but the dedicated long-range shooter who wants 400m capability and doesn't mind stout recoil and artillery-like muzzle blast.

*The author of this article responded to my request for material for "News" that would be of interest to new members who receive varying information on what rifles, rounds, equipment would serve them best during H&C field activities.*

*Oftentimes a new member buys what looks good when in the shop but then finds, in the field, another member has something which he wishes he had, instead of that which he has just bought.*

*This article will be continued in December with items on Rifles, Bullets and Scopes.*

*George S. Editor*

In summary, as far as calibres go, the field is wide open. Almost all centrefire calibres will kill goats, but obviously the more powerful calibres allow a little more room for error in shot placement, as well as giving a longer effective range. Never forget though that an animal hit in the knee with a .300 Win Mag is just as badly shot as one hit in the knee with a .243. A bad shot is a bad shot with any calibre. From .25/06 upwards, you can confidently engage goats out to 300m and this is a good, full working range for H&C operations. The smaller calibres tend to limit effective range and all other things being equal, that extra range capability is a good thing to have.

### Hares as vectors of nematode transmission research

Since the last H&C meeting, progress has been slow in helping Marina Tai with her hare study, but with better weather on the way this might be a good time to remind members of the project and how you can help. Marina needs the intestines of hares taken from sheep grazing areas in order to study whether hares transmit sheep-borne worms. To contribute to this study, you need to GPS the location where the hare was taken, weigh the carcass, and record the sex of the animal. In addition to the contents of the abdominal cavity include one forearm, which allows the animal's age to be determined. Place the samples in a plastic bag, which can be frozen until they are given to Marina, who will collect them from you at a mutually convenient location. The photo shows my hare-collecting kit. Crucial elements are the fishing scales and the GPS, while the disposable gloves make the job much less messy. A notebook is needed to record the GPS data, and I use a marker pen to write on the sample bag, so I know which hare was taken where. I use cheap bio-degradable plastic bags from Woolies for the samples and Marina can be contacted either by phone on 0451 978 441 or via email at [marina.tai@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:marina.tai@adelaide.edu.au) PK

<http://new.dpi.vic.gov.au/about-us/news/media-releases/category/agriculture/brazilian-student-visits-victoria-to-uncover-the-link-between-hares-and-sheep-worms> will take you to the Victorian Department of Primary Industries' website where you can read the press release detailing Marina's research and its expected outcomes.

Picture of a sheep





### A basic guide to radio communication

UHF radios are an essential part of our kit these days, for communication within and between teams during a cull. The points below are aimed as a guide and a starting point to clear communication over the airwaves.

On H&C culls the standard radio frequency is UHF channel 14. While this may be changed by teams during a cull for operational purposes, the alternative channel must have been identified by your team at the pre-cull briefing, ensuring all teams are aware of the alternative channels. If you have changed channels, one member of the team must have their radio on scan to pick up traffic that may come through on channel 14, ensuring communication is maintained with all teams. The UHF channel should be locked on your radio to avoid it accidentally being knocked to another channel, leading to a breakdown in communication.

It always pays to carry a suitable spare battery (or batteries) when hunting. You never know when the battery may die – often at the most crucial time!

While often difficult, having a clear line of sight to the person you want to talk to will aid the success of a clear transmission. Radio waves generally pattern off the antenna straight out the sides, being transported out horizontally, with transmission improved the higher the radio is held or positioned on your pack, vest or harness system.

When transmitting:

It is best to be stationary. Try to have the radio in a vertical position, with the antenna straight up and not bent.

- Before transmitting gather your thoughts so the message is clear and succinct.
- As we are operating on open channels think about the need to discuss actual numbers or action being taken.
- Before speaking, listen to determine no one else is transmitting, or to ensure the previous transmission is complete, as communication can only occur in one direction at a time and you don't want to cut in on someone's transmission.
- When you are about to speak press the transmit button and pause briefly, ensuring the first few words are clearly heard.
- Do not shout into the radio or microphone.
- Whether speaking into the radio or via a microphone hand piece try not to speak directly into it. It is better to hold it off to one side of your mouth, placing it about a

thumb's width away from your mouth. Doing this you will be talking across the microphone which will help to prevent the receiver of your message hearing "wind noise" from your breath. In doing this, if your head turns you should still maintain the direction of speech and relationship with the microphone.

- Always call the person or team you want to speak to first as people are likely to listen if they hear their name first rather than at the end of a communication. For example; "Steve this is Phil, over "
- When initiating the communication it may pay to repeat the name of the person you want to talk to as it can help to catch their attention.
- When speaking, transmit the information concisely and clearly, speaking steadily but slightly slower than normal speed and in complete phrases.
- Try to keep the message short and concise. If you have a long message it should be broken into sentences.
- Avoid using slang and swearing.
- At times you may be in a position where you are unable to transmit fully. This could be due to low battery power, being on the edge of the reception range, or you are in the final stalk on some animals and don't want to talk. When this occurs acknowledge the communication by quickly tapping the transmit button on the radio or microphone which will send a short static burst. For instance, two quick taps would be yes or received and three taps would be no.
- If you are having difficulty transmitting, check your battery power level, UHF channel, power setting and antenna to ensure they are all correct. Try to find a clear area, elevate your position or that of your radio, be stationary and have a clear line of sight

• A few common words or phrases that are often used:

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| OVER          | transmission has ended and I expect a reply   |
| ROGER         | message has been received and understood  |
| STANDBY       | wait, I will call back soon – often used when clarifying an observation, referring to others in the group or checking a point |
| NOTHING HEARD | used when an expected reply is not returned   |
| OUT           | transmission has ended and I do not expect a reply  |

Scott J.



Branches in all States and Territories

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### UHF radio to change from 40 to 80 channels

When buying an UHF radio bear in mind that the current 40 channels will be increased to 80 channels soon. New model walkie talkies are already adapted to the change. UHF radios that bear NB for Narrow Band after the model number can be easily programmed to the new band widths.

See UHF CB Radio entry in Wikipedia or go to <http://www.acma.gov.au> the website of The Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) which is a statutory authority within the federal government portfolio of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy.

The ACMA is responsible for the regulation of: 1) broadcasting 2) the internet 3) radio communications 4) telecommunications.

Also worth a look are the sites of the major manufacturers of UHF radios:

<http://www.icom-australia.com/news.html>

<http://www.gme.net.au/>  
<http://www.uniden.com.au/AUSTRALIA/index.asp>

On present information it would appear that the current 40 channel sets will work until June 2017.

Thanks to Scott J. and Richard T. for passing on these websites

George S

### Participating in an activity

If you wish to attend an H&C activity, the procedure is that you contact the relevant cull coordinator and make your interest known. Coordinators' names are listed, on front page of this publication, next to the activities for which they take responsibility. Many have their phone numbers listed on front page as well. The cull coordinator will fill you in on details of the cull.

Most coordinators attend quarterly meetings and now that all members are requested to **wear their name tags** shouldn't be too hard to find during that part of the meeting that has been set apart for supper and members getting to know each other.

Next, you download a Cull Registration Form from the website [www.hunt-cons.asn.au](http://www.hunt-cons.asn.au) and send same to address on form.

The cull coordinator will then contact you and you will be on your way to attending that cull, or; if you've left things a little late and all positions have been taken you'll be put on the waiting list as it sometimes happens that those further up the list are unable to attend.

Coordinators are volunteers too, and usually have jobs, families and all the rest to contend with before they apply themselves to activity coordination, so be proactive, contact them, don't wait for them to contact you, and get in amongst the action to preserve Australia's heritage.

George S

Newly hatched Mallee Fowl chick.

Mallee Fowl Cam photo

Glue Pot Reserve





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### HOW GUN MAGAZINES REVIEW FIREARMS

Instructions from the Editor to the Gun writer:

'Frangible Arms has just paid for a four-page colour ad in our next issue. They've sent us their latest offering, the CQB MK-V Tactical Destroyer. Take it out to the range, test it and do a review of it'.

Actual notes made by the Gun Writer during the course of the review:

'The gun is a crude copy of the WWII Japanese Nambu type-14 pistol, except it's made from unfinished zinc castings. The grips are pressed cardboard. The barrel is unrifled pipe. There are file marks all over the gun, both inside and out. Only ten rounds of 8mm ammunition were supplied. Based on previous experience with a genuine Nambu, I set up a target two feet down range. I managed to cram four rounds into the magazine, plus one in the chamber. I taped the magazine in place, bolted the pistol into a machine rest, took cover behind a barricade and pulled the trigger with a 20-foot length of cord. I was unable to measure the trigger pull weight, because my fishing scales top out at 32 pounds. On the third try, the pistol fired. From the outline of holes in the target, I think the barrel, frame, magazine, trigger and recoil spring blew through the target. The remaining parts scattered all over the landscape. I've sent the machine rest back to the factory to see if it can be fixed, and we need to replace the shooting bench. I'm off for the rest of the day to see if I can do something about the ringing in my ears. I need a drink'.

Review produced by the Gun Writer:

'The CQB MK-V Tactical Destroyer is arguably the deadliest pistol in the world. Based on a combat-proven military design, but constructed almost entirely of space-age alloy, it features a remarkable barrel design engineered to produce a cone of fire; a feature much valued by Special Forces world-wide. The Destroyer shows clear evidence of extensive hand fitting and the weapon disassembles rapidly without tools. At a reasonable combat distance, I put five holes in the target faster than I would have thought possible. This is the pistol to have if you want to end a gunfight instantly. The gun is a real keeper as I find myself unable to send it back'.

Patrick K.

### SAPOL Mobile Phone App

SAPOL has become the first police service in Australia to launch its own mobile web app. The SA Police News website – [www.sapolicenews.com.au](http://www.sapolicenews.com.au) – is now formatted for iPhone, Android and Windows Mobile smart phones.

Members of the public and SAPOL employees now have quick and convenient access to a wide range of news, information and updates from the South Australia Police in the palm of their hand.

The new web app went live Wednesday 20 July 2011 and boasts a number of features which allows people to access the latest news and updates directly from the police.

The SA Police News web app features articles on arrests, police operations, serious and fatal road accidents as well as appeals for witnesses to a range of crimes formatted to display on a mobile phone. By accessing the SA Police News web app you can:

- Read all the latest news articles from the SA Police News website
- Watch the "caught on CCTV" clips and videos from the SA Police News YouTube Channel
- Receive information about natural disasters and emergencies
- Check speed camera locations
- Find out how to report a crime
- Find your local police station
- See the list of SA's most wanted criminals
- Access SAPOL's social media sites
- Share news articles on Facebook and Twitter .  
"We see the app being popular with younger people and particularly useful for those who are now more inclined to read news via their mobile phones," SAPOL Media Director Shelaye Boothey said.  
"We also envisage the mobile app to be a very useful communication tool in the event of a disaster or declared emergency."  
To access the free SA Police News web app visit [www.sapolicenews.com.au](http://www.sapolicenews.com.au) from your iPhone, Android or Windows Mobile smartphone today! Bookmark or save the links below as a favourite to visit and follow us online at:  
[www.sapolicenews.com.au](http://www.sapolicenews.com.au) <http://twitter.com/SAPoliceNews> [www.youtube.com/SAPoliceNews](http://www.youtube.com/SAPoliceNews) [www.facebook.com/sapolicenews](http://www.facebook.com/sapolicenews)



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### Emergency Road Closures

Emergency road closures do not prevent people from leaving dangerous areas. Emergency road closures are established to prevent people entering dangerous areas for safety reasons.

<http://www.sapolice.gov.au/>

For information in relation to other road closures please refer to [www.dtej.sa.gov.au](http://www.dtej.sa.gov.au)

### NESSCI (Upper Hermitage) Range Days

The next Range Day at NESSCI Range will be on Sunday 16th October from 11-4.

The range is on Range Road North, some 300 metres from the intersection of North East Road and Range Road North. (Formerly Tea Tree Gully, now, Upper Hermitage.)

There will be a red flag flying at entrance to site, NESSCI and AURRPC signs on cyclone fence next to gate

Follow track down hill. Take right fork where track divides.

George S.

PS. Thanks to Graham H for scavenging timber and making new target stands for H&C use at this range.

GS

### Website of Interest

<http://www.ala.org.au/> takes you to the Atlas of Living Australia, a website created by a partnership comprising the CSIRO, Australian museums, herbariums and other biological collections, the Australian Government and community members.

Type in your address and discover the flora and fauna with which you share your suburb.

George S

### Hunting Permits

Doug Riach of SAPOL (and H&C) was guest speaker at a recent quarterly meeting. Amongst other things he touched on in his talk, he pointed out that Firearms Branch records show that, (these figures are from last year) there were 53,000 firearms licence holders who have "Purpose of Use - Hunting" on their licence.

As of the end of last year there were 2,500 people holding a current National Parks Hunting Permit.

So, a firearms licence allows a person to have a firearm for the purpose of hunting (genuine reason) but actually to go hunting they must possess a National Parks Hunting Permit.

The laws on hunting in SA are given on Hunting Permit.

**"This permit must be carried with you at all times when you are hunting or attempting to hunt.**

**You are required to obtain the written permission of the landowner to hunt on his/her land (this also includes private waters).**

**This permit to be produced on demand of a Warden.**

**"You must advise the Fauna Protection Unit within 14 days of change of address."**

Bear in mind:

National Parks and Wildlife (Hunting) Regulations 1996

under the [National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972](#)

...will be revoked on 1.9.2011 by Sch 2 of [National Parks and Wildlife \(Hunting\) Regulations 2011](#).

Retrieved from: [www.legislation.sa.gov.au](http://www.legislation.sa.gov.au).

The new regulations can be accessed from:

[National Parks and Wildlife \(Hunting\) Regulations 2011](#)

George S



### Activity reports

Activity: Gluepot  
Date: 17-20 June  
Coordinator: Phil J  
Attending Members: 6  
Animals Taken: Goats 24  
Comments: Vegetation in good condition, goats scattered.

Activity: Dutchmans Stern CP  
Date: 20-24 June  
Coordinator: Kaz H  
Attending Members: 8  
Animals Taken: Goats 132  
Comments: Good result in spite of foggy mornings and windy nights.

Activity: Gluepot  
Date: 4-8 August  
Coordinator: Phil J  
Attending Members: 4  
Animals Taken: Goats 18  
Comments: Tracking of Judas goat worked very well, re-growth continuing to flourish.

Activity: Eastern Suburbs Deer  
Date: 6 & 8 August  
Coordinator: Jim A, Kaz H  
Attending Members: 2  
Animals Taken: Deer 2  
Comments: Ongoing

Activity: 2nd Valley  
Date: 10-11 August  
Coordinator: Jim A  
Attending Members: 4  
Animals Taken: Deer 4  
Comments: 8 sighted, very timid.

Activity: Gum Creek St  
Date: 13-14 August  
Coordinator: Dennis D  
Attending Members: 1  
Animals Taken: Rabbits 138,  
Cats 5.

**Langseeds** at Woodside now provide firearms and ammunition service, Good specials available  
**Mannum** service station also has ammunition available

### 4th National Mallee Fowl Forum Renmark.

Some 140 persons, from 4 states (WA, SA, Vic, NSW) concerned with the preservation of the Mallee fowl and its habitat met in Renmark in August.

Among them were land holders, conservation group members, (I represented H&C), government agency staff, and scientists working in the fields of ecology and conservation.

Habitat clearance, destruction of habitat by grazing animals, (principally goats), predation by foxes and cats, infrequent but very hot fires, have all led to Mallee Fowl being listed as a vulnerable species under the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Diversity Conservation Act.

However, the work being done by the various conservation groups, and the research being undertaken by the scientists at the forum give hope for the future.  
John D.



### Just a reminder

Always carry your firearms licence when in charge of a firearm.

Ammunition being transported in a vehicle must be locked inside a suitable container that is separate from firearm

**Any opinions expressed in this publication are those of the content providers and do not necessarily mirror the views of the SSAA or its Hunting & Conservation Branch.  
Editor George S. (The jokes are weak too)**