

What Does An Airgun Mean To Me?

by Angellia Perry aka Airgun Angie

An Airgunner of seven years, and a shooter for much longer. Entry into the airgun community has changed the dynamics of my life in more ways than I could explain. The first huge impact was a name change, I was known as "Miss Angie", because I did that quite well. The name most familiar to many now is "Airgun Angie" I also get Airgun Annie, Angie Oakley and of course Airgunner, which are all welcomed but I wouldn't say I live up to the great Annie Oakley, not even close!

I began by producing product reviews for Rick Eutlsler Jr. with AirgunWeb on the Backyard Shooting social media platforms. I had a lot of learning to do, it seemed overwhelming and frankly like too much! I wanted to bring people honest and informative reviews but how? That's when

Airgunning Is Community

I learned airgunning is not just a sport it's a community!

After entering from the powder burner side, I will say, I had no idea of the length, breadth, height, nor depth of airguns. There are so many different types and calibers, learning about them was mind blowing! Quite literally the possibilities that the world of air opens up are just that, mind blowing! (Pun intended)



Mark Davis and Airgun Angie



Ben Pierson, Rick Eutlsler Jr, Airgun Angie, Joe Itturalde

While my favorite thing to do in the outdoors and shooting realm was to hunt, mainly white tail deer, I began by punching paper. My first airguns were the Umarex Forge and Surgemax, two very basic break barrels. I had fun punching paper, testing pellets, and making aerosol cans explode but it wasn't what I'd really had a passion for, which was, like I said, hunting.

I spent time with my airguns and people in the airgunning community, did you read that right? Airgun Community, it really is. Al Geunther who hosts the Gate to Airguns (GTA) Lowcountry Airgun Fun Shoot was an immense help. I learned to have appropriate expectations of an airgun, (One of the most crucial things to consider is the fact that they produce a much lower velocity than that of a powder burner) however I gained confidence that I could in fact hunt with air.

My first successful hunt was with the Gamo TC-45 paired up with a Hawke Optic and the 3D Night Vision attachment. I was invited to Georgia for a wild pig hunt with Michael Bartlett (Owner of 3D Night Vision). It was my first ever!! I think I was as nervous as the hog was but made a great heart shot. He was recovered about forty yards from where I shot him. Success always feels good!



Angie's first successful hunt.

It wasn't long before I got another invitation to go to Anderson, South Carolina and try for another one! After settling in the blind, a rush of wild pigs rushed down the hill on all sides of us to the bait sight. I chose which one I wanted to take and locked onto her with the Winchester 70-45 Air Rifle, we made it happen again!



Winchester 70-45 air rifle

The adjustment from powder burner to air rifle was huge! I understand shot placement is key in all scenarios, but it's even more crucial when pushing air. I guess you might say, I like a challenge, it does make the sport more interesting and requires self control and patience!

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Angie's first buck, shot with a big bore air rifle.

At one location that I have permission to hunt, was Mr. Jimmy's, who was thinking I hunt big game with my "BB gun" which actually was the Umarex Hammer .510 caliber air rifle equipped with the ATN X-Sight 4K Pro. His initial invitation went something like this, "So, do you want to come kill some hogs with your BB gun?" You know what my answer was, "Heck, yeah!" When I showed him the 320 grain slug, he was intrigued, but I don't know if he was convinced. I had some work to do.



First Hog shot on Mr. Jimmy's land.

In January of 2022, I climbed into his box stand, like I had done many times before and I got the opportunity to take down the first wild hog that weighed over 300 lbs. It was a perfect head shot that dropped him in his tracks. As often as I am able, I'm still taking wild hogs with my air rifles for Mr. Jimmy.

I continue to punch paper and produce airgun reviews and demos for GTA and one of the questions on my mind with every review and demo is, "Will this airgun be a good hunter, or is it just a backyard plinker?" I love the extra trigger time I get, why wouldn't I? It's what changed my name from "Miss Angie" to "Airgun Angie", but my heart is where the hunt is. 

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