



# Newsletter

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**Our Mission:** To foster national and international amateur shotgun sports competitions and to develop amateur athletes for national or international sports competitions. **Our Goals:** (1) To conduct amateur shotgun sports competitions in affiliation with national and international shotgun sports organizations. (2) To support and develop amateur athletes for national and international shotgun sports competitions. (3) To promote safe and proper gun handling. (4) To provide facilities and equipment to further the Association's goals and mission.

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### President's

### Message

by

Neil Vann



I have a semi-apology to make to all of you who tried to crash the gate on Thursday, August 14, 2003. We had a call from the Marines on Tuesday morning that the U.S. Secret Service wanted no civilian personnel on the range on Thursday as the President of the United States was landing at Miramar early and would not leave until late. Obviously there was not enough time to alert our membership except those who normally attend on a Wednesday. Signs were posted but as I understand it, we had a gaggle of "protesters" at the locked gate. I apologize for the inconvenience but we are guests of the government and must obey the request of the Secret Service.

Now, let's get on to what's going on. Last month we were congratulating the youth participating in the Scholastic

Clay Target Program and their accomplishments at the ATA State shoot in Kingsburg, California (They won 1<sup>st</sup> place). This month we can give hearty back pats, high fives and all kinds of secret handshakes for their participation in the Grand American held in August at Vandalia, Ohio. **Don Wilkie** will expound on that in another article in this newsletter. Great work, Champs.

**Pete Buompensiero** of **Buompensiero Wallcovering** has put in countless hours of labor and materials in sprucing up our Association. I don't know how to thank Pete enough for what he has done, what he is doing and Pete only knows what his plans are for the future and beautification of our facility. The entire patio covers were power washed and painted, the railings painted, the skeet house doors and skeet house shields are painted. I think Pete's motto is, "If it doesn't move, paint it". As you drive in you will notice a new storage shed which is to be used to store the new green targets that we will be throwing for Trap. It didn't move, so, Pete painted it! Thanks Pete for your hard work and dedication to our Association. We all appreciate your effort! Be sure a give Pete on the back for his willingness to make our Association the best.

Things wouldn't get done unless it was for the volunteers! **Malcolm Campbell** and his warhorses are making a difference. We now have new handicap signs and blue tire stops to locate the handicap parking spots. Our 5-stand tower is in operation on fields #6 and #7. We are working on getting signage to locate items that need location. We have a preliminary plan on what issues we want to accomplish in 2004 and all we need is additional

volunteers and donors to support those projects. Once we finalize the plan, we will publish it and seek support. I continually see a positive aurora when speaking to the membership. Let's keep the positive in front of us and eliminate the negative approach of, "we tried that before and it didn't work".

Our one evening a month is being filled with the youth program and is going so well that we have decided to bow down to your request and open another night of the week so that the recreational shooter will have some shooting time in addition to the youth. So, starting September 3, 2003 we will be open on Wednesdays from 9am to 9pm and on Thursday from 1pm to 9pm. This announcement has been on our Web Site since the second week in August so this may be old news to you who visit the web site. In addition, we have requested permission from MCAS to erect addition lights to the remaining east-end trap fields to accommodate the increased activity. That permission is still pending as of this writing.

One of our most prized yearly registered Skeet shoots is the **Grey Silva Memorial Open**. This shoot will be held on September 19-21. At the time of this writing, we had 24 pre-registered and promises to be a sell-out. **Lee Dennis** is sponsoring the shoot and will have prizes for winners down to third in class. He is also sponsoring lunch both Saturday and Sunday. And so that all will know, **Lee Dennis** was inducted into the Zone 7 (thirteen western states) Hall of Fame on August 9, 2003 at the Zone 7 shoot in Stockton, California. Congratulations Lee for all that you have done for Zone 7, the State of California and particularly for San Diego Shotgun Sports Association. We are proud of you!

## OLYMPIC TRAP

by

Ricardo Alcantara



The July Olympic Trap Tournament attracted 19 shooters, of which one was a junior – our own local shooter, **Susan Sledge**. (See the article elsewhere in the newsletter about Susan being selected for the Junior Olympic Team).

We had a great time and the shooters are very happy with the wonderful improvements to our range. Our former B-100 shoots are now B-125 shoots. With the two bunkers we are able to accommodate a larger number of shooters and are able to change our starting time from 9 AM to 10 AM. This will allow the out of town participants an extra hour to travel to our shoots.

Also, we are now re-squading after the first 75 targets, which will allow the shooters to have a more competitive match.

We still have work to do to complete our new bunker, so please consider a donation to complete the roof and some more concrete work on the front side of the bunker. Your donation will be tax deductible and will greatly aid us in completing the project.

Our next B-125 is on August 30<sup>th</sup>. Now is a good time to get involved and participate in the tournament. At least come by and see our new bunker in operation and watch the eager shooters in action.

## Youth Programs

by

Don Wilkie



## Introduction to shotgun sports

Adults as well as youths may enroll in this class. The July class included 5 youngsters and 1 adult. Classes are limited to 10 per session. Participants can take the course more than once. Class was successful but 2 youngsters were unable to handle guns

satisfactorily. Because of safety concerns with persons who lack sufficient strength to handle a shotgun physical qualifications will be put in place

## Scholastic Clay Target Program

In spite of summer vacation July was a busy month for the program with up to 14 youngsters showing up for weekly practice. Those preparing to go to the SCTP National Championships at Vandalia, Ohio were particularly active not only at scheduled practices at our range but with additional practice at this and other ranges. John McClure has played a significant role in preparing the squad for the national championship event.

Ten team members including the Vandalia squad took part in the August 2 ATA singles event. Several were trophy winners and received both SCTP and ATA honors.

Organizations and individuals providing support for the trip to the nationals include **SDSSA, CGSTA, the state Scholastic Program, Glen Gregory, Harvey Isom, Nowell Wisch, Herman Sledge** and others unknown at this time. We thank you for your support.

Our squad shot 100 targets on August 8th and 9th. We chose to squad in the first flight of shooters when it was cool and in order to increase our chances of getting our rounds in if inclement weather caused delays. Fortunately this did not occur nor did the oppressive heat that we experienced at the state shoot. Although our squad did not medal they shot well and their score of 872 out of 1000 exceeded their record at the Kingsburg. **De Savage** was hi-gun with a 93 on both days.



*From left to right – coach Don Wilkie, Bryan Burrows, Nick Meyer, Judith Sledge, De Savage & Breanna Heckenkamp.*

My congratulations for a job well done not only by the participants but their parents as well. Our scholastic participants conducted themselves like champions.

Our 2003 schedule calls for vacation for the remainder of August with twice-monthly practices commencing Sept 4th and monthly participation in the range ATA shoots. The official 2004 SCTP year begins in January and ends with the Grand American.

## Susan Sledge qualifies for the Junior Olympic Team

Susan Sledge started shooting bunker (Olympic Trap) just a few months ago. She recently went to the National Championship Shoot in Colorado Springs.

The first day was over 100 degrees, the second day there were 30 MPH winds, and the third day started out hot and sunny, but ended with lightening and rain!

Susan made it to the finals and managed to shoot a 25 straight in her final round with all the distractions of lightening in the distance and some drizzle. (They finally had to cancel the championship rounds due to the lightening).

After it was all over, Susan made the Junior Olympic Team and will be going to training camp at the end of August!



**Susan Sledge**

If you see Susan wearing a ragged looking hat, it is because of a bunker tradition – When you get your first 25 straight in competition, they throw your hat in the air and shoot it!

## SKEET

## NEWS

by

Neil Vann



The DEAD-A-PAIR OPEN is concluded at San Diego Shotgun Sports in San Diego, California but the excitement of Friday, the 18<sup>th</sup> of July 2003 will last in the memory of those who witnessed the event and those who participated in the Grand Finale of the event for many a year to come.

Now you may wonder what this monumental occasion (event) was and how it may affect the future of Skeet. If I were mean(er) and nasty(ier) I would keep this between those of us who had the fortunate experience of being in the shoot off arena to blow up **Wayland Morrison's** (West Covina) hat for breaking his first 100-straight in the 20ga. Preliminary event.



**Wayland Morrison wearing and holding the remnants of his hat!**

Big Deal, you may say! Yeah, it was a big deal for the California Hall of Famer at 83 to break his first 100-straight in the 20ga. This great sport of ours is not just for the young. It can jump up and treat us to a lifetime experience when we least expect it. So, for you folks who creak and groan when you walk; think about changing you attitude and your life by making the best of it. Wayland did and has and we are extremely proud of his accomplishment. Go get 'em Wayland. We had a little of the aftermath of the hurricane **Claudia** which made the air a little sticky but not enough to quell the enthusiasm of the 41 shooters attending.

On to lesser but notable accomplishments during the three-day 600 target tournament.

**Lou Riddle** (Bonsall) was a team member of Wayland's and came in with a 98 for Runner Up honors. Lou is a second year shooter who was non-classed in the 20ga. so with the inspiration provided, dove headfirst into Class AA for this shoot! I just love it when one has 7 entries and everyone gets to be a winner.

The Doubles event rapidly grew in the days prior to the event and when the event started, there were 16 eager shooters ready and willing to break that elusive 100-straight. **Dave Broccoli** (La Costa) came close with a nice 98 to take Gun Champ with **Steve Claunch** (San Diego) right on his heels with a 97 for Gun Runner Up.

The first event on Saturday was the 28ga. Again, **Dave Broccoli** emerges Gun Champion but he had to work for this one as both **James Dewey** (Ramona) and **Steve Claunch** had 99's. In the shoot off, James goes out first and takes Class AA1. The other two bang away for another four stations before Dave pops a pair at station #3 and Steve lets a high three slip by leaving Steve with Gun Runner Up.

We take an hour break on both Saturday and Sunday right after the first event to allow our lunch sponsors to put one of their best feet forward and feed the multitude. Saturday, we had a real treat in that **Angie and Richard McAdams** (San Diego) served some sausage that they had made from some wild pigs they had hunted. That with a delicious roll, homemade baked beans, chips and a drink kept the stomach noise level down to acceptable limits. Thank you Angie and Richard!

The 12ga. is the afternoon event with the weekends largest amount of participants; 36. Well, this time **Dave Broccoli** breaks the barrier and hauls in a 100-straight to take Gun Champion. **Bill Page** (Torrance) pulls in a 99 along with perennial **Gil Siu** (Corona). When the shoot offs take place, only Bill is present and accepts Gun Runner Up with all the humility that he can muster

Sunday morning has clear skies and it looks like **Claudia** is giving us a break weather wise. The .410 bore appears to be the least favorite of the

total population this weekend as 23 shooters take to their starting fields. You wanna guess who is the .410 Gun Champion? **Dave Broccoli** takes the coveted accolades and handshakes with a 97. **Roger Christiansen** (Perris) of "C" Team fame (and fortune) has a good day and brings in a nice 96 for Gun Runner Up.

We take a break for grilled hamburgers, potato salad, chips and a drink put on by your Skeet Committee. Thanks to **Don Boyle** (San Diego) and **Dan Fox** (San Diego) for flipping the burgers and feeding the famished and being there when we needed them on Sunday. Volunteers are always welcome!

The last shooting event of the weekend is the 20ga. event. This time Dave lets another competitor take all the credit and **Steve Claunch** breaks a 99 for Gun Champion. BUT, he had to work at it as **Eric Vandenhoute** (San Diego), a first year shooter in "C" class, also shoots a 99! Steve starts off with confidence and tries not to notice Eric's knees knocking. Both miss at the 2<sup>nd</sup> station so the multitude of south side fence watchers are paying close attention with baited breath (whew!). They continue for four more stations wherein Eric, shooting 2<sup>nd</sup>, sees daylight between the trailing edge and his shot stream for a "loss". Great shoot off.

The HOA went to **Dave Broccoli** with a 392 and HOA Runner Up was **Steve Claunch** with a 390. There were 20 4-gun shooters and a fine crowd it was. We threw 13,900 targets this weekend. Thanks to all for your attendance and your support to a great game.

Our Novice winner for the month of July was **David Ellis** (San Diego) with a mighty fine 95 in the 12ga. David is obviously a first year shooter and the way he hits the targets, he could be teaching lead to any one of us. David receives a hand crafted leather pouch donated by **Pacific Sporting Arms** owner, **John Herkowitz**. We thank David for his finding the sport of Skeet and John for his generosity. We still have some novices that have yet to win the prize, so I would encourage **Freddie Corley, Perry Jacobs, Gary Krueger, Richard Moss, Angie McAdams, Doug Goad and Craig Phelps** to keep on coming out a win the prize.

It is getting close to the end of the Skeet year (October 31) and we can still use sponsors for lunch and prizes in August and October. **Lee Dennis** is sponsoring our September, **Grey Silva VI Memorial Open** with prizes and lunch both days. We plan to meet next month to set up the skeet schedule for 2004. Should you have any desires of shoot names, suggested prizes, items for lunch or anything else having to do with making our shoots at SDSSA a better place to be on a weekend shooting skeet, please let me know. I will accept and work with you on all and any positive suggestions that you have.

## August Trap

### News

by

Chip Enniss



We had Beautiful San Diego Weather for the whole shoot, participation was pretty good and everyone seemed to have a good time. Winners of the 6 Events were as follows.

**Event 1- Singles** 57 shooters participated. Champion- Dave Johnson 99. AA-Christopher Burrows 98 by forfeit over Mike Gebhardt 98 and Morris Hall 98. A-Greg Hartlet 98 over Paul Busch, Forfeit. B- Jonathan Dales 97. C- Jan Slough 92. Hi Lady, Carla Sledge 94 and Vet Augie Daddi 98.

**Event 2- Handicap-** Champion, Paul Busch 96. Long- Terry Bilbey 94. Mid, Jerry Dillard 94. Short Greg Alexander 92. Hi Lady Jan Slough 85. Hi Vet Augie Daddi 87.

**Event 3 Doubles** Champion Chip Enniss 99. AA- Dave Johnson 93. A- Ron Schwartz 93. B- Fred Corley 93. Vet. Charlie Bover 84.

**Event 4- Doubles.** Champion Chip Enniss 96 by shoot off over AA-Joe(short shot) Roby 96 and Morris Hall 96 forfeit.

**Event 5 Handicap** Champion Larry Premo 96 (Larry also ran 200 straight in the Clay Target Championship at the Grand on Wed. the 13<sup>th</sup>) Long Chip Enniss 93 by forfeit over Rob (no staying power) Mabery 93. Mid John Wagner 93 by forfeit over Kyle

Cardiff 93. Short Joe Roby 95. Vet Ray Gutierrez 89. Lady Jan Slough 89. Jr. Andy Young 83.

**Event 6 Handicap** Champion Chip Enniss 94 by s/o over Mid yd. Winner John Wagner 94 and Mike Gebhardt Forfeit. Short Jan Slough 89. Vet Ray Gutierrez again with 91.

Thanks to all who participated, we appreciate your support and hope you are having a good time. Starting with the Sept shoot, we will be throwing GREEN Targets as requested by several shooters. As I have stated in the past, we want this to be as good as we can make it, if you have a suggestion or even constructive criticism please talk to me about it.

### "The Survey"

by

Steve Hubbard



As a result of the survey recently distributed by President Neil, we have a Survey Committee to receive, review, and comment on suggestions by members. (Steve Hubbard heads this up and can be contacted at 858-565-7224 or [shubbard@rsft.com](mailto:shubbard@rsft.com))

The most frequent comments on the survey forms we received back, and in subsequent contacts, have concerned our hours of operation and especially the number of shooters who are using the range on our one evening when shooting is available.

As the result of **your** suggestions, the hours have been extended. Beginning in September, we will be open on Wednesday's from 9 am to 9 pm. Other suggestions are in the mill and being considered. Everyone's comments and observations are welcomed. Thanks to all who have participated.

Be Safe

by

Fred Hoyle



By now you have seen several articles on safety and are about to quit reading. STOP!!! There are never

too many stories about safety. When I was with the Police Department gun safety was the responsibility of the Range Master. He got all safety bulletins and gave safety classes.

Once during a department qualification shoot an officer brought his personal revolver to be inspected. As the Range Master watched the officer unloaded the weapon and handed it to the Range Master. The Range Master opened the cylinder to check that the gun wasn't loaded. The Range Master then inspected the gun for proper tolerances. As he pulled the trigger for the third time, the gun fired injuring his hand. The "empty" weapon had struck again. The officer and the Range Master had not opened the cylinder completely and a round was not ejected.

The moral of this story is that even the most experienced people can make safety errors by being too relaxed. Safety is a full time job and no one is expert enough to relax when it comes to safety.

### Fun Shoot

by

Taylor Craft



Shooter attendance was up again in July as 24 serious shooters tried their skills at the July shoot. As normal, weather was not a factor – not too hot, JUST RIGHT!

Class A, HOA, went to **Steve Claunch** with an excellent score of 93 x100. **Mike Howell** came in 2<sup>nd</sup> at 89 x 100 and **Eric Van den Haute** took 3<sup>rd</sup> place at 85 x100.

Class B was a three-way tie between **Clell Breining, Glenn Eubank & Jack Steele** all at a score of 81 x100.

Class C, 1<sup>st</sup> place was won by **Mike Glenn** with a score of 72 x100 – 2<sup>nd</sup> place was **Robert Keefe** at 71 x100 & **Bill Ruhlman** came in 3<sup>rd</sup> at 70 x 100.

Class D, 1<sup>st</sup> place was won by **Ken Datz** with a score of 62 x 100 – 2<sup>nd</sup> place was **Joe Caruso** at 58 x100 & **Geoff Carson** came in 3<sup>rd</sup> at 54 x100.

Detailed scores are on the SDSSA web site. The web site now lists the shoot formats for upcoming fun shoots through December 2003.

## Dodge City Shootout

by

Jim Englund



We had a pretty good turnout considering the Grand was on in Ohio. I know a few of our regulars attended the annual trap event and hope they did well.

We had a total of 50 shooters. With great conditions we had a lot of high scores. Ten went straight at the 16yd.line. But only two shared the handicap pool. One was one of our new junior shooters; Mitchell Maguire and the other Mitchell Jackson.

I'm seeing some new faces lately. Word's getting out that we have a lot of fun once a month at the ShootOut. And remember, Juniors can play for half price.

Other scores; Buddy #1 had 8 with a perfect twenty. #2 no team could break 'um all but, we had 8 with 19. That second shot is hard to pickup. The Annie Oakley was somewhat unusual this month. After the smoke cleared we had only one winner; Mitchell Jackson. He was winner-take-all.

High score; Ross Giacalone w/ an 86, with Larry Bureson and Larry Pannian at 84.

Special Notice; the October shoot is going to feature a very special lunch therefore, don't miss it! See ya'll September 13th.

Building and Grounds Report by

Malcum Campbell



A lot of activity has been going on at the range. With the assistance of the Staff and hard working "work party" assistance much has been accomplished.

A lot of concrete work has been done to make the areas more accessible to handicapped shooters and really much more safe for everyone. Metal fences are being repaired, benches are being rebuilt and painted, and as the Association president noted in his article, if it didn't move, **Pete**

**Buompensiero** has painted it! The new 5 stand tower has been installed, wired, and is working perfectly.

There is still a lot of work to do, but we are working hard to get it done. We can always use volunteers to help with our work parties. Just let me know how you would like to help and we will put you right to work!

## Hunter Safety

Program

by

Dan Fox



We started the Hunter Safety program in February 2003 and have had a class each month since then.

Our program is unique in that we require "live fire" as part of the course. This involves our instructors working with the students "one on one" making sure they know how to handle a firearm and do in fact handle it safely. During this live fire session each student shoots ½ round of trap and ½ round of skeet. The state Fish & Game recommends "live fire" for students, but does not require it. We are one of the few courses that incorporate it into the program. Check the range calendar & when you see Hunter Safety on a Sunday afternoon, come on out and help with the live fire. We need the help, and it's a rewarding experience to help make sure our future hunters are safe!

## YOUR DONATION NEEDED!!!

Remember – your Association is now a non-profit 501 (C) (3) entity under IRS code and **your donations are tax deductible!** The Treasurer acknowledging your contribution will give you a letter for your tax accountant.

Our Junior Programs such as Boy Scouts, Hunter Safety, Introduction to Shooting & Scholastic Trap are going full blast and we need loaner shotguns so that juniors who do not possess a gun can participate. If you have a shotgun sitting in the closet that might help us out in our Junior programs, please see our Manager, **Layne Kuhlman**, and consider donating it to the range. It will be greatly appreciated, well used, and give you a tax deduction.

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Vice President, Chip Enniss is chairman of the nominating committee. The committee is developing a slate of candidates for President and Board of Directors. If you know someone (or yourself) that would be a good person for the Board of Directors &/or President, please give the name to Chip, leave a note at the range office, or email him at [ennissc@braggcrane.com](mailto:ennissc@braggcrane.com)

We need your help to find good members for the Board of Directors. Help him out – give him some names!

## LEMON GROVE ROD & GUN CLUB INVITES OUR MEMBERS TO SHOOT SPORTING CLAYS

The Lemon Grove Rod & Gun Club, located at 16232 Sequan Truck Trail, Alpine California 91901, has invited our members to come and shoot their Sporting Clays Range which is open the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month. (except December)

Their Sporting Clays Range is unique, in that every month a different shoot master sets up the range, so therefore, no tow are alike. This makes for an interesting and challenging course. You can count on a variety of targets and target presentations. This is a 50-bird event.

Sign up begins at 6:30 AM, shooting starts at 8:00 AM and ceases at approximately 1 PM. First come, first served.

### Cost of the shoot:

Juniors 17 & under	\$10.00
Members	\$12.00
Non-Members	\$17.00

### Directions to the Range:

Take interstate 8 to Alpine, to Tavern Road turnoff. Continue on Tavern Rd, heading south, approximately 3 ½ miles. Tavern Rd becomes Japatul Rd. Go approximately ¼ mile to Sequan Truck Trail. Continue for approximately 2.2 miles & look for our sign "Lemon Grove Rod and Gun Club" on the right side of the road.

### Look them up on their website:

[www.lemongroveguncub.com](http://www.lemongroveguncub.com)

Need more information? Call Wilma, the Sporting Clays Coordinator at 619-469-6975.