



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



third Wednesday of the month, drop by the clubhouse and see anywhere from 5 to 10 volunteers folding, securing, labeling and stamping the some 800 Association Newsletters that go out to the membership and other recipients. We solve all of the World's most important issues and rake those over the coals who do not agree with our way of thinking! We try and not talk about anybody unless they are not in the group so it might behoove you to enter the portals of newsletter day and participate.

I am very aware that some folks have a tendency to not volunteer. Maybe that is the upbringing from the military way of thinking; don't volunteer. Others are waiting to be asked and when asked to take on a specific task that is within their area of talent, is not one bit hesitant to volunteer. It is incumbent upon us to be more direct and do the asking. We are into so many activities that involve Mom and Dad and the kids that some of us who have the expertise to coach or teach the fundamentals are a valuable asset to the Association. One doesn't have to have a teaching credential to teach shooting, for instance. All one needs is some common sense and good judgment. I encourage each of you to search your time available and contact our volunteer leaders in Hunter Safety (Dan Fox), Introduction to Shotgun Sports (Jim Englund) and the Scholastic Clay Target Program (Don Wilkie) to see what you could do to make our programs even better than they are.

I spoke to you on Saturday night (January 24) on what the plans are for a new clubhouse. We will see dramatic changes to that area very soon with completion in another three months. We will need those who have talents in carpentry to work within the confines of

the building to put up shelves and cabinetry. Our food prep area and inside unisex handicap restroom will need the expertise of a plumber or two. Again, I encourage you to tell us what your level of expertise is so that we can put it to good use. Our Office Manager, Nikolle, will gladly take a note from you that gives to us your availability and how to contact you. Will really need your help over the next three month and beyond on this momentous project.

I have beaten the drum and worn out the sticks but my guess is that you will VOLUNTEER. Thanks, Neil

Youth Programs

By

Don Wilkie



Thank you all for the voluminous positive response that you have shared with me over the past several weeks concerning last months message. In addition, I thank those who gave me the "thumbs up" when I mentioned in my Annual Dinner address that, "we encourage all of the membership to help in keeping the grounds free of unsightly items." I hope that you will spread the word on our mutual goal.

I talked in my address about the 2004 Board of Directors seeking and obtaining volunteers who will help accomplish our ideas and goals. The volunteers of our Association are the foundation of the Association and we must build on that foundation. Our completed programs that have been ongoing would be non-existent if it were not for our cadre of volunteers. Some

SCTP Rolls the Dice

Sixteen members of our Scholastic Clay Target team traveled by car to Las Vegas for the Nevada Scholastic Invitational Trapshooting Competition on January 18th. An entourage of relatives, friends and coaches attended the event and supported the team at the Las Vegas Gun Club. The competition included 134 participants in teams from Nevada, Arizona and Utah as well as California. Our team featured two junior squads (grades 6,7, & 8) and one senior squad (grades 9 and 10) as well as two individual shooters. Most of the team arrived on Saturday in time to get in practice rounds and meet some of their fellow competitors.

Sunday dawned clear and pleasantly cool with only a hint of a breeze, ideal-shooting conditions for the

competition. Shooting got underway at 9:00 AM. Our squad one, 'Junior Experienced', included Breanna Heckenkamp as squad leader, Nick Meyer and De Savage from last year's state champion team, plus Ian Daube and Kurtis Sorchy, first year competitors. They were coached by Don Wilkie and Susan Sledge. Our squad two, with Emily Heckenkamp as squad leader, included Jon Burrows, Chris Leonard, Dorsey Ek and Cameron Anderson and was coached by Bill Savage and Mike Sorchy. Squad three, coached by Carla Sledge, was led by Brian Burrows and Judy Sledge of last year's state championship team, both now seniors, and included Dustin Stewart and Josh Senn, both maturing competitors. The fifth member of the squad, Nathaniel Murry was unable to attend as a result of an injury. His position was given a score equal to the lowest score on the squad. The competition originally scheduled to be a 200-target event had to be shortened to 150 targets in order to accommodate the unexpected large number of participants

Ian Daube put on an outstanding display of shooting and topped all 58 junior shooters with a 143 out of 150 including a leadoff 98/100 and a run of 50 straight. His squad put up a team score of 672 out of 750 and missed first place by only two targets. Ogden/Magna of Utah with a score of 674 won the title. Ian's run of 50 straight came on a field, which was throwing unpredictable errant targets, but he kept his head down and gun moving and got them all.



Ian Daube with his proud parents!

Kurtis Sorchy placed third overall in the Junior Novice category with 132 out of 150. Brian Burrows led all of our seniors with a 141 out of 150. Nick Meyer also a member of last year's championship team showed his skill and stamina and ran the last 25 targets to

finish the day in style and third highest score on our team.

Ian Daube	143/150	95.3%
Brian Burrows	141/150	94%
Nick Meyer	136/150	91.6%
Dorsey Ek	134/150	89.3%
Kurtis Sorchy	132/150	88%
Breanna Heckenkamp	131/150	87.3%
De Savage	130/150	86.6%
Dustin Stewart	129/150	86%
Emily Heckenkamp	128/150	85.3%
Judy Sledge	128/150	85.3%
Josh Senn	114/150	76%
Chris Leonard	112/150	74.6%
Cameron Anderson	95/150	63%
Jon Burrows	62/100	62%
Eric Lund	85/150	56.7%
Brynmor Hughes	74/150	49.3%



(L to R) Ian Daube, Breanna Heckenkamp, Nick Meyer, Kurtis Sorchy & De Savage.

Thanks to all those who support our fund raising of Saturday lunches at ATA and the Fish Fry on the second Wednesday of the month. These events netted over \$800 enabling us to cover the entry fees of \$35.00 for each shooter as well as providing each of them with 6 boxes of shells. Thank you John Lumn for helping out with a special youth price for shells. On top of that, Bill Savage was able to get us complimentary rooms at Terribles Casino on Paradise Road and Flamingo near the Strip. Thank you Bill.

A relaxing wrap-up dinner was held in the Rainforest Cafe at the MGM Grand Hotel with most families attending. Many of the youngsters followed dinner with a trip to an arcade and enjoyed shooting electronic targets. All in all it was an enjoyable weekend during which all of us we learned a lot and had a valuable experience which will help prepare us for the state championships to be held in Kingsburg on June 19, 2004. Our thanks to all whom helped and participated in this event which was a great team effort. Special thanks are due to Carla Sledge our team manager for her hard work, leadership and her organizational ability.

First Person Awarded Honorary Life Membership

The Board of Directors in 2003 originated a program to honor someone at the annual dinner by awarding an honorary Life Membership. A committee was formed to review a series of candidates for this first award. After a review, which looked at service to the Association over a long period of time, the committee made their recommendation to the Board of Directors, who in term made the final selection of the person to get the first award. The Board unanimously selected **Pete Buompensiero** to receive the very first honorary Life Membership. The Board members said that this was an easy selection, since Pete has been donating his time and talents to the Association for almost 25 years.

Augie Daddi introduced Pete at the annual meeting and presented him with the honorary Life Membership.



Pete Buompensiero

Contributions are Tax Deductible

Remember – SDSSA is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit Association and any donation is tax deductible. A number of our members have taken advantage of this and donated money or goods. With our very active youth program (SCTP), Boy Scout merit badge program, and our Hunter Education Program we are in the need of shotguns to use as loaner guns in these programs.

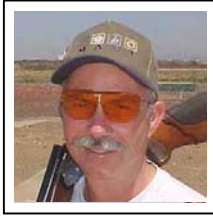
Search that back closet, attic, or your gun safe and donate that unused shotgun. We can use 12 gauge, 20 gauge, 28 gauge or .410's. Your

unused gun will be put to very good use and you will get a letter from the Treasurer detailing your donation and reminding you that it is tax deductible.

SKEET LEAGUE

by

Craig Potter



The pre-summer Skeet league will start on March 17th. Information on the rules and format will be posted on the web site under league information.

This will be a 300 target league shot over seven weeks with one week being a by-week. The cost will \$50.00 per shooter with all money returned to the shooters in the form of prizes, participation gifts and a "grand finale" BASH.

I encourage you to organize a team (4 to 7 people) and select one member of the team to be designated as the team leader. I would ask the team leader to gather contact information for each of the team members. This will help me facilitate good and efficient communication with you and your teams. I will attempt to resolve any issues that may arise in a timely manner. You may sign-up at the Range office starting February 4. Sign-ups will be cut off one week prior to the start date to allow time for managerial organization. I am looking forward to hosting the '04 Skeet League. The idea is to have fun, get involved and meet other shooters through participating in our leagues.

Dodge City Shootout

by

Jim Englund



Our once a month shootout had another great turnout with 73 clay target busters. Conditions were good and the scores were high. At the 16 yard line we had many 23's and 24's. Good for you. But as you know, we publish only the 25's. And there are: **Willie Avant, Charlie Bover, Jerry Callaway, Rich Davis, Jerry Dillard, Chip Enniss, Sonny Hale, Perry Jurancich, Joe Panian, Bill Pye, and Andy Zetts.**

A lot of good scores at handicap too but the two 25's were: **Sonny Hale** and **Steve Pinky**. No 20's at the buddy shoots but a lot of 19's: **Michael Bates, Scott Beuck, Jerry Callaway, Joe Caruso, Augie Daddi, Bill Debrea, Chip Enniss(with two 19's), Robert Freed, Larry Panian, Steve Pinky, Bill Pye(two 19's), Keith Reinhardt, Jim Robbins, Chad Stone, Joe Travis(two 19's)**. The big Annie Oakley came down to **Keith Reinhardt (third), Fred Corley (second)** and first place; **Larry Panian**. Overall top score was **Steve Pinky** with a total of 86. Good shooting Steve, hope to see you and your friends again in February. In fact, let's all turnout in February.

A special thanks to **Annie Hoyle** who has for years made a great sheet cake for the lunch. Our crowd has gotten so big that she made two cakes this month. Please take time to thanks Annie for her continuing support of this popular event!

As usual our staff ran this event like a smooth oiled clockwork! A special thanks to Layne, James & Nikolle!

Hunter Safety Program

by

Dan Fox



The Hunter Education Program for 2004 has commenced with a "full house". The January program was full, as is the February and March program. Right now the Range Office is taking sign ups for April and beyond.

The Hunter Education Program involves 11 hours of classroom work, home study, "live fire" on our range, followed by a written examination. Successful students get a Hunter Safety Certificate that is good for their lifetime and entitles them to purchase a hunting license in all 50 states.

This program was started after WWII because of the increase in hunting accidents. Since the inception of the program hunting accidents have dropped dramatically.

SDSSA started offering the classes last year, after some of our members took classes and qualified as

instructors. If anyone would be willing to help on a Sunday afternoon with the "live fire" portion of the course, I think you will find it to be a really rewarding experience. If you are interested see Dan Fox or leave you name at the range office with a way we can contact you.

Safety

by

Taylor Craft



Safety starts with "S" but begins with "U"

The above "safety slogan" was used by the company I worked at for many years!

While this "slogan" has been around for many years, the message it sends is as applicable today as it was years ago! Safety is not the responsibility of the puller, it is not the responsibility of the range office or manager; it's primarily **your** responsibility to always operate, and ensure that others around you perform in a safe manner!

Clay target shooting games provide an opportunity to test your shooting skills. The games are run and also allow hunters to brush up on their marksmanship before the hunt. Safety rules on the clay target range are simple:

- ✓ Review, understand and obey the Ten Commandments of Firearms safety.
- ✓ Watch the muzzle of the gun at all times, carrying the gun so that it doesn't point at your fellow shooters.
- ✓ Guns are loaded only when it's your turn to shoot.
- ✓ Shooting glasses are always required on the range.
- ✓ Hearing protection must always be used on the range.

Keep your gun actions open while preparing to shoot, when removing or returning guns to a vehicle, or when simply visiting with friends at the range.

Paralyzed Veterans Shoot Coming

The Cal-Diego Chapter of the Paralyzed Veterans of America will be running a trap shoot here for all interested shooters on Saturday, 18 July 2004. Let's all get

involved and participate in this shoot and make it a big one!

Did you know that prior to World War II, Americans who suffered a spinal cord injury faced a bleak future and a life expectancy averaging about 18 months. But veterans who sustained a spinal cord injury during that war received the first ray of hope for a fuller life - the development of antibiotics, modern medicine, and new medical techniques which added significantly to their life span. Because of this medical progress, for the first time, spinal cord injured veterans could leave the confines of the VA or military hospital, return home, and work to rejoin society. Unfortunately, much of society proved to be unwilling, unable, or ill-prepared to accommodate the needs of paralyzed veterans.

In 1946, paralyzed veterans from across the country joined together to form an association to deal with the unique problems and challenges facing them. The organization they formed, the Paralyzed Veterans of America, is an organization of veterans who have served honorably in the armed forces and who have incurred an injury or disease affecting the spinal cord, causing paraplegia or quadriplegia. PVA is non-profit, non-sectarian, and interracial, and is concerned with the welfare of non-veterans paraplegics as well as veterans. PVA receives no government funds.

Plan to join in on the competition and camaraderie of a fun filled day of good eating and shooting.

Trap League

By

Gary Krueger



The Trap League is in it's third week with a final roster of 19 teams! This is a new record for participation in the Trap League.

We are going to finish up the League with a big fun cookout on Saturday Afternoon, March 27th. This is one week following the end of the league.

We are planning some very special favors and awards which will be distributed at the cookout. This is going to be a real fun BBQ. A sign up sheet

will be posted at the Range for those who plan to attend - so that we can purchase the right amount of food for the event.

Put this event on your calendar and plan to attend.

Trap News

by

Chip Enniss



January and February ATA shoots

We had very good weather for both shoots. We also had some pretty good scores and everyone had a good time.

In January (Saturday events) - Singles: Champ was **Mike Gebhardt** 100x100 - AA: **Terry Bilbey, Dan Kirby, Dave Johnson, Larry Premo & Chip Enniss** all with 99x100 A: **Augie Daddi** 99x100 B: **Brian Burrows** 94x100. - **Benny Morales** 98x100 Vet: **Paul Busch** 98x100 Jr: **Aaron Thompson** 97x100 & Lady: **Dianne Savage** 88x100.

Handicap on Saturday - Champion- **Terry Bilbey** 95x100 - Long yds: **Mike Gebhardt** 94x100 Mid yds: **Lonnie Catania** 95x100 Short yds: **Jan Slough** 93x100 Vet: **Paul Busch** 92x100 Jr: **Aaron Thompson** 89x100 Lady: **Dianne Savage** 88x100

Doubles: Champion - **Joe Roby** 97x100 AA: **Rich Davis** 93x100 A: **Sonny Hale** 93x100 B: **Bill Ruhlman** 86x100 C: **Perry Hill** 85x100

(Sunday events) Singles: **Chris Williams, Tim Jacobs, David Churprinski, Mike Gebhardt, Chip Enniss** - all with 99x100. With **Chip Enniss** winning Champ and **Time Jacobs** taking AA after a shot off with **David Churprinski**. All others forfeited. A: **Ray Gutierrez** with 96x100 B: **Jim Snow** 94x100 C: **Miguel Martinez** 96x100 Vet: **Charlie Slough** 89x100 & Lady: **Peggy Calloway** 93x100.

Handicap Champion was **Jan Slough** 96x100 Long: **Steve Smith** 94x100 Mid: **Dave Churprinski** 93x100 Short: **Charles Slough** 87x100 Vet: **Ray Gutierrez** 86x100 & Lady: **Kelly Juarez** 82x100.

February results: (Saturday) Singles: Champion **time Jacobs** 100x100 AA: **Chip Enniss** 99x100 after shoot off with

Dave Johnson. A: **Jonathan Dales** 97x100 over **Gene Baxter** who forfeited. B: **Greg Alexander** 96x100 C: **Mike Sorchy** 95x100 (This was Mike's first win - I hope he has many more) Vet: **Ray Gutierrez** 94x100 Lady: **Carla Sledge** 93x100 Jr: **Nick Meyer** 92x100.

Handicap - Champion: **Tom Field** 95x100 Long: **Kurt Sachau** 94x100 Mid: **Lonnie Catania** 93x100 Short: **Paul Busch** 94x100 Vet: **Jerry Dillard** 88x100 Lady: **Jan Slough** 86x100

Doubles: Champion **Chip Enniss** 96x100 AA: **Rich Davis & Larry Premo** 92x100 A: **Tom Field** 91x100 B: **Jonathan Dales** 92x100 C: **Preston Schiwitz** 80x100

Sunday Singles: Champ: **Fred Corley** 100x100 AA: **Russell Hawes** 100x100 A: **Ray Gutierrez** 97x100 B: **Gary Stevens** 94x100 C: **Peggy Calloway** 92x100 Lady: **Jan Slough** 94x100 Vet: **Jerry Calloway** 95x100.

Handicap: Champion - **Morris Hall** 93x100 Long: **Kurt Sachau & Chip Enniss** 92x100 Mid: **John Lumn** 91x100 Short: **Joe Roby** 92x100 Vet: **Jim Snow** 91x100 Lady: **Carla Sledge** 87x100.

I know this is a lot of score to take in, but the shoot in January was after the newsletter went to print so I wanted to get it in this month. Thanks for all the support and look for some good trophies to be shot for in April at the Winter Chain.

Anyone willing to help with the trophies or with cashing the ATA shoots please contact me. We need to get self-sufficient on the ATA shoots and we need some volunteers.

Thanks, good shooting, and we will look for you on March 6th & 7th.

Our Web Site

Happenings

by

Augie Daddi



We just hit a new milestone in our web site - In less than 11 months we have had 25,000 "hits" on the web site. This is just on the "home page" where the person first goes to the site - then moves on to other locations in the site.

This means that over 2,000 persons are looking at our web site each month. If you have not looked at it - get

to a computer and check it out! You will find lots of information on the web site along with all the scores from recent shoots, leagues, etc.

I am always looking for suggestions on how the web site can better accommodate the needs of our members and the shooting public in general. If you have ideas, let me hear from you.

OLYMPIC TRAP

by

Ricardo Alcantara



January and February were big months for our Olympic Trap Program. Our Range hosted the Maple Leaf and the Golden Bear. Both of these shoots are truly "international" in scope, attracting Olympic shooters from all over the United States, Mexico and Canada.

Both of these shoots were "sold out" with a waiting list of those hoping someone would not show up or drop out! The weather was perfect and our bunkers operated flawlessly.

SKEET

NEWS

by

Neil Vann

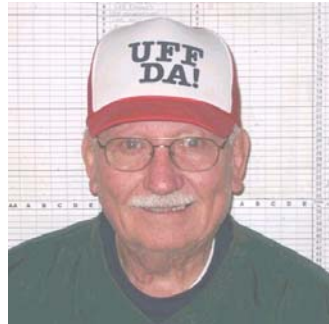


The UFF-DA II Open was held on January 23-25, 2004 in San Diego, California hosted by the **San Diego Shotgun Sports Association**. In that many of our readers are not familiar with the term UFF-DA, I will attempt to go through a brief explanation. UFF-DA cannot be found in the dictionary, but for Norwegians it is an all-purpose expression covering a variety of situations. UFF-DA is "eating hot soup when you've got a runny nose". Waking yourself up in church with your own snoring is an UFF-DA. Eating a delicious sandwich and then discover the spread is cat food is an UFF-DA. Missing a double at low seven is a big UFF-Da. I think by now you have the message.

As always the weather held out even though we had a "threat of rain". Many complained of the cold 63-degree

weather but by some miracle we all survived. (I hope the news of our complaining of inclement weather doesn't bother the folks in the East!). A total of 46 shooters participated in the 600-target weekend events. This was **Vern Gideon's** (the new Skeet Chairman) first shoot and he held up well under the many questions and suggestions presented.

Friday presented first the 20ga. preliminary event in which nine participated. **Neil Vann** (San Diego) topped the masses with a 100-straight for 20ga. Gun Champion honors. **Dave Broccoli** (La Costa) was the gun runner-up with a 98.



Neil Vann did not do a UFF DA on the 20 GA Prelim- He nailed a 100 x 100!

Following the 20ga. the favorite of many, the Doubles event, took place. Fourteen shooters attempted the possible but the closest to the pole was **Bob Miller** (Mojave) with a respectable 96. Bob and Donna have been frequent visitors to our range in the past and are in the process of moving to Tyler, Texas. Our loss and Tyler's gain. We wish them well and when they get a permanent address, I will see that it is prominently posted. This way you can let them know how much we miss them. Hopefully then can now spend a vacation in San Diego rather than in Tyler, Texas!

Donna and Bob Miller sponsored the Saturday and the Sunday lunches. The lunch on Saturday consisted of Subway Sandwiches, Potato Salad, Chips and soft drinks. Sunday we had the Costco Polish Sausage with Potato Salad, Chips and soft drinks. We thank the Millers for their thoughtfulness and consideration. **Dan McNaughton** (San Diego) helped with the cooking/serving and all had plenty to eat.

Saturday starts the main events and the road to hero status. Our first event in the morning is the 28ga. In

come two 100-straight. One from **Ted Church** (Newport Beach) and the other from **Dave Broccoli**. The shoot off for Champion and Runner-up is decided on the second station with Ted dropping a high two; UFF-DA. Dave is crowned 28ga. Gun Champion with Ted taking Gun Runner -up. The afternoon event was the 12ga. in which 43 went to station #1 looking for glory. The best anyone could do was to get a 99. In fact four shooters came in with that score; **Ted Church**, **Harold Jeffers** (Torrance), **Bruce Johnson** (Whittier) and **Eric Vandenhoute** (San Diego). Ted dropped out first at station #4, the Eric after six stations leaving Bruce and Harold to duke it out. At the seventh station, Bruce had a double UFF-DA and Harold has a single UFF-DA that makes Harold the 12ga. Gun Champion and Bruce the Runner Up. Many thanks to **Bill Page** (Torrance) and his crew for handling the shoot offs while **Vern Gideon** and I boogied out to go to the Associations Annual Dinner.

Sunday morning 33 brave souls took on the mighty gun (.410 bore) with **Ted Church** and **Roger Christensen** (Perris) breaking the mold with identical 96's. Neither stayed for the shoot offs so we had to long run the winners. Roger took the .410 Gun Champion honors. In the afternoon, the final shooting event of the weekend is the 20ga. **Eric Vandenhoute** and **James Dewey** (Ramona) take to the shoot off field and after three pair, Eric is declared the 20ga. Gun Champ. Association member **Ted Church** with a nice 392X400 wins HOA outright.

We had four novice shooters participate this weekend. **Nelson Jones** (Rancho Santa Fe), **Charlie Geer** (Carlsbad), **John Magarrell** (Ramona) all shot in the December shoot. New to NSSA and San Diego Shotgun Sports this month is **Eric Hutchings** (Simi Valley). Eric shot all four gauges this weekend and has all the qualifications of becoming a great competitor. We welcome you, Eric. **John Magarrell** won the Novice hand crafted shooting pouch award donated by **John Herkowitz** (Azusa) of **Pacific Sporting Arms**.

So ends a great weekend of skeet shooting. A special thanks to **Richard Seaver** (Lakeside) who kept the computer keyboard humming.