



# 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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Ray "Chip" Enniss	Vice President
Dan Fox	Secretary
Taylor Craft	Treasurer

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President's

Message

by

Neil Vann



We are nearing the end of the year where we are involved with the election of officers, selecting a President for 2005 and encouraging all yearly dues paying members to "reenlist". New members who are voted in by the Board of Directors during the months of November and December have a two-month advantage over those waiting until January to join. In 2002 your Board of Directors approved a Policy and Procedure to allow "applicants joining November 1 or after will pay the initiation fee and current dues and the dues shall carry through the following year". As of this writing, SDSSA has a membership of 653 members! This is the highest membership in the history of the organization. Of that 653 membership, 140 are Life Members who are exempt from paying the yearly dues and 513 are "regular" yearly dues paying members. Also the good news is that we

have 46 new members this year to date. It is the 515 yearly dues paying members that I would like to dedicate this article.

Each year we send out notices to all the members indicating that the yearly dues is due on 1 January and payable no later than the last day of February. The notice is sent out during the first part of December to all members. In late January, a review is made to determine whom in the membership has not yet paid and another written notice is sent out through the mail to those folks. After the last day of February has passed, a final review is made and if the delinquent list exceeds 5%, a third letter is initiated to encourage payment. I may have lost you by this time by belaboring the boring details. However, your Board of Directors is relentless in assuring that you continue to hold an active position in the membership rolls. Also, it is your dues that keep the operation of SDSSA open for your shooting pleasure. The upgrade of the facility is a result of your continued active membership. Without exception, nobody on your Board of Directors wants to badger an individual to continue their membership BUT it is essential to our continued existence and growth that some type of reminder be issued. It is also a costly process when you start adding up the postage/letter/envelope cost to those who choose to wait until it is almost too late! I know, NAG, NAG, NAG. The excuses are many and varied on why the tardiness. Most are adamant that they never receive one, much less three, notices. I assure you that unless one doesn't read the mail when it comes in a SDSSA envelope that each individual has received at least one mailing. Any that don't receive the mailing are the ones who have paid their dues prior to the last day of February. Usually the first mailing also contains the ballot for voting in the replacement Board members. Attention to details really reduces the workload of those who care about their membership. If

you take a moment to think about it, the only one in the Association that hasn't spent time and energy in updating their dues is the reluctant procrastinating 5%. Please, this year, don't fall into that category. I suspect that this article won't raise any goose-bumps that will energize you into dropping everything and running out to the range to belly-up-to-the-bar, but do give it some serious thought and mail, or better yet hand your dues to Nikolle at the cashiers window. She will smile and thank you. Not to say that we don't make mistakes and sometimes forget to cross off a name but it is not intentional and we find that people are not bashful in showing us a cancelled check that proves they are paid up. If giving cash, ask for the register receipt and keep it with you.

Well, if I haven't lost you by this time, you are probably one of those in the 95% bracket that are always on time. And for that and enduring this article, I THANK YOU.

### NOMINATIONS ARE OPEN!!!

It's that time of the year again. 1/2 of the Board of Directors are up for election and also the office of President. The Board of Directors is composed of 10 members. 5 are elected each year for a two-year term. The President is elected yearly for a one-year term. The Bylaws provide for a nominating committee to make nominations each year. This year the nominating committee made their recommendations to the Board of Directors at the September meeting. The following slate was accepted by the Board. **President - Gary Krueger Board Members - Taylor Craft, Vern Gideon, Steve Hubbard, Robert Keefe, and Rick Matulich.**

Other nominations can be made by a petition signed by 5% of active members. At the present time that would be 33 signatures.

The date of the election has been set for December 3, 2004. Nominations close on November 3, 2004. Any nominating petitions must be in turned in by November 3<sup>rd</sup> or they will not be accepted.

**International Trap**

By

**Rick Matulich**



The Board of Directors has given the go-ahead to proceed in planning for a third international trap bunker. The plan is to overlay the bunker on Field 10. Moreover, like Fields 11 and 12, Field 10 will still be a Skeet field. The third bunker will be used for large shoots like the Maple Leaf and Golden Bear. Additionally, USA Shooting plans to hold a US Team Selection Match at SDSSA in late 2005 or early 2006, where over 100 of the nation's best shooters vie to represent the USA in World Cup and Olympic Competitions. Now comes the hard part WE NEED MONEY. The estimated costs are slightly over \$ 50,000.00. Any donation that anyone can come up with will be appreciated and remember, all donations are tax deductible. For information on making donations contact Rick Matulich 858 663-1324 or [rickm@vossystems.com](mailto:rickm@vossystems.com).

**The Yellow Tail Festival:**

We had 21 shooters participate. Jeff Church and J. C. Craft tied for HOA. But after a miss and out shoot off Jeff Church took the HOA title.

Jeffrey Church.....	HOA.....	114 +1 115
JC Craft.....	Hi A Class....	114 +0 114
Rick Matulich .....	Hi B Class .....	104
Eric Van Den Haute ..	Hi C Class.....	107
Brian Burrows .....	Hi D Class.....	103
Eric Hauck .....	Hi E Class.....	94
Jake Wallace .....	Hi Junior .....	102



Top Row - Brian Burrows, Jeff Church and J. C. Craft Bottom Row - Jake Wallace, Eric Van Den Haute, Rick Matulich and Eric Hauck

**2004 National Junior Olympic Shotgun Championships** were held at Colorado Springs, CO 23 August 2004 - 29 August 2004 with 61 junior hopefuls participating.



**Brian Burrows**

**Brian Burrows** shot a 113 + 24 in the final giving him 134 out of 150 for a silver medal and a spot on the Junior US National team. Great job!



**Susan Sledge**

**Susan Sledge** shot an 86 + 18 in the finals to finished in sixth place overall in the Junior Women's Trap. Great job!

**Trap News**

By

**Chip Enniss**



We had excellent Weather again for our Sept. shoot. It was nice and warm and we had some wind but mostly we just had a great San Diego weekend for shooting.

Several of our regular participants were Shunting doves or had gone to Kingsburg for their shoot, but we still had a real good turnout. Our S.C.T.P. kids did well again. Don, the Coaches and Parents and the Kids are doing a fine job of representing our Association at the shoots they are attending.

**Kurt Sachau** was winner of the Hunter Money clip on Sat with a fine 197x200. **Diane Savage** was the winner of the Hunter Silver Dollar Necklace again. You Ladies better tune up you scores or Diane will have Bill down at the shop making her a Belt out of the Necklaces. You can only wear so many around your neck. For complete information of winners and scores please check out our fine web site.

On Oct 2<sup>nd</sup> we are going to have a Pot-Luck after event 2. The Association will furnish Meat, Plates, Napkins and Utensils so bring your favorite side dish, Salad or Desert and join us for some Fun and Frolic at the Range. It is my belief we need to have more of a social, fun atmosphere, if you agree and can attend please sigh up at the squadding table Sat morning so we can determine how much Grub to purchase.

We will also be giving all Trophies in Oct, and all events will be 200 Target races so come out and give it a try. To those who have been coming out, THANKS FOR THE SUPPORT.

**-Range Safety- It's everyone's job**

By

**Augie Daddi**



With the hunting season started, lots of folks unfamiliar with range safety practices come out to get in some practice before the hunt. While safety is certainly very important in both hunting and clay target shooting there are some differences.

A key difference is that at the range you NEVER have a shell in the chamber of your shotgun unless you are on a shooting station and ready to shoot. Our Range Staff/Field Officers closely watch shooters to ensure they follow our Range Safety Rules. However Range Safety is everyone's job. Your safety and the safety of others depend on everyone observing the safe handling of firearms at the range.

If you observe an unsafe condition, advise a member of the Range Staff/Field Officer or if you feel you can simply call it to the

person's attention, do so. Having done this myself on a number of occasions, I can tell you that in all cases I received a 'thanks' for the 'heads up' they received.

We've got a fantastic Safety Record at SAN DIEGO Shotgun Sports and with our dedicated membership to the sport of SAFE clay target shooting we'll keep that record going. As a reminder to all, here again are the general safety rules posted at the Range:

- Safety is the responsibility of everyone
- Treat all firearms as if loaded. They are!
- No shells in firearm until you are on your station.
- Shoot only at your own targets.
- Carry your firearm in a safe manner, open, barrel forward and down.
- No alcoholic beverages in shooting area.
- Glasses and ear protection SHALL be worn while shooting and should be worn at all times.
- No spectators shall be on the shooting field without the permission of the squad and at no time during registered shoots.
- When a firearm is closed it must be pointed in a safe direction or in the rack, auto-loaders and pumps open.
- Always walk behind the shooting line when changing stations.
- Do not move off station until Field Officer calls change.
- Follow instructions of Field Officer. Do not argue. Take all complaints and praises to the Ranger Manager.
- Field Officers are here to keep you safe and the range open. PLEASE HELP!
- Should a delay occur, open and empty your firearm.
- You may collect your own hulls after completion of rounds.

You can view these rules from time to time at the range or on our web site at:

<http://www.sandiegoshotgunsports.com/rangesafety.htm>

## Dodge City Shootout

By

Jim Englund



Another excellent turnout for the August Shoot. 65 including 2 juniors. We welcome the under 18 to shoot for half price. This is an easy and fun event that

new, young shotgunners can participate, get their feet wet in minor competition and learn from some of the veterans. We encourage young and/or new shooters to come out and join in the fun. You should too. Bring a pal, bring a youth, bring both!

Bill Pye had a top score of an 89 of 90. As you might remember Bill has had the only perfect 90 at the D.C. He dropped one at handicap so he had two good buddies. Good going Bill. We had 15 shooters get all clays at 16, but only only 2 at handicap: **Lonnie Catania** and **Joe Matkovich**. The first Buddy had two teams who got them all: **Dan Fox, Pinky, Bill Pye** and **Andy Zetts**. The second had four: **Willie Avant, Sonny Hale, John Lunn, Bill Palmer, Paul Lunn, Pinky, Bill Pye** and **Jim Snow**. The Annie Oakley had **Joe Caruso** at third, **Peggy Callaway** second and **Willie Turner** on top of a line that stretched into field three.

Again, help me out and sign up to cook dogs for lunch. It's fun, it's easy and you get to meet everybody. And you're the hero because everyone's hungry.

## Youth Programs

By

Don Wilkie



## SCHOLASTIC CLAY TARGET PROGRAM

I like to stress improvement to our shooters as their primary goal and winning events as a secondary goal. Only one person can win a shooting event but all competitors achieve success by working toward improvement. Our youngsters have all improved over the past year but especially our newest shooters, Junior Novice Squad. Perhaps "strive to improve should be our motto?" They have improved in their shooting skills, and have improved as competitors by learning to focus under pressure. They have improved their ability to not let down after a missed shot, or to be discouraged by a poor day. They have also improved as team members by fighting for every target on bad days. They are rapidly becoming mature competitors. Each one can look back and feel he or she has been successful.

Of course, improving increases the chances of winning; and win they have. Eighteen of our youngsters qualified for our three squads that went to the State

Championships. It took hard work and extra practice and supportive parents. Two of those squads placed second in their divisions qualifying them to compete in the Nationals held in conjunction with the Grand American World Trapshooting Championships, in Vandalia, Ohio. At State both Junior squads came second to teams that won the National title.

At the Nationals neither our Junior Novice squad nor Junior Experienced squad shot its best the first day but neither squad quit and both did much better the second day. Our junior novice squad shot a total score of 875/1000 exceeding last year's junior novice score of 872/1000 and finishing a respectable 10<sup>th</sup> out of 47 squads. The winning team was the Oak Tree Clay Breakers also from California with a score of 905/1000. Our team members were **Kambra Brawner, Evan Marsch, Bryce Copp, Tyler Yonker** and **Breanna Heckenkamp**.

The Junior Experience squad comprised of **Ian Daube, Nick Meyer, Emily Heckenkamp** and **De Savage** shot 452/500 (90.4%) on the first day, respectable but not their best score. However on the second day you could sense their determination and confidence from the moment they walked on the field and they prevailed with their finest performance of the year with a spectacular 470/500 (94%) and finished with 924/1000 only 12 targets out of first place. It was a performance of character and beauty. And only one squad exceeded their second day score. Top scorer for the event was **De Savage** with 191/200—an impressive performance De!



De Savage – 191 x 100

Following the SCTP program **Ian Daube**, **Nick Meyer**, **Kurtis Sorchy** and **De Savage** were joined by **Kambra Brawner** to compete in the Hall of Fame Shoot. They bettered their SCTP scores and shot 944/1000 to finish second in the event, supporting our view that our future National SCTP squads should shoot a preliminary event before the SCTP competition.

**September ATA. SCTP team continues it winning ways.**

**SCTP team members win five championships at ATA:**

**Ian Daube** shot a fine 98/100 to win the junior championship at Saturday's Singles event. Good work Ian--I'm not sure you need a new gun! **Evan Marsch**, one of those remarkably improved novices was Class C winner with a 95/100. He went on in the afternoon to win the short handicap with 92/100. Evan will be an SCTP senior next year.



**Ian Daube – A great 98 x 100**

Even an SCTP mother got into act. **Diane Savage** was high lady in the handicap event with 91/100. On Sunday **Dustin Stewart** took a day off from dove hunting and took the junior singles event with 93/100--I guess you can shoot without your cast and stool as props Dusty! And **Kurtis Sorchy** hit the winners' column with 85/100 as Junior Handicap Champion.

**The 2005 Scholastic Season is upon us!**

Preseason 2005 training has begun. From September 16 through December we will practice twice monthly--normally on the third and fourth Thursdays from 5 to 7 PM. Each squad will be asked to shoot a round of 50 with 10 targets per station. If time and facilities permit we will encourage all experienced participants in the monthly

ATA competition to shoot an additional 50 targets.

**Parents and shooters please note—**

SCTP uniforms are mandatory at all competitions for those who have been issued them--this includes our red SCTP shirts and either the red and blue SCTP hats or white SDSSA hats as stipulated by the coach for the event.

When we began the program we had several well-qualified SDSSA members as coaches but most of them found they could not attend regularly due to other commitments. With few exceptions we have found that our most available and consistent coaches are parents. Currently our coaching staff includes myself as coach-of-record and coach of the Junior Experience squad (grades 6, 7, and 8); **Mike Sorchy** as squad coach of the Junior Novice Squad (again grades 6, 7, and 8); and **Bill Savage** as Senior squad coach (grades 9, 10, 11, and 12). In addition we have individual or specialist coaches including **Duke Wilbur**, **John McClure**, **Susan Sledge**, **Scotty Brawner** and **Carla Sledge**. **Jim Daube** had been added to our coaching staff

Our goal is to have each shooter assigned to one specific coach in order to avoid conflicting and confusing instruction. We too often hear shooters not associated with the program giving our youngsters advice. This can lead to confusion and doubt for our young and impressionable shooters. If people have suggestions it would most helpful if they come to us as coaches rather than interfere in a carefully thought out program. We have had youngsters regress as a result of trying to follow conflicting advice.

New applicants to the program are placed on the guest list for the first six practices in order to determine whether the program is suited to them. If they then decide to join the team they will they will be registered with SCTP. The SCTP 2005 annual program officially begins in January at which time practices will be scheduled weekly. The annual program ends with the completion of the Nationals in August.

**Costs**

Weekly costs include ammunition at \$3.00 to \$6.00 per box of 25 and half-price range fee of \$2.50 for each round of 25. The State shoot involves the cost of travel to Kingsburg, meals and accommodation and ammunition for 10 rounds of shooting. If successful in qualifying the cost of participating in the

National Championship is approximately \$1000 per shooter and one adult. It is not essential to commit to competing in the State or National Competitions. (One-ounce extra-light ammunition is recommended).

Some financial assistance may be available.

An SCTP competition is in the planning stage for April 23 and 24<sup>th</sup>, 2005. It will probably be limited to 15 squads of juniors and seniors. In addition we hope to compete in the Las Vegas Invitational and one other shoot during the next year.

**Carla Sledge** is our general manager as well as one of our coaches. **Diane Savage** and **Pamela Heckenkamp** and several of the parents assist her.

We thank **Layne Kuhlman** for his strong support along with his staff, especially **Nikolle** in the office for all she does to help the kids and the program.

**SCTP applications and information sheets are available at the range office.**

**Hunter Safety**

**Program**

**By**

**Dan Fox**



Our Hunter Education program continues to attract a lot of interest. The program is run monthly from January through September. The Range Office keeps a sign up sheet for the program and each month the program has been full. Our last program for the year (September) will be in full swing at the time you get this newsletter. The program follows the guidelines set forth by the California Department of Fish and Game. The Hunters Safety Certificate that students received upon successful completion of the course is necessary to get a hunting license and is accepted in all 50 states. In order to teach the course an instructor has to be certified by the California Fish & Game.

The program involves 3 hours of classroom instruction on a Thursday evening, followed by 3 hours of safe gun handling and live fire the following Sunday afternoon. We then finish up the next Thursday with 3 more hours of classroom instruction – which also involves testing. We limit the class to 12 students due to space limitations and also we must have a high instructor to student ratio at the live fire session. Our motto is “quality” rather than

“quantity.” We will have had approximately 100 students go through our course in 2004.

We have some dedicated instructors who each month volunteer two evenings and a Sunday afternoon to this program. I would like to thank the following instructors who have worked on at least one of our classes: **Larry Brady, Don Deckman, Jim Englund, Bill Erskine, Dan Fox Jr., Barry Sinkoff, Neil Vann, Don Wilkie and Dewey Wilber.** Without their dedicated effort this program could not exist. I would like to extend a special thanks to both **Jim Englund and Barry Sinkoff** who worked with every class we held this year! **Duke Wilber** was also present at every Sunday Live Fire exercise during the year! Duke is great with the young shooters.

Teaching this course is a lot of work, but very rewarding. Should anyone be interested in becoming a Hunter Education Instructor, please contact me (Dan Fox) and I can tell you what is involved and help guide you through the process. I can be contacted at 619-224-1406 or by email at [dwfox@worldnet.att.net](mailto:dwfox@worldnet.att.net) - or just click on my picture on or web site.

### Olympic Skeet

By

Gene Green



With one exception I have not seen any lady shooters giving “Super Skeet” a try yet. We would welcome them. The United States had two women in the medal round for skeet at the 2004 Olympic Games. Our men’s team had only one!

Here are the approximate membership numbers of the various shotgun sports organizations:

ATA – 54,000  
NSSA – 20,000  
NSCA – 17,000  
USA shooting – 5,000

Now there’s some food for thought.

### The following is the course of fire:

Station 1 – High and one pair  
Station 2 – High and one pair  
Station 3 – High, low and one pair.  
Station 4 – High, low and one pair  
Station 5 – High, low and one pair  
Station 6 – Low and one pair  
Station 7 – One pair  
Station 8 – High, low

As with American Skeet you shoot the house closest to you first on a pair. So what do you do on station 4, when you are equidistant? You shoot the high house first.

In a tournament squads are formed by drawing **only**. You cannot shoot with our friends.

We plan to make some Registered shooting available in the near future. Come on out and see what’s going on in Olympic Skeet – who knows – you might like it!

### Trap League

By

Gary Krueger



The 2004 Summer trap league concluded on August 22nd. The league bash was held on August 29<sup>th</sup> at Kristy’s MVP Sports Bar, and all who attended had a good time.

Each participant in the League received a jacket with the SDSSA logo on it. (If you have not picked up your jacket – see Nikolle in the Range Office) Trophies were awarded to the 1<sup>st</sup> three teams. Any remaining funds will be distributed to the teams based on points earned by the team.

The winning team was **Rich Davis, Chip Enniss, Sonny Hale, Delano Hale, Joe Roby and Mike Scott.**

### Skeet League

By

Craig Potter



The Fall Skeet league started September 15! There are ten teams enrolled in this league.

Good luck to all the shooters and most importantly – have a lot of fun!

**DON'T TRASH YOUR RANGE!!**

Take some pride in YOUR range. Trash cans and cigarette butt containers have been placed throughout the range. There seems to be a “few” who won’t take the effort to use them. Someone has to clean up after those few who continue to “trash” the range with trash and cigarette butts. Much

time is spent on closed days picking up trash and cleaning up the range. This time by volunteers and staff could be spent on improvements to the range, rather than cleaning up, if only users would be considerate of their discards.

On Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup> there was an article in the Union Tribune about some young volunteers who went to “moonlight beach” in Encinitas to help clean it up and were shocked when they picked up over 6,000 cigarette butts in less than 1 hour! This resulted in Solana Beach passing a law in November 2003 that bans smoking from their beaches. Now 9 other cities have passed similar ordinances. All of these laws would be totally unnecessary, except for the people who are slob!

Don’t be a slob at SDSSA range! Be considerate of others and use the trashcans and other containers. Help keep our range neat and good-looking – be part of the solution and not part of the problem!!!