



# Newsletter

Volume 3 Issue 11 <http://www.sandiegoshotgunsports.com> NOVEMBER 2004

**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



We are now getting into the season where thanks giving is the theme. I hope that you will excuse me if I sound old fashioned and am in a preaching mood but you and I have so much to be thankful for. If we took a minute to sit down and list those items and issues, it would surprise all of us as to how long the list can be. The value of positive thinking and positive actions can go a long way in solving the frustrations that seem to go along with the year end activities. Many of us are in the aches-and-pain years of our life and some complaining is in order. However, as the story goes, look around and there is always someone who is under the weather and not as good off as we are. What does this have to do with anything? Probably nothing but it was good to get it off my chest. At least I feel better!

Your Board of Directors is working hard to make your Association a better one for you and your family to be active

participants. We have a good handle on the grounds improvements and there are more on the way. Our new clubhouse has air conditioning for the warm days and is well lighted and for your exclusive use. I see many looking in the windows almost leery of going inside. It is your clubhouse. Use it! But don't abuse it. We have a nice TV that was donated and now if there is anyone out there who might have a satellite dish and receiver that is an extra, we would be pleased to accept it and give you a letter of donation. Plans are in the offering to have an entertainment center cabinet in place where we can have a VCR and an area for reading material. You may have noted that a beautiful donated trophy case is in place ready to show off some well-earned trophies. Any and all suggestions that you may have concerning the outfitting of the new clubhouse are welcome and will be considered. We have a rarely used suggestion box adjacent to the cashier's window (to the right and under the lens cleaning station) that is in sore need of use. Remember, this is your Association.

Soon you will be getting a letter from the Association, which will contain two items. One, and very important to the continued success of your Association, is the dues renewal letter. Our yearly dues remain at \$50 and is due and payable on January 1, 2005. You may either send in the check for the correct amount or better yet, submit it to Nikolle at the cashier's window the next time you are at the range. Each year we have a contingency of members who either "didn't get the dues notice" which is sent to every member or it slipped their mind or, or, or. We then send a follow up reminder letter and in many cases that one is "lost", "misplaced" or forgotten. The third try to get the lost sheep back in the fold is one of frustration because again, the item was purportedly never received!! Faith and patience in our fellow human being reduces

the dropouts to about 5% and we feel that we have done an adequate job in best accomplishing a rigorous task. Your attention to this matter in a timely fashion will avoid a lot of gnashing of teeth! The second item is an invitation to the 2005 Annual Dinner to be held at Tom Ham's Lighthouse on January 29, 2005. At that dinner the 2005 Board of Directors and the 2005 President will be installed. You will have the pleasure of being involved in a raffle in which the proceeds have been determined to go toward our most successful Youth Program headed by director, Don Wilkie. It is planned that you will learn more about the workings and accomplishments of the Youth Program at that meeting. We have always had a good meal and a wonderful fellowship at this yearly meeting. This is a chance to recognize who your Board of Directors are for 2005 and let them know what you think! You can send both the dues and your dinner choice/payment back to the Association and we will be most pleased with your effort.

From time to time we have a disgruntled member or potential member addressing one of the directors or the management asking, "Why should I be a member of San Diego Shotgun Sports? As a member I see no advantage shooting at the range over being a non-member." Even though this feeling is in the minority, your Board of Directors is tackling the issue and by years end we will have concrete reasons why one should be a member of our great Association. There may be some small changes made in the way we do business between members and non-members. I anticipate that we will have different participation policies and procedures in the way we handle some of our more attractive activities. We know that we must be judicious in this change as some of our activities are those that entice membership. You, the membership, all 655 of you, can be

an active participant in answer to the question. Your suggestions are valuable and you may be the one who has the "best" suggestion that solves the issue.

Until next month, I wish you and yours a most happy and thankful Thanksgiving.

## NEW RANGE HOURS

When Daylight Savings Hours turn back to Standard Time, the range hours on Wednesday and Thursday will end at 8PM rather than 9PM.

## HELP FIGHT LITTER

A few of the shooters at the range seem to have trouble finding the multiple trash cans and large cigarette disposal urns located around the range. When they don't take the time to put their trash or cigarette butts in the containers, someone has to clean up behind them.

Let's all help them find those containers. When you see someone throwing trash on the ground, or a cigarette butt on the ground, take the time to point out a proper receptacle for the item. This can be done in a nice friendly way and does not have to be confrontational. If we all do this, just think how much nicer our range is going to look.

## TOYS FOR TOTS AT SDSSA

This November SAN DIEGO Shotgun Sports Association is sponsoring the TOY'S FOR TOTS program. This is open to all disciplines of shotgun shooting at the association. In the past the skeet community has sponsored this program at the end of the December shoot. We have found out that this is too late for gifts to be distributed for that year and all toys were held over until the following year. With the approval of all the chairpersons involved in running the shoots, and all the recreational shooters, at SDSSA November is designated as "Toys For Tots" month. So bring the toys and let's all support this program to help the needy children in our area.

We are going to designate a spot in the new clubhouse where the toys can be deposited. **Please remember these need to be new, unwrapped toys.**

The toys will be picked up by the Marines and distributed to needy children in the area. Let's all get together and bring one or more toys and help children in need. This is a program where you know that 100% of your donation goes to a needy child!!!

## PICTURES IN CLUBHOUSE

A special thanks to **Harvey Fischer** for producing and framing pictures of the past Presidents. Then another thanks to **Willy Turner** for mounting them in the clubhouse.

Check them out when you get a chance. They are located on the west wall of the meeting room in the clubhouse and really look great.

International  
Trap

by

Rick Matulich



The **Top Gun Championships** were held September 18<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> and included a 200 target Olympic Trap event and a 125 target Olympic Skeet event. It was a lot of fun for both the trap and skeet shooters and we plan to co-host future competitions together. We had 21 shooters competing for the Olympic Trap Top Gun Title. To no one's surprise, **JC Craft** took the Gold Medal with a nine target lead. We also had four junior shooters participating and all were winners in different categories. **Brian Burrows** took the overall bronze medal while **Susan Sledge** won High D Class. **Kambra Brawner** was the High Lady shooter and **Breanna Heckenkamp** took High Junior honors.

### The Top Gun Championships Results

<b>JC Craft</b>	<b>Men's Gold</b>	<b>174</b>
<b>Cadry Genena,</b>	<b>Men's Silver</b>	<b>165</b>
<b>Brian Burrows,</b>	<b>Men's Bronze</b>	<b>164 +2</b>
<b>Charles Dietl</b>	<b>High A Class</b>	<b>164 +1</b>
<b>Bill Bolinger</b>	<b>High B Class</b>	<b>161</b>
<b>Don Cramer</b>	<b>High C Class</b>	<b>146</b>
<b>Susan Sledge</b>	<b>High D Class</b>	<b>143</b>
<b>Dan Woolf</b>	<b>High E Class</b>	<b>118</b>
<b>Tony Guest</b>	<b>High Senior</b>	<b>160</b>
<b>Kambra Brawner,</b>	<b>High Lady</b>	<b>114</b>
<b>Breanna Heckenkamp-</b>	<b>High Junior</b>	<b>100</b>

The Top Gun Shoot raised \$580.00 that goes toward the construction overrun costs for Field 12. This brings the total outstanding balance down to \$ 1,625.00. We are now raising money for the third bunker and we need your help. Any size donation is greatly appreciated and is tax deductible. **To make a donations contact Rick Matulich at 858 663-1324.**

Our next international target competition is the Dan Carlisle Invitational and all shooters are officially invited!! This shoot is

in November, so everyone has plenty of time to get warmed up. Looking forward to seeing everyone there!

## SKEET LEAGUE

by

Craig Potter



The Fall Skeet is up and running. We have 55 people participating on 10 teams. The 3<sup>rd</sup> week has been completed, the participation gifts have been ordered and we are in the process of putting together the Grand Finale Bash. The Bash for this league will be held at the Range on November 18 at 6:00pm (this is a change from the November 22<sup>nd</sup> date shown on earlier flyers). We will be having pizza, beer and soft drinks. There is no cost to participants; however we will be collecting \$5.00 a head for each guest.

There is a sign-up sheet in the Range Office. **It is important to sign-up so that we will have a good idea as to how much food and drinks to order.** Please see Nikolle in the Range Office to sign-up and pay for guests.

Olympic Skeet

by

Gene Green



The "Top Gun Championship" was held on Saturday September 18<sup>th</sup>. Certified referee, **Stan Marubayashi**, flew down from the San Francisco area to do the honors. The match was a 125 with no final. Two shooters tied for the gold medal with 95's. In a very short shoot-off, **Ken Vail** from the Los Angeles area emerged victorious with a +2. Congratulations Ken!

### Winners in the Top Gun Championship

<b>Ken Vail</b>	<b>Gold</b>	<b>95 +2</b>
<b>Gene Green</b>	<b>Silver</b>	<b>95 +1</b>
<b>Scott Burnett</b>	<b>Bronze</b>	<b>79</b>

Shooting American Skeet over the years, I have observed the following: High 8 - two "follicle challenged" shooters (such as me) had their heads cut, High 7 - one upper lip cut, High 6 one shin and one foot cut. Very small target slips hitting exposed skin caused all of these accidents. Olympic

targets are faster! My advice is cover up and heads up!

So, what is delayed pull? Once you are in the "ready position" and call for your target, it will be launched within an indefinite time period, not to exceed three seconds. You can NOT move from the "ready position" until the target appears.

So, what is "ready position"? I'll discuss that next month in detail, including the NEW rules for 2005.

### 5-Stand News

by

**Bob Lazarus**



I hope everyone is enjoying the new PVC 5-stand cages. A lot of work went into making them, but so far there have been nothing but good comments about them.

I would also like to thank Jim Stevens for his hard work in cleaning up Field # 6. Jim came out on a Tuesday and did a lot of hard physical work making it look great. Thanks, Jim for taking an interest in the 5-stand fields. Anyone that has a little time on a Monday or a Tuesday their efforts on the fields would be greatly appreciated. Be sure to say "thanks" to Jim and he might be willing to let you help him next time!

### Youth Programs

By

**Don Wilkie**



With the 2005 pre-season now underway ten new youngsters have signed up as trainees. After a six-week trial period, those who are committed to the program will join the team and be issued hats. They include three seniors and seven juniors. We welcome: Kaydee Booszel, Ilija Cupurdija, Matt Higgins, Ryan Hueners, Robert Jones, Jacob Misner, Emma Nowak, Colton Simpson, Emily Steinberg, and Alex Whitwer. Practices are held twice monthly for all team member and trainees with an additional practice for those competing in ATA (other shooters are welcome).

Six SCTP team members participated in the October ATA 200-target singles event on October 2. Top SCTP scorer was De Savage 190/200, followed by Evan Marsch 186/200, with Kurtis Sorchy in third place, 183/200. Closely following were Nick Meyer, and Emily Heckenkamp each with 182/200. Ian Daube, sporting a brand new gun, shot 171/200. De Savage took High Junior ATA honors.



**De Savage hits 190 x 200**

In the ATA doubles event Nick Meyer took Class C with 173/200 while Kurtis Sorchy took the Junior title with 165/200. On Sunday Ian Daube took the ATA High Junior award at handicap scoring 175/200 at 19.5 yards, as his gun began to get used to him.

Patch winners were: Kurtis Sorchy-75 straight; and Evan Marsch-50.



**Kurtis Sorchy – 75 straight!**



**Evan Marsch – 50 straight**

Date	Day	Time	Event
10/2	Sat	8 am	ATA
10/13	Wed	5-7 pm	Practice
10/20	Wed	5-7 pm	Practice
10/28	Thur	5-7 pm	Practice. Team meeting
11/4	Thur	5-7 pm	ATA Practice. Disc.-Yardage
11/6	Sat	8 am	ATA
11/18	Thur	5-7 am	Practice
11/24	Wed	5-7 am	Practice
12/2	Thur	5-7 am	ATA Practice-Mental Game
12/4	Sat	8 am	ATA
12/16	Thur	5-7 pm	Practice
12/22	Wed	5-7 pm	Practice Competition
12/29	Wed	5-7 pm	Practice

### Important 2005 dates include:

January 15 and 16—Las Vegas Invitational.  
 April 23 and 24--Miramar Invitational.  
 June 17 and 18-- State Championship (dates not yet firm).  
 The top three squads in each division qualify for the National Championship--Aug 11 and 12 (Dates to be confirmed).

During the 2004 SCTP target season fundraising projects led by **Carla Sledge**, along with gifts and in-kind contributions helped cover the expenses of the following events by providing:

Las Vegas Invitational.	Jan/2004	\$1764.00*
SCTP State Shoot	June/2004	\$2976.00**
SCTP Nationals	August/2004	\$5200.00***

\* Rooms at "Terribles" arranged by **Bill Savage**  
 \*\*Shells from CGSTA arranged by **Kurt Sachau**  
 \*\*\* Includes SDSSA contribution

## Dodge City Shootout

by

**Jim Englund**



First of all, I'd like to thank Joe Travis for stepping up and volunteering to cook the dogs for OUR lunch. Apparently, someone reads my column. I've been asking for months for help with the lunch. It's easy and fun. Thanks again Joe...who's next?

The skies were clear which made the targets look large well, for some anyway. Of the 69 shooters 15 were perfect at the sixteen yard line. Then everything changed, only two at 25's at handicap; **Harvey Fisher** and **Dan Fox jr.** That makes for a nice payout.

Buddy shoot #1 had two teams that got them all; **Charlie Bover**, **Tom Hickerson**, **Jerry Callaway** and **Mike Gureckas**. Buddy #2 had only one team with all 20; **Ross Giacalone** and **Ken Williams**. Another nice payout.

The Annie Oakley was hard fought and took some time. **Tom Hickerson** hung in there for third. After a long dual **Jerry Dillard** came out on top with **De Savage** coming in second. Good going De, show those old farts a thing or two! Okay; to avoid the broken record thing, please consider taking one Saturday every THREE years to do the dogs. It's not a hassle if we spread it around.

## Trap News

by

**Chip Enniss**



We had outstanding weather again for our two Day Tournament. It seem like each Month the Weather is nearly perfect. We had a good turnout especially on Sat for the 200 Singles and 200 Doubles. Several Shooters came from the L.A. and Inland Empire area and Mike Reese and his Son Michael came down from Las Vegas.

**Mike Reese** and **Sandie Kuhlman** were the big winners for the Weekend, Mike shot his first 100x100 on the first 100 of the 200 Singles then came back with a 99x100 in the afternoon. His 199x200 was

one target better than the rest of us for Champion.. Mike also shot his first ever 50x50 on Doubles and was winner of the 200 Handicap Race with 189x200. Not a bad weekend for a country Boy.

**Sandie** was High Lady on the 200 Singles with 192x200, High Lady on the 200 Doubles with 163x200 and High Lady on the 200 Handicap with 192x200. I don't know what Layne has been telling Her but it sure seems to be working.

**Larry Premo** won class AA with 198x200 and 75x75 in a Shoot off with **Tim Jacobs** and **Chip Enniss**, **Mike Gebhardt** took Vet with 198x200, **Phil Vacca** won B with 198x200, **Ray Gutierrez** was A champ with 194x200, C winner after a Shootoff with **Brian Buxton** was **Charlie Slough** with 188x200 and 25x25 in the Shootoff.

Event #2 200 Doubles was won by **Rich Davis** with 192x200, **Joe Roby** won AA class with 191x200, A was taken by **Jonathan Dales** with 185x200, B winner was **Ron Schwartz** with 188x200 and C winner was Junior **Nick Meyer** with 173x200 pretty good for His first Doubles event. **Wilber Poston**, one of the good guys from up North was hi Vet with 186x200.

Event #3 200 Handicap was won, as I said above by **Mike Reese**. **Gene Baxter** took Vet with 188x200, **Kurt Sachau** won long with 187x200, **Michael Sorchy** won short with 187x200, **John Lumn** was Mid victor with 185x200, **Sandie Kuhlman** took Lady with 182x200 and **Ian Daube** won Junior with 175x200.

The Pot Luck on Sat. Night was attended by quite a few People although I didn't get a head count or have much time to visit I think everyone had a great time. Gentleman **Willy Turner** had a connection to purchase the Beef and Chicken and also picked it up. Thanks for the help Willy. The meat was excellent especially the Marinated Chicken. Now if Roby could only get Willy to disclose where it came from so he could get some even Roby would be happy. The problem is, Willy is not sharing information at this point.

Thanks for the support and the help that has been given, Remember, this is your Association and it will only be as good (OR BAD) as we make it. Get involved lend a hand, make some suggestions then help implement them. And don't forget, We need a new Trap Chairperson or Committee to take over the program next month. Get a friend and do it together or do it with your

husband or wife, But do it, we need new people with fresh Ideas.

## Hunter Safety

Program

by

**Dan Fox**



The monthly Hunter Education Program that we run at the range has been very well attended this year. All of the classes have been full to capacity.

So far this year 102 students have passed the course and received their Hunter Safety Certificate. A Hunter Safety certificate is required to get a hunting license in California and in most state. The Hunter Safety Certificate that can be earned in our course is good in all 50 states and is a lifetime certificate.

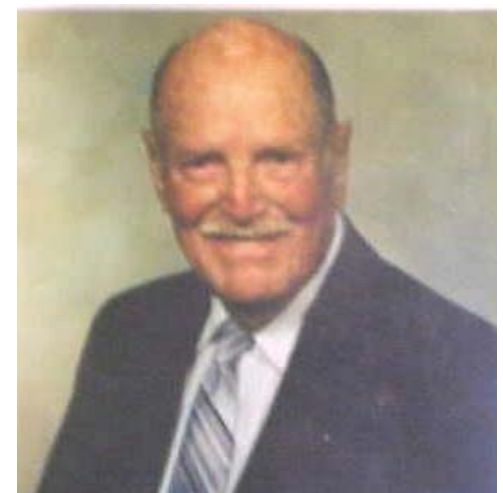
We are taking a break until January 2005, when we will start giving the course again on a monthly basis. If you know anyone that is interested in taking the course, tell them to sign up with the range office.

## SKEET

NEWS

by

**Neil Vann**

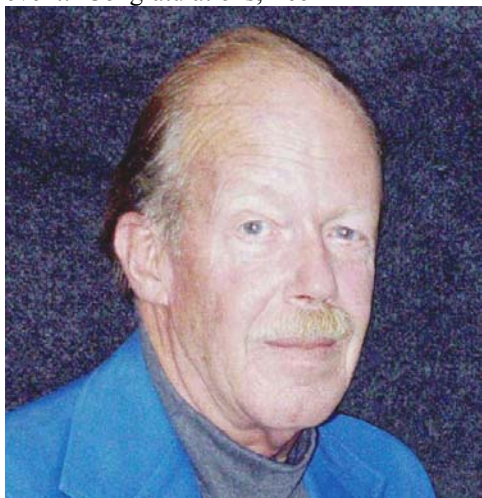


**Grey Silva 1912 - 1997**

The September shoot was named in honor of the gentleman pictured above for his devotion to the game of skeet as well as his

utmost respect to his fellow man. His positive and attractive attitude was best expressed for his many trips to San Antonio to attend the World Skeet Championships and tagged, "The Hugologist." Grey was from the old school that showed respect to the opposite sex by tipping his hat when he met a lady. His inspiration on the skeet field led to a gentlemanly attitude from those he shot with. Field #8 was named after Grey and his wife Fern for their devotion to the sport. In recent years, other tributes to Grey have been added. Long time Association member and staunch skeet supporter, **Lee Dennis** designed and purchased a bronze plaque depicting Grey's many skeet achievements and is appropriately displayed at Field #5. The Association has added to benches on Field #5 that are inscribed, "*In Memory Of Grey Silva*." Grey shot his first 100-straight in the .410 bore in 1991 at the age of 80-years-young. I could go on expanding on the experience that I personally had with Grey, but maybe another time. All who knew him misses Grey's wit, congeniality and wisdom but we know deep in our hearts that he is looking down upon us mortals in a grandfatherly way. Thanks, Grey.

The seventh annual **Grey Silva Memorial Open** was a resounding success as the events unfolded on the weekend of September 24-26, 2004. With a contingency of 51 shooters shooting 22,700 targets, the air was constantly filled with broken targets. **Lee Dennis** (San Diego) donated the 36 silver Crumrine buckles to Champ, Runner up and first in class for the four main events and High Over All. Lee also accomplished a personal goal of shooting his 200,000th registered target, Sunday, in the 20ga. event! Congratulations, Lee



**Lee Dennis – Sponsored the Grey Silva Shoot including providing buckles to winners and lunch for all both days!**

Lee also fed the multitude pizza on both days. Many thanks to Lee for his undying love for the sport and its participants.

**L**ogo Experts, who keep us in stock with Hats, shirts and other apparel that a shoot must have, donated the hats to commemorate the shoot. We appreciate their donation. If you ever need any work done for your business, see Nikole at the range office and she can give you their contact person – they do very good work and their prices are reasonable.

**S**ome brief highlights of the eventful shoot are Association member **Eric Vandenhoute** (San Diego) and **Roman Warren** (Riverside) captured the .410 prelim and Doubles events respectively on Friday. Saturday's heroes were **Bruce Johnson** (Whittier) in the 28ga. and **Robert Hultzen** (San Pedro) in the 12ga. Sunday, **Bruce Johnson** hit pay dirt in the .410 bore and **Gil Siu** (Corona) was Champ in the 20ga. **Bruce Johnson** won High Over All with a 396 X 400!

**W**hen all is said and done, the shoot was a success and we plan on having the "*Grey Silva Memorial VIII*" next September.

**T**hanks to all who had a part to play in this yearly tribute to my friend and a fine gentleman, **Grey Silva**.

### RAFFLE PRIZES NEEDED

**T**his year at the Annual Meeting and Dinner (at Tom Ham's Light House) any and all proceeds from the raffle is going to go to support our outstanding youth program.

**A**s you will note in the Youth Programs Article written by Don Wilkie, our youth participated in a big shoot in Las Vegas and at the California State Shoot in Kingsburg. The 3 teams that were winners at the CA State Shoot earned the privilege to go to the Grand American Trap Shoot in Vandalia Ohio and complete with youth from all over the United States! What a wonderful experience for these fine young shooters and what a tribute to the shooters, their coaches, and SDSSA's developing youth program. This of course takes a lot of money.

**O**ur youth shooters worked in all kinds of fund raising activities during the year to help pay their way. We would like to start them off with some funds by holding the raffle in January at our meeting, with all funds going to them.

**T**o have a successful raffle, we need prizes donated, that will be raffled. Do you have some good items that would make good raffle prizes? Consider donating them, and you can get a tax deduction for the value of those items. Businesses – Do you have a product or service that you could donate to the raffle? Get some publicity for your business, get a tax donation, and help our youth! Give it some thought and contact **Jim Englund (Annual Meeting Chairman)** or **Don Wilkie (Chairman of the youth programs)**. They are listed on our web site and all you have to do is click on their picture to contact them – or – their phone number is listed on the web, and you can give them a call.

**L**et's work together and make our youth program the best in the state!

### ANNUAL DINNER MEETING

**T**he annual dinner/meeting is coming in January. Put it on your calendar. Plans are being made to have an Olympic Trap Medal winner speak at the meeting. Don't miss this exciting event. Some of your youth shooters are going to be present selling raffle tickets. Come to the meeting and talk with these great young competitors who are making a name for our Association. Support them in their fund raising

### IMPROVEMENTS CONTINUE

**I**mprovements continue throughout the range. The railing at fields 1 through 4 is about complete. Big plans are under way to convert field 10 into a combination skeet and bunker field so that we can host Olympic Trap shoots. Even though we have one of the best facilities in the U.S. for Olympic Trap, we need that third field to attract Olympic Shooters and Shoots from the Olympic Training Center. Plans are also in progress to improve the lighting on field 5 to provide top-notch lighting for nighttime skeet. Field #5 has also received new benches that honor Grey Silva – along with the bronze plaque at the entrance to the field. The new clubhouse is now in full operation and has received lots of complements. The tree watering system is being improved and will soon be in place. Plans are also in place to improve fields 1 through 3 to match field 4. New shooting cages have been installed on field 6 & 7. Earlier in the year the new trap tower was installed between field 6 & 7. Point is – if you haven't been out lately, come take a look & shoot a few rounds!