



# 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

Gary Krueger



Your new Board of Directors is getting organized and looking forward to a progressive new year. Committees are being organized and plans are being made for progress in the coming year.

Everyone appeared to enjoy our Annual Meeting and Dinner – the highlight of the evening was hearing about our outstanding youth program – and especially having several of them stand up and tell us what the program means to them. I personally found this to be very inspiring and I hope it gave us all an appreciation of the great job our dedicated volunteers are doing with this program. On top of our youth, we then had the privilege of seeing and hearing from Olympic Athletes and the U.S. Athletic Team Coach! These great athletes were competing in the Maple Leaf Olympic Trap Tournament at our range and were kind enough to join us at our annual meeting – and make note of our outstanding Olympic facility.

More good news about the youth program. Up to this point the primary focus of the youth program has been in the area of trap. However, NSSA also sponsors the Scholastic Clays Target Program in the area of skeet. After the annual meeting, one of our members has volunteered to start working with youth in the area of skeet. This is wonderful news, and will surely enhance our already outstanding program. Youth programs don't just happen, they take dedicated volunteers, and we are going to need lots of assistance (that means volunteers) to get our skeet program up and running. Working with this youth program will give you lots of satisfaction and a feeling of accomplishment. We daily hear in the news all of the bad things that young people are doing – well here's your chance to get involved and see what good young people are doing – and be a part of it. Don't procrastinate – give Don Wilkie or my self a call and get involved. If you have access to the Internet, all you have to do is click on my picture or his on the web page and it will open up direct contact with us.

Thanks for all your support and good shooting!

## PARALYZED VETS SHOOT

I want to tell you about an upcoming opportunity for us to show our support for disabled veterans. San Diego Shotgun Sports will be hosting a trap shoot on **Sunday, July 10<sup>th</sup>** with all of the proceeds going to support the efforts of the Cal-Diego Paralyzed Veterans Association. **The shoot is open to everyone.** Lets unite in supporting those that have given so much to support us. These shooters in wheelchairs don't ask for any special shooting conditions – they just compete – and are good at it. **Come on out and shoot in the tournament – you don't have to be in a wheelchair – or an ATA shooter – all you have to be is a shooter that wants to enter this fun shoot and support our paralyzed vets!**

We hosted this event in 2004 and it was an outstanding success. **Charlie Bover** won the grand prize, which was a new shotgun. Charlie, being the good guy he is, donated the shotgun back to the Paralyzed Vets for use in the

2005 event – so in 2005 there will be two shotguns as prizes – along with a lot of trophies.

This is a real fun event – the PVA even furnishes a grilled steak dinner for all shooters on the day of the shoot. Non-shooters can participate with a small donation.

Our country is at war! These are the vets that are in wheelchairs – **They will be there shooting on July 10<sup>th</sup> and we should all be there shooting along side of them to show our support!!**

## SUPPORT SDSSA WITH A LIFE MEMBERSHIP !!!

Several members did it last month – there is still time for you to do it! We had some dedicated members convert their regular membership into a Life Membership. If you have already paid your 2005 dues, don't worry – during March you will be given credit for those dues against your Life Membership – now is the time to jump in and help out your Association.

No more "time to pay your dues" letter from the association and that "warm fuzzy" feeling of knowing you are providing funds that can help improve your range. Please give this some serious consideration and convert to a Life Membership

!

## SKREET LEAGUE

by

Craig Potter



Our next Skeet league, the '05 Pre-summer Skeet League is scheduled to start the week of April 6th. Start thinking of putting together a group of shooters (4 to 6) and signing-up for the '05 Pre-summer Skeet League. The league will run from April 6th through May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

A Final Bash will be held at the conclusion of the league. The cost to participate is \$50.00 per shooter. We will be following the basic

format we have used in the previous Skeet Leagues. Each shooter will receive a participation gift, an invite to a Bar-B-Q (the Final Bash) and a money award based on their teams overall points.

More detailed information on the rules of the league and the schedule will be available on the SDSSA web site and posted on the bulletin boards around the Range. To sign-up for the '05 Pre-summer Skeet league, please see Nikolle in the Range office.

## Youth Programs

By  
Don Wilkie



### Spirited Scholastic Shooters Shine

Full turnouts at practice, weather notwithstanding, characterized our Scholastic Clay Target Program (SCTP) in January. Thirty-four members are now on the active list and attended practices during the month of January.



Ilija Cupurdija – 8<sup>th</sup> grade



Alex Whitwer – 7<sup>th</sup> grade

Among those showing marked improvement are **Ilija Cupurdija**, 8<sup>th</sup> grade, **Kaydee Boozel**, 7<sup>th</sup> grade, **Alex Whitwer**, 7<sup>th</sup> grade, and **Elliot Greb** 4<sup>th</sup> grade, our only SCTP Rookie.



Kaydee Boozel 7<sup>th</sup> grade



Elliot Greb – 4<sup>th</sup> grade – newest Rookie

### Las Vegas Invasion

Fifteen members of our team traveled to the Las Vegas Scholastic Invitational competition held on January 16<sup>th</sup>, a 150 target event, sponsored by Silver State Claybreakers. Eleven teams, consisting of 140 youngsters from Arizona, California, Nevada and Utah competed. When the gun smoke cleared our team had won an impressive 11 awards!

Our Junior squad of **Ian Daube**, **De savage**, **Emily Heckenkamp**, **Alex Whitwer** and **Matt Higgins** all medaled by placing second with a squad score of 673/750 (89.7%). They were bettered only by Ogden, Utah.

**Brian Burrows** led the way in the Senior Experienced division (grades 9 through 12) with a score of 147/150 (98%). Close behind was our **Ian Daube** who took a second place in the Junior Experienced division (grades 6,7 and 8) with 145/150 (96.7%). He was followed by

**De Savage** with 143/150 (95.3%), third place. In the Junior Novice category, **Alex Whitwer** won third place honors with 126/150 (84%).

The Ogden Utah team was Gun Club Winner with a total score of 1418/1500(94.5%); while our team scored 1349/1500 (89.9%). It was a fine job by our three squads and good practice for the California State SCTP Championships, which will be held in June at Kingsburg. Ogden's **Luke Winward** was Top Gun with 148/150, a mere one-target better than our own **Brian Burrows** 147!

In the Ladies Category, **Judy Sledge** shot (94%) to take first place while **Emily Heckenkamp** placed third with 135/150 (89.3%). Well done ladies!

Most of the expenses for the trip were covered thanks to the efforts of **Carla Sledge** and the families who raised money by providing lunches at SDSSA shoots and **Bill Savage**, who was able to get us complimentary rooms at **Terrible's Hotel and Casino**. Our thanks to all who helped finance this experience! Our thanks also go to the youngsters' dedicated chauffeurs – their parents!

### Our students enliven the annual meeting!

Ten "Scholastic" families attended San Diego Shotgun Sports Association annual meeting and dinner. The SDSSA board of directors generously dedicated the proceeds from the door prizes/raffle to the Scholastic program. Our students sold 1600 tickets to the dinner attendees, raising over \$1,300 for our program!

A number of our members and friends of our Association donated prizes to be raffled. You will note some businesses in the following list. When you visit the business, be sure to let them know that you heard about their business in our newsletter and that you appreciate their donation to our Association.

### The following donations were received:

**Taylor Craft** (1 Case Shotgun shells) - **David Laird** (Fine wine) - **Verne Gideon** (Gift Certificate) - **Filippi's Restaurant** (2 Gift Certificates) - **Sadaf Restaurant** - **Essy Aharpour** (2 Gift Certificates) - **Steve Marsch** (2 Winchester Gun Cases) - **Pat Wilkie** (Sees Candy) - **Scott Beuck** (1 case Shotgun Shells) - **Robert Keefe** (Gun Case) - **Gail Laird** (Fine Wine) - **Decot Hy Wyd** (3-Gift Certificates) - SDSSA (Shooting shirt) - **Duke Wilber** ('Steel Canvas' [Book]) - **Anonymous** (SDSSA Shooting Vest) - **Jim Snow** (Custom Knife) - **Southern-California Gun** (Gift Certificate) - **Jim Englund** (2 Gun Cases) - **Sevilla Restaurants** - **Eric Van De Haute** (8 Gift Certificates) - **John Lumm** (2 Gift Certificates) - **Mike Sorchy** (1 case Shotgun Shells) - **Diana Holm** (1 bottle Fine Wine) - **John Lumm** (4 Cases of shells) - **Jim Englund** (2 Bottles Fine wine) - **Project 2000** (Gift Certificate)

**Layne Kuhlman** was raffle-master and kept the drawing moving at a fast pace. **Judy Sledge** drew the winning tickets while **Brian Burrows**, **Bryce Copp**, **Ilija Cupurdija**, **Ian Daube**, **Emily Heckenkamp**, **Ben Holm**,

**Robert Jones, Evan Marsh, Nick Meyer, and Kurtis Sorchy** delivered the prizes out to the winners with gusto and a smile.

Featured speakers at the dinner were **Emily, Ian, Judy and Brian**, who described the highlights of their experiences in our program. Brian, Judy and Emily have been a part of our Scholastic Clay Target Program since it's beginning in 2003. Brian and Judy along with **De Savage, Nick Meyer & Breanna Heckenkamp** were pioneers in our program and won the CA state championship in their division. The audience listened keenly to our students' experiences and gave them a rousing ovation. These youngsters have represented our program with class and dignity from the very beginning.

Thanks to the outstanding work of our students, their parents, and our coaches, I was presented an award recognizing the team's "Exceptional Dedicated Service." All of this could not have been accomplished without the support of **Layne, Nikolle** and the range staff.

#### Judy wins a birthday present!

You would think that the Las Vegas shoot and the Annual Dinner would be enough excitement for a month but for the Scholastic kids it wasn't. Twelve team members competed in the February ATA competition at our range. **Judy Sledge** celebrated her 16<sup>th</sup> birthday by leading all Scholastic contenders with a sparkling 98/100—oh so close to her first 100 straight. But imagine this--she dropped the first target but still had the courage and focus to almost run the rest—an amazing accomplishment. How many other young ladies have had such a memorable experience on their 16th birthdays?



**Judy Sledge shoots 98 x 100!!!**

Judy chose to receive the ATA High Junior Award in lieu of the SCTP first place trophy. **De Savage** shot a 95/100 to take the first place SCTP award. **Ian Daube** and **Evan Marsch** each scored 94/100 and will shoot off for second and third place at the next SCTP practice.

In the team competition **Judy Sledge's** squad, which included **Nick Meyer, Evan Marsch, Ben Holm and Ryan Heuners**, edged out the

squad of **Ian Daube, Emily Heckenkamp, De Savage Bryce Copp and Ilija Cupurdija**, with a score of 453 to 444. Each member of the winning squad will receive a box of shells.

**Carla Sledge's** team of volunteers provided lunch at the ATA competition again this month and at the Maple Leaf and Golden Bear Olympic competitions. The proceeds will be used to help send our squads to the State Championships in June and hopefully to the Grand at Vandalia, Ohio in August. (PS: Any donation you would like to make to this worthy cause are tax deductible – see **Don Wilkie or Carla Sledge**. No spare money? – well how about some of your time? Again see Don or Carla to volunteer.)

**Brian Holt** has volunteered to coach an SCTP skeet squad. We are exploring the feasibility of adding skeet to our program in the near future, perhaps in time to compete in the CA state shoot. Are there any more volunteers who would be willing to help get this SCTP skeet program up and running? We sure could use your help. Please let me know if you can help.

## SKEET

### NEWS

by

**Neil Vann**



The Southern California rainstorms passed and the weather was almost picture perfect for the January 21-23, 2005 registered skeet shoot at the SAN DIEGO Shotgun Sports Association entitled, Hawaiian Holiday Open in San Diego, California. Not all 44 competitors participated in the Hawaiian requested attire but those that did were brightly displaying their colorful shirts. The lunches on Saturday and Sunday featured marinated chicken tenders with pineapple rings on a bun. Thanks to **Dick Seaver** (San Diego) and **Dan McNaughton** (San Diego) for their sponsorship and **Carol and Craig Potter** (Chula Vista) for the prep and cooking.

The 600-target weekend commences with the 20ga. preliminary on Friday. With 11 shooters, the 20ga. Gun Champion score of 98 was shot by **Dale Stuntz** (Redondo Beach) followed closely by **Brett McLaughlin** (La Mirada) with a 97. Following the prelim. was the Doubles event with 17 responding to the call to arms. This time **Brett McLaughlin** sets the high mark with a nice 98 for Champion and Runner-up going to **Jay Carter** (Claremont) posting a 95.

Saturday brought out the masses and the quest for vying for HOA as the "best-of-the-best". The 28ga. offered the first challenge with 34 competitors. A bit of fog kept one's attention on the target but it didn't hinder Association member, **Ray Phillips** (Las Vegas, NV), who pulled the lone 100-straight out of the hat.

Excellent start toward a 400X400! **Dave Broccoli** (La Costa) worked long and hard and brought in the next highest score, a 99 to secure Gun Runner-up. Most notable was a shoot off to establish Class A2 and A3 between **James Dewey** (Ramona) and **Jay Carter** coming in with 96's. "Rambo" Dewey led off and for three stations shooting Doubles at 3,4 and 5, miss and out, both did well smoking the 3 pair with authority. On station 4, coming back, "Rambo" dutched a pair for a most magnificent double bogey. The undeliberate misses didn't phase Jay's concentration one bit (except for the giggling) and Jay won the contest.

As I mentioned earlier, the lunch was excellent and well received by all. We continue to seek sponsors for future lunches.

Just after the feeding frenzy, the mighty 12ga. is announced with the afternoon crowd numbering 41 taking to their respective fields. Class A shooter **Jay Carter** (seems that we just talked about him) brings in the only 100-straight setting a standard to be reckoned with. Four 99's and eight 98's were shot but there is only enough room for ten winners. When the cordite cleared for Gun Runner-up with 99's, **Ray Phillips** was crowned Champion. The remaining high scores were distributed among the various Classes. One note of accomplishment has to do with a Class C shooter, **Nelson Jones** (Rancho Santa Fe). Nelson has been shooting "C" class scores and was picked to attend a clinic that Association member **John Herkowitz** of Pacific Sporting Arms held a week prior to the shoot at SDSSA. Nelson must have been paying close attention to John as he brought in a 99 and took first in Class C. The score was a tribute to both Nelson and John. Our 12ga. Novice winner was **Larry Penners** (Signal Hill) with a nice 89. Larry was presented with a Lonesome Charlie's handcrafted leather shell pouch donated by **John Herkowitz**. Congratulations, Larry and thank you, John.

The half-way point to that magical 4X4 is over, it is Sunday morning and it's time to work on the basics and conquer the mighty .410 bore. It's 34 shooters that wish to bring in the top score. Two worked hard but at the end came in with 98's. **James Dewey** and **Neil Vann** had to duke-it-out for the top two spots. Youth and inexperience won over age and treachery with this time Dewey hitting both targets at station 3 and Neil missing one. Oh well, James took his win with no hard feelings! Off to the chicken tender lunch.

Now we are getting down to the short strokes and the crowd is hovering around the scoreboard wagering on the outcome with the 20ga. to be shot. As you tell by reading this epistle, there are some close third round totals on the board. 33 spoilers take to their stations. Only one breaks the mold and has the 100-straight. **Brett McLaughlin** worked hard while enjoying the game and it paid off. Brett is our 20ga. Gun Champion. Three 99's have a shoot off to decide Gun Runner Up. **Russ Terry** (Irvine), **Ray Phillips** and **James Dewey** square off. Russ reminds the opposing duo and the multitude

behind the fence watching this shoot off that yesterday was his 58<sup>th</sup> birthday and nobody thought to give him a birthday present or even to sing to him so he would appreciate it if they would allow him a target or two. Ray and James look at Russ as if he were the "Nutty Professor" and told him to go pound sand. Well, James went out first then Ray dropped one a Russ didn't. Even with the crowd at high harassment, Russ came through winning the 20ga. Gun Runner Up.

Two tied for HOA. **Brett McLaughlin** and **James Dewey** with 391's. Brett had to leave to beat the traffic so James took the honor.

### International Trap

by

**Rick Matulich**



The Maple Leaf and the Golden bear were a great time for all. I would like to thank **Steve Lakatos**, **Vickie Cowin** and **Gary Whiting** for putting on his event, and it ran like clockwork.

### Starting with the Maple Leaf

#### Double Trap Results

|                                |     |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| 1 <sup>ST</sup> Erickson, Bret | 253 |
| 2 <sup>ND</sup> Cory Sidorek   | 252 |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Mat Drexler    | 252 |

**Pam Heckenkamp**  
presenting  
HOA award  
to  
**Bret Erickson**



HOA Woman

award

**Joetta Dement**



#### Single Trap Results

|       |                       |              |
|-------|-----------------------|--------------|
| HOA M | <b>Bret Erickson</b>  | 176 + 24=200 |
| HOA W | <b>Joetta Dement</b>  | 157          |
| AA    | <b>Mat Wallace</b>    | 178 + 17=195 |
| A     | <b>JC Craft</b>       | 180 + 14=194 |
| B     | <b>Martin Davies</b>  | 169          |
| C     | <b>Rick Matulich</b>  | 154          |
| D     | <b>Aaron Thompson</b> | 141          |
| E     | <b>Mara Desso</b>     | 138          |
| JR    | <b>Richard Valdez</b> | 163          |
| SR    | <b>Cadry Genena</b>   | 159          |

## Golden Bear Results

### Double Trap Results

|                    |                       |     |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-----|
| HOA M              | <b>Glen Eller</b>     | 284 |
| HOA W              | <b>Susan Natrass</b>  | 163 |
| AA                 | <b>Bill Keever</b>    | 283 |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> AA | <b>Jeff Holguin</b>   | 282 |
| B                  | <b>Randy Dyer</b>     | 150 |
| C                  | <b>Dwayne Weger</b>   | 210 |
| E                  | <b>Willis Cameron</b> | 143 |

### Single Trap Results

|       |                          |     |
|-------|--------------------------|-----|
| HOA M | <b>Brett Tagtmeyer</b>   | 182 |
| HOA W | <b>Collyn Loper</b>      | 164 |
| AA    | <b>Lance Bade</b>        | 182 |
| A     | <b>Max Jolliff</b>       | 175 |
| B     | <b>Dick Lichtenberg</b>  | 163 |
| C     | <b>David Prondzinski</b> | 165 |
| D     | <b>Dennis Aldridge</b>   | 153 |
| E     | <b>Pippin, Goldie</b>    | 158 |
| JR    | <b>Richard Valdez</b>    | 167 |
| SR    | <b>Chuck Dietl</b>       | 148 |

HOA - Men

**Brett Tagimeyer**



HOA - Women

**Collyn Loper**



We are still 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.**

### Dodge City Shootout

by

**Jim Englund**



The first Dodge City Shootout of the new year had a good turn out with 63 total. With blue skies and the grass growing makes for a great shooting range. My thanks to **Norm Rudolph** for the grilling with help from **Lou Imbimbo** and **Augie Daddi**. I still have April and May open so don't be bashful to let me know what month you would like. Not too many 25s at the shoot which I don't understand because the conditions were so ideal.

Seems when it's overcast and windy you all do better? Anyway, we did have some good scores.

At the 16 yard line the 25s were shot by **Chip Enniss**, **Dan Fox**, **Lou Imbimbo**, **Ken Jossenberger** and **Joe Roby**. At the handicap **Jerry Callaway**, **Chad Stone** and **Wendell Trent** hit them all. The first buddy had **Jan Slough** and **Augie Daddi** paired up for a perfect 20. Other pairs were **Ross Giacciaione**, **Ken Jossenberger** and **Ray Lanzilotta** with **Joe Travis**. No 20s in the second round but a slew of 19s. The Annie Oakley got whittled down to **Jack Brown** coming in third, **Fred Corley** second and **Jerry Dillard** with first. High overall was **Bob Young** with an 86 of a possible 90. Again, I have April and May open for the BBQ.

### Olympic Skeet

by

**Gene Green**



The Maple Leaf Championship took place on Jan. 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. There were fifteen shooters, including one from the 2004 U.S.A. Olympic team. What a pleasure it was to observe and shoot with some of the finest shot-gunners in the world. The results are posted on our web site.

Here is how you shoot "vintage skeet", circa 1950. The current American Skeet course of fire and target speed is used. You shoot all the singles first, then you shoot all the doubles. The first miss is your option shot. However, if you are straight after 24, then you get to pick any target you want for your 25<sup>th</sup> shot. Now you know where the term "option shot" comes from. Add "low gun" and "delayed pull" and you will be shooting American Skeet as it was shot over a half century ago.

**Remember: There is no such thing as a safe firearm!**

### SUGGESTIONS - KEEP THEM COMING

Do you want the Range changed, improved, or do you have a suggestion that could help the Association. There is a suggestion box that is located outside the Range Office. All you have to do is write down your suggestion and place it in the box.

Each month the Board of Directors reviews the suggestions. This helps the Board stay informed as to what the members would like to see take place at the Range. If you have an idea to improve, change, or just complain about something - this is the sure way to get it in front of the Board of Directors and have them consider it!

Don't complain to your fellow shooters about what should or shouldn't be done - put it in witting and put it in the suggestion box - get it off your chest and pass it on to the Board of Directors - let them worry with it!!!