



Newsletter

Volume 4

Issue 6

<http://www.sandiegoshotgunsports.com>

JUNE 2005

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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Newsletter Editor	Dan Fox
Webmaster	Augie Daddi
Range Tel	(858) 278-3173
Range Fax	(858) 278-0160

PRESIDENT'S

MESSAGE

by

Gary Krueger



We are out of the basement and on the first floor with the results of the April financial report showing a positive gain! Although an unpopular move was justified in raising prices to maintain a posture of financial gain, the dividend is beginning to show progress. Your Board of Directors working in your behalf spent some agonizing hours developing a bare-bones budget for 2005 so that we could continue to have a facility that would accommodate the shotgun shooting public. April was the first month of the new fee increase and the first sign of light-at-the-end-of-the-tunnel by showing a positive cash flow. We thank those of you in the majority who took this adversarial issue and supported it with your participation.

More good news! Not only is our financial future on the upswing but in addition our location future looks brighter than ever. At 7:30 am, Friday, May 13, 2005, the U.S. Department of Defense announced that MCAS Miramar was NOT on the closure list and would in fact gain 41

military personnel and 30 civilians! Who said Friday the 13th was unlucky?

With in increase in the daily fee doubling, there is a good reason to become a member. Twenty-seven new members have been added to our rolls in the past two months! We are still working with diligence to come up with additional reasons for new members to join the Association. Our facility improvements are at a stand-still until we can get back to where we want to be. Even though we are a non-profit Association, we must generate revenue to continue, maintain, and improve our programs. Look around and see the exciting events that are happening with our youth on Wednesday and Thursday evenings. This didn't happen overnight and without a lot of volunteer help. We could not support these efforts, without doing what had to be done!

Your Board of Directors meets on the second Thursday of every month at 5:00pm and welcomes your presence at the meeting. We reserve time at each meeting to introduce guests and allow them to speak if they wish to do so. We encourage this dialogue as we need to know what the membership wants and needs up front. Good thought comes from good people, and we have at this point in our history, the highest membership that we have ever enjoyed; 639 good people!

I truly believe in your Association that I have the distinct privilege of leading. It is my plan during my tenure to lead you into a profitable and exciting future but I need your help and support to accomplish this task. I and your Board of Directors are totally approachable. We seek your ideas, your recommendations and your support. We represent you and want to succeed. Thank you for reading this and taking it to heart. I look forward to talking to you at the range.

SKREET LEAGUE

by

Craig Potter



The '05 Pre-summer Skreet League is coming to and end. We have planed the "grand final

bash" for June 15th at 6:00 pm to be held at the range. In addition to a "Bar-B-Q" we will be handing out participant awards, cash prizes and certificates of achievement. Participants and guest please plan to attend. The bash is free to participants and \$ 5.00 for guest. Please see Nikolle in the office if you plan on attending and if you will be bringing a gust or gusts. This will help us greatly in determining how much food to prepare. Nikolle will collect the guest fee.

Summer Trap League Starting

The summer Trap League will be starting on July 20th. Get your team together and sign up for the upcoming league!

If you have not been on a team, check with Nikolle at the Range Office and she will see that you are put on a team. What a great way to make some new friends and have a lot of fun shooting trap. Don't procrastinate, get involved!

YOUTH PROGRAMS

By

Don Wilkie



The Miramar Scholastic Invitational

San Diego Shotgun Sports Association held it's first Scholastic Clay Target Competition, The Miramar Scholastic Invitational, on April 24. Sixty-four youngsters from fourth grade through twelfth grade competed in the 200-target event with teams representing the Las Vegas Trapshooting Park, the Oak Tree Gun Club, Project 2000 and San Diego Shotgun Sports.

The event was patterned after the format developed by **Linda Hand** at Las Vegas. Team awards were determined by combining the top five shooters in each division—no distinction was made between novice and experienced shooters as is normally done for major SCTP events. Awards were also given for individual performances. A special 100-target event was

held for beginning shooters who had never shot in a competition before

The entry fee was \$40 and included trophies, a barbecue lunch as well as the cost of targets. We were able to make a small profit and finish in the black.

The highlight match-up of the day was the competition between **Brian Burrows** of our range and **Jake Wallace** of Oak Tree. Jake finished his 200-targets first with an outstanding score of 199 and was seemingly unbeatable. But Brian was still on the field when Jake finished shooting and he ran the first 75. "Could he really do it?" I wondered, "Run 200 straight?" It seemed improbable but as I watched he smoked the 15th target, and looked focused and determined. He paused briefly to gather himself; maintained his composure; then hit the next target and continued breaking them; pausing again before smoking the last target he completed a fabulous round without a miss. The audience was momentarily stunned, as if they couldn't believe what they had just witnessed. Then suddenly realizing it really was true—200 straight! —They broke into enthusiastic applause. And rushed to congratulate Brian. **Jake Wallace** showed that he was a real sportsman, as well as a top-notch shooter by graciously accepting defeat and was among the first to congratulate Brian before paying off his \$1.00 bet with a smile.



Brian Burrows (left) getting his \$1

The victory gave Brian the "Top Gun" award for the competition and his 200-straight patch as well as a flat of ammunition contributed by John Lumn. Watching this performance was a peak experience that I will always appreciate and remember.

When the scores were finally totaled San Diego won the Junior Championship with a combined score of 924/1000. Members of the squad were **Ian Daube, De Savage, Ilija Cupurdija, Matt Higgins & Kambra Brawner**. Each member received a medal. Second place went to Oak Tree with 852/1000.



Junior Champs – Higgins, Cupurdija, Savage, Daube and Brawner

In the Senior Division Oak Tree edged San Diego in well-contested match-up with a first place score of 958/1000 (95.8%) to our score of 946/1000 (94.6%)

In the individual awards our **Matt Higgins** broke through and had his best day to win the Junior Novice award with 183/200 and **Ryan Hueners** also had a good day and won the Senior Novice award also with 183 defeating **KC Edgel** of Las Vegas. Edgel also had 183 was not able to attend a shoot off and conceded.



Matt Higgins – Junior Novice



Ryan Hueners – Senior Novice (receiving his award from Bill Savage)

Jake Wallace of Oak Tree was presented the Senior Experienced award--well deserved after his excellent 199/200.

The competition was close for the Grand Champion team award but our SDSSA team students prevailed with 1870/2000 or 93.5% to best the Oak Tree team which broke 1810 of 2000 for 90.5%). The Silver State Claybreakers of Las Vegas took third place. It was a well-fought competition, of which all the participants can be proud and a memorable kick-off for what is destined to become an annual event at San Diego Shotgun Sports. The complete list of winners is seen below:

Miramar 100

Champ	Harrison Samaniego	SDSSA	81/100
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Rookies

Champ	Mike Reese	Las Vegas	152/200
Second	Joshua Gonzalez	SDSSA	55/100
Third	Tyler Jensen	Project 2000	37/100

Junior Novice

Champ	Matt Higgins	SDSSA	183/200
Second	Chris Johnson	Oak Tree	182/200
Third	Ilija Cupurdija	SDSSA	180/200

Junior Experienced

Champ	Travis Ferrier	Oak Tree	192/200
Second	Ian Daube	SDSSA	190/200
Third	De Savage	SDSSA	189/200

Senior Novice

Champ	Ryan Hueners*	SDSSA	183/200
Second	KC Edgel	Las Vegas	183/200
Third	Kody Edgel	Las Vegas	178/200

Senior Experienced

Champ	Jake Wallace	Oak Tree	199/200
Second	Jeston Thompson	Oak Tree	195/200
Third	Kurtis Sorchy	SDSSA	192/200

High Lady

Champ	Judy Sledge	SDSSA	182/200
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Top Gun

Champ	Brian Burrows	SDSSA	200/200
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TEAM AWARDS

Junior	Champion	SDSSA	924/1000
	Second	Oak Tree	852/1000
Senior	Champion	Oak Tree	958/1000
	Second	SDSSA	946/1000

GRAND CHAMPION

San Diego Shotgun Sports	1870/2000	93.5%
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* Champion by concession

The event went without a hitch thanks to sound planning by the event committee, chaired by **Bill Savage** and the work of our dedicated corps of 26 volunteers that helped in all phases of the competition. Space does not allow us to credit all the volunteers but nearly every shooter had a parent or relative who helped. Much credit goes **Steve Marsch** who coordinated their effort. We wish to commend **Layne Kuhlman, Nikolle** and **James** and the pullers for a job, which was done without a hitch. We thank them for their unflinching and professional performance. They were a credit to the range and essential to our success.

Our team cleaned up the range and left it spic and span—not a hull, can, bottle or scrap of paper was left behind. Good work team and thanks for a great day. It was a fine team effort by all from beginning to end.

SKEET

NEWS

by

Neil Vann



SAN DIEGO Shotgun Sports Association member, **John Herkowitz** sponsored the Third Annual Pacific Shooting Arms Open on April 29-30 at SDSSA. The shoot was attended by 81 individual shooters shooting 36,900 targets over the cool but comfortable San Diego April weather weekend. The 12ga. brought in the highest amount of participants numbering 94 with the 28ga. numbering 93. Ten shooters had shot less than the required 500 targets to get a

permanent average so they were in the non-classified category until they had shot the event.



John Herkowitz – SDSSA member and owner of Pacific Sporting Arms sponsors this important annual sold out Skeet event

The Doubles event had 63 shooters and was shot on Friday. Three 100-straight emerged at days end with a duel between sponsor **John Herkowitz, Larry Sifers and Brett McLaughlin** with Larry outgunning both John and Brett in a shoot off taking Gun Champion.

Three banks on Saturday and Sunday made for long but productive days for many. Saturday morning witnessed the 28ga. being kind to eight shooters hauling in the coveted 100-straight. **Dave Broccoli, James Dewey, John Herkowitz, Class "C" shooter Robert Hultzen, Larry Liu, Bill Marble, Jason Parson and Fred Mathews** congregated for an anticipated lengthy shoot off battle. **Dave Broccoli** emerged like the Phoenix out of the fire to become 28ga. Gun Champion with **Larry Liu, Runner Up and Fred Mathews, Third.**

The Saturday afternoon 12ga. event produced a gaggle of five 100-strights. **Dave Broccoli, Jack Campbell, Brian Holt, Dan Lewis and Larry Sifers** made up the gaggle. Another contest of call-and-grind produced **Jack Campbell** as 12ga. Gun Champion with **Brian Holt, Runner Up and Dave Broccoli, Third.**

Sunday morning was .410 bore time. With 78 shooters involved, only one held the coveted .410 prize. That being **Ron Hurlbert** with the lone 100-straight. **Don Luisi (99)** was Gun Runner Up and **Larry Sifers (99)** was third

The afternoon event hosted the 20ga. with 77 anticipating the top prize. This time two 100-straight were posted. One by **Ron Hurlbert** and the other by **Ray Phillips**. Ron won the shoot off for Gun Champion and Ray took Gun Runner Up. A slew of 99's came in but **John Herkowitz** took charge in the slewing department and became Gun Runner Up Third.

High Over All winner was **Ron Hurlbert** with a 396, out shooting the other (71) 4-gunners. **Dave Broccoli** was Runner Up with a 395 beating our **Jason Parson (Third)** and **John Herkowitz** with 395's

Many thanks go to **Eric Vandehaute** for his inspirational mid-day meals on Saturday and Sunday. Also thanks for **SoCal** for their running of the shoot. A BIG THANKS to **John Herkowitz** for his sponsorship who doled out prizes and prizes and more prizes!!



Eric van der Haute – His Café Sevilla provided the outstanding lunches.

INTERNATIONAL TRAP

by

Rick Matulich



April 9th's shoot attracted 20 shooters. Scores remained fairly sub-par across the board due to difficult lighting. The 125 targets event was crowned with the newly reformed finals format consisting of the top six shooters firing one shot at each target in a full round of 25. This led to a tie between **Scott Brawner** and **Jeff Church**. The tie was settled in a miss and out with **Jeff Church** coming out the victor. High lady was taken by **Susan Sledge** and junior and senior awards were received by **Jake Wallace** and **Dave Prondzinski** respectively.



Susan Sledge – High Lady

You may have already heard that USA Shooting has partnered with The Hill Country Shooting Sports Center (HCSSC) in Kerrville, Texas. The HCSSC will be building 5 new bunkers and 5 international Skeet fields. In addition, pistol and rifle ranges will be installed. This makes HCSSC an ideal location for a World Cup Competition and will indeed be the host location for a 2006 World Cup. We at SDSSA are excited about this development and support the efforts of HCSSC and USA Shooting in their efforts to expand our sport in this country.

With the news of this new facility the Board of Directors of SDSSA has decided to postpone any further efforts to build a third international bunker in San Diego. Every one that has made a contribution to the third bunker will be contacted in regards to their donation and what to do with it.

THE ARMUSA CUP INTERNATIONAL it will be held June 9th – June 12th this will be a 200 target event with a 100 target Preliminary.

Bret Erickson will be back giving a clinic in International Trap and 5-Stand June 15th – June 19th. On June 15th Bret will be holding a juniors clinic any juniors interested Contact JC Craft at 619 665-1679 or JC@breterickson.com or www.breterickson.com there only 12 openings for Olympic trap and they won't last long so don't delay on signing up.

The Future SKEET LEAGUE

by

Neil Vann



New faces bring new ideas. That is an old Chinese proverb that I just made up!

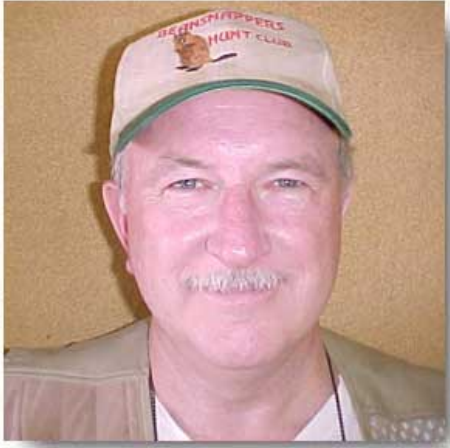
The recreational Skeet League, as we know it today, started in the spring of 2002 and we are presently into our eighth league. As the seasons go by, the League takes on new life with a certain amount of renewed enthusiasm

Craig Potter took over the Skeet League in March of 2004 and has led us through three Skeet Leagues. His innovations and love of the game has enriched us all. During Craig's tenure, a minimum of 11 teams have participated which brings in new shooters and potential members.

Craig and his wife, **Carol**, are embarking on a well deserved month long European vacation starting at the end of June. Craig retired from the National City Fire Department after 30 years and now is going to do some serious traveling with Carol this year. This action left a temporary vacancy in the Skeet League department but with very little prodding, we have a new Skeet League Chairman who has volunteered to continue sparking people into having high style fun in low key competition. Everybody becomes a winner in the Skeet League as the entrance fee is returned to all the shooters in the form of

winnings, maybe a low-key after league dinner and a participation prize. If you haven't tried shooting the Skeet League...do it! We thank Craig for his efforts and leadership and wish him and Carol a happy voyage.

Dick Seaver will take over the reigns as Skeet League Chairman commencing with the 2005 Fall Skeet League which will begin on October 19 and ends on December 11, 2005.



Dick Seaver – New Skeet League Chairman

A bit about Dick. Richard (Dick) Seaver - Born and raised in Malone, New York enlisted in the Navy when he was 18. After a year at Pearl Harbor, he was transferred to San Diego and has been here ever since. His first job after the Navy was at Solar Turbines, Inc. where he retired after 38 years.

He has a wife, two grown daughters and a sixteen year old grandson who all live in the San Diego area. His hobbies include shooting skeet, trap, sporting clays and five stand. He also enjoys western and swing dancing and his latest hobby is as a volunteer on the USS Midway Restoration crew.

Dick has been a member of SDSSA for about 5 years and is currently a member of the Skeet Committee.

DODGE CITY SHOOTOUT

by

Jim Englund



First of all, I'd like to thank Rene Van Horne for stepping up to volunteer for cook of the month. We have June on open. Anybody? I heard some grumbling about the price increase of \$5. We hope you understand that our costs have increased (targets, insurance, utilities, etc). So, to help out, we have increased our payout and will pay the Annie Oakley to four places. We are also working on some lunch "specials" from time to time. I believe it's still a good bargain @ \$25. If any of you DC shooters have any comments/suggestions, please fell free to share them with me. I'm open to any and all ideas. Also, we will continue the juniors to shoot for

half price target fees. They will be in the payoffs as everyone else.

There were nine shooters straight at the 16 but nobody at handicap. There were six to go 24: **Rich Davis, Mike Scott, Butch Smallenberger, Mike Sorchy, Chad Stone and Ken Williams.** There were four pairs to go 20 @ the first buddy shoot and another four in the second. With 60 shooters, the Annie Oakley produced a rather long line and got pared down to the final four. Fourth was **Delano Hale**, third **Brian Butson**, second **Lonnie Catania** and the last standing was **Butch Smallenberger.** Top score of 84 was split three ways between **Sonny Hale, De Savage** (junior) and **Ken Williams.** Good shooting fellas.

Once again, we all need to help out with grilling. Get a partner and you **both can still shoot.** Cya next month.

THE PVA IS COMING IN JULY!

The PVA (Paralyzed Veterans of America) shoot **is coming to our range on July 10th.** There will be prizes (2 shotguns), many trophies, lots of fun and food.

This is a one day shoot that is designed to be a fun shoot and raise money for the PVA. Remember – you don't have to be in a wheelchair to participate in this shoot – it is for everyone.

There will be a BBQ steak lunch for the shooters as part of their entry fee – but it will be available to everyone else for a small donation – so bring your family and friends to watch you shoot and enjoy the day.

This is an important event for the PVA – they are organizing and putting on this event – so let's all get together and support them – by showing up and shooting in their event – or just show up, encourage the shooters and have some fun! **Jump in and pre-squad for this shoot at the Range Office.**

OLYMPIC SKEET

by

Gene Green



For the past last 15 months I've been on a mission trying to find out how American Skeet got into the world shooting community and evolved into the sport it is today.

F.I.T.A.S.C. gave skeet international status in 1947. The International Shooting Union adopted skeet in 1952. Target speed had been increased by 1969. I do NOT know what year this started. The low gun/delayed pull rule came directly from American Skeet. The NSSA dropped this rule in 1952. The ISSF has a history of making things harder if they feel the scores are getting too high. The course of fire has changed over the years.

The course of fire was identical to American Skeet until 1976. They they started taking out the "give me" targets. The single low house

station one and option shot are now shot as a pair on station three. The single high and low station seven shots are now shot as a pair on station five.

After the 1992 Olympic Games the single low house station two and single high house station six were removed and are now shot as a pair on station four (shooting high house first).

Now that the 2004 Olympic Games are over, they have removed the last of the "give me" targets. Single low house station three and single high house station five are gone. They are now shot as a second pair on station four (shooting low house first).

You can now shoot Olympic Skeet anytime, not just Sunday afternoons, except when the field is needed for a tournament.

Remember that there is NO SUCH THING as a safe firearm!

HUNTER SAFETY

PROGRAM

by

Dan Fox



The Hunter Education classes continue to be full. Each class is limited to 12 students since we require a session of "live fire" for a student to pass the course. When a student passes our course we know that they have the knowledge to be a safe hunter and have proved their ability to safety use a shotgun. One course is conducted each month. If you know someone who is going to need a hunting license and does not have a hunter safety certificate, let them know about our course – but tell them not to wait until the last minute to sign up because the classes fill up fast. They can sign up at the Range Office.

So far this year **Larry Brady, Jim Englund, Dan Fox Jr., Barry Sinkoff, Neil Vann, Don Wilkie, Biff Ellinton and Dewey Wilber** have been the faithful volunteers who have worked on the course.

If you would like to be involved in "Passing on the Tradition of hunting" please let me know. We can always use volunteer particularly on the Sunday afternoon when we do the "live fire".

GET YOUR SUGGESTIONS IN!

There is a suggestion box fastened to the wall just outside the Range Office window. If you have a complaint, suggestion, compliment or something in between that you would like to communicate to the Board of Directors – **put it in writing and place it in the box.** Each month at the Board of Directors meeting these items are reviewed by the Board of Directors at their regular meeting. If you would like to have a reply to your comment/suggestion you need to put your name on it. But named or unnamed all are reviewed by the Board. Let the Board hear from you!