



# 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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to take on the mighty task of chairing the upcoming Lucky 7 Summer Trap League. Dan has instituted some changes that will make the league more competitive, and these can be seen on the web site. I encourage all interested to sign up ASAP. I would like to thank Steve Hubbard for volunteering to chair the 5-Stand committee, with his support and input the number of rounds thrown in May was increased by approx 900 over the previous month.

In case you haven't noticed how nice and tidy the Range is becoming, a special thanks to Malcum Campbell, Charlie Bover, and the range staff for their very diligent efforts in combing the grounds and maintaining the Association's Range. And finally I thank you all that you and the above mentioned for all you have done to keep the SDSSA a great facility.

To make the whole system more equitable there will be a change. After the 1<sup>st</sup> week scores are recorded, no league points will be awarded, only handicap points. The league points will begin to accrue on the 2<sup>nd</sup> week's scores. This change will give the league a true handicap system with all team points awarded in conjunction with our handicap point system. If you apply this new system to our past leagues, the results are often quite different and the spread between team points from top to bottom is closer and make the league more competitive in general. The leaders are more easily overcome by a lesser team that shoots exceptionally well once or twice.

For anyone that may not understand how our league scoring works, after the weeks team scores are posted each team gets handicap points (equal to 80% of the difference between your team score and the highest scoring team's score). This is added to your team's next weeks score and should make it easier for your team to move up in the next weeks standing and get more league points.

Each team also is awarded league points from the 2<sup>nd</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> week. If there are 10 teams, the weeks high scoring team gets 10 league points, 2<sup>nd</sup> place 9 league points etc. Ties share the week's position and get the same number of league points. At the end of the league the league points are added up and determine the position that each team finished the league in. By eliminating league points for week one (before the teams handicap points kick in) we expect quite a different result at the leagues end than in the past!

Other new features of this league are that all ties will be shot off at the league BBQ. Both for team standings as well as for individual awards, and we do expect ties with our new point system! (Shoots offs will be before the festivities start – no shows forfeit)

As in the past all shooters may elect to "shoot ahead". That is for example to shoot your 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> week during say week #2. It's designed for shooters that travel or find it more convenient to shoot prior to the leagues scheduled weeks. Also some shooters have expressed a desire to shoot 100 targets rather than 50 when the team gets together. If you wish you

### President's

### Message

by

Gary Krueger



### Trap League

by

Dan Fox



As we close the month of May and through Mid June there have been a lot of exciting things happening at our range. In addition to organizing the highly successful SCTP invitational which brought youth from Southern California and Nevada, Don Wilkie will be taking four squads to the SCTP State Championships June 19<sup>th</sup> at Kingsburg, CA. We wish them good luck as the competition will be tough. Our own Susan Sledge went all the way to Italy and won a bronze medal in the junior women's international trap at the ISSF World Shotgun Championships. This is an outstanding achievement in international competition at the highest level. The SOCAL Skeet championships which hosted shooters from all over were recently completed with great success. Craig Potter has just completed another successful the Pre-Summer skeet league. Craig will be turning the reins over to Richard Seaver for the fall skeet league. We would like to thank Craig for his excellent efforts, and congratulate and support Dick for stepping forward to assume the duties of skeet league chairman. Dan Fox has volunteered

Summer 2005 Trap League...New in more ways than one!

July 20 is the start of the summer Trap League, it's an exciting event with a lot of NEW features! First off, this league will be 7 weeks long instead of 6. We are calling this the "Lucky 7, Summer Trap League".

This league will feature participation awards for all shooters, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> place team awards and individual awards for the HOA shooter, High Vet and runner-up High Vet! But that's not all; we have a new league point system that is designed to make the league more competitive and to give all of the teams a more realistic chance to take the gold!

In our past leagues some have noticed that the teams finishing in 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> place the first week more often than not finish the league in 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> place. Also that the difference in league points at the end of the league between the top and bottom teams are often substantial.

can shoot 100 targets (2 weeks worth of league targets) every other week with no disadvantage.

All in all we look forward to these rule changes and to a very competitive summer Trap League where fun is guaranteed for all! Sign up now! (At the time of the writing of this there were already 10 teams signed up! Come and join the fun)

### CAN & BOTTLES FOR OUR YOUTH!

Editor's note: Please note the blue recycle can on the range – All cans and bottles are collected and are sold to help furnish funds to support our youth program. **Jim Snow** collects bottles and cans from the trashcans and puts them in the blue containers. He also brings them from home. Don't discard your bottles in the trashcans – put them in the blue cans. When you see the next article on what our youth is doing – you will want to do all you can to help the program!!!

### Youth Programs

By

Don Wilkie



### SCTP Gears up for the State Championships

We are taking four squads to the SCTP State Championships to be held June 19 at Kingsburg, CA—one in each division: Senior Experienced (grades 9 through 12); Senior Novice (seniors who have shot fewer than 1000 registered targets and have not shot in the national championship; Junior Experienced (grades 6, 7, and 8) and Junior Novice. In addition three youngsters will shoot for individual honors in the rookie division (grades 5 and under). We will provide partial support from funds raised at range lunches and recycling as well as contributions.

Competition is expected to be even tougher than last year when, for example, the first place senior experienced team, Sacramento Clay Busters, shot 95.4% and first place junior experienced team, A & A Shooters, shot, 93.3%. Our junior experienced squad shot 91.5% and finished second as did our junior novice team with a score of 89.6%

### Golden State Scholastic Invitational at Oak Tree Gun Club

We took seventeen members of our team to Newhall, CA, in the Magic Mountain area, for the Oak Tree Invitational on May 22, a 100-target event. It was a good experience for the youngsters to compete at a new site and good preparation for the upcoming state shoot

Most of our shooters shot below their recent averages, however, Brian Burrows and Ian Daube both shot 97/100. Brian took first place Senior Experienced honors. Jake Wallace, Brian's closest competitor at the Miramar

Invitational finished with 95/100 while his teammate Travis Ferrier was Top Gun with 99/100. Ian took Junior Experienced first place honors.



Ian Daube – Junior Experienced 1<sup>st</sup> place

Matt Higgins started slowly but shot a fine 91/100 to win Junior Novice first-place honors and Ryan Hueners, although not quite at his best, took third place in the Senior Novice division with 86/100. Judy Sledge split ladies' score—90/100 with Samantha Berson but missed first place on the basis of "longest-run."



Matt Higgins – Junior Novice 1<sup>st</sup> place

Mike Desso and Oak Tree are to be congratulated on a smoothly run and very enjoyable event.

### June ATA

Twenty-one SCTP team members participated in the June ATA shoot. High score was Ian Daube with 98/100. Ian shot his SCTP/ATA event Sunday as a result of competing in his final wrestling match of the year. He split the high junior award with De Savage. As a result of three tie scores shoot-offs will be held to determine SCTP placements—Evan Marsch and Nick Meyer posted 95/100 and will shoot for first and second place. Ryan Hueners and had 94/100 and will shoot-off for third place. Rookies Elliot Greb and Joshua Gonzalez both shot 81/100 and will shoot off for SCTP Rookie honors.



Joshua Gonzales & Elliott Greb

### SKEET

### NEWS

by

Neil Vann



The 72nd Annual *Southern California Skeet Championships* were held at the SAN DIEGO *Shotgun Sports Association* in San Diego, California on Friday, May 27 through Sunday, May 29, 2004. 86 shooters attended the 3-day event shooting 37,700 targets on the six fields. The fields were in pristine condition to welcome our visitors from the North and East. Many thanks go to our Association General Manager, **Layne Kuhlman**, Assistant Manager, **James Reisig** and **Nikolle Wertel**, our Office Manager for their preparation and service to the shooters during this busy weekend. All nine of the Association Field Referees were certified NSSA Associate Referees through the mentorship of **Dewey "Duke" Wilber**. A unique designed T-shirt depicting the 72 years of SoCal Championship activity was given to all competitors. The creation of the design was the brain child of SoCal President, Bill Page. His thoughts of what might have transpired at the first shoot in 1932 are depicted with the bird coming out of the barn (high house). Maybe someone out there remembers the first shoot!

In that three rotations were required to support the 86 shooters, not all shot the same gauge on the same day. The Friday Doubles event captured 61 shooters shooting the event in the morning. Top dawg with a lone 100-straight was Association member and Gun Champion **Brian Holt** (National City) with **Larry Sifers** (Woodside), **Gil Siu** (Corona) and **Dale Stuntz** (Redondo Beach) vying for runner-up with a nice 98's. Gil drops out after two stations with Larry and Dale going tooth-and-nail for another two stations before "gunner" Stuntz drops the crucial bird giving Larry the Gun Runner up and "gunner" the Runner up third spot. A gaggle of seven 97's crowded the shoot off field to determine three spots in Class AA and two in Class A. President **Bill Page** (Torrance) and **Steen Thomsen** (Covina) performed admirably

and had the longest shoot off going nearly a box before Steen dropped his 24<sup>th</sup> target.

The 12ga. event supported the antics of 80 shooters with only one posting a 100-straight. That being the one and only 12ga. Gun Champion, **Larry Sifers**. There were nine that came in with 99's most spending much verbiage about the "one that got away." Although probably not unique, all nine came away with buckles winning positions in Classes AA, A, B and C. **Larry Liu** (Chino Hills) had the longest run against the Bakersfield Blaster, **Hal Stewart**, both attempting to take the Gun Runner up prize. Blaster's 21st and 22<sup>nd</sup> shot missed the goal (and the target). Larry took Gun Runner up allowing the BB the Runner up third position. Recent rejuvenated skeet shooter with a 99, **Andy Kelly** (Westchester) captured first place in Class B and **Mike Aiken** (Rancho Cucamonga), another 99er, entered the Aiken hall of fame with first in C class.

Now that the big gun is behind us we can concentrate on shooting better! Doesn't make any sense but that is just what happens. With 79 taking to the field of dreams, five find out that the 20ga. event is better for them than the previous two events. Maybe it's the weather. **Hal Stewart** leads the hungry pack in the shoot off followed by **Gil Siu** who squirts a high six and exits stage left. **Joe Falabrino** (La Verne), **Jessica Forbes** (Fremont) and **Mike Leith** follow. Mike outguns the pack leading Joe by one on the seventh station. Mike is crowned King of the 20ga. with Joe, Runner up King and Hal, King in waiting. Not to be outdone, Novice shooter, Steve Goto (Sun Valley) shot his first 25, 50 and 75 straight ending up with a nice 99 dropping only one in the fourth round. Congratulations, Steve.

A favorite gauge to many is kind to only those who treat it with the utmost respect. Two that have learned that piece of philosophy and abide by it are **Brian Holt** and **Ted Church** (Ventura) who topped the crowd of 80 participants with 100-straight. These two experience shooters go to the shoot off station 3 with fire-in-the-belly. Brian leads and continues to do so for the 8 station contest. Ted had a belly flame out with a miss on station 4, high house. Brian takes 20ga Gun Champion and Ted is Gun Champion Runner up. Another batch of seven 99's roll in. **Bruce Johnson** (Whittier) and **Wayne Cagle** (Woody) outlast the other five 99ers with a winning desire. A matched pair is broken until again, the 8<sup>th</sup> station and Wayne falls one short to take firm hold of the Class AA1 buckle and Bruce takes possession of Gun Runner up. Class A1, 2 and 3 are all decided within the 99ers with **Joe Falabrino** taking Class A1, **Steen Thomsen**, Class A2 and **Dave Sandstrom** (California City), A3

The last shooting event of the weekend is one dreaded by many and cherished by a few. In the "cherish" department was **Larry Sifers** with a fine one-and-only 99. In the "semi-cherish" department was a short group of two with 98's. In the "dreaded" department were the remaining 74 shooters. The lineup for the shoot off

consisted of **Jessica Forbes** and **Ken White** (Monrovia). These two fine shooters did super with the pencil-bore but one found a defect when shooting doubles at station three. Ken White takes Gun Runner up and Jessica accepts the third position. There were six shoot offs among 12 shooters and none went beyond station four! Might attest to a long arduous weekend.

High Over All (HOA) guru was **Larry Sifers** with an excellent 395 X400 leading the crowd of 72 entries.

Many thanks go to all those who participated and worked the various required functions that cannot operate by themselves. Out-of-staters make our shoot more enjoyable and we welcome them back next year. Many thanks to **Eric Vandenhoute** (Café Seville) for fine gourmet food catered both Saturday and Sunday for the shooters and shooters family to partake and we thank Eric from the bottom of our belly! The SoCal staff worked as a team and the results reflected a well-oiled machine working the shoot. Until next year...the 73rd Annual Southern California Skeet Championships to be held over the Memorial Day weekend. Plan that weekend of Friday, Saturday and Sunday for San Diego. See you there.

### International Trap

by

**Rick Matulich**



Our own **Susan Sledge** earned a bronze medal in the junior women's international trap at the ISSF World Shotgun Championships in Lonato, Italy. **Susan Sledge** broke 62 of 75 targets. Susan was only two targets away from the Gold that went to **Fatima Galvez** of Spain with a 64 out of 75. The silver going to **Abbey Burton** of Great Briton with 64 out of 75 (Galvez won the shoot off with Burton for the Gold)



**Abbey Burton GBR Silver Fatima Galvez ESP Gold and Susan Sledge USA Bronze**

**Susan** made the junior national development Steam last year. She competed in her first world Championship and was the only U.S. woman shooter to earn an individual medal Congratulations Susan.



**Susan Sledge ISSF World Shotgun Championships in Lonato, Italy**



**Susan Sledge – Bronze in Italy!**

### Dodge City Shootout

by

**Jim Englund**



May gave us some very nice weather for the shoot out. We had a total of 52. Less than we expected but there are many things going on this time of year. Should have a better turn out in June. I would like to thank **Jim Snow** and his son **James** who volunteered for the grilling of our lunch. We have no one signed up for the rest of the year. I just can't figure why no one wants to help out. If there are two or more of you, you can shoot anyway – just coordinate your shooting and you're cooking! Give it some thought – get together some of your friends and let me know what month works for you.

We had 11 shooters go straight at the 16, but no one at handicap. We did have three 24's to share the prize \$. **Mike Scott**, **Kurtis Sorchy** and **Mike Sorchy**. Father and son team. Nice shooting.

Buddy #1 had only one team to hit 20. **Robert Jones** and **Ken Jossenberger**. Number 2 went much better. **Joe Caruso**, **Fred Corley**, **Keith Ennerson**, **Harvey Fisher**, **Walt foster**,

**Bob Murry, Keith Reinhardt, and Butch Smallenberger.** I got teamed up with **Chip Enniss** and he has talked in the past about not getting a good partner to get all 20 birds. Therefore, the pressure was on me. He backed me up on the two I missed and we got them all. If in the future you shoot with Chip, bear down and do you're best. Speaking of **Chip**, he was top gun with an impressive 86.

**T**he Annie Oakley came down to **Bill Palmer** winning **Keith Reinhardt** second and yours truly third. Hope to see you all June 11th. Again, think about helping out with the lunch. It's fun and easy.

### Olympic Skeet

by

**Gene Green**



**A**fter quite a dry spell, the USA is now back on top in world shooting!

**Vincent Hancock**, 16, took the Silver Medal at the World Cup in Rome, Italy. Then he turned around and took the Gold Medal at the World Championship in Lonato, Italy. Both of these medals were in open division, NOT junior.

**A**lso at the World Championship, **James "Todd" Graves** won the bronze medal. This was after a 26 shot shoot-off.

**O**ur own **Susan Sledge** took the bronze medal in Junior Woman's' trap at Lonato. Congratulations! To my knowledge, she is only the second woman from our club to medal in world competition.

**T**he first woman to do so was **Connie Tomsovic** (Currently a member of SDSSA, but living in Nevada). She was the 1983 World Champion in trap.



**Connie Tomsovic – World Champ in Trap**

She was a "skeeter" before becoming a "trapper". I'll cover her prowess in that discipline next month.

**F**YI: Shooting USA is aired on OLN Saturday and Sunday morning. Also, Shooting Gallery and American Rifleman are aired on Monday morning on the Outdoor channel.

**A**nyone wanting to purchase the G26 shooting lenses for their Oakley "M" frames, I've found a source. Call me at 619-465-5866.

### ATA Trap News

by

**Joe Matkovich**



**S**aturday, June 4<sup>th</sup> shooters were greeted with heavy overcast skies and cool temperatures. But, in spite of that 76 shooters showed up for the first event of 100 singles targets and they did very well. There were 5 (count'em) 100 straights and three 99's. Not too shabby. **Tim Jacobs, Rich Davis, Tom Field and Chip Enniss** shot off for champ honors and after 4 rounds Jacobs was eliminated and the other three decided to do a carryover on Sunday's 16's. **Jim Keller** decided to not participate in the shoot-off and used his 100 straight to take the class A prize. Class B had three 97's with **Ray Torres** coming out on top. Class C was won by JR shooter **Alex Greb** with a 94. Hi-lady was taken by **Sandie Kuhlman** with a 94, Hi-junior was won by **De T. Savage** with a 97 and **Mike Gebhardt** carded a 99 for vet honors.

**F**ifty-one stuck around for the handicap event. Short yardage was taken by **Ray Torres** with a 94 and **Jeff Jones** carded a 93 for mid-yardage honors. **Sean Hawley** was the undisputed champ with a 96 and **Terry Bilbey** and **Mike Gebhardt** were right behind with 95's, all from the back fence. Bilbey took the long yardage prize and Gebhardt was Hi-vet---again. **Kurtis Sorchy** was hi-junior with a 94 and **Sandie Kuhlman** won Hi-lady, again, with a 90.

**A**lthough, it was getting late 30 of us hadn't had enough and we shot the doubles event. **Rich Davis and Sean Hawley** each broke all of them and split the money for AA and **Charlie Bover** shot 94 for Class A honors. **John Lumn** carded a 91 to win Class B and **Ray Torres** shot a 91 to win Class C. **De T. Savage** shot an 89 for Jr. honors and that **Sandie Kuhlman** did again with an 86 for hi-lady.

**S**unday, June 5<sup>th</sup> presented the same weather conditions, "June gloom", but 45 shooters showed up for the 16 yard event. **Chip Enniss** carded another 100 straight to win Saturday's 16 yard carry over. Enniss was tied up for Sunday's 16s with **Sean Hawley** and **Russ Hawes**. After a coin flip Enniss was the champ, Hawley was the AA winner and Hawes took Hi-vet. Class A was won by Jr. shooter **Kurtis Sorchy** with a 99, **Glen Jensen** shot a 96 for Class B honors and class C was won by **Donna Foster** with a 96. **Ginger Bass** shot a 95 for hi-lady and **De T. Savage** shot 98 for Hi-jr honors.

**T**hirty-two decided to try the handicap event. **Sean Hawley** came out on top with 98 from the back fence. **Russ Hawes** shot a 93 for the long yardage prize. Iowa shooter, **Charles Deahl** shot a 93 for mid-yardage and **Paul Basten** and

**Bob Murray** each shot 96's for the short yardage money. **Jan Slough** carded a 93 for hi-lady, **Charlie Bover** shot a 91 for hi-vet and **Kambra Brawner** took hi-jr with a 91.

**S**DSSA will be hosting ATA events July 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, and August 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. So come on out and try'em ---- you'll like it.

## TRAP SHOOTING VIDEO

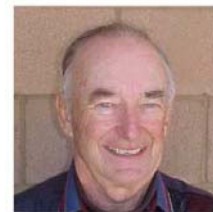
SDSSA has a trap shooting video (VCR) which is used for instructing new trap shooters. Someone has borrowed this video and not returned it. We would appreciate, if you would look over your videos and see if you have it – and of course return it so that we can use it in training.

### Hunter Safety

Program

by

**Dan Fox**



**T**he Hunter Education program continues to be very popular – at least our classes continue to be full. The SDSSA class is one of the few places that offers and requires "live fire" to pass the course. It is amazing how many persons who take the course have never handled a firearm of any sort previously. Thanks to the dedicated group of instructors here at SDSSA we make sure that when they leave the course they have handled safely a shotgun and demonstrated an ability to control it in a safe manner. Each student will have shot ½ round of skeet and ½ round of trap. They are told that it is not a marksmanship contest, but our opportunity to see that they can handle a firearm in a safe manner. However, they do hit targets and it is fun to see the happy faces when they break that first clay target.

**T**he June class will have 3 Boy Scout adults and 5 Boy Scouts taking the class. This will allow the Boy Scouts to not only get their Boy Scout Merit Badge, but also receive their Hunter Safety Certificate as part of the process. They difference is that the Boy Scouts have to shoot and hit a prescribed number of targets before they can get their Boy Scout Merit Badge – whereas the persons taking the Hunter Education Class don't have to show skill in using a firearm, only that they can do so safely.

**I**f you know anyone that want to get their Hunter Safety certificate, tell them to get signed up for our course. The June class is full, and the July class is filling. After that we only have the August and September classes and we will be done for the year. (We take a vacation from teaching during October, November and December)