



# 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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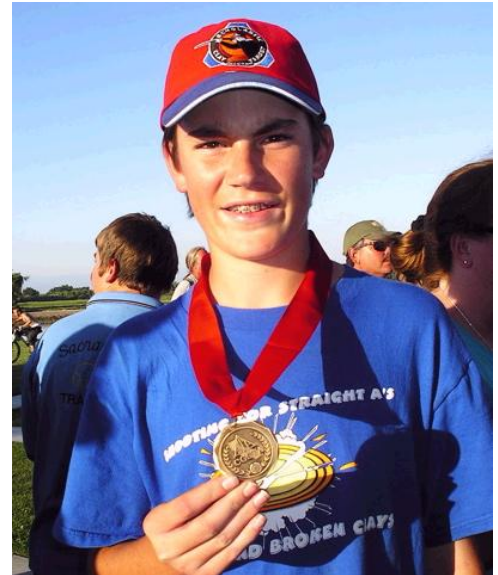
international trap. The Board of Directors would appreciate hearing your comments and/or interest in such a league. You can give your opinion to any of the board members, or don't forget we have a suggestion box on the front of range office. If you use the suggestion box, each and every suggestion is brought before the Board. Keep the Board informed as to your ideas and desires.

Till next month – hope to see you all at the range.

### YOUTH PROGRAMS

By

**Don Wilkie**



**Robert Jones** took a bronze medal for Junior Novice Individual honors

### PRESIDENT'S

### MESSAGE

by

**Gary Krueger**



Scholastic Shooters Finish Season with Mixed Results

### California State Championship

The San Diego Shotgun Sports Association Scholastic Team qualified for the SCTP National Championship for the third straight year.

The Miramar Jokers, the SDSSA team's Junior Experienced squad (grades 6,7,8), shot a total score of 941/1000 to place second in their division at the California State Championship on June 19 at Kingsburg, California. They missed first place by a mere six targets but easily qualified to compete at this year's National Championships at the Grand American.

**Robert Jones** led scoring for the Jokers with a score of 194/200(97%) in the 200-target event while **Matt Higgins** was close behind with an impressive 193(96.5%). Both youngsters are classified as "Novices", meaning they shot fewer than 1000 registered ATA targets prior to this target year. They were "in-the-zone" and out-shot their "Experienced" teammates, **Ian Daube**, **De Savage** and **Emily Heckenkamp**. Robert tied for second individual honors in the Novice Division but finished in third place after a hotly contested shoot-off with **Wesley Scoble** of Livermore. A & A Shooters, of Jackson, CA, took this year's Junior Experienced CA State gold medal with a score of 946/1000.



**Matt Higgins** was second highest scorer on the Miramar Jokers Squad

As the end of summer approaches, there is still some great shooting weather available for you here at our range. The range has been busy with the 15 Trap League Teams and the dove hunters are starting to practice for opening day.

Our youth in the Scholastic Clay Target Program were again able to achieve success at the state shoot and win the privilege of going back to the national shoot at the Grand American Trap Shoot. You will read the details of this in **Don Wilkie's** article.

Every month we continue to bring in new members – 62 so far this year. When you see someone you don't know around the range – walk up and introduce yourself – let's all make these new members feel welcome here at our range.

One of our members has suggested that we have one league each year in which the teams will shoot two weeks of trap, 2 weeks of skeet, 2 weeks of 5-stand, and 2 weeks of

In the Senior Experienced Division (grades 9,10,11,12), **Evan Marsch** and **Kurtis Sorchy** shot perfect scores for their first 100--targets to lead their squad with scores of 197/200(98.5%) and 196/200(98%). But competition was very stiff this year and the squad's score of 957/1000, was only good enough for fourth place. Coon Creek shot a record-breaking 978 to take first place.



Evan Marsch and Kurtis Sorchy had perfect 100's

**Ryan Hueners** led the Senior Novice squad to a fifth place finish with 184/200 (92%) while **Bryce Copp** led the our Junior Novice squad with 179 (89.5%).

Our Rookies, **Elliott Greb** in fourth grade and **Joshua Gonzalez** in fifth grade, shot well in the "individual" competition and scored 78/100 and 84/100 respectively.

### Redlands July ATA—A Peak Performance

Following the State Championship, the Jokers competed at Redlands in a warm-up to the Nationals. They shot a spectacular outstanding score of 963/1000. Led by **Ian Daube** with 199/200 and **De Savage** with 198/200, and backed by **Robert Jones** with 196, **Matt Higgins**, 190 and **Emily Heckenkamp** 180 the squad had its best performance of the year. The Joker's score bested that of last years National Champions, A&A shooters, from Jackson, CA, who won the Junior Experienced title with a score of 935/1000.

**SCTP at the Grand American—the SCTP Nationals.**



Vandalia Squad: **Emily Heckenkamp, De Savage, Ian Daube, Robert Jones, Matt Higgins. Champions All**

The Jokers traveled to the SCTP National Championship, which was held on August 9 at Vandalia, Ohio in conjunction with the Grand American World Trap Championship. It was an arduous, 200-target event, shot on one day as opposed to previous the year's two-day event and was hampered by poor organization, which made the day even longer. This is the last year that SCTP and ATA national championships will be held at Vandalia. Next year the events will be held in Sparta, Illinois at a new and larger facility.

The Jokers were unable to match their Redlands performance in the pressure-laden national event and finished with a total score of 902, well below their Redlands, Miramar Invitational, and Oak Tree scores.

Notwithstanding, **Ian, De and Robert Jones** produced outstanding scores—Ian and De with 195/200 and Robert with 194/200. Well-done fellows! The results underscore the need for all members of a squad to perform with consistency under pressure in order to finish in the top three at the national level. The winning squad, from Missouri, won the event with a score of 950/1000.

The Nationals represent the end of the official 2005 SCTP season. Our squads will continue to perform in the SDSSA monthly ATA shoots and will hold a practice on Thursday of the preceding week. All members of the team are invited to join us for the practice even if they are not going to shoot in the monthly ATA competition. The 2006 season will get underway on November 3, 2005.

Congratulations to all our SCTP team members on a very fine effort. It has been an awesome year with many team records established. Our student shooters achieved our primary goal for the year of showing improvement in their scores, their competitive ability and their sportsmanship. Our thanks to coaches: **Duke Wilber, Mike Sorchy, Chuck Higgins, Jim Daube, Bill Savage, Susan Sledge, John McClure**, manager **Carla Sledge** and advisor **Steve Marsch**, as well as all of the parents for their outstanding and essential support. Thanks also to our many donors, whose generosity helped to fund the team's participation in the State Championship and the Grand. The work and support of **Layne Kuhlman, Nikolle, James**, and the range staff was essential to the team's success and is warmly appreciated. We also add thanks to **Carlos Gitler of Logo Experts** who is preparing commemorative National Championship hats for the Jokers.

### **DODGE CITY SHOOTOUT**

by

**Jim Englund**



Well I did not make it to the shoot in July, but 58 other shooters did and as I understand had a great time. Ten of them were hot at the 16 yard line and got them all – **Taylor Craft, Jerry Callaway, Rich Davis, Chip Ennis, John Lumm, Bob Murray, Pinky, Mike Scott, Roger Snipes, & Herman Sledge** (maybe we will get Herman out here a little more often, now that he has found out how easy it is to hit them all!)

The three shooters that did hit 25 at the 16 must have sandbagged just enough to do it at the handicap – anyway good shooting to **Tudor Milkov, Kurtis Sorchy, & Carla Sledge** (Carla, explain to Herman that the big money is in the handicap!)

Four shooters got them all in the first buddy shoot – **Robert Jones, Ken Jossenberger, Bob Murray & Dusty Craig.** (Great to see you

back shooting with us Dusty!) Four were also able to do it on the 2<sup>nd</sup> buddy – **Harvey Fischer, Kurtis Sorchy, Dan Fox Jr., & Ken Jossenberger.** (Looks like Ken knows how to pick his partners!)

**Kurtis Sorchy** was top gun with an 87. There was some real competition in the Annie Oakley, but when the smoke cleared **Jerry Callaway** was #1, with **Dale Craig, Scott Bueck, & Lonnie Catania** coming in behind him in that order.

**Come on guys & gals – lets have some volunteers for cook.** We have proved that you can still shoot even though you help cook. **Taylor Craft, Fred Hoyle, Dan Fox & myself** will jump in and help, but give us some help with the cooking – we sign people, do the squadding & the payouts. The pay isn't great – but then we all get paid the same – the undying appreciation of all the shooters. So don't be bashful – let me know when you can help.

### **ATA TRAP NEWS**

by

**Joe Matkovich**



Saturday, August 6<sup>th</sup> all shooters were greeted with bright skies and great targets. There were 56 contestants for the singles event. Five shooters carded 100 straights. Jr. shooter **Kambra Brawner** and new shooter **Randall Spenny** each shot their first 100 straight. Congratulations!!! **Fred Corley, Tim Jacobs and Paul Busch** also ran 100 straight. Out of this **Tim Jacobs and Paul Busch** share AA honors, **Randall Spenny** was B winner and **Kambra Brawner** took C class. Class A was won by **Ray Gutierrez** with a 98. **Fred Corley** used his 100 straight for the vet prize and **Ryan Hueners** was Hi Jr. with a 98.

There were 46 shooters for the handicap event. When the smoke cleared **Ray Gutierrez** was the champ with a 98 from the back fence. **Tom Field** took long yardage with 95, **Jerry Dillard** won mid yardage with a 93 and **Bob Murray** won short yardage with a 96. Hi Vet was won by **Bob Nation** with a 95.

There were 23 shooters that stuck around for the doubles event. **Tony Benigno** was the champ with a 98, **Lonnie Catania** shot a 97 for AA honors and **John Lumm** shot a 92 to win Class A. Jr. Shooter **Kurtis Sorchy** shot an 89 for Class B, and **Fred Corley** won Class C with 89. Hi Vet was won by **Charley Bover** with 93.

Sunday, the weather stayed great and 32 shooters showed up for singles. Four AA shooters ran 100 straight. So, **Dave Johnson, Sean Hawley, Morris Hall and Tim Jacobs** split the money. **Ray Torres** took class A with a 98, **Kambra Brawner** shot a 97 for Class B honors, and **Ginger Bass** shot a 92 to win Class C. **Mike Gebhardt** shot a 98 for hi vet and **Donna Foster** took home hi lady with an 87.

Twenty-seven decided to round out their week-end with another go at handicap. **Kambra Brawner** shot a 98 from the 19 for champ honors. **Sean Hawley** had a 96 to win long yardage, **David Chuprinski** took mid yardage with a 94 and **Ray Torres** shot a 95 for short yardage honors. **Mike Gebhardt** shot 95 for the vet prize and **Donna Foster** took home hi-lady with a 91.

Our next shoot will be Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. SDSSA will be hosting a 3 day shoot from Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> through Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>. This shoot is going to have some very nice trophies and should be very well attended. As we will have to limit the number of competitors it is highly recommended that everyone pre-squad.

The weather is great and there are more good scores to be shot. So, come on out and join in the fun. See ya on the line.

## OLYMPIC SKEET

by

Gene Green



The rules concerning "marker tape" were changed Jan. 1, 2005.

The "ISSF Official Marker Tape" is 250 mm long and 30 mm wide. It is yellow in color with a black border.

Tape position is checked as follows. With your outer garment pockets empty, stand with your arms hanging down your sides and with your shoulders totally relaxed. Now raise your right forearm with until it is just above a horizontal plane. (This is for right shoulder shooters. Lefties use the left forearm.) With your arm in this position, the top edge of the marker tape must be visible below the tip of the elbow.

The checker's line of sight will be horizontal. The marker tape is to be affixed permanently, horizontally to the outer garment.

As a reminder, field #12 is open for Olympic Skeet all the time now, except for tournaments. So come on down and "put some lead in the air".

## SKEET NEWS

by

Neil Vann



Another great shoot put on by SAN DIEGO Shotgun Sports Association Skeet Committee held in San Diego, California on July 28 - 30, 2005 entitled, **FIRE CRACKER OPEN**, was attended by 38 shooters. They enjoyed a picture perfect weather weekend while anticipating the advent of shooting 600 targets and with the hopes that the Skeet god was with

them! Talent is great but a little luck can make one's day.

Let the games begin! Friday is our prelim and Doubles day. Not a lot of turnouts as there still are a good number of shooters who are supporting my Social Security and see a definite need to put food on the table. I have never asked the reason why some of the w---ing folk CAN shoot on Friday. I'm just happy to see their smiling faces. The 20ga. is the rotational choice of our preliminary event this month. With 9 shooters on their mark, **Eric Vandenhoute** (San Diego) is the cream of the crop with a respectable 99 to win the event. The only shoot off was between **Steve York** (Cerritos) and **John Michaels** (Sunland), both with 95's. Steve leads and breaks the pair. John smokes them both. On to station #4 with Steve again hitting and deucing those pesky targets. John has an oops on the high target leaving Steve with gun Runner up honors and John the top spot in Class B.

The second event of the day is 12ga. Doubles. With 14 two-bangers working the stations, **Steve York** and **Roger Christensen** (Perris) bests the group with 96's. Steve goes three stations straight with a low 5 getting a jump on Roger. Again, Steve shows his prowess by taking the gun Champion spot and Roger is gun Runner up.

**Eric Vandenhoute** and **Steve Claunch** (San Diego) duke it out for Class AA1 and AA2. Eric probably had his mind on the new Café Seville he is building in Long Beach and consequently dropped a low 4 to give Steve the top spot. Friday's events are now a moment in history.

Saturday morning at 8:15 we are called to attention by the playing of the National Anthem. It is a mandatory and significant way for 27 participants to start the day shooting the pleasant 28ga. **Jay Carter** (Claremont) went ballistic and posted the lone 100-straight with **Phil Shinar** (Long Beach) coming out of the woods to put his shotgun in "after burner" and taking gun Runner up with a nice 99. These two are going to miss all the fun in the shoot off! **Steve York** (again!) paired up with **Roger Christensen** (and again!) on station #3 on a Class AA1 challenge. Roger is up to his old tricks of shooting a great score and going belly-up in the shoot off. Steve takes the Class AA1 spot with Roger taking Class AA2. I suppose when Roger decides to start writing the Skeet Newsletter then he can start mean-mouthing me!! **Pete Buompensiero** (San Diego) and **Mike Giese** (Moreno Valley) shot 95's. The score in the shoot off was, Pete 3; Mike 4 after three stations. High score wins so Mike takes Class A3.

Lunch is an event at our Saturday and Sunday shoots. This month **Don and Steve Erbe** (Oceanside) supplied Submarine Sandwiches along with sodas/water and potato chips for both days. Don, Steve's dad, is the owner and operator of **Don Erbe Co.**, brakes and suspension parts in Oceanside, CA. We thank them for their generosity and we hope that you might have a

chance to patronize their business. Steve is a member of SDSSA and is frequently found on the practice field between registered shoots.

The afternoon event is the 12ga. bringing on the highest number of participants with 31. Two locals, **James "Rambo" Dewey** (Ramona) and **Steve Claunch** top the heap both bringing in 100-straight. These two tuff guys are a pair to reckon with! Rambo leads at station #3 and squirts a low. Steve breaks the pair and saunters off into the sunset with his gun Champion honors. Short but hardly sweet to the Runner up. Good shooting to both of you Champions. **David Hurzeler** (Chino Hills) whumps up on **Steve York**, 3 to 2 in two stations for Class A1 and A2. Novice, **Shawn Gross** (Yuma, AZ) is perfect on two stations to take Class B1 from **Mike Giese** (B2). So ends a great time on a beautiful day.

Sunday morning heralds the .410 bore. Most find this little gun intimidating but none other than **Gil Siu** (Corona) almost conquers the fear that is put into the hearts of many. Gil ain't afraid of any of the guns which he has proven many times over. Bird number 62 (low four) escapes the annihilation of targets and Gil enters the clubhouse with a most respectable 99. With 98's are **Steve Claunch** and **Roman Warren** (Riverside). Roman hits the chromium highway early leaving the gun Runner up spot on a silver platter to Steve. Event #8, according to our monthly program, is the final shooting event of the weekend; the 20ga. With 29 entries about to seek success, only one mixes the stars in the correct order to come up with a 100-straight

**John Michaels** (Sunland) has his FIRST 100-straight in the 20ga. event and takes gun Champion all by himself. **James Dewey** and **Mike Giese** fight it out for three stations with 99's. James is declared the winner when Mike squirts a high five. James is declared gun Runner up and Mike, Class A1. The shoot off of the weekend (drum roll) is between **Eric Vandenhoute**, **Gary Dittmar** (Fountain Valley) and **Steve Claunch**, all vying for Class AA honors. Gary bows to the multitude of fence leaners after six shots. Eric and Steve continue their quest for excellence. Another five stations are conquered before Eric drops a high three and Steve doesn't. Steve is crowned king of Class AA with Eric and Gary following in order. The final shoot off is between out-of-town Senior Veteran and all around good guy, **Ken Burns** (Sunland) and local Senior all around good guy, **Pete Buompensiero**. Both are winners and have entered the shoot off field with 97's. Final score after three stations is Ken 4, Pete 5. Pete takes first in B Class and Ken is B2.

**Steve Wade** (El Cajon) of **Wade's Mobile RV Service** (619-442-6831) donated 38 boxes of 20ga. shells to be distributed to 20ga. Champ (5), RU (3) and 3 places in Class AA through Class D (3, 2 and 1). We thank Steve for his contribution but would trade most anything to see him come back and start shooting again.

No shoot offs ensued in the HOA. **Steve Claunch** took HOA Champion with a 393. It should be noted with pride that new shooter,

and Novice, **Dennis James** (Escondido) had his FIRST 25-straight in the 20ga. New shooters visiting us from Yuma, Arizona, Novices **Shawn Gross and John Gross** shot the 12ga. on Saturday with Shawn walking away with the monthly Novice prize shooting a nice 98!

Our monthly Novice prize is a handcrafted leather shooting pouch donated by **John Herkowitz** of **Pacific Sporting Arms**. We are privileged to have such dedicated and appreciated support from out of-towners!! Thank you all for attending our seventh SDSSA shoot of the 2005 Skeet year. We hope you had as good a time as we did and wish you the best in your continued shooting.

We welcome the dynamic duo of Novices **John Gross** and son, **Shawn Gross**, both of Yuma, AZ, to our skeet family. No doubt **Jaime Almazan, Bruce Gwynn** and **Steve Alameda**, our Yuma, Arizona ambassadors had something to do with their showing up. We thank the five of you for your support and hope the 350 mile round trip drive is worth your time! I would bet that by the time Jaime gets done with you guys, you will be insured by Farmers if you already are not by now! We had the distinct pleasure of signing up another Novice shooter hailing from Escondido, CA; **Dennis James**.

**Dennis** shot in our Skeet League and is now hooked on shooting registered skeet. Rumor has it that he took out a membership in SDSSA. No doubt all will find more advice than they can handle for a while. Although **John Michaels** is not a newcomer to SDSSA as he has shot in the PSA Open in San Diego, John came on strong and shot his first ever 100-straight and he did it in the 20ga.! Maybe that is some incentive to get John attending more shoots at SDSSA. Could it be that you are taking lessons from **Ken Burns** while cavorting together in Sunland? Welcome, John. Like it or not it is a fact that slightly over 60% of our monthly shooters are from outside the San Diego area. It has been that way for several years and we really appreciate the out-of-towners in their dedication to the sport. Also good to see **David Hurzeler, Andy Kelly, Steve York** (who took everything but the kitchen sink) and **Phil Shinar** back in the groove again.

As I have stated before, the SDSSA Skeet Committee is diligently working on the 2006 Registered Skeet schedule. We have submitted our proposed 2006 dates to the appropriate bureaucracy that requires approval and signature before submitting to NSSA. This relay sometimes takes longer than we wish but it won't deter from making plans. As of this writing, we have 2006 Sat./Sun. sponsors for lunches for the months of February (CTEAM), March (**Gary Dittmar**) and September (**Lee Dennis**). April is supported by Pacific Shooting Arms, **John Herkowitz** and May is sponsored by SoCal (Southern California Skeet Championships). That leaves 7 months yet to be grabbed by the first in line!! Bottom line; we are looking for monthly food and prize sponsors so don't be bashful in volunteering.

We are getting ready for our August 26-28, **SAN DIEGO Shotgun Sports III Open** shoot. **Paul Busch** of Skeet and Trap fame is our lunch host for both days. **Pete Buompensiero** will be giving boxes of shells in the 12ga. (thru E) and 28ga. (thru D) events to Champ (7), RU (7), 1<sup>st</sup> in Class (6), 2<sup>nd</sup> in Class (4) and 3<sup>rd</sup> in Class (3). That is a ton of shells, folks! We thank both of these sponsors for their dedication to our skeet family, the people and to the sport. This is what makes this game so much fun. We hope that you will be encouraged to join us at the end of August. Call **VERN GIDEON** early for pre-registration if you didn't already sign up at the last shoot.

Speaking of pre-registration, the **Grey Silva Memorial VII Open** on September 23-25 will be our big shoot of the year. There are already folks signing up for this great shoot. Vern Gideon is taking pre-registration for that shoot as we speak. We are limited to fields so it will be a first come first serve signup. When it is full, we will have a waiting list as there is always someone who has a last minute unavoidable situation that opens up a spot. However, if you wait too long to pre register, it may just be too late. See you at the next skeet tournament.

## TRAP LEAGUE

by

**Dan Fox**



The summer trap league is about 1/2 over and the 15 teams are working hard to rack up points and come out a winner.

The BBQ that celebrates the end of the league and gives us a forum to pass out participation prizes and give recognition to the winning teams has been set for Wednesday evening on September 28<sup>th</sup> (5:30 pm) This is always a fun evening giving the shooters a chance to get together and enjoy a little food and drink and cheer on the winners.

If all works out, we will have some BBQ steaks along with the trimmings. So come on out and enjoy the fun and fellowship.



**“Bring on your Knives” says Jim Snow**

**Jim Snow** who set a worlds record last year as the oldest person to shoot 100 straight in ATA competition is offering to help the Junior Program. (Jim also shoots in every Dodge City event – just make sure you don't stand to his left because he shows no mercy when “knocking” shooters out in the Annie Oakley)

**Jim** is a professional knife sharpener who will donate all the proceeds from sharpening knives that shooters bring to him for sharpening in the next month. Here is your chance to get all of your knives razor sharp and make a contribution to the junior program.

I asked Jim if anyone had responded to this notice in last month's newsletter. He said “very few”! Come on shooters – let's help the junior program! Let's all bring our knives in to Jim and keep him busy!

## Introduction to

## SHOTGUN SPORTS

by

**Jim Englund**



Want to share your love of the shooting sports with a new shooter? That's what we do once each month at this very popular course. Just let me know that you are willing to help and we'll work you into the program. You don't have to be an instructor or expert – just someone to be there with a class of new shooters and help them learn safe gun handling and give them advice on shooting techniques. You will find this to be a very rewarding experience once you have worked with these eager new shooters. All it takes is a few hours a month and the love of our sport!

## HUNTER SAFETY

## PROGRAM

by

**Dan Fox**



The Fall hunting season is almost upon us and there is a great demand for the Hunter Education Course – because you need to successfully complete it to get a Hunter Safety certificate which in turn is needed for a hunting license. All of our classes are full for the rest of the year and have been full every month this year.

We have had some special requests from Boy Scout troops who want to take the course giving them both a hunting license and the Boy Scout merit badge. We have been able to accommodate quite a few Boy Scouts this year and will continue to do so next year.

We have certified instructors who teach the course, but we are in need of additional assistance when we do the live fire. ( 1/2 round of skeet & 1/2 round of trap). This takes place on a Sunday afternoon. We need experienced shooters to stand with these new shooters, encourage them, make sure they are safe gun handlers, and offer them shooting tips. Please give me a call if you are willing to help.