



# 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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with a myriad of other improvements not so evident. Recently the Board of Directors approved the purchase of a new tractor which is in constant use. This purchase prompted the extension of our maintenance shed on both ends. The east end will house the tractor when not in use protecting it and its systems from dust and inclement weather. The west end extension will give added space to allow added work space. A 24 inch width extension to the sidewalk behind fields #1 through # 4 prevents our members and guests from playing bumper-people when using the sidewalk.

## Range Improvement Update

by

**Neil Vann**



At the end of the SDSSA Board of Directors meeting in July 14, 2006, the Association had 690 members! Our membership grows as the word is spread of our existence. Many of our new members are the direct result of the fine volunteer administered programs that are offered on a monthly basis. Particularly the California Hunter Safety program and the Introduction to Shotgun Sports.

Many of the 690 members have been members-in-good-standing for many years and do not have time to attend the many functions that are provided. However, we appreciate your membership and acknowledge that you are an important part of the Association. Without your support, we would not exist! For those of you who are unable to frequent the Association as often as you would like, this briefing is dedicated to YOU.

We have come a long way improving our facility since our last lease was signed on January 31, 2003. The new wheelchair accessible clubhouse is the major improvement



A third item was recently added, that of cementing in a portion of field #6 and # 7 providing the 5-stand folks better access to their shooting positions.



All of the above is done to provide you, the member, a better place to shoot. We hope that you will take notice and should you have any other suggestions on how to improve the appearance of our Association grounds, we will be happy to listen. Above all, thank you for your membership and continued support.

## Youth Programs

By

**Don Wilkie**



Twenty-four members of our scholastic team traveled to Kingsburg on June 18 for the 2006 California Scholastic Program state championships. Three of our squads finished in the top three of their division.

The Miramar Top Guns, our Senior Experienced squad, led by **Ian Daube** with a perfect 200-straight, scored an excellent 971/1000 (97.1%) to place second to A&A Shooters from Jackson, near Sacramento, in central California. Ian, who earlier in the year shot four-99s at SCTP events, but missed his 100's, broke through in a big way when it counted most and won high overall honors, topping all 309 participants. Other members of the squad, with their scores, were **De Savage**, 194, **Nick Meyer** 193, **Evan Marsch** 193 and **Kurtis Sorchy** with 191. **Mike Sorchy** coaches the Top Guns.



**Kurtis Sorchy, Nick Meyer, Ian Daube, Evan Marsch, De Savage, Mike Sorchy**

The biggest surprise of the day, however, was our Senior Novice squad, the Miramar Tomcats, which captured first place honors in their division with a score of 919 (91.9%). **Taylor Osgood**, whose first competition was the Las Vegas Invitational this past January, led our squad with a perfect 100 followed by a 95, for a total of 195

(97.5%). Other members of the squad were: **John Siewerth** 189 (94.5%), **Roger Siewerth** 185 (92.5%) and **Alex Greb** 179 (89.5%), and **Danny Barlam**, shooting in his first ATA state competition with a fine 171 (85%), a commendable performance.



**Danny Barlam, Roger Siewerth, Taylor Osgood, John Siewerth, Alex Greb**

Our Junior Novice squad was another pleasant surprise. They placed third in their division behind a fine 184 (92%) by **Dalton Mosser** and a 181 (90.5%) by **Matt Higgins**. Close behind was **Alex Whitwer** with 179 (89.5%); followed by **Christopher Liang** and **Aaron Reeves**. The squad's 854/1000 placed them behind two A&A squads which shot 892/1000 and 879/1000 respectively. Our Hornets were coached by **Duke Wilber**

All three squads qualify, by our rules, to participate in the SCTP National Championship, August 8 and 9. The Top Guns and Tomcats will travel to Sparta, Illinois to compete, along with coaches Don Wilkie and Mike Sorchy. **Thomas Magnuson** is serving as an alternate and will travel if needed.

At this month's ATA shoot, our Top Gun Senior Experienced squad continued to perform at a high level of consistency and shot 490 (98%) as a squad. Individual scores were: **Nick Meyer** 99%; **Ian Daube** 98%; **Evan Marsch** 99%; **Kurtis Sorchy** 97% and **De Savage** 97%. They all finished with 50-straight, a remarkable accomplishment. They will compete as a team at the Western Zone in Redlands on July 15. These young men are our most experienced shooters; all have competed at the National Championships and two of them **De Savage** and **Nick Meyer** were members of our original 2003 squad which won the CA State Junior Novice Championship in that year with a score of 885 (88.5%). They've come a long way since then but it's taken a lot of hard work and perseverance.

**A reminder to our students!** Our 2006 SCTP season has ended except for those participating in the Nationals/Grand. We, your coaches, parents, pocketbooks, as well as yourselves, need break from the relentless commitment to weekly practices. We are taking a break until January. However, we will have a clinic in December if it is feasible. In the meantime we hope and recommend that you practice on your own and compete in the monthly ATA competitions at the range. If you can practice regularly twice a week and shoot two rounds of practice you will be able

to maintain your level of skill and in many cases, improve. For those of you who are planning to shoot in the monthly ATA shoots, I will try to be at the range the Thursday before each shoot—some of our other coaches may do so as well. If you have special needs, call me and I will do what I can to help. My number is 858 457-2673.

**A special note.** **Duke Wilber**, who has done much to introduce many of you to safe and effective shooting, is retiring as a regular coach. Send him a note or card expressing your appreciation for his four-years of dedication and caring for our program your individual success. Duke has been remarkably effective in introducing young people to serious competitive shooting as well as safe recreational shooting

I know many of you will be saddened by **Duke's** retirement but on the plus side—**Taylor Osgood**, who has now graduated from high school and is no longer eligible to shoot in the scholastic program, has agreed to become a coach. Having observed and worked with Taylor I know how effective a leader he is and welcome him as an assistant SCTP coach. Undoubtedly he will be an asset to our program

### Olympic Skeet

by

**Gene Green**

(AKA)

**The Skeet Freak**



It has been ruled that if a target makes it to the shooting boundary, it is a good target. Even though the HIGH HOUSE may look like a RABBIT and the LOW HOUSE may look like a SPRINGING TEAL, SHOOT IT!

The ISSF World Shooting Championships will be held July 22 – Aug. 5, in Zagreb, Croatia.

The Alabama Street Athletic Club held its' first Olympic Skeet Match on June 21. Everyone seemed to have a good time. Thanks to Joe, Bill and Ted, the "ABSOLUTE SILENCE" rule was NOT enforced! These guys are funny.

### 5 Stand Info

by

**Steve Hubbard**



### 5 – STAND SHOOTERS

Do you have any interest in participating in an Inter-Club 5-Stand League?

We have been asked to see if anyone might be interested in participating in a league to shoot at each of the other clubs in this area that offer 5-stand shooting venues.

If you would be interested in learning more, please leave a note with your comments and contact info in the suggestion box by the Range Office or by email at [shubbard@rsft.com](mailto:shubbard@rsft.com).

### Dodge City Shootout

by

**Jim Englund**



Hey, What's the deal? Great summer day and only 42 shooters? Oh well, it is vacation time and many of the regulars are out and about doing other things.

But, the 42 of us did have a good shoot. Although not a lot of high scores. Maybe too much sunshine. At the 16 we had some 25s: Paul Busch, Chip Enniss, Perry Jurancich, Tudor Milkov, Joe Roby and Bill Savage. One, count them, one 25 at handicap: Glen Jensen \$\$.

At buddy#1 there were two teams to go 20: Fred Brown and Tudor, Jim Phillips and Luke Wang. At #2 one team: Charlie Bover and Lou Imbimbo.

Annie Oakley: 4th, Diane Savage, 3rd, Lonnie Catania, 2nd, Dan Denhart and Mike Sorchy taking first. HOA Chip Enniss with an 85.

Like to help with the BBQ? Just speak up and jump-in. We'd appreciate you're help. You still shoot the Dodge City. The more that pitch in the easier it is! See you all in July.

### PVA Shoot

by

**Jim Russell**



Must be getting old. Cal-Diego's **LEIGHTEENTH** Annual Trapshoot – Summer just took place on 9 July but it seems like just yesterday that we started this fun. Fun was had by all, all 32 that participated, and several that just watched from the sidelines. That is down from the 47 that we had last July.

The festivities started with a great breakfast prepared by **Hilda** and **Linda**, biscuits and gravy with chunks of sausage, accompanied with a medley of fresh fruit. It just doesn't get any better than that. We also had San Diego's usual morning low clouds to keep it from getting to hot. Those had disappeared by the time we started shooting so we had a beautiful day for shooting.

The venue was 50 singles, 50 handicap & 25 pair of doubles. There were 3 perfect scores in singles, **Layne Kuhlman, J.C. Craft** and **Bill Hamilton**, followed by 6 that dropped only one target, **Charles Bover, Sandie Kuhlman, John Lunn, Dianne Savage, Jim Englund, and Scott Brawner**. That's great shooting! Handicap was a little different story, only 1 perfect score, **Bill Savage**, and just 1 that had only dropped 1 target, **Shirley Hamilton**. What a difference a few yards does make. And then when we got to 2

targets in the air at the same time we again had only 1 perfect score, a youngster **J.C. Craft**, and no one scored with just 1 dropped target. Did you notice how J.C.'s name keeps coming up. Well, he was the high overall shooter with only 2 dropped targets all day long. Great shooting J.C.!

We took a break following the handicap targets for a great lunch. **Dan Fox Sr.** and **Fred Hoyle** donated the steaks that accompanied the beans, potato and pasta salads, and a whole host of other goodies including fresh Julian apple pies. It just doesn't get any better than that. Great job committee!

This shoot was **Keith Rheinhardt's** first shooting appearance with our team since he lost his eyesight in his shooting eye. That should have terminated his shooting but it didn't. He acquired a set of sights that allows him to shoulder his shotgun to his right shoulder and sight with his left eye. A couple of practice sessions with those new sights and he is back to shooting great scores. He will be on the Cal-Diego team this weekend for the competition at the Wisconsin PVA shoot in Green Bay. What a guy!

#### CAL-DIEGO'S 18th ANNUAL TRAPSHOOT SUMMER, RESULTS

**Grand Champion J. C. Craft 148/150**  
**Wheelchair Champion Doug Vann 42/150**

#### HANDICAP - 50

**SHT YD Bill Savage 50 Taylor Craft 45**  
**MID YD Shirley Hamilton 49 Mike Gureckas 45**  
**LG YD Layne Kuhlman 47 Kambra Brawner 45**

#### DOUBLES - 50

|                            |                            |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>AA Charles Bover 44</b> | <b>None</b>                |
| <b>A John Lumn 47</b>      | <b>Tom Field 47</b>        |
| <b>B Bill Palmer 45</b>    | <b>Thomas Hickerson 40</b> |
| <b>C Steven Claunch 47</b> | <b>George Whitney 36</b>   |
| <b>D Neil Vann 40</b>      | <b>Jim England 39</b>      |

#### SINGLES - 50

|                              |                             |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>AA Bill Hamilton 50</b>   | <b>Dianne Savage 49</b>     |
| <b>A Keith Rheinhardt 47</b> | <b>Wilbur Turner 46</b>     |
| <b>B Sandie Kuhlman 49</b>   | <b>Janet Slough 48</b>      |
| <b>C Donald Brunt 45</b>     | <b>Vernon Gideon 44</b>     |
| <b>D William Slough 47</b>   | <b>Daniel McNaughton 40</b> |

#### SKEET

#### NEWS

by

Neil Vann



The pride of Southern California's shotgun sports facilities, SAN DIEGO Shotgun Sports Association hosted the June 23-25, 2006 registered skeet shoot entitled, *Summer Vacation Open*. Mexico's monsoons coveted the San Diego skies most of the three day 600-target weekend which made the weather a bit muggy but not all that uncomfortable. Due to our shoot being sandwiched between the ever popular *George Wiegand Memorial* shoot held on the previous weekend and the *California State Skeet*

*Championships* to be held on the following weekend, we had a small but enthusiastic list of 24 competitors.

On Friday, the preliminary gauge was the 12ga. in which five shot the event.

Top individual taking the event Champion is **Eric Van den Haute** (San Diego) with a perfect 100. If when reading this one gets the inspiration to go to our SAN DIEGO Shotgun Sports Association website,

[www.sandiegoshotgunsports.com](http://www.sandiegoshotgunsports.com), one can witness the images of the winners of all of our Association shoots along with the numerous other shotgun activities that we enjoy. One will see a prominence of Eric's picture in the winning column nearly every month. He is consistent in his striving to be "THE" top shooter wherever and whenever he takes to the skeet field.

The second event of the day was the Doubles event attracting seven shooters. **Craig Potter** (Chula Vista) was the top step podium climber in this event with **Keith Phelps** (Torrance) a close second.

This event concluded the Friday festivities for those of us who are retired or have to have a work pass to attend.

The National Anthem at 8:30 brings the Saturday morning group of 18 to attention in preparation for the 28ga. event. When all is said and done, we take to the shoot off field where the tremors of souls gather to wish the other luck in an attempt to humiliate the opponent. **Richard Seaver** (La Mesa) and **Mike Butler** (San Diego) square off for Class C3 honors. Miss and out by station shoot off collects a few misses and a few hits. The third station becomes a winner for Mike by busting a pair. Richard left a pair sailing off into the summer sunset. Class B shooters, **Paul Busch** (Solana Beach) and **Craig Potter** stepped up to station #3 to settle Class B2 and B3. Paul, shooting first, flails a trailing edge shot at the high house and Craig busts them both. The third shoot off in this event was between Class AA shooters, **John Gross** (Yuma, AZ) and **James Dewey** (Ramona). Final score, John 4, James 3 allowing John Class AA1 honors. The final shoot off is between **Eric Van den Haute** and team mate, **Carl Best**. Both came in with top scores of 98. With the pressure on Carl, Eric smashed a pair (Gun Champion) and Carl didn't (Gun Runner up).

We had a nice group of shooters from Yuma, Arizona which is about 180 miles from the Pacific Ocean (San Diego). **Jaime Almazon**, **Steve Alameda**, **Bruce Gwynn** and **Edwin Duke** sponsored the lunch on Saturday and did an excellent job of preparing Carne Asada barbecued to perfection over charcoal with rice and beans along with home grown watermelon.

In addition **John** and **Shawn Gross** came in from Yuma to enjoy the shoot and the lunch. **Edwin Duke** is an active duty military and participated in and won the June Novice prize (sponsored by **John Herkowitz** of Pacific Sporting Arms) for his shooting an 86. Thanks to all of these good people for supporting our wonderful skeet family and sport.

The afternoon event was the 12ga.

Twenty-two entrants went after the big prize. All four of our Novice shooters were in this event This was 12-year-old **Ryan Lee's** (San Diego)



first shoot and we welcome him to our Skeet Family.

The other Novice shooters were **Mike Butler**, **Foster Talge** (Spring, TX) and **Edwin Duke**. One shoot off ensued. Carl Best (Spring Valley) and Paul Busch go at it for Class C1 and C2. Paul faltered on the second station and Carl "Bested" him to take the Class C1 honors.

Sunday morning sets the stage for the .410 event after our opening with the National Anthem. Thirteen contestants drag their carcasses out to conquer and become hero of the day. **Eric Van den Haute** does his usual fine shooting and leads the pack with a 97 to take the .410 Gun Champion spot. The last shoot off of the weekend is between **Carl Best** and **Neil Vann** (San Diego). Carl is having his run of less-than-good luck and misses the first one out of the house. Neil's luck is finally in place and no longer fearing achievement, hits both to take the Class A2 spot.

Sunday lunch was provided by your Skeet Committee with onions, tomatoes and condiments piled on cheese and cold cut sandwiches, 4-bean salad, left over watermelon, chips and water.

Our final tournament event was the 20ga. With 14 entries, the scores were such that there were no shoot offs. **Eric Van den Haute** took the event with a nice 100 straight and **James Dewey** posted a nice 99 to take Gun Runner up honor.

High Over All goes to **Eric Van den Haute**. Eric's 394 topped the group of 12 participants

The big skeet news at SDSSA and in Southern California is that San Diego resident, **Steve Claunch**, shot his first 100-straight in the .410 bore at the *George Wiegand Memorial* shoot shot on the weekend of June 23-25 at Triple B Clays located in El Monte, California! We congratulate Steve on this milestone. In Steve's own words, I quote "...I'm relieved that I finally got over that hurdle. Someone should write an article for the SSR magazine warning shooters about the physiological symptoms of going straight for the first time with the little stick. By station 2 in the last round, I had lost all feeling in my legs. By station 4, I found that normal breathing had become almost impossible, and after station 6, I was sure that I was going to have a stroke, a heart attack, or both. When the last target broke all that stuff disappeared like magic. Maybe the Surgeon General could put a little message on the side of all .410 boxes like he does with cigarettes --- 'Warning : Attempting to shoot one hundred straight skeet targets with these little shells might damn near kill you if you get close.'"