



Newsletter

Volume 5 Issue 9 <http://www.sandiegoshotgunsports.com> SEPTEMBER 2006

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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Youth Programs

By

Don Wilkie



Fifteen hundred youngsters from across the country flocked to Sparta, Illinois on August 7, 2006 for the first National SCTP championship at the World Shooting and Recreational Complex, new home of the Amateur Trapshooting Association. The facility, built on the site of an old coal strip-mine is, huge. It's 108-competition trap fields span 3 1/2 miles and has plenty of adjacent room for parking and camping. Competitors and spectators can drive right to the field where the action is and park. When complete, the facility will accommodate all of the recreational shooting sports, including skeet and sporting clays. The shoot went surprisingly smoothly considering the scope of the event and it's newness.

Full of expectations, the Miramar Top Guns, our Senior Experienced squad, was hoping for a top-three finish and dreaming of a



championship. Led by **De Savage** with a perfect 100/100, the squad shot 482/500 (96.45%) to finish near the top after the first days shooting. **De's 100** was the team's first at the Grand in four years of competing

The Top Guns scored 483/500 on the second day to finish with 965/1000 (96.5%). Although our boys were disappointed it was an impressive accomplishment and places them among the best in the nation. **Kurtis Sorchy** was high gun with 99/100. **Mike Sorchy** is squad coach and has done a great job in leading his charges.

The Top Guns are accomplished shooters and each has shot scored 100% in individual competition. But after four years of working with these youngsters it's clear that having all members of a squad shoot their best at the same time is very difficult and in a nationwide competition the slightest hiccup can cost you the championship. **Nick Meyer** is the Top Gun squad leader.



Senior Experienced Results

Participant	Day 1	Day 2	Total
Nick Meyer	92	97	189
Ian Daube	98	98	196
Evan Marsch	95	93	188
Kurtis Sorchy	97	99	196
De Savage	100	96	196
TOTALS	482	483	965

The division was won by South Dakota with a score of 979/1000 (97.9%)-14 targets better than our squad but only 1.4 percentage points higher.

Our Miramar Tomcat's, who won the California state Senior Novice championship with a score 919/1000 (91.9%) were amazed at the size of the new facility and overwhelmed by the masses of accomplished SCTP shooters. Nervous at their first national competition, they shot a modest 421 (84.2%) on the first day. The

leading scorer was **Danny "Barclay" Barlam**, who has been shooting trap for only five months, but kept his cool to lead the squad.



On the second day of competition, our Tomcats, showed the value of a day's experience at the Grand, and the ability to rebound from a disappointing round, as they significantly improved their scores on the second day. Returning invigorated after a good night's sleep, and having had time to digest the previous day's experience, each squad member shot a higher score than on the first day.

John Siewerth showed his mental discipline by putting his 73/100 behind him and shooting a determined 95/100 to lead the squad, which shot 463/500 and finished with a total score of 883/1000 (88.3%). Needless to say, they all were delighted to finish on a high note. Complete Tomcat results below. **Taylor Osgood** is the squad leader of the Tomcats and next year will come back to be a team coach.



Senior Novice Results

Participant	Day 1	Day 2	Total
Taylor Osgood	84	94	178
John Siewerth	73	95	168
Danny Barlam	90	92	182
Roger Siewerth	89	92	181
Alex Greb	85	90	175
TOTALS	421	463	884

Missouri placed first in the division with a score of 947/1000. Each participant on a squad that places first in its division receives a \$1000 scholarship in the form of a savings bond.

Our thanks to all those who made this experience possible but especially the parents who accompanied the squads; **Mike and Ann Meyer, Mike Sorchy, Steve Marsch, Jim**

Daube, Bill Savage, Rich Osgood, Mary Ellen Anderson, Ted Barlam and Denny Greb. And to Layne Kuhlman and our range staff, who provided great support during year.

International Trap

by

Rick Matulich



The 2006 USA National Shotgun championships were held at Fort Carson, Colorado in the Last weeks of June. In men's trap, **Bret Erickson** continues to prove that age doesn't matter, as he captured the Championship.

On the women's side, USAMU's **Terri DeWitt** winning the women's trap event. Mimi Wilfong finished second and Amanda Dorman finished third. Way to go!

San Diego had a good showing at the National championships. You can really be proud of our great shooters who distinguished themselves and our Association on a national level!!!



JC Craft High
1st Place in Class A Men's Trap and 1st Place in Collegiate with a score of 281

Brian Burrows 2nd Place in Men's Trap Class A with a score of 276 finished 5th in Junior Men's Trap



Breanna Heckenkamp finished 3rd J2 Junior Women's Trap with a score of 249 and 1st B Class in Women's Trap

Susan Sledge finished 2nd Junior Women's Trap with a score of 224 and 6th in Women's Trap



So remember to support our Juniors!!

Men's Trap Final Results	Total Final Total SO
1 Erickson Bret	293 22 315 7
2 Bade Lance	292 23 315 6
3 Herman Mike	292 21 313
4 Grazioli Dominic	289 22 311
5 Hadden Ryan	289 18 307 2
6 Valdez Richard	285 22 307 1

Junior Men's Trap Final Results

	Total Final Total
1 Valdez Richard	285 24 309
2 Turner Jacob	281 21 302
3 Heck Matt	277 24 301
4 Jolliff Max	278 21 299
5 Burrows Brian	276 22 298
6 Slocumb Shane	275 18 293

Women's Trap Final Results

	Total Final Total SO
1 DeWitt Terri	284 23 307
2 Wilfong Mimi	280 21 301
3 Dorman Amanda	275 19 294 3
4 Loper Whitley Collyn	274 20 294 2
5 Sullivan Lacy	270 20 290
6 Sledge Susan	265 24 289

Junior Women's Trap Final Results

	Total Final Total SO
1 Loper Whitley Collyn	274 22 296
2 Sledge Susan	265 19 284
3 Bender Molly	255 18 273
4 Desso Tamara	251 16 267
5 Barney Caitlin	254 12 266 2
6 Heckenkamp Breanna	249 17 266 1

The Top Gun Championships will be held at SDSSA August 19th and 20th Signs-ups are at 7:30am and shooting starts at 9:00am CICTSA This should be a lot of fun, so I hope to see you their. For information on the shoot contact Steve Lakatos, 626-403-0723 or 626-304-9489, E-mail: steveslilengine@aol.com

Dodge City Shootout

by

Jim Englund



Well that's more like it. We had 55 shooters with 4 juniors for the July City shoot. Nice to see some new faces and the return from some of you that have been away for awhile. Ideal conditions had some of you guys seeing the targets pretty well.

At the 16 there were 12 to break 25. **Charlie ABover, Brian Butsom, Jerry Callaway, Josh Catania, Fred Corley, Augie Daddi, Jerry Dillard, Fox Jr., Matt Higgins, Annie Hoyle, Paul Lumn and Mike Scott.**

There were a bunch of 24's but, at the handicap we had only one 25: **Lonnie Catania.** One 25 @ 25 yards? We had the Brinks truck deliver to **Lonnie** at a secret location.

Buddy #1 had two teams come up sure; **Charlie Bover and John Freni, Guy McAllaster and Jim Phillips.** Check this, one

team got #2; **Fox Jr. and Rene Van Horne.** The Brinks second stop.

The Annie was pared down to **Lonnie** and **Willie** splitting 3rd and 4th, **Gary Dexter** and **Fox Jr.** sharing 1st and 2nd. High over all with an 88x90; **Fox Jr.** The trucks third stop. Be sure to bring to out your small bore. Chip & Co. usually have a 28 or .410 Annie Oakley to wrap up the day. See you August for the dove tune-up.

Olympic Skeet

by

Gene Green
(AKA)

The Skeet Freak



Extreme Sports Shooter, Patrick Flanigan, holds two world records for clay target exhibition shooting. They are eleven from the shoulder and five from the hip. Targets are thrown by hand and shot individually without assistance. He has a web-site with video. The man can put some *serious* lead in the air!

One of our new members is Chip Sekhon (pronounced Say-Con). He was on the United States Skeet Team for eight years. He was part of a two man team with Matt Dryke (1984 Olympic Gold Medalist). His World Cups include Egypt, Germany, Cuba, Korea, India, Holland, Italy, Mexico and Peru. Nuff said! Come on down to field #12, meet and shoot with him. You will definitely learn a few things about how skeet should be shot.

Here are some highlights from the National Shotgun Championships:

Mens Skeet

- 1 Shawn Dulahery
- 2 Randy Sotowa
- 3 Randal McLelland

Womens Skeet

- 1 Haley Dunn
- 2 Connie Smotek
- 3 Kim Rhode

Here are some highlights of our team at the ISSF World Championships, Zagreb:

Team, Junior Men – GOLD

Team, Junior Women – SILVER

Team, Women – GOLD

Individual, Jr. Woman – Emily Blount – GOLD

Individual, Jr. Men – Wesley Wise – SILVER

SKREET NEWS

by

Neil Vann



The SAN DIEGO Shotgun Sports Association hosted its ninth registered skeet competition of the 2006 skeet season on July 28 – 30. The name of the shoot was derived in honor of an old time San Diego shooter by the name of **Sam Navarra** who I used to have the pleasure of shooting with. He would approach station 8 and after shooting it encourage his teammates on to victory by exclaiming in his raspy Italian voice, "Make 'Em Bleed!". Hence the name of a shoot that was enjoyed by 24

combatants during a warm and drizzly three-day 600-target shoot. Not enough moisture to wear rain gear but enough to keep the dust down.

We had the pleasure of having some out-of-town visitors. The **Gross brothers, John and Shawn**, from Yuma, Arizona and **Jesse Cardwell** and **Brian Moore** stationed at Nellis Air Force Base in Las Vegas, Nevada (both formally from Tennessee).

We welcome and appreciate these folks who travel the extra mile to enjoy the fruits that our Association bears.

The 200-target Friday events are most generally attract a small number as most shooters have to w—k and can't take advantage of the specialties that retirement provides. However, this should give us senior/veteran class shooters a chance to excel before the big guns arrive on Saturday. Just to show you how erroneous this last statement is, of the 11 contestants to shoot the 20ga. preliminary, only 2 are retired! I think some come out just to show their elders that the whipper-snappers have more testosterone and are not to be fooled with. Enough! **Steve Claunch** (San Diego) tops all comers with his lone 100-straight.

James Dewey (Ramona) slides in to the Gun Runner up spot with the lone 98 posted.

The next event is the Doubles event, in my humble opinion. This event brought out two additional competitors (neither one are retired) so we have 13 that are off with high hopes. **Steve Claunch** is top gun with a lone 98 followed by the Ramona Rambo, **James Dewey** with a 95. We had one shoot off, pitting Class B shooters, **Carl Best** (Spring Valley) against **Dennis James** (Escondido) with 92's. After a battle of four stations, Carl out-Bests (B2) Dennis (B3).

Saturday morning, 20 enthusiastic shooters are ready to give it their all in the 28 gauge event after the playing of the National Anthem. The top score was a 98 and there were a gaggle of them; five to be exact. **Brian Moore** (Las Vegas, NV), **John Gross** (Yuma, AZ), **Steve Claunch**, **Neil Vann** (San Diego) and **Matt Fort** (Chula Vista). Neil Vann bit the dust right off the bat (AA2) followed by Matt Fort (A1). John Gross held his ground for two-and-one-half stations (AA1) and the gnarling and noshing of teeth began. Perfect doubles for five stations and then leader, Brian Moore lets a low 4 get by. Steve Claunch smokes the pair for 28 gauge Gun Champion and Brian takes the Gun Runner up. **Keith Phelps** (Torrance) and **Carl Best** bring in 94's to duke it out for Class A3. Again, Carl does his best and takes Keith out of the running at the second station.

We take a lunch break to enjoy the donation from **Don and Steve Erbe** of the **DON ERBE CO.** who specializes in brakes and suspension parts located in Oceanside. Don and Steve support our skeet lunches every year and we are grateful to have these folks participate.

We take an hour off to give the field referees a break as well as the shooters. This is a good time to get acquainted with those visiting and re-acquaint with our own. The lunch was catered by Togo's Eatery and consisted of two 5 foot sub sandwiches composed of Turkey, Ham, Cheese, Roast Beef, Italian Sub along with a garden salad and a Santa Fe salad and all the condiment. In addition, soft drink, ice tea and water along with potato chips rounded out the scrumptious lunch. **Nancy Erbe** coordinated the lunch and we thank Nancy along with **Judy Phelps** and **Barb Vann** for their valuable volunteer participation. It is this kind of participation that makes our sport even more enjoyable.

The afternoon event was the 12 gauge. Twenty-one shooters enrolled in Skeet Shooting Basics 101 and only a lone graduate is awarded the 12 gauge Gun Champion diploma; **Steve Claunch**. Air Force shooter, **Brian Moore** brought in a nice 99 (high one double?) awarding him the Gun Runner up spot. Three other shoot offs took place. Class A2 and A3 were shot off between **Keith Phelps** and **Harold Jeffers** (Torrance). Keith relinquished his position to Harold on the second station. Class B1 and B2 pitted **Matt Fort** against **Neil Vann**, both with 98's. Sometimes age has an advantage or maybe it's the heckling that was the reason for Matt's miss. Whatever! Neil 4, Matt 3. Lastly, Class C shooters, **Paul Busch** (Solana Beach) and Skeetmiester **Vern Gideon** (El Cajon) whip up the turf to determine C1 and C2. Paul let a high 3 get by and Vern was magnificent in his station 3 accomplishment.

Our last day of fun and frolic, Sunday, brings on the morning event; the .410 bore. There are 19 who want to conquer the small bore. None do but two come very close. **Brian Moore** dropped a third round high three to post the lone 99 and took .410 Gun Champion.

James Dewey only squirted two in the middle rounds and ended up with a nice 98.

Lunch again and you can read the menu previously mentioned on Saturday. The only difference was there was one Garden Salad and replacing the Santa Fe Salad was potato salad. Another great lunch by even greater folks. Thanks again to **Don, Nancy, Steve, Judy and Barb**.

The 20 gauge is the final shooting event of the 600-target weekend. **Brian Moore** and **James Dewey** were triumphant in topping the field of 18 shooters with 99's. James was lead off in the ensuing shoot off and was annihilating targets left and right, as was Brian. Coming back on station four, the pleasure came to a screeching halt for James with Brian the victor. **Dennis James** and **Lee Dennis** (San Diego) went heel-to-toe for four stations with Dennis taking the Class B3 honor.

High Over All Champion went to Brian Moore with a great 395. James Dewey's 390 took the HOA Runner up position. Only one shoot off among the 16 entrants took place to determine Class A1 and A2, this between **Harold Jeffers**

and **Matt Fort**. Harold was determined to leave San Diego for the drive back to Torrance, a winner and that he did beating Matt 6 to 5.

So ends another successful and great weekend shooting the game of skeet. Thanks to all for your participation and continued support. The **SAN DIEGO**

Shotgun Sports Association staff deserves a special pat on the back for keeping the weekend going smoothly. They claim to have nothing to do with the weather conditions but that hasn't yet been proven.

Hunter Safety

Program

by

Dan Fox



The SDSSA Hunter Education program is about to end for 2006. We run classes from January through September each year. Every class this year has been full and there seems to be a high demand for the course.

We will see a lot of the graduates of the course and of course other hunters out on the range during August getting ready for dove season which starts the first day of September. This is always a busy time of year at the range.

In California everyone regardless of age has to have a Hunter Safety Certificate in order to get a California hunting license. A Hunter Safety certificate earned through the course we offer is good in all 50 states to get a hunting license. The SDSSA course is a 11 hour course that also involves a Sunday afternoon of live fire on our shotgun range.

If someone does not want to take the course and/or is unable to find a course to take they can go to the regional headquarters of the Department of Fish & Game located on Viewridge Road and take an examination. If they pass it they can get a hunting license in California, but it is not good in other states. This is a one time opportunity and if they do not pass the test the first time they can not retake it, but must take the course.

There is also a course available on the internet that a person can study and take a test on the internet. If they pass the test then they can go to the Department of Fish and Game on Viewridge Road and take a condensed 4 hour course that is offered the first Saturday of the month. They then have to pass another test and if they pass the test they will be issued a Hunter Safety Certificate which is good in all 50 states.

So if you know someone who wants a hunting license and can not find a course to take, tell them to go to the California Department of Fish and Game website on the internet and check out the course offered there.