



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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Youth Programs

By

Don Wilkie



Once again our SCTP team had a successful year at SDSSA. Not only did the majority of our student members meet our primary goal of improving their shooting skills, they also showed growth in being good team players. I was particularly impressed with the ability they showed to bounce back from a missed shot, a bad round or a disappointing competition. Our state competition squads provided us with two pleasant surprises—a first in the Senior Novice Division and a third in the Junior Novice Division. The second-place finish by our veteran Senior Experience squad, the Top Guns was not unexpected and was an excellent performance even though our shooters hoped for a first place finish. They went on to shoot well at the National Championship, held for the first time at the new range at Sparta, Illinois where they finished only 1.4 percentage points behind South Dakota, the National Champs.

Our top ten shooters for 2006, based on ATA scores, are worthy of special praise. They were:

1. De Savage

ATA singles average 97.89. Class AAA



De joined our SCTP program in 2003. He had the advantage of previous shooting experience with his parents, Bill and Diane, which helped him to set a high level of expectations for our new SCTP program. He was a member of our 2003 Junior Novice Squad, which surprised everyone by winning the State Championship for the division. De remains our most experienced and accomplished shooter a result of his hard work and dedication—last year he shot a total of 12,650 registered targets in ATA competition--- by far the most for our team.

2. Ian Daube

ATA singles average 97.50. Class AAA



At the SCTP State Championship Ian shot 200-straight, our team's first in SCTP State Competition and a first place award for Ian—a remarkable display of skill, determination and focus. Ian is also a dedicated member of the Poway High School wrestling team, a sport at which he has also excelled and which undoubtedly contributes to his success and stamina at trapshooting.

3. Kurtis Sorchy

ATA singles average 97.27. Class AAA



Kurtis and his father, Coach Mike, began shooting competitive trap together at SDSSA in 2004 and both have become top-notch competitors. Kurtis is nearly always among the top shooters at our monthly ATA and prides himself on being a good team member. He is especially fond of shooting doubles at which he has placed highly. A dedicated and regular

competitor, he shot 5800 ATA singles targets last year.

4. Evan Marsch

ATA singles average 95.58. Class AA



Evan comes from a shotgun family—his father and uncles are accomplished hunters. Evan is one of the quiet ones at the range but packs a noisy gun and takes pride in being able to shoot any shotgun well. He has been a steady member of the Top Guns, our Senior Experienced State and National squad.

5. Nick Meyer

ATA singles average 96.50. Class AA



As squad leader of the Top Guns Nick led by example at both the State and National competitions. The second remaining member of our 2003 squad, he is a veteran competitor. The other three original members of the squad, Brian Burrows, Judy Sledge and Breanna Heckenkamp have moved on to International trap with visions of the Olympics floating in their dreams. Nick loves to fish and hunt with his grandfather Gill, one of our enthusiastic fans at SDSSA. We hope Nick will be with us for another shot at a national title.

6. Taylor Osgood

ATA singles average 93.67. Class AA



Taylor showed he had a flair for trapshooting when he first showed up at SCTP in January of 2006. It was also evident that he was a leader. In spite of his inexperience he was invited to join our safari to the Las Vegas SCTP Invitational where he showed his grit and desire by shooting 81% in his first competition. From there he proceeded to improve and led our Senior Novice squad to high

school graduate, he returns to us as a coach in 2007.

7. Robert Jones

ATA singles average 93.60. Class AA



A skilled shooter, Robert was often in the top five and barely missed being a starter on the Top Guns at the State Competition. 2007 should see him at the State Shoot as a

leading Senior Experienced competitor. He's got what it takes if he doesn't veer off the track in the home stretch. Robert is one of our leaders and good team player.

8. Ryan Hueners

ATA singles average 93.33. Class AA



Ryan is a busy fellow with high school golf and his studies both of which he takes seriously. He likens shooting to golf in that you are first of all competing with yourself

to improve your scores and secondly with your opponents. With another year of shooting behind him he could be a stalwart in 2007 and with Robert Jones help us to provide a second top notch Senior Experienced squad.

9. Dalton Mosser

ATA singles average 92.00. Class A



Still a Junior Novice (he has shot fewer than 1000 registered targets). Dalton has impressed us from his first day at the range and should be a leader amongst our juniors in

2007. He also is proving to be a leader by example. His hobby is calf roping and if we can keep him off his horse long enough he will be a high-level shooter in the coming year.

10. Jon Craft

ATA singles average 92.00. Class A



Jon rounds out the top ten and is one our rapidly improving shooters who performs well when he is fully focused. He could soon be another leading scorer. Regretfully, he

is now a grad and no longer able shoot SCTP. His brother, JC who is a dedicated International Trap competitor and a valuable member of the range staff, coaches him. Thank you Jon for being a part of our program.

Of course it's not all about winning championships; simply learning to be a competent and safe shooter and enjoying the sport is also important but so is conduct, team

playing and personal growth. These are difficult to quantify among the more notable were

Those Most Improved include:

Tyler Jenson, a fifth grader, whose gun was bigger than he is, shot 65% at Las Vegas in January and 95% at Oak Tree in May.

Dalton Mosser, a very recent member, shot 80% in March and improved to consistent 90's including 92% at the State shoot.

Thomas Magnuson rose from the 60's to the 90's by the end of the season.

Danny (Barclay) Barlam joined in April and made the Senior Novice squad for the State shoot and led his squad on the first day at the National Championship with 90%

Outstanding leadership awards go to:

Nick Meyer, Top Gun squad leader, who lead with a quiet positive example and good sportsmanship.

Taylor Osgood, Tomcat squad leader whose squad was always together and always happy and positive.

Ilija Cupurdija, a strong leader. He led his squads with clear direction and encouragement for all.

Many parents helped to make the year possible and a success. Special thanks go to Mike Sorchy and Duke Wilber--coaches; Steve Marsch and Diane Savage--managers; Mary Ellen Anderson and Dan Magnuson and all the parents that supported the ATA lunch program; Denny Greb and all our scorekeepers, Ted Barlam, team dad, driver, water boy and travel agent and Rick Osgood, cheerleader (he looks good in a short skirt).

Our thanks and gratitude to Layne, James, Chris and all the range staff for their 100% cooperation and to the SDSSA Board of Directors. Without them we wouldn't have a program

International Trap by Rick Matulich



The Top Gun Championship was held In San Diego on August 20th The event was put on by



total score of 197 followed by Breanna Heckenkamp with a score of 187 Great job.

The winners were:

Brian Burrows	185	17	202	HOA
Jake Wallace	177	20	197	1 st R/U

JC Craft	169	17	186	AA Class
Enrique Webber	166	14	180	A Class
Breanna Heckenkamp	168	19	187	2 nd R/U
Cuck Dietl	163	16	179	C Class
Berni Losoya	161			B Class
Tyrone Hardy	155			D Class
Willis Cameron	127			E Class
Destry Hunt	146			Hi Junior
Ron Tosonian	155			Hi Senior



The top six shooter just after the final from left to right - Enrique Webber, Chuck Dietl, JC Craft, Breanna Heckenkamp, Brian Burrows and Jake Wallace



Destry Hunt, Jake Wallace, Brian Burrows, Breanna Heckenkamp, Ron Tosonian, Chuck Dietl, Tyrone Hardy, Willis Cameron, Berni Losoya, Enrique Webber

September 30th and October 1st we will be holding The Italian Scramble 200 targets for information contact Bill Bolinger at 760-451-8839

SDSSA ELECTION PROCESS

The time of the year is here where we are preparing to elect 5 new members to the Board of Directors and a new President. The nominating committee is looking for persons interested in running for office. There are two ways to get on the ballot. The nominating committee can select you to go on the ballot or you can file a petition signed by 5 percent of the members (701 members - 5% = 36 signatures). If you are interested let the nominating committee know (see following article by Neil Vann) or get your petition prepared. Be sure and include a short resumé that will be used in the next newsletter which goes out before the election.

Observations

by

Neil Vann



We now have in excess of 700 members and have an election coming in the near future which affects the status of the Association for both you and me. Our Association is a membership Association with membership to those who wish to participate under our by-laws and the laws of the state of California. We depend upon our membership to acknowledge that they are part of a volunteer organization that supports our charter; that of working with the youth to promote activities that promote interest in shot gunning sports.

Our recent situation determines who is off the Board of Directors by choice, who will run for the next two years, by choice and who will continue in their willingness to run to make our Association a viable and progressive organization supporting the game of shot gunning.

We will not continue to exist if we don't have volunteer participation! We need folks in the membership who are willing to spend some time (like 5 hours a month) to see that our Association will continue into the future. If you are one those who don't care if we exist or not, then it will behoove you to seek another sport, as ours will not exist without your support! Simple statement but true. If you have another opinion as to the future of our sport at our present location, I would be happy to discuss it with you. If you don't care what happens to SAN DIEGO Shotgun Sports Association, then don't volunteer to assist the cause. We are not asking for money. We are asking for limited time. All of us are busy doing our thing. If your thing is supporting an Association in which you are a member, then we have a common goal. We cannot and will not exist without your individual help.

Steve Hubbard is chairing the Nominating Committee for the upcoming Board/Officer elections. If you can afford a few hours a month to support the sport you obviously enjoy, contact him at shubbard@rsft.com or via the suggestion box.

SKEET

NEWS

by

Neil Vann



What a wonderful weekend to shoot skeet! Twenty-eight shooters came from near and far to participate in the fourth annual SAN DIEGO Shotgun Sports Association Open held on the

weekend of August 25 – 27 in America's Finest City, San Diego, California. First time shooter at SDSSA's monthly shoots was **Chris Baker** (Yorbalinda).

Novice shooters, **Jean and Don Berry** (Upland) were also welcomed as first-timers. **Randy Kennedy** (Temecula), another Novice, gave a stellar performance. All this first time attendance was due to the efforts of **Joe Zerr** (Banning) that set up the squad and led them into battle.

Thanks go to Joe for the gathering as it is always a pleasure to meet new (and old) shooters. More about these folks in the following verbiage.

As is our practice at SDSSA, we conduct a 600-target weekend program. For those fortunate enough to attend, Friday commences the 28ga. preliminary at the stroke of noon. It is also our practice to rotate the gauges each month so that the targets don't get use to being shot by the same gauge! Ten shooters shot the preliminary with the top score of 98 coming in from **Eric Van den Haute** (San Diego) and **Neil Vann** (San Diego). This was a class act of youth and determination against maturity and experience. In this case the former was overwhelmingly the best shoes to be in. Blissfully ignorant of what his role was in this effort; Neil allows one to slip by. Ever gracious, Eric walks off with the 28ga. Gun Champion gratuity.

We then prepare for the Doubles event which starts promptly at 2:00 on the same Friday. There are a smattering of different folks who shoot this game and among the 10 who register, **Robert Hultzen** (San Pedro) takes the gun championship with a 94. So ends the afternoon for those who are in a position to shoot rather than w—k.

Saturday brings in 26 participants in the 28ga. event (Event #3). Top score was a 98 in which there were four lined up for the shoot off. **Matt Fort** (Chula Vista) was first to vacate the field taking Class A1. Next was **Chris Baker** but only after four stations had been shot (B1). The final two, **Eric Van den Haute** and **Robert Hultzen** shot another six stations before Robert dropped a low 4 giving the Gun Champion to Eric with Robert Runner up. The shoot off of the afternoon was between **Jean Berry** (Upland) and **Danny Godinho** (San Diego), both Novice shooters.

“Dead-a-pair for both shooters on station three with boisterous enthusiasm for Jean who was leadoff and some less than nice cat calls for Danny. Station #4, same scenario. Station #5, Jean smashed a pair and Danny smashed one-half pair. The standing room only crowd roared with delight. Danny didn't stand a chance but left the field with smiles and congratulations to Jean. To the biased crowd, Danny was a champion in his own right.

Chicken Tenders with pineapple rings, pepperoncinis, dill pickle slices, and sliced onions most served on a gourmet hamburger bun, condiments, potato salad and a drink rounded out the meal. We thank Paul as one of our many sponsors who feel that a break for lunch is great for the heart and soul.

The Saturday afternoon event was the 12ga. in which 26 registered to shoot this event. James “Rambo” Dewey (Ramona) shot the only 100 straight for 12ga. Gun Champion. Shoot offs took place to determine Gun Runner up and Class C1 with nice 99's. Eric Van den Haute led off with **Robert Hultzen** and **Dick Seaver** (La Mesa) following. Dick had a double-deuce on station #4 (C1) leaving Eric and Robert to shoot it out. After seven straight stations, Eric squinted and high four (Gun Runner up) and Robert continued perfect to take Gun Champion. A great shoot off between the two champions. This was a personal high for **Dick Seaver** so win or lose he left the shoot off field a winner!

Sunday morning introduces the .410bore; the challenge of the morning. With 22 potential winners, **Dave Erwin** (Corona) brought in the high score of 99. It is tough when these old puppies decide to do well! Not far behind, **Steve Erbe** (Oceanside) and **Steve Claunch** (San Diego) bring in a pair of 96's. Steve had to vacate the area leaving Steve Erbe the .410 bore Runner up. **Chris Baker** and **Robert Hultzen** shot off with 93's for Class A1 and A2. Three stations later, Chris was the Class A1 winner. Skeetmiester, **Vern Gideon** (El Cajon) and **Craig Potter** (Chula Vista) brought in 93's to vie for Class B1 and B2. After two stations, Vern emerged the winner. Newcomer **Randy Kennedy** () and **Joe Zerr** went at it for Class B3 with 90's with Joes taking the Class B3. The final shoot off was between **Dick Seaver** and **Doug Blickhan** (Temecula) for Class C2 and C3 with 84's was short lived at station #4 with Doug breaking the pair.

Back to our lunch bunch with again **Paul Busch** as sponsor. Same menu with many thanks going to both **Judy Phelps** and **Barb Vann** for their help in serving and the clean up which is always a thankless task. Thanks also to **Dan McNaughton** and **Craig Potter** for their feeding of the “5-thousand.” And **Dick Seaver** at the keyboard.

Olympic Skeet

by

Gene Green

(AKA)

The Skeet Freak



Did those little “gray rockets” humble you on Sept. 1? Did they make you feel like a fool or the village idiot? Did they make you look like a bumbling klutz? Shoot field #12. It will definitely improve you shotgun prowess in the field!

According to our range manager, the amount of target thrown on field #12 has multiplied by **five times**. This has happened in approximately two months! Come on down and join us!