



# 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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## PRESIDENT'S

### MESSAGE

By  
Robert Keefe



Pullers are the SDSSA employees we as members may deal with most. One of their jobs is to pull targets. Please use them. You as members of this Association should expect courteous and competent pullers.

That is what we want to provide our members. There may be times when you might see a puller hanging out not looking busy. But, before rushing to judgment, please, look around. The fields will be free of spent shells, shooting stations will be swept clean and the machines will be full. The staff at SDSSA want to provide our members with a first class shooting facility, which

includes clean fields, trap machines that throw good targets and knowledgeable, courteous employees.

I realize that not all shooters will require a puller but, your Association employs these young men and women for that purpose. So use them, and please don't abuse them. I'm sure you'll find them to be courteous and helpful. One last thing, When you thank them because they have done a good job, Please don't forget to show your appreciation.

If you have any feedback, whether it is positive or not, please bring it to Layne Kuhlman's attention or email me at [rkeef@cox.net](mailto:rkeef@cox.net).

Our bench replacement program has been very successful. To date we have had 21 benches donated to the Association. I want to extend a sincere thank you to the following members who have purchased benches. **Fred Hoyle, George Silva, Layne Kuhlman, Craig Clark, Malcolm Campbell and Charlie Bover**. A special thank you goes out to **E. Lee Dennis** who once again has shown his support to SDSSA with a \$3900.00 donation that will purchase 13 new benches. Again, thank you, to all these members who have shown their support to our Association and who are making the bench replacements a success.

When you see our newest employee **Brea Heckenkamp**, International Trap Shooter, go ahead and congratulate her on winning a spot on The USA World Championship Team. You can read more about Brea on our website [www.sandiegoshotgunsports.com](http://www.sandiegoshotgunsports.com).

Congratulations Brea, SDSSA is proud of your accomplishments and proud to have you as an employee.



## INTRODUCTION TO SHOTGUN SPORTS

By  
Jim Englund

In the years I've been helping with the Dodge City morning sign-ups, I don't think I have seen so many new faces and names as I did at the May shoot. I'm looking at the roster and at least eight names are new to me. And I'm here every month. Seems word of mouth and our web site is drawing in new folks, and that's great. For a long time this has been a high turn-out fun shoot for **everybody**. For all ages and level of experience. We had two chair shooters and four juniors for a total of 53. Tell a friend who wants to have some shotgun fun. Scores: 25 @ 16; **Lonnie Catania, William DeBreau, Dennis Denardi, Sonny Hale, Lou Imbimbo, Kevin King, Jay Laumer, Kieth Rheinhardt** and (hotshot) **Kurtis Sorchy**. At handicap there were no 25's and only three 24's; **Lonnie Catania, Fred Hoyle** and (hotshot) **Kurtis Sorchy**. At Buddy 1, four teams got 19. But, dig this, at Buddy #2, since we were at an odd number, we call in a staff person to shoot. That staff fill-in (a.k.a.) **John Craft** and (hotshot) **Kurtis Sorchy** were the **only** pair to break all twenty. Staff is invisible in our payout. Kurtis, you can buy your own shells for a while. Top gun for the day with an 86; guess who.



**RANGE  
SAFETY  
By  
Fred Hoyle**

This month our safety topic is for a very specific group of members. If you have a gun with a **release trigger**, please put some easily recognized label on your gun. We still occasionally experience an accidental discharge by experienced shooters. So far these accidents have only struck the ground or the trap house and I hope we continue to be lucky.

The problem we could face is the accidental use of the wrong gun by mistake. We all know someone who has picked up the wrong gun by mistake and started to shoot a round. If the wrong gun has a release trigger it will not fire when the trigger is pulled and will fire when it is released. With no release trigger experience, the gun may not be pointed in the right direction when it fires.

To try to assist members in labeling their release trigger guns, we have placed a label maker in the office for your use. Please make use of it. Safety is all of our business.

Here is to continued safe and enjoyable shooting by all.

**SKEET  
NEWS  
by  
Neil Vann**



The 600-target 3-day registered skeet shoot held at the **SAN DIEGO Shotgun Sports Association** located in San Diego, California got underway on May 18, 2007 with the 28ga. Preliminary with a grand total of 5 shooters and the winner being **Steve Claunch** (San Diego) with a nice 96. Next on that same Friday was the 28ga.preliminary with 13 shooters. **Eric Van den Haute** (San Diego) and **Keith Phelps** (Torrance) topped the crowd with 94's.



**KEITH PHELPS**

The shoot off was short lived with Eric leading off in the shoot off and missing the first target of the doubles. Keith took advantage of the swinging door syndrome and smoked the pair taking the Gun Championship.

Saturday morning we are greeting with the playing of the National Anthem just prior to the commencement of the 28ga. main event. Entering the event were 23 shooters. Lots of high scores came in. Four shoot offs ensued to break the ties and conclude the winners. Both **Eric Van den Haute** (San Diego) and **Bill Page** (Torrance) broke the target barrier with 100-straight and entered a shoot off to determine 28ga. Gun Champion and Gun runner up.



**BILL PAGE**

Both had some awesome breaks at station 3. Station 4 was Bill's downfall missing the low target. Eric captured the 28ga. Gun Champion.



**ERIC VAN DEN HAUTE**

Next was **James Dewey** (Ramona) pitted against **Carl Best** (Spring Valley) both with 97's. Carl was miss-and-out leaving James with the prize of Class AA2 at station 3. Class A2 and A3 had **Dennis James** (Escondido) and **Mike Leith** (Riverside) coming in with 96's. This shoot off lasted four stations before Mike squirted a low three giving the Class A2 to Dennis. The last shoot off was between **Craig Potter** (Chula Vista), **Dan Woods** (Riverside) and **Hal Garb** (Pasadena) with 94's and vying for the three places in Class B. Dan left quickly with Craig following on the next station leaving Hal winning Class B1.

Our lunch break was one hour of enjoyable munching of delicious 1/2lb hamburgers, two different types of salad (potato and macaroni), drinks, chips and all kinds of condiments donated by **Gary Dittmar** (Fountain Valley). We thank Gary and his generosity.

The afternoon played host to the 22 shooters who signed up to shoot the 12ga. One 100-straight came in posted by **James Dewey** and that took care of the top honor. Four 99's came in which made the shoot off interesting as there were one Class AA, two Class A and one Class B. The 99's included **Eric Van den Haute**, **Gil Siu** (Corona), **Ray Phillips** (Las Vegas, NV) and **Keith Phelps**. Eric went out on station 3 (AA1) along with Gil (A2). Ray went on for two more stations (Gun runner up) with Keith following and missing at that station for Class B1. The next shoot off was an three way between **Carl Best**, **Art Lim** (Long Beach) and **Gary Dittmar** with 98's to determine the 2 spots open for B Class. Carl left the competition early, Art hit all four (B2) and Gary hit three of the four (B3). So ends day #2. This is one of the first times that we have not had a non-winning novice prize winner Novice in the 12ga. event. We did have some Novices but they had previously won the novice prize and were not eligible to win again. A word to

the wise out there in skeet land; we must get new shooters to participate in order to perpetuate the game.

Rested and ready are twenty-one die-hards that take on the .410 bore on Sunday morning. For the fright that the little gun has on most, we had 12 of the 21 come in with scores in the 90's! The top score was 99's with both **James Dewey** and **Roman Warren** having Cheshire cat smiles at the end. Unfortunately the anticipated shoot off of the season was cancelled due to Roman hitting the chromium highway early in anticipation of some sluggish travel back to Riverside, giving James the top spot as .410 bore Gun Champion and Roman, Runner up. **Ray Phillips** and teammate, **Bill Page** ambled to station 3 to settle the tie of 95's for Class A2 and A3. Ray won it in a single station shoot off. Enuf said!

Again a much anticipated lunch break. The meal that **Gary Dittmar** provided was beyond expectation. The 95% lean hamburgers were huge enough to be hamburger steaks. All of the shooters, the field referees and the public that wanted to participate at a nominal fee were looking for "doggie bags" at the end of the meal. A super good lunch by a dedicated skeet supporter, **Gary Dittmar**.



**GARY DITTMAR**

Our final shooting event of the weekend is the 20ga. Twenty-two participated with two having the top score of 99; **James Dewey** and **Roman Warren**. With Roman off preventing road ragers from distracting his ride home, James automatically becomes the Gun Champ and Roman the Runner up. Hopefully one day we will see these two in a shoot off! Not to be counted out, **Ray Phillips** and **Gil Siu** toed the line with 97's shooting for Class A1 and A2. Perennial Gil whipped up on out-of-towner Ray and after four shots and the score was Gil, 4 and Ray 3.



**GIL SIU**

Next was Class B shooters **Dennis James** (Escondido) and **Gary Dittmar** posting nice 98's with the intent of taking B1. The shoot off went five stations before on the sixth station Gary (B2) dropped a low four allowing Dennis to take the Class B1 honor. The last shoot off in the 20ga. was between **Dick Seaver** (La Mesa) and **Eran Fuchs** (San Diego).



**ERAN FUCHS**



**DICK SEAVER**

Both of these gentlemen have been practicing between registered shoots and it has paid off. Eran is a first year shooter and Dick is working his way up in class. Both came in with 95's. As was the last shoot off, this one also went six stations. Eran got on the wrong side of a low 4 and took the Class C2 honor. Dick to Class C1. Great shooting.

Twenty shooters participated in the High Over All event with two shoot offs to determine Class B. **Hal Garb** and **Vern Gideon** (El Cajon) had 364's. Hal took an early leave (B2) giving Vern Class B1.



**SKEETMEISTER VERN GIDEON**

**Mike Butler** (San Diego) and **Craig Potter** (Chula Vista) both came in with 357's competing for Class B3. Mike broke four targets with authority while Craig wavered on station 4 leaving Mike with Class B3.

Thanks to the SDSSA staff managed by **Layne Kuhlman**, for the excellent refereeing by the trained staff, for **Barb Vann** and her dedication in helping where help is needed and for the Skeet Committee for handling the shoot in a professional and efficient manner. For those who take on the preparation of the lunch, the cooking and the cleanup; **Craig Potter**. For **Keith Phelps** and his donation of a most professional scoreboard at each of our monthly shoots. Special thanks to **Vern Gideon** for his leadership as SDSSA Skeet Chairman and **Dick Seaver**, on the keyboard. All these volunteers **MAKE IT HAPPEN.**



**INTERNATIONAL**

**SKEET**

**By**

**Gene Green**

Olympic Skeet is, arguably the most difficult of all the clay target disciplines. Having said that, I ask some of our regular shooters why they like it.

Here are their responses:

Keith – It sharpens your eyesight and coordination.

Quinton – It is the single best game to get ready for the field.

Steve – I like being around bad people.

Tony – It's HARD CORE.

Alex – Oops! I can't print what he said.

Matt – This is more like hunting. I like the challenge.

These people range in age from 16 to 71.

Shoot SAFE



**SCTP NEWS**

By

**Don Wilkie**

**A Top Gun  
Tops Out at ATA**

**Evan Marsch**, a member of our Miramar Top Gun squad, hit the win column with a perfect 100 at the SDSSA ATA event in June. He garnered first place in ATA Class A and took SCTP Varsity high honors. Once again he showed that hard work pays off. Congratulations Evan.



**EVAN MARSCH**

And, it also paid off for **John Siewerth** who took ATA Class B honors with a 98--John's best ATA score to date, also winning him SCTP Junior Varsity honors. Both lads are amongst our hardest working shooters.



**JOHN SIEWERTH**

Steady **Kurtis Sorchy** was once again a winner with a 99, which took ATA junior honors.



**KURTIS SORCHY**

**SCTP continues grow and wants more!**

According to a recent survey conducted by SCTP, the program has grown from 700 participants in 2001 to 8,331 in 2006 a growth of 1090%. NSSF expects it may grow to 15,000 this year after all results are in. The average participant shot 2,739 targets in competition during 2006 and has been shooting 2 to 4 years. Thirty-five percent of SCTP members have been shooting SCTP events for 1 to 2 years, and 13 % more than 4 years. Thirty-two percent have been shooting 5 to 10 years.

Other SCTP scores are shown below: Notable performances were turned in by three of our newest shooters—**Dakota Jacobson, Michael Dolphin** and **Chris Dante** with their three best competition scores--obviously on their way up and shooting better every month!

	Class	Division	Score %
Danny Barlam	A	Junior Varsity	91
Ilija Cupurdija	AA	Junior Varsity	95
Chris Dante	C	Junior Varsity	86
Michael Dolphin	C	Junior Varsity	88
Alex Greb	B	Junior Varsity	91
Elliott Greb	B	Intermediate	91
Dakota Jacobson	C	Junior Varsity	91
Cassie Osgood	C	Junior Varsity	88
Harrison Samaniego	C	Intermediate	79
John Siewerth	B	Junior Varsity	98
Roger Siewerth	A	Junior Varsity	97

Seventy-nine percent of SCTP members claim they introduced family members and friends to the sport. Only 25% of SCTP members participate through their schools. The full survey results are available on the web-site [www.nssf.org/sctp](http://www.nssf.org/sctp) or through a link from [www.sandiegoshotgunsports.com](http://www.sandiegoshotgunsports.com).

A high percentage of SCTP participants credit the program with personal growth in leadership, teamwork, and responsibility. These goals are stressed in our program at SDSSA. Our program began in 2003. That year we sent one squad to the State Championship in Kingsburg, where to our surprise, they placed first in the Junior Novice division, now called Intermediate. Last year we took a first, second and third place at the state shoot. This week we are taking four squads—the Miramar Top Guns--Varsity; the Miramar Tomcats, Miramar Vipers--Junior Varsity; and the Miramar Bobcats--Intermediate.

**SCTP graduates remain active and successful.**

Several former SCTP members at our range remain active in the sport. **Breanna Heckenkamp** joined our program in 2003, now 17; she is a highly ranked International Trap shooter and has just qualified for the USA World Championship Team that will be shooting in Greece this year. Last year, as a member of the team, she competed at Zagreb, Croatia, where she placed fourth amongst the Junior Women. She began her

competitive career in our SCTP program and was a member of our original state champion Top Gun squad in 2003.



**BREANNA HECKENKAMP**

Like all beginning shooters Breanna experienced some disappointing days but she never quit or lost her enthusiasm. She advises our shooters to always be always positive in thought and word, to slow down, and remember "every shot counts."

**Brian Burrows**, squad leader of the original Top Guns, is also an accomplished International trap shooter and is an Olympic hopeful. **Judy Sledge** the fifth member of that historic 2003 squad is now primarily a recreational shooter. **Kambra Brawner**, another of our early members, is very active at our range and is an AAA shooter with 97% average and has already earned a 27-yard handicap. At our June ATA shoot she took a High Lady singles award with 96.



**KAMBRA BRAWNER**

After a brief furlough, **Emily Heckenkamp** showed up among the lady ATA winners with a 90 and is still young enough to rejoin SCTP next year.

Two members of the original 2003 squad, **Nick Meyer** and **De Savage** are still active with our SCTP team and are among the top shooters in the State; both have shot 100-straight in competitions and Nick has shot 150-straight. Bragging? Yes we are!



Some of you may have seen this gentleman around the range. He is a frequent Trap shooting who enjoys the company of almost anybody!

His name is **Bob Nation** but he has been called more suitable names by some of his close friends. Bob is one of those folks that we like to talk about in an Association such as ours. He is a VOLUNTEER. We have several of those walking and wheeling around. It is what makes the Association thrive when we encounter volunteers such as Bob. Mr. Nation, as some of us younger folks address him, is most always at the range on the third Wednesday of the month as that is when we gather together to assemble YOUR monthly newsletter. He is good about wearing his "spark plugs" (hearing aids) but is not as good hearing all of the gossip that goes around the table during the hour-and-one-half or so time it takes to secure, label and stamp the newsletter. We appreciate the time that **Bob Nation** dedicates to the Association and hope that he never tires of coming on the third Wednesday of the month.

**As a friendly reminder, it is never too late to let us know that you would rather receive the newsletter via the internet rather than us spending the money to send it to you via USPS. On the internet it will be intact! – CNV**



**ATA  
REPORT  
By  
Layne  
Kuhlman**

The June ATA enticed 69 total shooters that shot at 15,300 targets. Due to great weather some excellent scores were posted. **Event 1** with 100's was **Evan Marsch, John Lumn** (good pick on the ammo), **Paul Busch** and **Paul Basten**. These shooters split Champ AA & A Class. B Class with a 98 was **John Siewerth**; C Class went to **Michael Saindon**. Hi Jr., **Kurtis Sorchy**, Hi Lady, **Dianne Savage** and Vet, **Fred Corley**. **Event 2 - Handicap**. 3 Shooters tied for high score and a punch. **Aaron Valdes, Glenn Fujikawa** and **Fred Corley** with 93's. Hi Lady, **Lisa Isom**. **Dave Johnson**, for Long Yardage and High Vet., **Paul Busch**.

**Event 3 - Doubles**. **Chip Ennis** was Champ. (tank driver), B Class, **Aaron Valdes**, A Class was a tie between **Ted Mueller** and **Gregory Hartlett** (his new gun must work). **Evan Marsch** took C Class **Event 4 -16 yd.** Champion with 100 was **Scott Brawner**, Class AA tie between **Ted Fenn** and **Rich Davis**, A Class, **Allen White**, B Class, **Greg Hartlett** and C Class, **Jan Slough**

Hi Lady went to **Kambra Brawner**, Hi Vet tie between **Charlie Bover** and **Russ Hawes**. **Event 5 - Handicap**, **Aaron Valdes** was Champ (again). Long went to **Ray Torres**, Mid was a tie between **Ty Bloom** and **Greg Hartlett**. Short, **Harvey Isom** (usually his wife wins), Vet, **Dave Johnson**, Lady, **Kambra Brawner**. **Charlie Bover** was awarded the prestigious **DAL** trophy for event #5.

**OLYMPIC  
TRAP  
REPORT**

**By  
Rick  
Matulich**



I would like to start with Congratulating Brea Heckenkamp on (5/20/2007) winning a spot on the USA World Championship Team going to Cyprus, Greece later this year.



The Pacific Coast Championships were held Jun 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. It was a 200 target event with 16 shooters showing up, Jeff Jake Wallace took the HOA with a 197.

Jake Wallace .....	197	.....	HOA
Berni Losoya .....	189	.....	1 <sup>st</sup> Runner Up
Josh Conro .....	186	.....	2 <sup>nd</sup> Runner Up
Brea Heckenkamp ..	170	.....	B Class
Destry Hunt .....	186	.....	C Class
Shui-Lun Wang .....	121	.....	D Class
Ahmad Durrani .....	147	.....	E Class
Jarad Palmer .....	144	.....	Hi Junior
Bill Bolinger .....	184	.....	Hi Senior

Up coming events August 11<sup>th</sup> The Top Gun for info contact **Steve Lakatos** [steveslilengine@aol.com](mailto:steveslilengine@aol.com) (626) 304-9489.