



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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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! Let me know via [email-cnvann@cox.net](mailto:cnvann@cox.net). Thank you!

President's

Message

By

Robert Keefe



As many of our members have noticed The Association has been harvesting the lead from our fields. This is done every two years. All the lead that is harvested is sold back to the members at a very reasonable price. The new lead shot is made available to members only and is considered one of the benefits of membership in SDSSA. You may be interested to know a little history about the harvesting process.

Bob Watts, President of Tri City Surface Mining from Richland, Washington has been mining our fields for over 24 years. The harvesting at SDSSA usually takes about 3 weeks to complete and we usually get 100

tons of lead back from the fields. The lead is split 60/40 with the Association receiving 40%. That is unless our General Manager, Layne Kuhlman can work a better deal for us which he did this year. This year's split is 51/49, with 49% coming to the Association. That's a lot of lead. Once the lead is harvested it is trucked to Washington State where it is melted down and dropped to the shot sizes SDSSA requests. The first load of shot will be delivered to the Range in September. The first shipment will be sold to members who prepay, for \$22.00 a bag tax included with a maximum purchase of 500 pounds. If you have bought a bag of shot lately you know that price cannot be beat. See Layne at the Range office, tell him what size shot you would like, pay the man and when the lead arrives at the Range one of the pullers will be happy to help you load the bags. As most of the reloaders already know, the price of lead has skyrocketed. Don't miss out on this opportunity to buy lead at this price. Once the first load is sold out the price for shot on the second load, which will be sold on a first come first served basis, will go up.

We received our first shipment of benches. Malcum Campbell has assembled the benches and placed them on the fields requested by the donating member. A total of 25 benches have been purchased to date. Hopefully you've had a chance to try one out. Once again, a big thank you goes out to all the members that have donated the money to purchase new benches.

Here's some insight about The San Diego Shotgun Sports Association's World class Web Site. Augie Daddi our Webmaster submitted his monthly (August) Web Site Activity Report. The August newsletter drew 612 visitors in July. The July newsletter drew 476 visitors in June and another 192 in July for a total of 668. It appears the effort Neil Vann, the Association Newsletter Editor is putting forward to encourage members to drop the snail mail and read the newsletter online is working. The sports page with 512 visits in June was the second most viewed. This page is

normally viewed by new visitors. Once again, please consider contacting Neil Vann, email address cnvann@cox.net and let him know you want to start reading the newsletter online. To clear up some confusion... the newsletter **will not** be emailed to you. All you have to do is go to www.sandiegoshotgunsports.com and click on newsletter. You're even able to view archived newsletters. You may want to try what I do. I have our website as one of my homepage tabs. As soon as I click on Internet Explorer, our website is there and I'm able to read the latest up to date activities going on at the Range.

With dove season right around the corner you no doubt will see a lot of shooters at the Range "tuning up" before the season opener. Some of these shooters only come out at this time of year to shoot a couple of rounds before they head out to the fields. As responsible shooters we all have an obligation to safety. If you witness unsafe gun handling don't hesitate to bring it to the shooters attention or bring it to the attention of a member of the staff. If you are going out dove hunting, I hope you enjoy the camaraderie that a good dove hunt brings. I hope you shoot your limit. Remember, be safe and see you at the Range.

RANGE

SAFETY

By

Jim Englund



About two years ago the Board of Directors decided it would be a good idea to write an occasional article on gun safety and safety in general with fire arms. We ran these articles for some time and felt we've said enough. Recently, we had a minor accident at the range and decided to go ahead and start again a monthly column on the topic. These articles seemed to re-hash the issues over and over and I, for one, saw redundancy, and who wants to read the

same ideas over and over again. Then I thought about my CPR certification. Being a SCUBA dive master (the dive boat lifeguard); I need to be re-certified every year to make sure I know what to do when the situation arises. Why yearly? Because I don't do this very often, in fact, I do it **once** a year—to get re-certified. Therefore, for the same reason, the BoD's and the range personnel see the importance to keep writing a monthly article on safety. Being a hunter and one of the hunter safety instructors at the range, I could say more on the faults occurring in the field. But now, my assignment is to write of safety at registered shoots- where most shooters have been doing this for a long, long time. What can you say about safety to those who routinely shoot these events? **Routinely**. Can we get too much into a routine and forget about safety? At an ATA once my gun fired upon closing. I've seen this happen to others. It scares you, it's unexpected and unavoidable. When the muzzle is always pointing in a safe direction—that's safety, for what ever occurs.

TRAP LEAGUE



By

Steve Marsch & Mike Sorchy

The Fall Trap League is here. The Sign-up sheet is now available at the range office. For those who haven't seen the SDSSA website recently, we have made a few changes for this League to try something a little different. The rules and format will be largely the same as the last few Leagues with the addition of a blind draw for teams. This doesn't mean you can't shoot with your usual shooting buddies. You can shoot together; it just means that you may be competing against them.

We also have some great awards. In addition to trophies for the top team and cash awards, we also have two Silver Belt Buckles to award to both the Top Gun and the prestigious DAL shooter.

The belt buckles were generously donated by Chip Enniss and Sonny Hale. For details, go to the SDSSA website and follow the link to **RULES**. These are also posted at the club in the display cases.

We've also added a league-end barbeque and shoot-off for the belt buckles.



TRAP LEAGUE SILVER BELT BUCKLES

We think this League will be a lot of fun for everyone and sincerely hope you'll join us
If you have any questions, you can email either Mike or me at the addresses below.

stevemarsch@cox.net

m.sorchy1@hotmail.com

ATA TRAP

By

Chip Enniss



Beginning in September 2007, with the start of the new A.T.A. Target year we will have a new Committee to plan and execute the A.T.A. shoots.

As of this time the people willing to help with the program are **Jan Slough, Kurt Sachau, Mike Sorchy, Sonny Hale, Rich Davis and Chip Enniss**. Our plan is to make S.D.S.S.A. shoots more fun, with more varied programs. We also plan to check all the Field stakes and trap heights before the Sept. shoot to assure quality, uniform targets from trap to trap.

The shoot programs and awards will vary with most shoots because a different person will be the chair for that shoot. Read the program so you understand the format and the awards.

We are looking for anyone else with any ideas to help with the program, if you have ideas or input or are willing to help, please contact one of the people listed above.

If we all get involved as we should as club members we should be able to improve the quality of the shoots and improve our individual scores.

Thanks for your support in the past. I am looking forward to many quality shoots and good scores in our future.

RANGE SAFETY

By

Rick

Matulich



With any gun, there is only one thing that you should always assume and that is; **EVERY FIREARM IS LOADED!**

Get to know your gun. Read the owners manual. Know how to use the safety switch. Inspect your firearm for clean barrels and safe operating conditions before shooting. Know how to safely load and unload your gun. Use the right ammunition and **ALWAYS** point your gun in a safe direction.

Use the safety switch and never assume it is working. Keep your finger away from the trigger until ready to shoot. Always wear ear and eye protection. Ensure a safe backstop or shot fall.

To pass a firearm to another shooter, make sure the action is open and the firearm is unloaded. Clean firearms after use. Secure firearms for security and safe transportation. Never use drugs or alcohol when handling a firearm.

Common sense? Not always common!!!!



DODGE CITY

By

Jim

Englund

We had a great shoot July with 39. Starting in August we are going to try something new. We will have an optional pool for top score shooter. Here's the scoop; it will be a \$2 buy in. Top gun of the day will get 25% of the pot. Each month that will accumulate until, at some time when somebody shoots a perfect 90, they will collect 90% of the bank. Now remember, this is optional, buying in is up to you. Buy in anytime you want. A 90 is your personal score plus the buddies. Therefore, because of the random pick of the buddy partners, it gives every one a shot. Here's the bonus; everyone who buys in will be in a random draw for 10% of the pot each month. Let's try it for a while and see how it goes. Adding something new to the old DC. Scores: 25@the 16; **Sonny Hale, Charlie Bover, Lonnie Catania, Augie Daddi, Lou Imbimbo, Kevin McQuade and Perry Jurancich**. Handicap, only one with 25; **Chip Ennis**. Buddt #1; one team with 20,

Sonny Hale and **Fred Corley**. #2, Three teams; **Sonny Hale** and **Heath Messenger**, **Augie Daddi** and **Kevin McQuade**, **Chip Ennis** and **Danny Godinho**. The Annie Oakley turned out rather odd, misses and over shoots left only two standing; **Kevin McQuade** and **Danny Godinho** and they decided to split the pot. Another weird twist to the A.O. **Willie Turner** was the first shooter to get bumped out. Go figure.

aced the first two stations while Ted and Eric continued for yet another station before Ted outgunned Eric. Ted took the Gun Runner up honor. **Dennis James** (Escondido) and **Roger Christensen** (Perris) took to station #3 to decide the Class A1 and A2 positions. Dennis promptly missed a low 3 and Roger busted them both.

shooters, **Freddie Corley** (San Diego) and **Dick Seaver** (La Mesa) to determine D1 and D2. Freddie went miss-and-out while Dick hit the pair with authority.

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 Friday, July 27, 2007 with the 20ga. Preliminary and a grand total of 9 shooters with the winner being **Dave Robertson** (Valley Center) with a nice 98. Gun Runner up was **Keith Phelps** (Torrance) with a 94.

Next on that same Friday was the Doubles with **Eric Van den Haute** (San Diego) topping the 10 shooters with his 95. **Dave Robertson** takes the Gun Runner up with a 93. Again, there were no shoot offs to offer entertainment to the multitude of fence leaners.



DAVE ROBERTSON

Saturday morning commenced with the playing of the National Anthem in preparation for the 28 gauge event. Twenty-two fire-in-belly souls enter the competition with **James Dewey** (Ramona) pictured, posting the lone 100-straight. **Steve Claunch** (San Diego), **Ted Church** (Ventura) and **Eric Van den Haute** duked it out for Gun Runner up, Class AA1 and Class AA2, all coming in with 98's. We expected this to be a many-box shoot off but Steve



JAMES DEWEY

The Saturday lunch was sponsored by **Don and Steve Erbe** (Oceanside). The multitude was served TOGO'S 3 foot submarine sandwiches with salad, chips and sodas/water. We thank **Don and Steve Erbe** for their generosity and Don allowing



Steve to take the day off to shoot skeet!

OUR JULY SPONSORS

Saturday afternoon presents the 12ga. event. We had four Novices entered so we now have some competition for the monthly Novice prize sponsored by **John Herkowitz of Pacific Sporting Arms**. Twenty-one climb aboard the 12 gauge event. **Steve Claunch** brings in then lone 100-straight with **Eric Van den Haute** and **James Dewey** vying for Class Runner up and Class AA1 with 98's. At the conclusion of four stations, the doubles-miss-and-out bites James leaving Eric with the 12ga. Gun Runner up. **Matt Fort** (Chula Vista) and **Dennis James** battle for Class B1 and B2 with nice 97's. Matt puffs a pair and Dennis is having an eye/bird coordination and dutched the pair. The final shoot off is between Class D



STEVE CLAUNCH- 100 IN 12GA.

The four Novices competing for the prize were **Dave Robertson** (98), **Jon Maeda** (92) from Temple City, **Mark Nelson** (95) from Camarillo and **Leroy Brace** (78) from Sedro Woolley, WN. Dave was this month's winner. Congratulations to all the Novices.



JON MAEDA



MARK NELSON



LERROY BRACE



MARK ALLARD

FOILED BY THE AIRLINES

We also had a nice visit with **Mark Allard** from Powell, OH who was able to shoot the .410 event on Sunday. He was scheduled to shoot Saturday as well but the airline kept him away from us much to his disdain.

Our week end of fun-in-the-sun continued on Sunday morning with energy galore and 20 hearty souls biding their chance to come in with their highest .410 bore score to date.



BRETT MCLAUGHLIN

Brett McLaughlin (La Mirada) came down the one day to spark his team on to victory and took the lead by posting a more than respectable 99 for Gun Champion. **Steve Claunch** followed close behind with a 97 in the pencil bore taking Gun Runner up. A shoot off between **Vern Gideon** (El Cajon) and lunch donor, **Steve Erbe** (Oceanside) for Class B2 and B3 with 93's was short lived when Vern broke the pair at station #3 and Steve missed one.

Lunch again and a welcome relief to the sound of pounding of shells and the warm sunshine. Another repeat performance by Togo's Eatery with Roast Beef, Italian sub and Turkey, Ham and Cheese with Potato chips and two salads; Santa Fe and Asian Chicken along with water and soft drinks. All this again provided by our lunch sponsor, **Don and Steve Erbe** (along with a lot of physical help from **Nancy Erbe**). With healthy food like that, how can anyone miss a target in the upcoming and last shooting event of the weekend; the 20ga?



STEEN THOMSEN

Steen Thomsen (Covina) whipped up on the other 18 contestants by shooting a 100-straight thereby coveting the Gun Champion honor.

Brett McLaughlin and **Steve Claunch** took their duplicate 99's seriously and commenced a real nice shoot off vying for Gun Runner up and Class AA1. They went a box less two stations before Brett dropped a low 4 doubles and Steve didn't. Brett had come down Sunday morning from La Mirada to get some targets in and had shot 400 prior to this shoot off and he looked as fresh as a daisy when he was done. Great endurance from both shooters! **James Dewey** and **Eric Van den Haute** pulled in 98's to shoot off for Class AA2 and AA3. A short lived shoot off gave the Class AA2 to James!

Twenty-eight shooters enjoyed the fun and games in San Diego. Of the 28 there were 16 who entered the HOA event. **Steve Claunch** was top dawg with a 394 and **James Dewey** the next dawg in line with a 392.

All had a great time and we at SAN DIEGO *Shotgun Sports Association* hope to see all of you at our next registered shoot. Thanks to the staff, those who helped set up the lunches, the scoreboard and keeper of same, our computer gurus and all those who work "behind the scenes" to make a shoot successful. Volunteers and donors deserve to go to Heaven!!

In the near future we will be looking for donors to offset the cost of buying eight sturdy tables, like those we use for lunches, such that they can be located conveniently next to the fence gun rack to place shell bags and water jugs while shooting. We want to have one table for each field. They are available at COSTCO for about \$50 each. This positive action will allow the benches to be used as they were intended.

Lee Dennis has been kind and generous enough to donate 15 composite benches to be strategically placed on the fields replacing the sliver-in-the-seat-of-the-pants benches. We collectively thank him for his donation.

On another note of importance to our Association is the fact that NSSA has awarded the SAN DIEGO *Shotgun Sports Association* the prestigious honor of being the "Club of The Year." This award will be presented on Monday, October 8, 2007 at the 2007 HALL OF FAME BANQUET at Pedrotti's North Wind Ranch in San Antonio. Our skeet chairman, **Vern Gideon**, will accept the award on behalf of SDSSA.

Thanks go to **Nowell Wisch** who provided the images and DVD format as well as General Manager, **Layne Kuhlman**, and the various shotgun shooting venues at SDSSA.

Our August 24-26, 2007 shoot, "SDSSA VI OPEN" presently has 13 pre registered. Our September 21-23 shoot, "GREY SILVA X MEMORIAL OPEN" has 20 pre registered. This is our biggest SDSSA monthly shoot of the year and we hope to host 65 or more for this tenth anniversary. **Lee Dennis** and **Pete Buompensiero** are co-providing the prizes. We will have a participation prize and **Eric Van den Haute** of *Café Seville* is sponsoring the Saturday/Sunday lunch at no cost to the shooter. Pre register early by contacting Vern Gideon at, Maryvern@sbcglobal.net or by phone, 619-579-8157.



**INTERNATIONAL
SKEET**
By
Gene Green

While watching the National Collegiate Skeet Championships on ESPNU, I noted that one of the commentators said, "Olympic Skeet separates the men from the boys". I find that interesting in that Haley Dunn was one of the top shooters!

By the time you read this, hunting season will be upon us. For a great tune-up, shoot a couple rounds on field #12. It will definitely make you a better field shot.

One must have a positive mental attitude to become better at this game, or any game for that matter. The following is an example that makes me both proud and humble.

One of our fine servicemen had both his legs blown off, just below the knees, by an I.E.D. While in the hospital, he was asked how he was doing. Well, while growing up I always wanted to 6'2" or taller. Now, I can be. That is **POSITIVE MENTAL ATTITUDE.**

The shooter with the most 25 straights was **Steve Claunch** with 11 out of 12 (He was only able to shoot six weeks, therefore is not eligible for the HOA awards – You must shoot all seven weeks to be eligible for HOA). Following Steve were **Vern Gideon** and **Dennis James** with seven 25 straights each.

A total of 517 rounds were shot equaling 12,925 targets thrown. Fifty-four 25 straights were broken.

The next Skeet League will be held in early 2008.

The Skeet League Bash will be held at the range on August 29, 2007 starting at 5:30 PM. The event will consist of pizza, salad, sodas and beer and will be catered by Filippi's Pizza Grotto. The Bash will be free to all 2007 Summer Skeet League participants and will cost \$10 for guests. A sign up sheet is in the range office. Flyers have been posted at the range and an announcement has been put in the Club Newsletter that will be mailed next week.

The new 25 Straight Skeet patch, designed by the Skeet Committee, will be handed out, at the Skeet League Bash to all shooters that shot a straight in either the 2007 Spring Skeet League or the 2007 Summer Skeet League.

Our Top Guns finished behind Arnold Junior Trap shooters of Missouri, who took first place with 971/100 and Arlington Trappers, also of Missouri in second with 968. Silver State Clay breakers of Reno, Nevada with 968 finished third. Our squad finished ahead of archivals, Oak Tree, of Newhall, CA and neighboring Las Vegas.

Under the outstanding leadership of Coach Mike Sorchy the team has matured and exhibits outstanding teamanship and camaraderie. They worked hard to prepare for the championship and have shown themselves to be among the elite young shooters in the nation. Diane Savage has played a strong role as team mother. Consistent parental support has been an important element in the squad's overall success.

Complete results for the Top Guns are listed below:

	1 st	2 nd	Total
	100	100	
Nick Meyer	98	91	189
Robert Jones	97	94	191
Evan Marsch	96	99	195
Kurtis Sorchy	99	99	198
De Savage	95	93	188
Totals	485	476	961

The Top Guns have had a tremendous year and will remain together for another year. It will be the last for Kurtis and Nick, who will graduate from high school next year. The squad and parents thank Robert Keefe and the SDSSA Board for their generous support as well as Layne Kuhlman and staff.



NICK MEYER, EVAN MARSCH, KURTIS SORCHY, DE SAVAGE, ROBERT JONES. COACHES; MIKE SORCHY AND DON WILKIE

**SKEET
LEAGUE**
By
Dick Seaver



The 2007 Summer Skeet League finished on Sunday, August 5, 2007. We had a total of 40 participants.

The final standings are:

- Team 135.0 Points 4th Place
- Team 236.0 Points 2nd Place
- Team 335.5 Points 3rd Place
- Team 427.5 Points 6th Place - Tie
- Team 521.0 Points 8th Place
- Team 627.5 Points 6th Place - Tie
- Team 736.5 Points ... 1st Place
- Team 833.0 Points 5th Place

The highest individual average was **Dennis James** with .9686 breaking 339 of 350 targets.

The runner up for individual average was **Dave Robertson** with .9629 breaking 337 of 350 targets.

Following close behind Dave Robertson was **Bill Cramer** with .9600 breaking 336 of 350 targets.

**SCHOLASTIC
CLAY
TARGET
PROGRAM**
By
Don Wilkie



The Miramar Top Guns placed fourth amongst 80 Varsity Squads at the SCTP National Trapshooting Championship, held August 6 and 7 at "The Grand" in Sparta, Illinois. It was a remarkable accomplishment for a small team with fewer than 40 members.

Led by Kurtis Sorchy, with an impressive 198/200, our squad scored 961/1000 (96.1 %). Not quite at their best, our young men fought hard but couldn't equal their outstanding performance at the CA state shoot where they scored 981/1000; which would have won the whole thing at the Grand.

As it is they were only 10 targets out of 1000 out of first place--a reminder to our upcoming shooters that in the end it only takes a few targets to make a huge difference to the final standing.