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SUMMER 2009

52 Junior Shooters Honored at All State Banquet

By Wally Lyman, Junior Director

Fifty-two junior shooters were honored at a banquet held at Zandri's Stillwood Inn on May 15th. This year's All State Teams represent the best junior shooters in Connecticut from 14 different clubs and high schools.

Individuals are selected by a nomination committee, based on recommendations of their coaches. Team members that are selected for this honor are judged by the committee on their scores, academic achievements and community service. My thanks to Gail Barry, Sharon Sekellick and Jason Stansfield for being on my committee selecting the best of the best.

Our guest speaker this year was our own president Randy Bieler who likened many of the junior qualifications to those of the Boy Scouts. Pointing out that both organizations are presenting good citizens for the future.

Shawn Carpenter stepped up to help with the biographies of the team members. My thanks to Gail Barry for typing the write-ups and Shawn's smooth presentation. The 120 parents, teachers and coaches in attendance, along with the young shooters, all seemed to enjoy the entire evening.

Additional thanks to Jane Lyman who took pictures and posted them on our website and Jennifer Sloan who ordered and picked up the sweatshirts and tee shirts.

(more pictures on next page)



Sub-Junior All-State Team left to right: Libby Tallberg, Timothy Kraft, Kimberlee Grohocki, Kate Brown, Emily Britt, Tom Landro, Rider Doolittle, Lenny Smittner IV, Tarra Owen, Kyle Frawley.



Sub-Junior All-State Honorable Mention left to right: Jacob Adams, Anthony Cuzzo, Katelyn Kraft, Barbara Paquin and Eric Sloan.



Above: Randy Bieler, center, CSRR President and guest speaker socializes with Brad Palmer, High Power Coach and Lyndsey Nash, high power shooter and All-State honoree.



Right: Attendees filling their plates at the buffet line.



Junior Club All-State Team left to right: Cody Annino, Jacob Costa, Robert Egleston, Claudia Duksa, James Montesano, Shane Lau, Tom Stanley, Erin Lee. Unable to attend: Annmarie Blake and George Planeta IV.



Highpower All-State Team left to right: Dakota Haag, Brian Haynes, Coach Brad Palmer, Ryan Castonguay, Tyler Plude, Lyndsey Nash. Unable to attend, Mark Orzechowski and George Planeta IV.



High School All-State Team left to right: Bryan Cross, Michael Burzynski, Jr., Amanda Rimkunas, Matt Buechele, Remington Lyman, Jim Stanley, Zachary Smith, Nick Sautter and Alex Tynell. Unable to attend: Eric Karacsonyi

NRA Indoor National Championships

The National Rifle Association National Indoor Smallbore Rifle Championships are broken down by discipline and age group. Shot from January to March at local ranges in all sections of the country; the scores are compiled at NRA headquarters allowing shooters from across the nation to compete against one another. Known as 'Sectionals', the popular match series has published the scores and many of the Nutmeg shooters who entered have found themselves placing nationally.

The granddaddy of all the sectionals, the four position open tournament saw Jeff Doerschler place third overall in a tournament which he has won in the past. Hap Rocketto and Rich Duksa placed in the master class while Jake Costa was an Expert class winner. Andy Marzec placed as a sharpshooter. Remington Lyman was first in the marksman class in which Lenny Smittner, Zach Smith, Ryan Overturf, and Pasquale Russo also placed. In team competition Middlefield Gold was the expert class champion while Middlefield Silver took sharpshooter honors.

In open international three position competition Doerschler placed in the master class and, while shooting as a member of the Black Hawk Rifle Club, helped them earn the national team title. Libby Tallberg placed in the marksman class while the gray haired Rocketto set senior category national records in kneeling, standing and the aggregate.

Open air rifle has been gaining in popularity and Doerschler again placed in the master class in this discipline. Mike Burzynski and Costa were award winners in the expert class while Smittner, Tallberg, and Kim Grohocki all earned marksman honors.

NRA open three position saw Doerschler, Lisette Grunwell-Lacy, and Duksa on the master class winner's list. Costa and Claudia Duksa were expert winners just as Marzec and Smittner gathered up laurels in the sharpshooter class as did Russo as a marksman. Middlefield teams placed in the expert and sharpshooter class while Avon Old Farms took a marksman award.

The junior sectionals mirror the open tournament and in four position competition Lenny Smittner remerged as the national sub-junior champion. Burzynski placed as an

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All State Honorees

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Junior Club All-State Honorable Mention
left to right: Noreen Sit, Eric Petty, Drew Denno, Brian Snow. Unable to attend: Amy McDonnell.



High School All-State Honorable Mention left to right: Sung Jin Jeong, Taeik Kim, Brendan O'Connor, Ryan Overturf and Jeff Neilan

Roland Wins President's Match

By Hap Rocketto

The President's Match traditionally starts the outdoor small-bore season and 32 shooters took up the challenge in 2009. The match is split between metallic and any sights matches with short range being shot with metallic sight and any sight allowed for long range. Using the Camp Perry model the match began with the Dewar and as a result the first two matches were anysight. Wily Jay Sonneborn, a senior statesman of the sport in Connecticut, wasted no time in demonstrating why he has been on Dewar Teams and is Distinguished prone by taking the match with a 398-22X, close on his heels was Remington Lyman with a 398-18X, while Andrew Roland, a standout at the University of Kentucky was third with a 397-20X. Rich Duksa topped the Expert/Sharpshooters with a 395-20X a point a head of Len Remaly who had the same X count. Bell City's Tim Kraft was high marksman with a 396-19X.

Conditions were not the best but Sonneborn soldiered on and took the 100 yard match with a 394-17X. Roland placed second with a 392-8 while Tom Csenge, a Kentucky teammate, was third with his 391-15X. Like Sonneborn, Duksa repeated his win, this time with a 390-14X while Jay Sonneborn, Jr. earned second place with a 386-16X. John Wyatt was top marksman with a 382-11X.

The targets were moved into 50 meters and iron sights were now required of all. Larry Parker, Sr., a New Hampshire resident, won the match with a 398-25X. Kim Chrostowski, a Rhode Island native who had a fine collegiate career at the University of Nebraska, shot a 397-24X for second while Csenge was third with 396-28X. Sonneborn's son kept the family's win streak alive by taking the combined class with a 391-22X as Lenny Smittner, an upcoming junior, placed second with a 391-11X. Kraft returned to the top of the marksmen list with a 393-19X.

The final 40 shots of the day were at 50 yards and Lisette Grunwell-Lacy, of the Niantic Sportsman's Club, emerged the winner of a three way 399-30X tie. Second place went to Csenge, who shot the same score, but dropped his Xs later than Grunwell-Lacy while Roland was third. Smittner topped the combined class with his score of 399-27X while Remaly hit pay dirt with a second place finish of 398-26X.

In the end Roland won the match with a 1584-81X, second was Csenge's 1581-92X, and Parker was third, shooting a 1578-83X. Remaly was top Expert/Sharpshooter with a 1564-82X while Sonneborn the Younger, kept the family honor intact as he came in second in the combined class with a score of 1564-82X. Kraft hung on to take the marksman class with a 1563-74X.

Quaker Hill Junior Rifle Tournament

What can you say about a .22 rifle match that attracted about 100 Junior-class marksmen for a day and a half of precision indoor shooting: A winning experience, a character building experience, a learning experience? That was the least that might be said about the 22nd Annual Quaker Hill Junior Rifle Match, which was hosted by the Niantic Sportsman Club hosted on December 6. Quaker Hill was undergoing extensive range renovations and Niantic stepped up to keep the match on the schedule for this year.

Club coordinator Lisette Grunwell, herself a national-level competitor, offered "congratulations to all the shooters and our match winners and top teams: Mike Burzynski Junior 3-Position match winner, Erin Lee Sub-Junior match winner, and Anne Marie Blake Tyro match winner.

Team Blue Trail Range Gold took top honors in both the Sub-Junior and 3-Position matches, narrowly edging out a crack team from Avon Old Farms School." Grunwell added that, "I would like to thank Quaker Hill's Junior Director Jen Sloan as our sponsor and for helping me pull things together, as well as Shawn Carpenter, the Grasso Tech Coach.

Another big thank you goes to Niantic's Junior director Jay Cole for making new wooden target frames and helping as a range officer and a work-party crew member. She pointed out that this event attracted many favorable comments from competitors, and may be the start of regular tournament events at the club which encourages sportsmanship and skill in younger participants statewide.

Coaches

Corner *By Patti Clark*

It's time to get outdoors again. With that comes the usual scramble for equipment put away last fall. Equipment, which protects us from the evils of outdoor shooting, namely, the wind and the rain. As a coach of junior shooters for many years, I always preach, the wind and the rain are the same for everyone. It can be your friend if you let it. A positive attitude and knowing that others around you may see the elements as a deterrent to good shooting, help you to gain the edge. But you must be prepared!

So what should go into that already heavy equipment bag? I always carry at least two heavy cage contractors garbage bags. These are great for slipping your mat and yourself into. It keeps the mats from getting wet on the bottom and you from getting wet on the top as the wind blows in the rain. Another item that is of great use is a can of air. The air can be used to clear the iron sights of water that can make a perfect little seal in your aperture. I have personal experience of what can happen when you leave this behind.

Scope shades keep the rain off your scope both for the rifle and the spotting scope.

I also have a little plastic bag, that sheets came in which has a zipper and is of sturdy plastic to make a tent for my ammo. I reach in take a round and everything stays pretty dry.

A roll of black electrical tape is also necessary to keep water from between the barrel and the wood. Even those of us who glass bed take this precaution. Before the rain take the tape and run it along both sides of the barrel and action, meeting the ends under the forend.

I always bring my windmill out for the day's activities but frequently use my neighbors since I am left handed and my right-handed neighbor wants his windmill in the same place as mine.

Rain gear for changing targets because why go to the trouble of keeping everything dry if you are just going to get it wet while changing targets? When I came back from target changes, I usually try to hang the wet gear up on something to let it drip off for the next go round.

At the end of the day, a hair dryer to dry everything out is a must, so guys, I hate to say it but you need to invest in one of these too!

Be prepared and good shooting to all!

JORC Match

Over 300 of the nation's best junior rifle and pistol shooters gathered at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colo. April 3-19 to compete for National Junior Olympic (JO) titles. The 2009 USA Shooting Rifle/Pistol National Junior Olympic Championships was an exciting 17-day event that began with the rifle competition and concluded with the pistol events. Connecticut's Claudia Duksa, Libby Tallberg, and Lenny Smittner all medaled.

Junior shooters from all over the United States competed in nine out of the 10 rifle/pistol events that are contested at the Olympic Games. Men's Rapid Fire Pistol is the only Olympic event that is not fired at the JOs, but the Junior Sport Pistol event for both men and women will likely be included in the competition schedule for the 2010 National Junior Olympic Championships.

To participate in the annual National Junior Olympic Championships, athletes must shoot in their State Junior Olympic Championships and either win the match or shoot above a certain score to be invited to the competition. Athletes who are invited have the opportunity to stay at the Olympic Training

Center and get a glimpse of what it is like for full-time resident athletes, living and training for the Olympic Games.

Remington Lyman qualified to attend but was unable to participate.



Above: Left to right: Claudia Duksa, Josie Burzynski, CT Olympian Emily Caruso, Libby Tallberg.

Pictured in front of the Olympic Shooting Center from left to right: Lenny Smittner, Jacob Costa, Bryan Cross, Michael Burzynski Jr.



NRA Indoor Champions

(continued from page 2)

intermediate junior while the Blue Trail Range sub-junior team finished fourth in class.

Precision air rifle saw Claudia Duksa win an award in the intermediate junior category while Kyle Frawley did the same as a sub-junior. Blue Trail Range's team was fifth in the junior category while the Digby Hand Schützenverein sub-junior team placed fourth.

Lyman took an award in three

position's intermediate category while Tallberg and Smittner continued their winning was as sub-junior. The Knights of the Ten Ring was fifth intermediate junior team while Avon Old Farms placed fourth in the scholastic class.

The Sectionals give shooters a chance to compare themselves nationally to shooters they would not ordinarily compete against in a shoulder to shoulder environment.

Hap's Corner

by Hap Rocketto

NEW SHOOTER COMING OUT ...

The Old Man was a great many things besides being an amazingly tolerant and understanding father. Most of all he was a raconteur, whose tales could sometimes reach Munchausen proportions, yet were always just believable enough to make them seem realistic. His ongoing battle with the seemingly balky mechanism of his High Standard Model 102, and the resultant convoluted reasoning and attendant tales that accompanied the malfunctions, gave him a great deal of opportunity to exercise his skill at suspending belief. His many tales of woe gave cause for his team mates on the Nutmeg Pistol Club to nickname him "Alibi Abe." As he liked to put it, "They are my memories, not yours, and therefore I will not try to clear away the cloud of confusion that surrounds your inaccurate recollections with the truth as I see it."

Until the fog of age caught up with them both, he and his old crony and fellow pistol shooter John Lucas, ran a series of 2700 three gun matches at the club for many years. The Old Man did the organization and paper work. John called the matches and both of them spent many long hours together in prepping the range and swapping lies. John was a retired Navy enlisted man who had signed on for his first hitch so long ago that he took his recruit training on the old wooden hulled *USS Constellation* when it was the station ship at the Newport Naval Training Station. He started his road to retirement working on Irish linen covered biplanes and collected a 14 karat gold Navy Distinguished Pistol Shot Badge and a seabag stuffed so full of yarns that he presented a constant challenge to the Old Man's store of stories.

In his youth the Old Man had, for reasons unsaid, run away from home in the midst of the Great Depression. He left a home somewhat insulated from the economic troubles of the time to hobo about the country. If he were to be believed, and who was I to doubt

him, he had ridden freight trains, lived in Hoovervilles, worked in a carnival, ridden into New Orleans at Mardi Gras atop a truck load of green bananas, been a swamper in a lumber camp, and done most everything imaginable except play the piano in a bordello which is not an Italian dessert. Perhaps his memories became tangled with his imagination but, as he so often reminded us, they were his memories.

He liked to gamble. The Old Man didn't like the horses because he knew the jockeys were in cahoots with each other to fix the races. He didn't play cards much as he was never sure about the honesty of the dealers. He liked a game that he could control. He, and I kid you not, liked Craps. The galloping dominos fascinated him. The man had a doctorate in this rather arcane area. He knew dice probability cold and could add up the pips before the cubes stopped bouncing. His concentration at these times was intense. My long suffering mother once told the story of a neighborhood block party where he was huddled in the garage with a few of the husbands and layabouts who populated our street around an old Army blanket tossing dice. The shooter blew on the dice and as he was yelling out something like, "Baby needs a new pair of shoes" his upper denture fell out of his mouth onto the blanket. Not missing a beat the Old Man stuck his fingers in to his mouth, pulled out his, slapped it down on top of the one that had fallen, and lisped out, "Toss them bones, your faded!"

After he was widowed my brother Steve and I would often take the Old Man with us to matches. He enjoyed it because our shooting crowd lavished an affectionate attention on him and, more importantly, we picked up all the expenses. It was not that he was tight-fisted; he just liked the sign of respect. As a matter of fact to show he was generous he always made it a point to tell us, "Leave big tip, I don't want any-

one to think I am cheap." It was on one of these occasions that his addiction to the dice slipped out in a most unusual way.

Watching me get ready to shoot a 300 rapid stage he, in fatherly enthusiasm, hollered out the Craps term for the initial roll of the dice before a 'point' is established, "New shooter coming out!" when my relay was called to the line. My brother cringed at the break in decorum but had to admire the Old Man's sense of humor which brought out this double entendre inside joke.

When the targets came up I went down. Somehow I had loaded my eight round magazine first. After the first two shots I instinctively pulled the magazine out, stripping two rounds out onto my mat, I then inserted the two round magazine, let the bolt free and jammed the top round with the one still in the chamber from the first magazine. The jam had to be cleared because it was not an alibi situation. Now there were three loose rounds rolling around on the mat and my scorer was in stitches with laughter. The bolt was closed and the magazine was smacked in and two more rounds were launched down range. Still another magazine change followed and four more 168s headed toward the target. I then scrambled to pick up the three loose rounds, loaded each one singly, and shot them. As I recovered from the recoil of the last shot I saw the targets go down, pulled the magazine, and switched on the safety. That seemed to be about the only thing that went right that string.

When the targets came up for scoring there were, much to the amazement of all, ten widely spread, but more or less centered, spotters. The chalk board read 98-2X. The second string went much more smoothly. When I cleared the line The Old Man was there to greet me. "Son", I have never ever in my life seen anybody as busy for 60 seconds as you were just then." Then, reverting to true gambler's form, he commented, "A good score, but the boys at the Crap tables down at the casinos would say that you were trying to make your points the hard way."

2009 Gallery Match-The 78th Edition

By Hap Rocketto

The 78th Connecticut Gallery Match drew 331 entries to Blue Trail Range over two March weekends. More than 6,000 record rounds were fired down range in a match that is rich in tradition as well as talent. Match Director Jenn Sloan's crew of volunteers, Joseph and Zachary Smith managing the stat office and Dave Lyman and the BTR staff coordinating registration, preparing the targets, and picking up the awards did yeoman work. Scorers Mark Wujtewicz, Jason Stansfield, Lisette Grunwell-Lacey, Jacob Costa, and the Smiths did a fantastic job, received only a few challenges. Steve Monroe ran the firing line while Wally, Jane and Jenn Lyman prepared the merit certificates and Debbie Lyman coordinated prep school match participation.

The sub-juniors took advantage of all of this volunteer effort as they fired their 20 shot prone match. Lenny Smittner emerged as top subbie with a 199-15X, Tim Kraft was right on his heels with a 199-13X for second place. Carley Bogar posted a 198-15X to take high girl honors. In fourth and fifth place by virtue of tie breaking rules were Rider Doolittle and Libby Tallberg who both fired identical 198-13X scores.

Blue Trail Range's Gold Team of Smittner, Doolittle, Jacob Adams, and Tom Landro won the sub-junior team title with a 788-51X. The Knights of the Ten Ring fielded Tallberg, Kyle Frawley, Ted Blake, and Tara Owen who took second with a 772-39. In third place with a 772-36X was the Quaker Hill Pilgrims of Eric

Sloan, Barbara Paquin, Emily Britt, and Kim Grohocki. Stratford PAL's Anthony's Girls of Lexi Casselli, Katie Wilcoxson, Carolyn Petkevich, and Tony Cuzzo was fourth with a score of 753-24X while the Middlebury Sharpshooters, Kevin Walker, Tyler Grant, Andy Baldwin, and Matt Dawlins shot a 732-20X for fifth place.

Juniors shoot the same course of fire as the seniors, five shots in four positions, but with metallic sights. National Record holder Mike Burzynski posted a near perfect 199-11X, dropping his point in sitting. Claudia Duksa, a National Prone Champion, shot a 198-13X for the high girl title. Bryan Cross's 197-14X was good for second while Jake Costa fired a 196-14X to out X Nick Sautter for third and fourth respectively. Matt Buechele cleaned prone and kneeling on his way to a fifth place score of 195-12X.

Burzynski, Duksa, Tallberg, and Frawley shooting as the Knights of the Ring shot their way to the junior title with a score of 781-40X. New Hampshire's Ferry Brook Juniors comprising Heather Greathouse, Peter Croteau, Lazlo Bolger, and Carley Bolger had a 763-33X for the silver. In third place with a 762-29X were Costa, Smittner, Robert Egleston, and Erin Lee representing Blue Trail.

The prep school champs were Suffield Academy who featured Remington Lyman, Brendon O'Connor, Penn Fisher, and K.H. Song who combined for a 761-29X. Grasso Tech led the high school category. Team members were Sautter, Zach Smith, Jeff Neilan, and Travis Moody



Above: Team photo of Ferry Brook Junior Shooters from New Hampshire, left to right, Peter Croteau, Heather Greathouse, Carly Bogar and Joe Bogar. Candid photos at right: Top - Jim Memery, of Middletown Rifle Club on the firing line, Middle - Lisette Grunwell on scoring volunteer detail; Bottom - Jason Stansfield checking out his target.



Make a call!

By Randy Bieler, CSRRR President



This past Legislative session was a very busy one with a lot of "Gun, Hunting, Fishing and Trapping bills being introduced. The good news is that responsible people like us have faired pretty well this year and may even have won a bill which we were supporting. House Bill 5875 has been sent to Governor Rell, hopefully she will sign it. HB5875 states that for every acre of public hunting land that is closed for any reason, an acre must be opened.

Bills that were defeated in Committee:

Senate Bill 353 "Micro-Stamping" of Semi Auto Pistols

Senate Bill 839 would have had the Firearms Permit Board report to the D.P.S.

Senate Bill 994 would have greatly affected any trapping in Connecticut.

Senate Bill 358 "Temporary Transfer of Machine Guns and Assault Weapons" was also one bill that was of great concern to me. This bill would have made it illegal to loan juniors (or just let them hold) some rifles even if they were on the firing line next to you. One could have received a mandatory 6 years for teaching a junior (under 21) how to shoot some High Power rifles. This bill was amended to remove "Assault Weapons" and now just includes "Machine Guns" under the age of 16 years. This was a tough one to

argue and was very emotional because of the tragic loss in Massachusetts.

This past session I went to the Legislative Office Building, (LOB) a few times and spoke either opposed or for these bills and others. We need more support, we need more people to get involved to save our rights! When bills come up against other special interest groups there are hundreds of people there speaking. When bills are introduced concerning gun legislation, I don't see nearly as many people there. Anyone can speak as sessions are open to the public. I know it is hard to get time off during the week but when I speak to the Legislators they say they are not getting very many calls either. Visit, call, write or email your Legislators and Governor, make a difference.

These two links are very helpful and informative; please take a look at them. This first one: <http://www.cga.ct.gov/> is the Connecticut General Assembly site. You can research bills, Legislators, times of public hearings, even search for types of bills or related bills. If you sign up, they send you emails when there are any changes on the bills you are watching, excellent way to stay informed! The next link: <http://www.nraila.org/> is for the NRA-ILA which also gives info for all the states and at the federal level.

Please spend time looking at these sites, do some research, make some phone calls, write some letters, visit some offices, get involved, let them know who you are and how you feel, also find out about them, are they pro or con, should we elect them again? *Thanks for your help.*

78th Gallery Match

(Continued)

put together a 759-21X. Xavier High School was fourth with a 758-31 fired by Bryan Cross, Ryan Overturf, Alex Fredricks, and Jim Stanley. North Haven High school rounded out the junior team awards when Kyle Pullano, Kate Bennett, Eric Karacsonyi, and Matt Buechele put together a 756-32X.

The senior category was dominated by juniors. Perhaps the iron sight warm up gave them a bit of a jump start but no matter the reason Claudia Duksa dropped an X off of her junior score to win the open match with a 198-17X, out Xing Jeff Doerschler's second place score of 198-12X. Junior Matt Buechele, who was fourth as a junior, was third as a senior with a 197-14X, a single X ahead of fourth place Andrew Marzec. Lenny Smittner closed out the top awards with a 197-12X. Len Remaly was high senior with a 197-12X while Lisette Grunwell-Lacey topped all of the women competitors with an identical score to Remaly.

Knights of the Ten Ring Juniors Duksa, Burzynski, and Tallberg, rein-



"Seb" Brancefort, Middletown Rifle Club, getting ready to fire his score at the Gallery Match.



Paul Fecteau, coach, Middlebury Sharpshooters, checking out the scores.

forced by Doerschler also took the senior team title with a 787-50X. Middlefield Senior Gold, Debbie Lyman, Jim Cooke, Marzec, and Remaly were in second with a 781-51X. Juniors again hit pay dirt as the Middlefield Junior Gold of Smittner, Lyman, Costa, and Cross posted a 781-40X. The Quaker Hill Magnums carded a 778-44X behind the scores of Jenn Sloan, Hap Rocketto, Kent Lacey, and Grunwell-Lacey. Middlefield Silver rounded out the domination of the

senior teams as Dennis McMullen, Jim Stanley, Jeff Bagley, and Greg Lonzak shot a 770-41X.

Over the years the Gallery Match has been fired in many locations, the Hartford Armory, The Winchester Ranges in New Haven, The Remington Club House at Lordship, the Niantic Sportsman's Club, and Blue Trail Range. No matter the location it is a hard fought match in which many shooters cut their competitive teeth.

Nominations for the CSRRRA Board of Directors

Recommendations for nominees must be received by August 8, 2009. All nominations shall include a short biography describing the background of the proposed nominee relating to their shooting sports. The person making the nomination must be a member of the Connecticut State Rifle & Revolver Association and submit his name as the person making the recommendation. This year's nominating committee Chairman, is Jack Santo. You can email you nominations to Jack at jdsanto@aol.com or mail them to his home at 7 South Road, Bozrah, CT 06334.

Scholarships Available

The State Association is accepting scholarship applications for high school graduates entering their freshman year of college. All applicants must be individual members of the State Association. Any junior interested in applying can request an application form from Wally Lyman, 338 Williams Road, Wallingford, CT 06492 or email your request to jelyman@mac.com. Deadline for this year's applicants is July 15.

Jeff Mendyka Earns Distinguished Badge

Connecticut Army National Guardsman Jeffrey Mendyka had been sitting on 26 points towards Distinguished for a while and so it was with great relief that he finally "went out", earning the last points needed for his Distinguished Rifleman Badge.

Mendyka, a stand out shooter as a junior on the H.C. Wilcox Technical High School Rifle Team, has a long history of doing well in National Match shooting as a member of the CSRRRA's junior high power team. Jeff was on the USA "Young Eagle" team, which competed in the World Long Range Championships held at Canada's Connaught Ranges. The quiet Mendyka's National Guard training served him well as he was appointed Captain of the Under 21 Team.

Annual Junior Highpower Clinic

Photos and Article by Randy Bieler

On April 18th, the CSRRRA was able to host another outstanding Highpower Junior Clinic thanks to the Bell City Rifle Club for allowing us the use of their range. Also, between the generous donations from the Friends of the NRA and Remington Firearms we were able to go through about 1,000 rounds of much sought after .223 ammo.

The Junior Highpower Clinic is open to any new junior wanting to shoot. This year we had approximately 35 new juniors under the age of 19. If you do some quick math you will soon realize that adds up to a lot of smiles.

The day started with Wally Lyman giving a short presentation about how juniors could continue to shoot all year with the CSRRRA program. After a few donuts, coffee and juice,

Brad Palmer gave all there a safety talk and the proper use of the Bushmaster and Colt rifles. Then Jim Castonguay and Karel Smart set up the range and assigned the teams with the famous "Pit Service".

When all were assembled on the firing line, they were assigned a coach that worked with each new shooter for the day. Most of the new juniors had never shot before and after a few "sighters" all were on the paper. After they were all done firing, they were given a personal "Clinic Certificate" by the always needed administrative staff, Claudia Mendyka. I think that all had a great time and hopefully a great memory.

Again a big thanks to all the supporters, Jim Verbickas, Jim Castonguay, Wally Lyman, Claudia and John Mendyka, Brad Palmer, Karel Smart (I know I probably missed someone) and of course all of the great coaching staff!!!!!!



Top: Justine Jarvis coaching; **Middle:** John Coggshall coaching; **Bottom:** Eric Bieler coaching. All coaches are junior highpower alumni volunteering their time to help the new shooters.

YOUR NRA *By Patti Clark, NRA Board Member, Newtown, CT*



The NRA Junior Air Gun Championships will be held June 30 – July 2nd at Camp Perry, Ohio. I am hoping to see Connecticut shooters there. This is the first time that

the Championships are open to all juniors with or without a team. There is also an educational component to this Championship, designed to help shooters move forward in their expertise. This makes our Championship a little different than the others. CMP and USA Shooting Championships will take place following ours at Camp Perry. The Air Pistol portion is attached to the USA Shooting match. Contact myself or Jessica McClain at NRA for more information or go to NRA.org and choose competition division to download the program.

Fond Memories

CHARLES P. GOSS died Dec. 16, 2008, at Hartford Hospital at the age of 95. Charlie, as he was known to everyone, was the son of Stanley T. and Louise P. Goss.

He was born at home on Russell Street in New Britain, on July 22, 1913. He was a 1932 graduate of Deerfield Academy and a 1936 graduate of Amherst College.

Beginning with summers during his college years, he worked for The Goss and DeLeeuw Machine Company in Kensington until it was dissolved in 2005. He was the president of the company from 1950 until 1979 and remained as Chairman of the Board of Directors until 2005.

For many years he was an active member of the CSRRA and the Bell City Rifle Club. Although he was a fine shot in his own right the gentlemanly Goss made his mark as one of the finest scorers in state shooting history. He probably scored more targets than any of us have shot.

So great was his reputation for scrupulous and accurate scoring that he was rarely challenged and even less often was his original scoring found to be incorrect. Upon his retirement from active scoring of the Connecticut Gallery match he was presented with a gold plated scoring plug as a testament to his skill.

JOHN KALLENBACH—The Connecticut State Rifle and Revolver Association lost one of its great characters when John Kallenbach, 66, of Plainville, passed away on March 12, 2009 at the UCONN Medical Center.

John was born on June 24, 1942 in New Britain to the late Henry and May (Connelly) Kallenbach. A lifelong Plainville resident he served his country in the United States Navy as a corpsman during the Viet Nam War where he developed a deep affection for Marines. He worked as an iron worker for Local 15 in Hartford for 30 years. He was a member of the Plainville American Legion and a member of the Bell City Rifle Club.

The occasionally profane and chain smoking, which may have accounted for his gravelly voice, Kallenbach was an excellent rifleman and coach whose devotion to the state junior high power program was unmatched by few.

He went by the nickname of “troll” and was much beloved by the kids that benefited from his insight and coaching skill. A lifelong M1A devotee, John was also one of the very few shooters to ever shoot a 450 “clean” on the Palma course of fire.

Another program that is available to juniors through the NRA involves a trip to Washington D.C. for the Annual Y.E.S. event. Several Connecticut juniors have taken advantage of this opportunity to meet with Legislators, tour Washington, and meet members of the NRA Executive staff. Young people with an interest in politics should get this application from the website as well. The deadline is fast approaching and Connecticut should be represented.

NRA is developing a program for tactical shooting and multigun events. Our President John Sigler has been instrumental in beginning to develop this project along with a Disabled Air Gun Program. At the annual meeting a new standing committee will be formed to promote disabled shooting. Tom King, from NYRRA, is currently presiding over this special committee.

Camp Perry will continue to have upgraded awards programs this year. You will also continue to see improvements to the ranges and the infrastructure. NRA ILA has worked closely with legislators in Ohio to fund these upgrades.

The President’s reception will take place in all phases again this year. Anyone interested in helping with sponsorships should contact Woody Arenas at the Competitive shooting division. There will be some changes made to the smallbore schedule. Notably there will be three matches per day, with the elimination of the 50 yard match, giving more time for the “Made in America Match” and the Mentor Match to be held at the end of the day. Team day will be a lot less crowded and there is hope that all will attend the firing of the Randle and Dewar team matches.

Come on out to the line and support our teams!!!! Come see this traditional fight for the cups, we can usually use scorers too!

Camp Perry Schedule

- PistolJuly 16-18th
- Smallbore 3 PJuly 23-25th
- Smallbore ProneJuly 26-30th
- High Power RifleAug. 11-14th
- High Power Long RangeAug. 15-19th

Good shooting to you all.

HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE RESULTS!

by Debbie Lyman

Participating in the Connecticut High School Rifle League Championship on February 25, 2009 were Division Champions Bunnell High School, Grasso Tech, and Xavier High School and wild cards, Suffield Academy and Avon Old Farms. Xavier was returning to the range as defending champion. Their win in 2008 was after a 20-year hiatus.

The match began with two people from each team on the line and the results started pouring in. The scores were being flashed electronically this year on a screen in order to slake the thirst for scores for the spectators. When the first two scores were posted, the Suffield "Tigers" led and held it to the very end and, with a score of 958. Conrad Mish, Kyle Clark, Penn Fisher, Remington Lyman, and Brendan O'Connor easily won the 2008/2009 High School League State Championship title by all shooting in the 190s.. Taking second was Xavier High School with a team score of 940 posted by Bryan Cross, Dakota Flis, Jim Stanley, Andrew Carter, and Chris Turek. Bunnell High School's Mike Burzynski, Amanda Rimkunas, Alyssa Poplaski, Dave Seeber and Wade

Rimkunas was 3rd with a 937. Avon with a 934 shot by Tae Wan Kwon, Alex Tynell, Taeik Kim, Sung Jin Jeong and Michael Zhaiwas fourth. Conference Champs Grasso settled for 5th with a very good score of 920 put together by Nick Sautter, Zachary Smith, Jeff Neilan, Shelby Burdick and Daniel Harris.

After the team awards, the top ten individuals throughout the season were recognized. It was no surprise when Mike Burzynski, a Junior from Bunnell High School, was recognized as the top scorer with an average of 194.67. Following in second place, with an average of 194.17 was Suffield freshman Remington Lyman. Nick Sautter led the Grasso team with a 193.25 for third overall. In fourth was Xavier's Captain Bryan Cross with a 193.17; fifth was Matt Buechele of North Haven with a 192.83; in sixth place was Amanda Rimkunas of Bunnell who shot a 191.50; North Haven's Eric Karasconyi's 190.67 was good for seventh. Jim Stanley's 188.67 from Xavier was eighth, Zachary Smith of Grasso Tech placed ninth with a 188.29; while Alex Tynell of Avon was tenth with a 187.83.



Rear (L to R): Head Coach Anna McCarthy, Joy Russolillo, Penn Fisher, K. H. Song, A. Vasilenko (Team Support), Coach Brett Vianney. Front (L to R): Joe Sosothikul, Brendan Teich, Kyle Clark, Remington Lyman, L. Booth, Conrad Mish, Brendan O'Connor. Not Pictured: Grace Vianney, Peter Yu

Indoor 3 Position Championship



Hanson Rod & Gun Club, back row Alex Zadrozny, Ricky Feitas, front row: Jeff Carone and Jessica Listen.

The Niantic Sportsman Club hosted the first Connecticut State Rifle and Revolver Association's 2009 NRA Indoor Three Position Rifle Championship on April 4th. The match had three full relays for 28 shooters total, according to Match Director Lisette Grunwell-Lacey.

"I would like to congratulate Jeffery Doerschler for another fine performance," Grunwell said. "Jeffery shot a spectacular score of a 594X600 any sight score, which is a potential new National Record in this course of fire." Just a couple of weeks earlier Jeff shot another great score of 1186X1200 in position and a 599X600 prone at the West Point 60x40x40 match. Jeff is the 2009 State Open Champion.

The match also saw another fine performance by Connecticut Junior, Jake Costa who shot a 583 with iron sights to win the 2009 Junior State Championship.

The Massachusetts Junior Team, Hanson captured the Junior team match, while the Digby-Hand-Alpha team took the open team match.

Grunwell-Lacey offers "a special thanks to those at Niantic Sportsmen's Club that helped get the range ready and for their help during the match: Rob and Kris Grohocki, Peter Edmondson and members of his work parties, as well as Dave Thompson, Jay Cole, Mike Burzynski Jr. and Sr., and Kent Lacey.

PLEASE RETURN TO: CSRRA, P.O. Box 754, North Haven, CT 06473

CSRRA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NEW MEMBER RENEWAL

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ PHONE # _____

OCCUPATION _____

- LIFE\$500.00
- ANNUAL (ages 21 & above) 35.00
- 2 YEAR (ages 21 & above) 55.00
- JUNIOR (20 & under) 25.00
- CLUB 20.00
- CLUB THREE YEARS 50.00

I AM INTERESTED IN:

- SMALLBORE RIFLE AIR GUN
- HIGH POWER RIFLE JUNIOR ACTIVITIES
- PISTOL
- VOLUNTEER: I would be willing to _____

I would like to make a tax deductible donation to the

- CSRRA Scholarship Fund\$ _____
- CSRRA Junior Division\$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

2009 Connecticut Senior Game

by Debbie Lyman, Nutmeg State Games Shooting Sports Coordinator

The Connecticut Senior Games were hosted by Blue Trail Range on Sunday, May 31, 2009. Shooters participating in the match have to reach the ripe age of 50 by midnight on 12/31/09. Although the wind was a little tricky, it was one of the first "in the mid-70's" that Connecticut had fielded this spring. By the time shooting was finished, however, the range was beginning to look like winter wonderland – not snow but from the trees that all picked the same day to "do their thing".

When the scores were posted, Craig Samuelson led the males with a score of 581-18x and was awarded the Gold Medal in the 50-55 male age category. In the Male 56-60 category, Gold went to Kent Lacey with a score of 570-21x (who was also 3rd overall in the male category), while George Muench and Francis Conlon captured the Silver and Bronze, respectively with scores of 558-14x and 554-15x. Teammates Pete Dudzinski and Dennis McMullen shared the medal stand in the 61–69 age category with Pete edging out Dennis by a mere 4 points for the Gold. In the 70-year old male category, Harry Wilcoxson led the pack with the 2nd overall score of the match for the males with his fine score of 576-16x to capture the Gold. The "Silver Fox" Steve Fox took the Silver with his score of 564-13x and Roger Breunig captured the Bronze (this is the only outdoor match he shoots all year long so we will not divulge his score). Lastly, Al Jakab took the stand and proudly displayed the Gold medallion for the Male 70+ age group with an impressive score of 570-16x (and he didn't need a cane or

step stool to climb up on the 1st place podium). Deb Lyman took the Gold in the female 50+ category with her score of 581-21x.

We thank the Blue Trail Range for hosting the event, for providing the scoring and performing the range officer duties; and, the Nutmeg State Games office for allowing shooting to be a part of the Games! Although the Senior Games are over, the Nutmeg State Games will be held on August 6 & 7 (Air Gun), Aug 8 (Smallbore Rifle 3-Position) and Aug 9 (Smallbore Rifle Prone). High Power shooters can shoot at any designated High Power League location/date. Contact Deb Lyman at or 203-237-8642 for further details.



2009 CONNECTICUT SENIOR GAMES MEDAL WINNERS
 (Left to Right: Kent Lacey, "The Silver Fox" Steve Fox, Biff Conlon, Dennis McMullen, Harry Wilcoxson, Roger Breunig, Al Jakab, George Muench, Pete Dudzinski, Deb Lyman, and Craig Samuelson.)

2009 Shooting Schedule

CSRRA PISTOL SCHEDULE

September 19 & 20 at 9:00am

Outdoor State Pistol Championships
Dinan Pistol Range, Wallingford, CT
50 & 25 Yards (B6, B8 Targets)
NRA 2700

- .22 Cal Individual Matches
- CF Individual Matches
- .45 Cal Individual Matches
- E.I.C. Leg Match

NRA Distinguished Revolver Match
Paper Team Matches
Please contact Joe Sugden at:
CTBullseye@Gmail.com or
203-417-2393 with questions.

August 16 & October 11 at 9:00AM

Outdoor Registered 2700 Schedule
Dinan Pistol Range, Wallingford, CT
50 & 25 Yards (B6, B8 Targets)
NRA 2700

- .22 Cal Individual Matches
- CF Individual Matches
- .45 Cal Individual Matches
- Relays: 34 shooters per relay

Contact Joe Sugden for information or
to enter. No calls after 9 PM.
Phone: (203) 417-2393 E-mail:
CTBullseye@GMail.com

CSRRA HIGHPOWER SCHEDULE

August 22

Connecticut State
High Power Rifle Championship
Bell City Rifle Club

See CSRRRA.com for program.

Jim Castonguay (860) 738-2954
Preregistration or written requests for
information can be sent to Jim at
james.castonguay@snet.net

2009 Big Bore League Postal

The Connecticut Big Bore League will be shot as a series of six postal matches for the 2009 Season. Matches will be held at host clubs throughout the state from April to September. Competitors may shoot and submit scores on an individual basis for their team. Visiting teams and competitors may shoot matches at a host club with advance approval from the club they wish to shoot at.

**Email announcements, activities,
shooting articles, stories of
interest to the editor, Hap
Rocketto: hrocketto@cox.net
The Marksman is only as good
as you make it.**

CSRRA SMALLBORE SCHEDULE

August 22 & 23

3-Position Championship
Quaker Hill Rod and Gun Club
See CSRRRA.com for program.
Contact Jennifer Sloan at 860-859-1466
or jennslo@msn.com

September 12 & 13

3200 Conventional Prone Match
Blue Trail Range
See CSRRRA.com for program.
Contact Jennifer Sloan at 860-859-1466
or jennslo@msn.com

*See the website for more detailed programs, information,
locations and results of matches.*
WWW.CSRRRA.COM

Connecticut State Rifle & Revolver Association
P.O. Box 754
North Haven, CT 06473

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NUTMEG STATE GAMES

The NUTMEG State Games is celebrating 20 Years! Make sure that all shooters are part of the celebration so that our sport can field some high numbers for participation. Opening ceremonies details and on-line registration can be found on their website at www.nutmegstategames.org. The Nutmeg States Games will be hosted by Blue Trail Range on August 6–9, 2009. Attendance at the ceremonies IS NOT MANDATORY for competing in the shooting sports but is a wonderful experience. Out-of-state shooters are welcome to participate; out-of-state medallions will be awarded.

Dates are as follows:

Postal Dates: NUTMEG State Games High Power 4-Position Match

(10 shots each in Prone, Sitting, Kneeling & Standing—same rules as Big Bore League—shoot in accordance with the High Power League schedule/program posted by the Connecticut State Rifle & Revolver Association.)

August 6 or 7

NUTMEG State Games Air Rifle
(60 shots / males; 40 shots / females;
rifles available for use)

August 8

**NUTMEG State Games Smallbore
Rifle 3-Position Match**
(20 shots each prone, standing, and kneeling at 50 yards). Metallic Sights (Senior Category can fire scope—50 years or older—as of 12/31/09)—Check-in at Blue Trail Range at 8AM. Shooting commences at 9AM.

August 9

**NUTMEG State Games Smallbore
Rifle Prone Match**
(20 shots each at 50 Yards, 50 Meters, & 100 Yards). Metallic Sights (Senior Category can fire scope—50 years or older—as of 12/31/09)—Check-in at Blue Trail Range at 8AM, Shooting commences at 9AM).

CONTACT: Debbie Lyman at 203-237-8642 after 6PM but before 9PM. E-mail address is dlyman@snet.net and fax is 203-269-9496. Or, visit the Nutmeg State Games website at www.nutmeg-stategames.org or CSRRRA.com for more information.