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# the CLAY BIRD

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### HOURS OF OPERATION

Wednesday – Friday: 12:00pm to dusk  
Saturdays – 9:00am to dusk  
Sundays – 9:00am to 6:00pm







# Manager's Message

BY KEVIN DOUGHERTY

Hello Again Members,

We are now almost half way through 2018, and its final time to put out our *Clay Bird*! Yes, it is a little behind schedule this year. My only excuse is that there is a lot happening at the club. 2017 and the first few months of 2018 been both exciting and hectic. Read on and you'll see why!

The big question I hear all time is the date our new course going to open. A valid question it is. The best way to answer it is with a little explanation. The expansion project and new course is being planned over several phases. A big part of phase one was the new parking area. The trees have been cleared, culverts and drainage constructed, and a graded pad was topped with crushed stone. We now have sufficient parking to accommodate our larger events. But we're not done. In later phases you will see the parking lot transformed into a paved, lighted area that will add a new level of comfort and security. Our lake is almost complete and we plan to stock it with different fish species. This will provide our members with a fun catch-and-release opportunity! A covered pavilion is being planned near the lake that will offer a picturesque setting suitable to more than just shooting events.

Also included in the phase-one plan was completion of the new course. It is designed with an east to west orientation through the middle of the new property and was scheduled to open in time for our Browning Briley event in April. We nearly made it! Rain then mud during the critical last couple of months of construction delayed the effort, and we are working hard to get back on schedule. Watch this space for the final date. Later phases will include our new "Game Park" that will host ZZ birds and 5-stand venues. A few other venues being considered, such as Olympic Bunker trap and Olympic Skeet.

GHGC staff has spent a lot of effort in the past year on infrastructure upgrades, and while not as stimulating a topic as the new property improvements, these

"behind the scenes" projects are critical to our growth. Our expansion, when you think about it, is massive, and greater than our current infrastructure can handle. Upgrades are necessary to keep operations running smoothly – and to meet your standards and ours. This was expected, but it doesn't make it any less challenging! The first major improvement will be to our electrical service, and we have been working with our engineers to sort through the options and come up with the best plan. Next is our septic system upgrade. We will be installing several new tanks to accommodate the number of visitors to the club during some of our larger venues. Lastly, we plan to drill a new well to supply water the new courses.

One thing I learned over the past two years of planning and construction is flexibility. And maybe a little more patience. We make good, solid plans, then something out of our control forces us to change them. We know where we want to end up, but it is safe to say the route there is not a straight line, instead a meandering course fraught with the unexpected!

Amidst all the construction, GHGC in 2017 had another record breaking year for attendance at our family-oriented club shoots and sanctioned events. We set a record for participation in our Independence Day celebration that, like our annual Thanksgiving festival, is designed for the entire family with plenty to do for everyone. By day we had the fun shooting events, and by evening the celebration. For the kids we had face painters, bouncy-houses, and sparklers, with family entertainment that included a golf cart parade, trick shooting show, and an abundance of good backyard BBQ style food. The festivities ended with a spectacular fireworks event. We had a special surprise at this year's celebration when Brandon Reyes proposed to our very own Ashley Burnett in front of the entire crowd!

The lady shooters of GHGC continued to provide an exciting series of programs. The Ladies League was a huge success again in 2017, and the annual *Clays for Ladies* shoot in April attracted just under 90 attendees.



## Manager's Message

(Continued)

This shoot is designed to promote ladies shooting in a comfortable, fun atmosphere, including a beginner's course for women who may not ever picked up a gun before. Thank you to all involved!

In our sanctioned shoots, we started off the year with yet another fantastic Diamond Classic. The event drew 453 registered participants, the largest attendance in the shoot's 16-year history. Club member Bobby Fowler won it to rack up his 6th Diamond Championship! Our Briley Blue Goose shoot, held Memorial Day weekend, brought in 200 shooters for a weekend that pledged to bring back "everything fun about skeet!" We also hosted the Texas State Championships in 2017 and planned to host The Best of Texas, which we had to cancel due to Hurricane Harvey. The club came through the storm with minimal damage. We were lucky, but I speak for all

the GHGC staff when I say our hearts went out, and our thoughts still remain, with those throughout Houston and Texas who were not as fortunate.

Folks, I will leave you with this. What makes GHGC special is not our facility; it's not our roads or courses or gun care center. It is you - our members. It's been a challenging year and I can honestly say that however weary I may be from a long day along that meandering, weaving course to completing our club expansion, I get some energy back from being around you. I have never had the pleasure of being around so many wonderful people. And I see, too, how this translates to our new members. We have a lot of new blood in the club these days, and it is great to watch established members welcoming the new. From the bottom of my heart I thank you all for all the great memories and look forward to many more!



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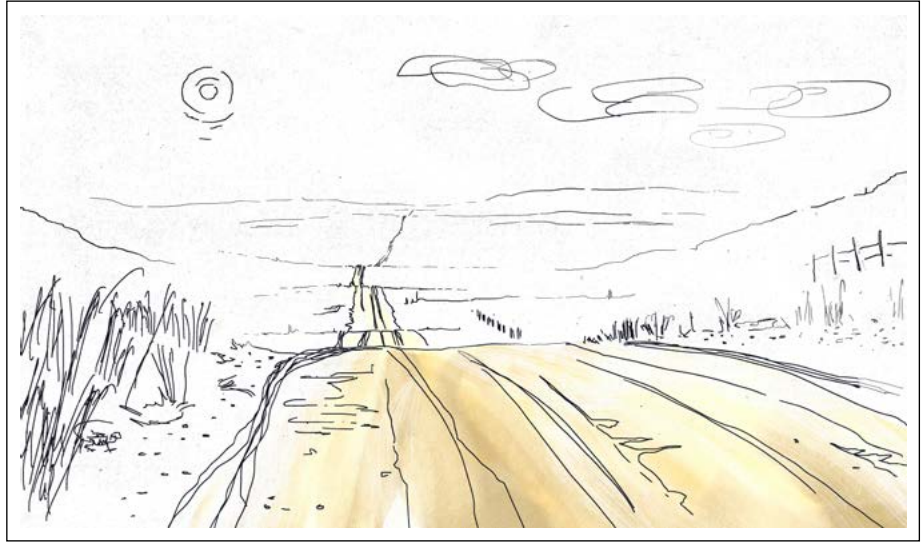




# AN INTIMATE INTERPRETATION OF THE JESS BRILEY LEGEND

A SHORT STORY BY CLIFF MOLLER

*On a dirt road  
somewhere in a forgotten  
region of West Texas,  
the world seemed at that  
moment, to lose all its color.  
The twilight monochrome  
skies depressed the soul as a  
1933 Ford pickup made its  
way through the road's ruts*



*and washed out crevasses. All surfaces on the vehicle, as well as all exposed human body parts were covered with layers of dust. The dry chalky air felt insufficient in a land which seemed barren of any signs of life with the exception of various dehydrated bushes shading dying lizards until the morning dew resuscitated them. A blue eyed, curly haired asthmatic eight year old boy and his father are en route somewhere. As the irregular road throws the boy's body about with unpredictable yanks and jerks his father asks, "Allen, everything okay over there"? He nods and retreats into his mind wishing he were back in the construction camp. Jesse Allen Briley would eventually develop a dirt road phobia which he would never overcome, but in the end, he would grow up to be one of the most fearless men I have ever met.*

*I met Jess Briley in 1974 when I was a University of Texas student. It was a "meet my parents" weekend trip which is something young men rarely look forward to. Like most fathers he was suspicious of anybody that his daughter was interested in. He was a serious looking tall handsome powerful figure with salt and pepper hair. Arrogant, yet slightly friendly, it was immediately clear*



*the entire family thought he hung the moon. I was uncomfortable so all I could think about was getting back to Austin. Never in my life would I have imagined this man would have such an impact on my life and never did I envision collaborating with him in the making of the Briley legend.*

*“Cliff, I’d just wanted to thank you for introducing me to Jess several weeks ago during my visit”, Dwayne Weger, a Bunker Trap Olympic coach, calls to tell me. “I was in Russia when the news arrived of his passing... The man did become a legend”. Funny how when you work with somebody all your life you never think in such terms. Yet, here I am, throwing some words together in an attempt to describe the essence of this man and how he became an industry icon. He would not have me deify him. So, let me be clear, this West Texas character was full of contradictions and was no saint. He was like so many men that have left a mark on this earth, flawed, vulnerable, brutal, self-centered, brilliant, loving, unselfish, generous, noble and most of all passionate about his art form; transforming steel. He loved everything about it. Machining it, molding it, cutting it, drilling it, grinding it, filing it, forging it and every possible thing you can do to metals to convert them into something useful. He was a good teacher but most of all he was an enthusiastic motivator who infected us all with his passion which ultimately led to the company’s transformation into a self-perpetuating “living organism of its own”. In the late 1980’s this new life form became sentient as the creation of many new products, manufacturing breakthroughs, new marketing and distribution concepts came from our confident working ranks and much less from the leadership, a trend that continues to this day. This resulted in a world brand which is infinitely larger than its check book.*

*The Jess Briley story is also about perseverance, it’s a story about a man with a chip on his shoulder and it’s a story about illusions of grandeur. Most importantly it’s a story about America. An America that was different fifty years ago. It was a much freer America, a time when small entrepreneurs gave no thought to needing a string of lawyers and accountants to keep them safe from regulatory stuff they did not understand or even knew existed. These were also times before giant companies like Amazon and Walmart profoundly dealt the deadly blow to mom and pop hopefuls. Some would say it was a better America with abundant opportunities and others could argue such*

*freedoms came with injustice for many. Well fed scholars and historians can argue freedom versus political correctness principles. Whatever they conclude does not alter the fact that America was that way during Jess' ascension into notoriety and that American paradigm prompted him to pursue the American dream.*

*World War II came during Jess' college years; he was not a good student. Too young to join the Army he managed to sign on with the Merchant Marines. His job was an "Oiler" which meant he watched over the huge noisy diesel engines, lubricating pistons and cams and changing parts I supposed. He hated how there was nothing to do when he was off shift. "So I read everything I could get my hands on", he'd tell, which was a habit he continued all his life resulting in being the source of his great imagination. After the war he rough necked in the oil fields. For the next decade or so no matter where his work took him he hooked up with people that knew how to make things. Eventually he learned the trades which would get him hired with manufacturing companies in Houston. He never stayed anywhere too long as relationships with his engineering bosses were frequently strained as they all too often ignored his unorthodox suggestions. He saw them as "intelligent men with no vision". He would later tell me, "Engineers are terrified of failure and they pay a big creative price for that, so all too often they resist change out of simple fear". I guess this kind of thinking was too contrary to what he had read regarding all the great men in history that had changed the world and it was another shining example of how "all great changes come with great resistance". Contrary to that kind of engineering neurosis, Jess was not afraid of being wrong; he suffered no fear of failure or shame in attempting the impossible or improbable. He believed shame, in that regard, was the destroyer of human endeavor which served only to keep a man down.*

---

*Long ago, a butterfly flapped its wings. Years later, a club manager wakes up one day and for some reason wonders if a small one by two inch ad in the Houston Post would drum up some business. A week later a man reads an ad, a day later he tries skeet and so the effect of those tiny wings cascading in nature numerous times eventually results in the shotgun world changing forever.*

*Instantly obsessed by the skeet semi-circle, Jess jumps into this rabbit hole to discover a fantastic world populated with a community of people he liked. This was a life changing moment for him as the effects of his new fixation recoiled through every cell in his body like booming lightning bolts in an old black and white movie. Almost fifty years old, a new Jess Briley was born.*

*Money and equipment would be a problem he would have to overcome. To compete in skeet would require shooting four gauges; 12, 20, 28 gauge and .410 bore. In the sixties and early seventies, skeet was shot with pump and semi-automatic shotguns for the most part except for well to do shooters who shot four gauge barrel set over-unders. Jess being a doer would go into his garage that was equipped with a lathe and a mill and made sub-gauge barrels for his Winchester 101. He did not know it yet, but these unimpressive amateur looking barrels would morph into a spirit of discovery that would launch his new future.*

*It is said, “All inventions are innovations built on the shoulders of early pioneers”. This was no different with Jess’ breakthroughs. In the early ‘70s a Californian by the name of Claude Purbaugh had been manufacturing sub-gauge barrel liners that would change the gauge of a 12ga into a smaller gauge. They became known as “tube sets”. This concept worked well but it had nagging flaws, mostly an extractor system which required removing the 12 gauge extractors from the gun and replacing them with a completely different set of extractors to eject the spent shells. It was a slow miserable process. Jess would envision something better. He would build a tube set assembly that featured “built in extractors” in the sub-gauge tubes themselves. This meant all one had to do was slip the removable tubes in the barrel and that’s it. It literally took only a few seconds! Although tubes have evolved since then, his basic design is still the standard of the industry today. This rocked the skeet world, soon after the introduction of Briley Tubes scores improved exponentially which lead to the retirement of sub-gauge automatics and barrel sets shotguns.*

*This launched a cottage industry company named Briley. However, the dawn of our company was not a pretty story for a decade or so as we struggled financially. Mechanical brilliance*



does not necessarily come with business “savvy”. This age of innocence came accompanied by many mistakes which were overcome by hard work, idealism, passion and support from our school teaching wives who paid the home mortgage and grocery bills. The skeet market was a small niche. Like most single product startup companies, short seasons and low volumes as well as poor cash flow kept us constantly on the brink of going broke. However, a break would come our way, an extended skeet season, sporting clays, and a new product we recently developed, screw chokes.

Screw chokes had been around many years before sporting clays. Nobody really thought much of the early models as they were poorly designed and frequently had alignment problems. This led to performance issues. Secondly, until the advent of sporting, no clay target game existed that required, for optimal performance, a need to change chokes frequently. Then came a gunsmith by the name of Stan Baker who thought otherwise. He began installing Win-chokes in a few Remington 3200s and Krieghoff K32s. About that same time a Rottweil Shotgun German rep makes a routine sales call. He tells Jess, who did not appreciate screw chokes in general for the reasons previously stated, “Find a way to put screw chokes in my beautiful barrels”.

“And there was light”. Our German friend planted a seed that led to Briley’s next aftermarket product. Stan Baker pioneered the first efforts but his process had drawbacks and was limited to a few barrel models. Although his work was excellent there was room for improvement. Jess knew he had to change the reputation of screw chokes and the best way to do that was to outperform fixed chokes. First thing he did was to trash the “contemporary model” of the screw choke itself. Unlike earlier chokes, the new choke had to have considerable length to generate the needed internal geometry so it would perform. A long length, for bore to choke alignment reasons, also created enough surface area so it would shoot straight. Next, it had to be a thin wall choke so it could be installed in almost any barrel ever made. Six months later, there it was, a miracle of a design, and to this day it defies the mind. The Briley Series Chokes had arrived years before the mainstream gun makers finally had to accept the Age of Screw Chokes.

From time to time a “technological field cracks open in science” and industry in general.

*Breakthroughs in related fields like metallurgy and manufacturing create new possibilities. Timing is everything when it comes to advancements. However, sometimes progress in an industry can go dark. The function of a shotgun, after all, is quite elemental and mature. The left brain, try as it may, fails to achieve progress. Stalemates like this are sometimes broken when a right brain dreamer plays with improbable shapes and forms perhaps out of simply being naive. And so it was in our beginning. To this day, every time I look at Jess' ejector assembly and the pocket it snuggles into, my lungs cease to expand. It is sheer art! Equally sublime is the thin wall screw choke; slim, symmetrical and weightless with unimaginable physical properties. All this came from an asthmatic boy, with a dirt road phobia, who would reinvent himself at the age of almost fifty.*

*"Jess, the storm is coming, it's going to be interesting to see if it's the real thing or just another media photo op", I said. "I'm going to drive you home this afternoon as Austin (his grandson) is home sick today, let me tie up a few things before we leave". He confirmed with a nod. An hour later we are riding home. The stillness in the streets of Houston evoked an eerie feeling as all roads were void of Friday afternoon traffic jams seemingly foreshadowing something. Who could have guessed, that before the sun would rise again, the skies would begin to Niagara fifty inches of*



*flooding rains over a watershed with an area the size of Lake Michigan.*

*As we drove, Jess says, "Cliff, you need to reconsider building a sporting trap with a servo motor". He liked this idea as it would eliminate the need for a gear box and spring if it worked. This was not the first time we talked about this and each time we had this conversation it resulted in acknowledging unsurmountable cost barriers. But Jess loved to think about such things and talk about them. It was just what he liked to do, perhaps hoping we would kick something loose*

*that would lead to progress. He loved the intellectual engagement of such discussions maybe for the mere mental exercise or maybe because nothing ever seemed impossible in his mind especially on topics he found interesting. The conversation would then end with a stretch of silence as the deserted city hypnotized us into our own thoughts...*

*"I hate this old age stuff, it's not fun anymore. My body won't let me do what my mind wants", he would later complain.*

*"Jess, what a great life we've had and how lucky we have been", I said wishing to charge the soul, "mistakes and all." He would then respond, "You don't have to tell me how lucky we've been and how lucky I have been all my life". Then, at that time, for an instant, we looked at each other as we both smiled.*

*Later we arrived at his high rise building where he lived. It was a pretty swanky New York City style loft apartment setup. He and his late wife bought it many years ago, it came with a number of luxuries and a doorman along with unreasonable building monthly fees for such fine uptown services. However the building did have one thing that was cool. A huge security rollup garage door that led into the resident's parking lot. Like a couple of 12 year old kids, we always loved watching this pesky thing as it would literally completely open in a blink of an eye after sensing an electronic chip coming at it.*

*"Call me if you get lonely during the storm or need something Jess... if not, I'll see you on Monday", I said.*

*His ninety year old body will struggle a little to get out of the SUV and then struggles a little more to slowly walk to the entry door to his building. For the last time, I would then see him put down his walking cane and rummage through his pockets in search of an access card which he waves at a sensor. A door opens. An elevator would then take him to the fifth floor to flat number 503. He would walk into his home, close the door behind him which in fifteen years he had never bothered to lock even once.*





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# 2018 GHGC

## BUCKLE RACE SERIES

POWERED BY:



**JANUARY 20   FEBRUARY 10   JUNE 16   JULY 21   NOVEMBER 10   DECEMBER 8**

### ENTRY FEES FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL BUCKLE RACE LEG:

#### SKEET

- Event #I – Morning 100 targets \$55 (plus fees)
- Event #II – Afternoon 100 targets \$55 (plus fees)
- \$5 back to class in each event
- Event I and II Champ receives \$10 above highest class payout
- Event I and II Runner up receives \$5 above highest class payout
- Event I and II third receives same as highest class payout
- Class purse 1-6 shooters, one place; 7-13 shooters, 60/40 two places; 14 or more shooters, 50/30/20 to three places
- Event III – HOA \$10 (All monies returned to class)
- HOA receives \$150, RU receives \$100 and 3rd \$75 or \$10 above highest class payout (removed from class).

*Legacy Ford Power Up! – Skeet HOA receives \$150 additional payout*

#### SPORTING CLAYS

- Event I – 100 target sporting clays \$65 (plus fees)
- \$10 back to class
- Class Purse 1-6 shooters, one place; 7-13 shooters, 60/40 two places; 14 or more shooters, 50/30/20 to three places
- HOA receives \$150 or Guaranteed \$10 above highest class payout (removed from classes)
- RU receives \$100 and 3rd \$75 or \$10 above highest class payout (removed from class)

*Legacy Ford Power Up! – Sporting Clays HOA receives \$150 additional payout*

#### 5-STAND

- Event 2 –75 target 5-Stand \$60 (plus fees)
- \$10 back to class
- Class purse 1-6 shooters, one place; 7-13 shooters, 60/40 two places; 14 or more shooters, 50/30/20 to three places.
- 5-Stand HOA Receives \$100 or \$10 above highest class payout
- 5-stand event does not count towards all around buckle scores and is a stand alone event.

*Legacy Ford Power Up! – 5-Stand HOA receives \$100 additional payout*

**LADIES, JUNIORS AND SUB-JUNIORS  
RECEIVE A \$10 SPONSORSHIP  
FROM GHGC FOR EACH EVENT.**



#### SKEET

**Rotation #1   9:00am and 12:30pm**

**Rotation #2   10:45am and 2:15pm**

#### SPORTING CLAYS

**European Rotation**

#### 5-STAND

**European Rotation**

### OVER 80 BUCKLES AWARDED

SKEET CLASSES	SPORTING CLAYS
HOA & RU (removed from class)	HOA & RU (removed from class)
AAA Class 1st & 2nd	Master Class 1st & 2nd
AA Class 1st & 2nd	AAA Class 1st & 2nd
A Class 1st & 2nd	AA Class 1st & 2nd
B Class 1st & 2nd	A Class 1st & 2nd
C Class 1st & 2nd	B Class 1st & 2nd
D Class 1st & 2nd	C Class 1st & 2nd
E Class 1st & 2nd	D Class 1st & 2nd
Lady 1st & 2nd	E Class 1st & 2nd
Junior 1st and 2nd	F Class 1st & 2nd
Sub Junior 1st and 2nd	Lady 1st & 2nd
	Junior 1st and 2nd
	Sub Junior 1st and 2nd

ALL ROUND	5-STAND (not included in All Round)
HOA & RU (removed from class)	5-Stand
AAA Class 1st & 2nd	Open HOA & RU (removed from class)
AA Class 1st & 2nd	Master Class 1st and 2nd
A Class 1st & 2nd	AA Class 1st & 2nd
B Class 1st & 2nd	A Class 1st & 2nd
C Class 1st & 2nd	B Class 1st & 2nd
Lady 1st & 2nd	C Class 1st & 2nd
Junior 1st and 2nd	D Class 1st & 2nd
Sub Junior 1st and 2nd	E Class 1st & 2nd
	Lady 1st & 2nd
	Junior 1st and 2nd
	Sub Junior 1st and 2nd

#### Information:

- Open to all NSSA and NSCA members.
- NSSA and NSCA rules apply.
- Ties for Champ and all class monies shoot off.
- Lunch provided for all participants
- To be eligible for HOA or RU buckles you must shoot a minimum of 800 targets for skeet, 400 targets sporting clays and 300 targets for 5-Stand
- All around scores will be based on 100 skeet targets and 100 sporting from a minimum of 4 events

**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO SIGN UP PLEASE VISIT  
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# 2018 EVENT DATES



## NSCA EVENTS

JANUARY 20	2018 BUCKLE RACE SERIES LEG 1 12GA	(NSSA/NSCA)
FEBRUARY 10	2018 BUCKLE RACE SERIES LEG 2 20GA	(NSSA/NSCA)
APRIL 5-8	BROWNING BRILEY	(NSCA)
JUNE 16	2018 BUCKLE RACE SERIES LEG 3 28GA	(NSSA/NSCA)
JULY 21	2018 BUCKLE RACE SERIES LEG 4 28GA	(NSSA/NSCA)
OCTOBER 11-14	DIAMOND CLASSIC	(NSCA)
NOVEMBER 10	2018 BUCKLE RACE SERIES LEG 5 20GA	(NSSA/NSCA)
DECEMBER 8	2018 BUCKLE RACE SERIES FINALS 12GA	(NSSA/NSCA)

## NSSA EVENTS

JANUARY 20	2018 BUCKLE RACE SERIES LEG 1 12GA	(NSSA/NSCA)
FEBRUARY 10	2018 BUCKLE RACE SERIES LEG 2 20GA	(NSSA/NSCA)
MAY 25-28	BRILEY BLUE GOOSE	(NSSA)
JUNE 16	2018 BUCKLE RACE SERIES LEG 3 28GA	(NSSA/NSCA)
JULY 21	2018 BUCKLE RACE SERIES LEG 4 28GA	(NSSA/NSCA)
SEPT. 1-2	BEST OF TEXAS	(NSSA)
SEPT. 6-9	NSSA US OPEN	(NSSA)
NOVEMBER 10	2018 BUCKLE RACE SERIES LEG 5 20GA	(NSSA/NSCA)
DECEMBER 8	2018 BUCKLE RACE SERIES FINALS 12GA	(NSSA/NSCA)

## MEMBER EVENTS

APRIL 21	CLAYS FOR LADIES	(NON – REGISTERED)
JULY 1	CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS	(NON-REGISTERED)
NOVEMBER 18	THANKSGIVING SHOOT AND PARTY	(NON – REGISTERED)



# BROWNING BRILEY

PRESENTED BY GREATER HOUSTON GUN CLUB



## APRIL 5-8, 2018



TO REGISTER VISIT [WWW.WINSCOREONLINE.COM](http://WWW.WINSCOREONLINE.COM)

## NSCA

FEBRUARY 1-4  
APRIL 5-8  
APRIL 8-15  
APRIL 25-29  
MAY 16-20  
MAY 30 – JUNE 4  
JULY 25-29  
AUGUST 15-19  
SEPTEMBER 12-16  
OCTOBER 11-14  
OCTOBER 20-28

KRIEGHOFF CLASSIC 200 & GRAND PRIX FITASC  
BROWNING BRILEY  
U.S. OPEN SPORTING CLAYS  
WESTERN REGIONAL  
NORTHEAST REGIONAL & NORTH AMERICAN FITASC  
TEXAS STATE SPORTING CLAYS CHAMPIONSHIPS  
SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL & NATIONAL FITASC  
NORTH CENTRAL REGIONAL & AMERICAN GRAND PRIX  
SOUTHEAST REGIONAL  
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AUGUST 4-6  
AUGUST 16-19  
SEPTEMBER 1-2  
SEPTEMBER 6-9  
SEPTEMBER  
SEPT. 28 – OCT. 5

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PAXTON ARMS METROPLEX  
KRIEGHOFF MASTERS  
JESS BRILEY BLUE GOOSE  
NORTHBROOK SKEET CLASSIC  
MOTORSTATE OPEN 2.0  
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# DUCKS UNLIMITED (DU) – A LEGACY OF QUIET CONSERVATION

BY R.K. SAWYER

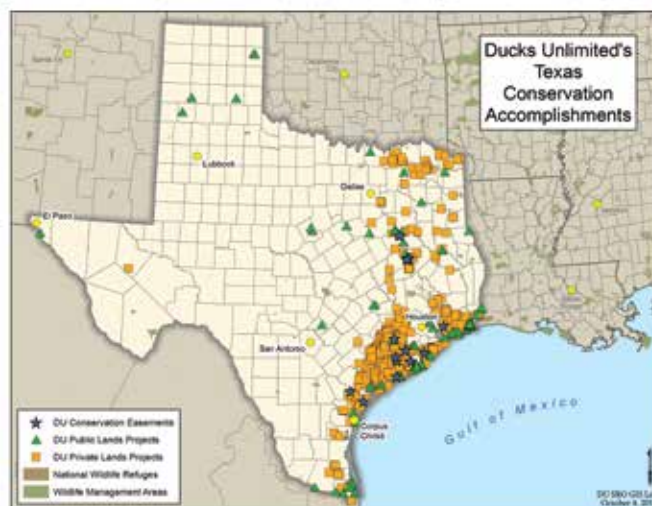
Duck hunters everywhere know the name and the immediately recognizable duck head logo. The reason is simple – to them, Ducks Unlimited (DU) is synonymous with more ducks. DU raises money for habitat conservation and provides stakeholders with wetlands expertise. Although DU is one of the foremost conservation organizations in North America, outside of the waterfowling world its brand is perhaps less well known. I think of DU as the “quiet conservation” organization.

DU’s focus is on wetlands, one of the continent’s most productive wildlife factories. Wetlands are also a valuable human commodity for those who enjoy outdoors recreation, whether it be fishing, hiking, bird watching, or hunting. And these wetlands are under siege. The rate that Texas is losing these precious acres is alarming – of the Lone Star State’s initial 9,000,000 acres of coastal prairie and wetlands, less than 10% remain.

DU has been around for a long time. Founded by a group of concerned sportsmen in 1937, its efforts were initially focused on spring/summer breeding grounds in mostly Canada and the north-central US. Since then the emphasis has shifted to include wintering areas throughout North America’s migration flyways. There are many ways to measure success, but one of the best is in acres; since its founding, DU and its conservation partners have conserved 14,000,000 acres of wetlands habitat.

We say that everything is bigger in Texas, and the same thing can be said for DU’s activities in the Lone Star State. Texas has almost 50,000 DU members, and last year its volunteers hosted nearly 200 fund-raising events that provided \$6,621,209 towards conservation. Those dollars have contributed to the total of 254,560 acres of habitat that DU has preserved in our state. DU has long recognized the strength in local conservation collaboration, and their list of joint project allies and funding resources reads like a bowl of alphabet soup: TPWD (Texas Parks & Wildlife), USFWS (US Fish & Wildlife), NRCS (USDA Natural Resources Service), and NAWCA (North American Wetlands Conservation Act), to name but a few.

Is DU all about hunters? No. DU’s efforts provide value to anyone who enjoys outdoor recreation. The



public benefits because projects include not only private landowner programs, but public land initiatives in state wildlife management areas (WMA's) and national wildlife refuges (NWR). Whether private or public, you can look to the horizon over any DU Texas project and see the result. At a distance, you'll see the ebb and flow of great flocks of ibis, rosette spoonbill, egrets, ducks, geese, and a myriad of raptor species that rise and fall with the feathered frenzy. Get closer and you'll observe smaller wading and shorebirds darting along the shallows, and songbirds that sneak through low-lying cover. Tracks in the mud may be the only evidence of raccoons, possums, and skunks that ply the water's edge in search of fish, crawfish, or turtles. Indeed, DU is not all about the hunters.

There are many ways to support DU efforts. Join. Volunteer. Or attend their sporting clays fund-raising shoot at GHGC June 8! Form a team, come as an individual, or become a sponsor. Festivities begin with noon registration, and the afternoon will feature an auction, raffles, games, dinner and awards. For more information and registration details, go to [greaterhoustondushoot.org](http://greaterhoustondushoot.org)

*Special thanks go to DU's Mike Carloss, Todd Merendino, Ed Penny, and Kirby Brown for sharing their research, Tim Soderquist and the 2017 DU Media Camp hosts John Nau, Vince Petronella, and James Prince, and Mike Wilson for editing.*



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# GHGC'S BUCKLE RACE SERIES 2017 WRAP-UP AND 2018 UPDATE

For the many who have been a part of the Buckle Race Series since its 2013 inception, you probably remember how it started as a skeet event. When GHGC Manager Kevin Dougherty later developed the "crossover concept" to include both skeet and sporting clays, even Kevin didn't expect the response. Participation in the Series exploded.

GHGC members continued to dominate the Buckle Race Series in 2017. Congratulations to HOA champion William Edmunds (skeet), Bobby Fowler (sporting clays and 5-stand), and Justin Napier (all-around). Ladies champions included GHGC's Linda Cordova (sporting clays) and Robin Anderson (5-stand). Mathew Ward took Junior 1st in skeet, James Vaquero in sporting clays and 5-stand. In the sub-junior category Cade Faetche and Dylan Anderson led the pack and are certain to be names to watch in the future. Our only Iron Man buckle winner – in this case Iron Woman - which goes to club members who not only completes in all 6 event legs but all 375 daily targets, went to Valerie Moore.

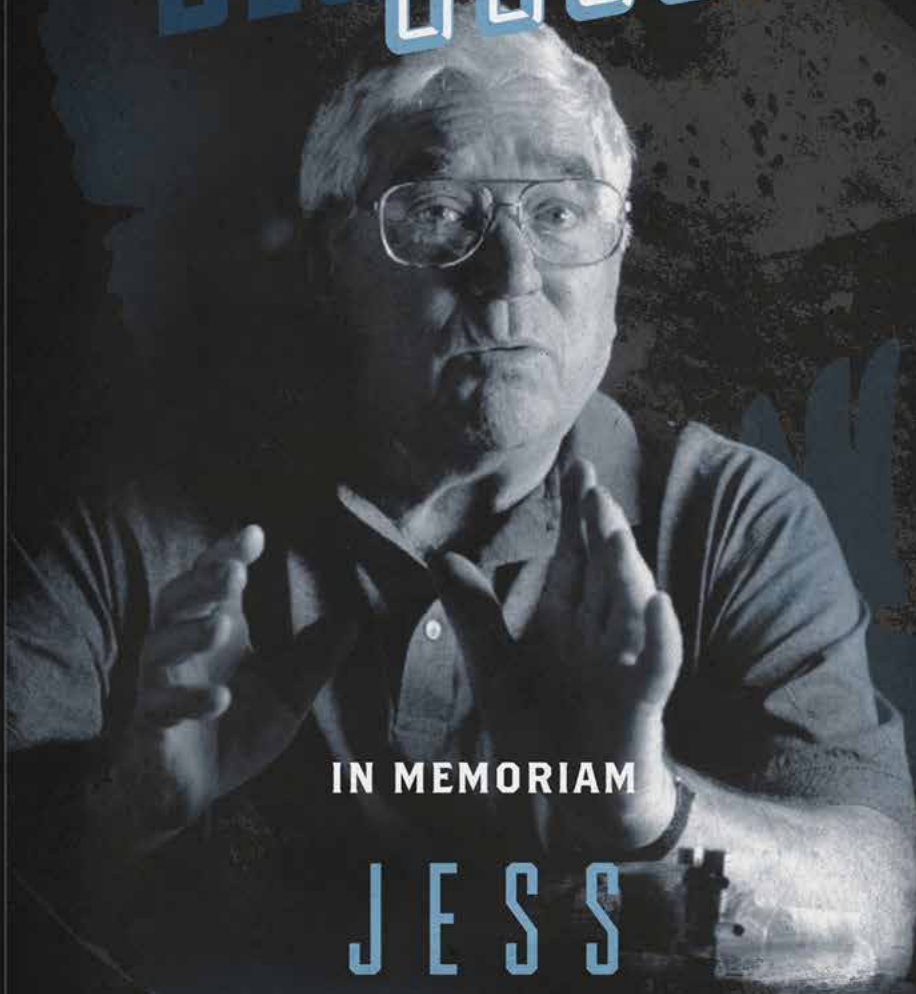
GHGC's Buckle Race Series ran six legs in 2017 and plans the same number for 2018. New to this year's program is sponsorship by Legacy Ford. Legacy is upping the ante by doubling the HOA prize purse for each event and also awarding \$100 gift cards to winners in multiple classes and events. They are also offering giant discounts on new trucks, parts, and service. So even if you don't take your class, you can still be a winner thanks to Legacy's support of our event!

The Buckle Race Series provides members with a friendly environment in which to compete, and in our own backyard. Whether you plan to continue to compete or just enjoy the Buckles venue, it gives shooters a familiarization with scoring formats, classes, and both the NCSS and NCSA organizations that govern our sports. And unlike many competitive events, each Series leg requires only a one-day commitment. It's not too late for 2018! There are four more events left in the year, and you only need to participate in three to qualify for buckle awards. For more information and registration, go to [greaterhoustongunclub.com](http://greaterhoustongunclub.com) and click Buckle Race.



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# ANTICIPATE OR REACT IT IS YOUR CHOICE!

BY GIL ASH

*"When shooting a moving target, you have one of two choices - it is either 'here it comes' or 'there it goes!'" Brian Ash*

Indeed, and as a clay target shooter, it's your choice! You can either anticipate the target's arrival, or react to what the target is doing. When you anticipate the target, you are in control and already ahead of the target, but when you are reacting you will inevitably find yourself behind the target - even if you started your gun ahead. You see, in our game, you can be ahead and behind at the same time. How? Because of the confusion and visual anomalies shooters *think* they see when shooting a moving target, especially when they focus on lead.

When reacting, you tend to hurry and think your way through the sequence because you are responding to what the target is doing where you see it. We see shooters close their gun and call pull with their gun muzzle right on the trap, without giving a second thought to what they are about to do with their eyes. As a result, two things happen: first, their only visual picture as the target emerges is as a streak - at best! And second, when they called for the target they were already behind it - before it even came out of the machine. In a panic, they chase the target down from behind, trying desperately to fix the shot at the end.

Many of the shooters we observe wonder why they never experience consistency or improvement, even though they "practice" all the time. We have found that practice is perhaps the most valuable, but at the same time wasted, tool in our game of shooting a moving target. Shooters that shoot a lot and think they are practicing are often only practicing loading their gun and calling pull.

To practice effectively, it is helpful to recognize that you have two kinds of memory, long-term and short-term. Short-term memory is great for remembering a phone number until you write it down, but it is designed to be used then forgotten, and is very inefficient at firing complex circuits in the brain. Long-term memory on the other hand is where all your skill is stored. That part of your memory is virtually infinite and can orchestrate extremely large and complex circuits in the brain.



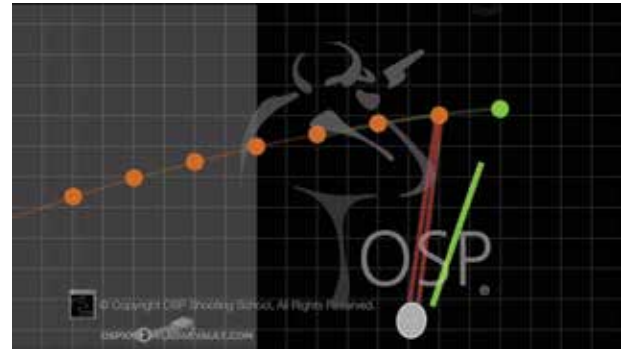
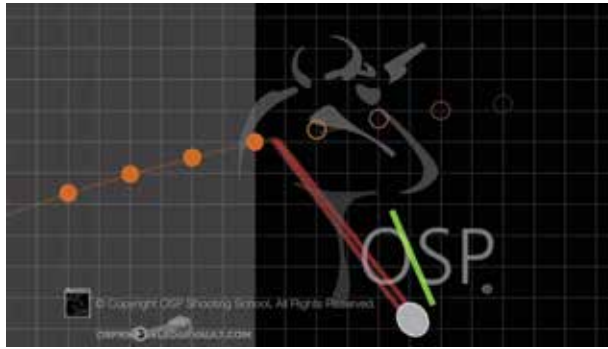
The tennis player is looking at the last place he saw the ball. Even though the ball is too fast for him to see it actually hit the racket, the anticipation circuit allows for the ball to hit the center of the racket. In practice he has grooved his swing via repetition so the brain knows not only where the ball is, but where the racket head is, and can bring the two together with perfect timing. This skill resides in the long-term memory and is constantly honed and perfected by continued practice and training. Photo courtesy of Pixabay.com.

Skill begins as short-term memory until after the circuit is fired enough. Then it begins to happen without you thinking, and that is the point it is shifted over to long-term memory. A perfect illustration is your iPhone®. Likely your first iPhone® came with no instructions, and you fumbled your way into learning how to use it. But it didn't take long before you could operate it with ease - and no thought. You learned how to use your phone in short-term memory, until you used it exactly the same way enough times that your brain began to do it without thinking. At that point this

was passed over to your long-term memory as a skill. It is the same with shotgunning. How you practice must eventually become a repetition of the same sequence, the same way over and over again.

In our lessons and clinics, we tell our students to try to visualize each shot as a movie because as their pre-load and shot movie mirror each other, they begin to build long-term memory. Think about it. The brain can't do anything unless it first has a picture of what it is about to do. And the more detailed





After seeing the target move for 20-30' your brain will register these as a series of positioning points, like points in a graph. After the brain has 4 or 5 points it can predict where the target will be in the future (open circles in graph one). Your job is to see the target behind the barrel, and as the target and gun come together, adjust gun speed to target speed and send the shot. You will see the target where it is and the gun will end up in the next circle, in this case the green one in the second graph.

that picture is, the less you must think about what you are doing! When your visual process becomes a detailed movie of how the shot is going to come together you will be able to access your long-term memory – and take the shot without thinking. Soon you will be shooting targets as they come to you, with no argument in your brain as you sync muzzle speed to the bird's speed. Without necessarily knowing it, you have accessed your long-term memory and did not have to think while the target was in the air.

Long-term memory is the foundation for anticipating a target, and it is only recently that researchers have figured out how it works. There is a circuit in your visual cortex (called the V5) that is constantly anticipating 300 ms ahead of where you are, and you use it every day. It knows more about you, your timing, balance, and abilities than you do. Neurologists are telling us that this circuit allows for “taking care” of the lead on moving targets, and it will do it with amazing consistency provided the target comes to the lead. In other words, if you anticipate the target, your brain can be trained to such that our gun goes to the lead. But the instant the target gets inside the lead, and you instead react to it, then you switch from long-term memory to short-term memory. Inevitably your next move is to try to fix the shot!

The way the V5 circuit can anticipate ahead of a moving target is to have an unobstructed view of the target combined with a picture of where it will be in the future, similar to points in a graph. Once you have mentally stored a few points in the graph,

the brain knows where it will be in the future. Since the positioning points arrive at the same timing interval our targets slow down the points and get closer together, allowing for constant updating of the lead in the shot. Your brain will continue this computation unless the gun gets in the way! The moment your brain focuses on the gun, it no longer allows you to anticipate where the target is or where it will be in the future.

There is often confusion when we say you cannot “see” the gun barrel. The barrel is indeed part of the sight picture, but only in the periphery. You must be aware of it, but you cannot focus on it. We see shooters who fail because they look down the barrel and conversely, shooters who fail because they think they cannot who not see the barrel at all. The gun is part of the picture and when you let the gun have a place at the table - be it a very small part of what is seen - then you engage both sides of the brain and the argument in your head goes away! Another way to look at it – how do you visualize not seeing something? Your gun, in your periphery, needs to be part of your pre-load movie.

The basics of practicing effectively to become a better shooter are pretty simple. Develop a pre-load routine of visualizing how you want the shot to come together as a movie. Your brain will help you build long-term memory - and skill. As the paradigm shift occurs from trying to get the gun in front of the target to one in which you always *see the target behind the barrel*, then you will be tuning the anticipation circuit in your brain. And that circuit can do nothing except make you a better shot!



**SEPT. 1-2, 2018**

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# THE SANDHILL CRANES OF TEXAS

BY R.K. SAWYER & TODD MERENDINO

Many of today's clay target shooters are also bird hunters. In fact, the sport got its start as a result of sportsman that wanted to improve their wingshooting, using first live pigeons, then glass balls, and finally clay targets. In GHGC's 2017 *Clay Bird*, we featured perhaps the toughest of all game bird shooting – the snipe. This year, we take you to the opposite end of the size spectrum with a history of sandhill crane shooting in Texas.

Early travelers to Texas found wintering sandhill cranes plentiful across the coastal prairie. Throughout the last half of the 19th century, sportsmen and market gunners shot not only wintering sandhills, but also whooping cranes. An important food source, they were shot with scatterguns, rifled from horseback, and even harvested with decoys, described as “pasteboard figures, cut to proper size and shape and painted.” Whooping cranes were called “noble and majestic targets” that “covered a lot of sky” in flight. Compared to the more abundant sandhill crane, whoopers were more difficult to kill due to “their superior height and great timidity.”

Historical archives are replete with crane hunting stories from local and visiting sportsmen, and market hunters. A notable anecdote is of the gentleman who poked his muzzle-loading fowling piece from the window of an old, wood-planked building near the Brazos River and, with a single discharge, killed seven sandhill cranes. The year was about 1850, and the dilapidated building from which he made the shot was once the capitol of the Republic of Texas.

Unregulated sport and market hunting had a swift

impact on sandhill crane numbers, and by the start of the 20th century they had mostly disappeared. When a Galveston sportsman shot one in 1909, it was by that time considered “a very rare specimen of game bird as a trophy.” The outlook was worse for the whooping crane, which disappeared entirely from much of the Gulf Coast between 1924 and 1936. By the time Aransas National Wildlife Refuge was established in 1937, the wintering whooper population had been reduced to only 14 birds.

The Federal Migratory Bird Act of 1913 was the first legislation to make it illegal to kill whooping and sandhill cranes. Despite the passage of this and later game laws, state and federal game wardens often filled courthouse dockets with violators who, unable to break old habits, continued to shoot sandhills along with a myriad of other protected species. One memorable incident was the 1919 arrest by warden George Shupree of a man who illegally shipped sandhill cranes to zoos across America, procuring each live bird by way of a well-placed “crippling shot to the wing.” Another was of Eagle Lake game warden Tom Waddell, who once got a solid conviction when he tracked down a poacher shooting sandhills from the road with a 30/30, but killed instead a rancher's prize bull.

In 1947, a 12-year old boy looked over the expansive Katy Prairie sky and saw something he had never seen before. Dashing home, he described the sounds of the calls he heard, and the five-foot wingspan he saw, to a skeptical father. The boy was Lyle Jordan, later one of the most renowned of Texas' waterfowling guides. What Lyle observed that day

was the first of the returning sandhill cranes to the Texas prairie. And it was just the beginning.

Sandhills migrate from breeding grounds in central and northern Canada. Texas is the wintering home to the Mid-Continent Population, consisting of two sandhill subpopulations, the Gulf Coast and Western. The early 1900s “rare specimen of a bird” has today reached numbers well over 600,000. Several factors laid the foundation for success: passage and enforcement of game laws, the slow but steady cultural change in the relevance of conservation, and arguably most critical, restoration and preservation of northern breeding grounds. When Lyle Jordan saw those returning cranes, he was witnessing a conservation success story so astonishing that, just 13 years later, Texas sportsmen could once again hunt them. In that first year, 1960, regulations allowed the harvest of two cranes during a 30-day season in parts of the state. Today, the bag limit is 3 cranes in 169 Texas counties, with 2 a day permitted in another 51 counties. Some areas of the state now sanction a 90-day season.

During the half-century of recovery, profound changes altered the coastal prairie, the crane’s ancestral wintering grounds. Cities and petrochemical corridors smothered shorelines of many of the larger estuaries and bays. Crops or pastures replaced native prairie grasses. Not all of the changes were bad, as returning cranes quickly adapted to thousands of acres of rice, grain, and cattle pastures that created excellent foraging habitat. Too, the myriad of shallow water ponds built primarily by hunters for wintering waterfowl provided cranes with secure roosting sites.

Perhaps the most significant habitat changes were made in the rolling plains of the Texas Panhandle. Historically the Panhandle’s natural saline lakes were utilized only as a temporal stopover point in



A rare late 1800s photograph of a hunt that includes a sandhill crane that was shot near Victoria. Courtesy Victoria Regional History Center-Photograph Collection, VC/UHV Library.

the sandhill’s southern migration. But reservoirs built in the 1940s brought freshwater to this once parched region, and sprouted a massive agricultural industry. Concomitant roosting water and grain transformed the Texas Panhandle into a major stronghold for wintering sandhill cranes.

There is nothing in waterfowl hunting that compares to the sights and sounds of decoying cranes. An approaching flock of these giant birds, which average 10-pounds in weight with often over a five-foot wingspan, can easily trigger a racing heart, similar to a deer hunter with “buck fever,” in even the most seasoned of hunters. The combination of anticipation and the sheer size of the quarry often yield two unfortunate outcomes – calling the shot too early or shooting behind the bird. The crane’s wide wingspan, trailing legs, and long necks give the appearance they are closer than they really are, and flying much slower than they actually are.

As flocks of several hundred to perhaps several thousand make their way each fall to Texas, the sight and sound of these great birds can stir thoughts of a more wild and unspoiled America. But their migration is not across that America, it is across the modern one, and what you are witnessing is one of the greatest conservation success stories of all time.

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#### About the Writers

*R.K. Sawyer is a GHGC member and the author of two historical Texas waterfowling books: A Hundred Years of Texas Waterfowl Hunting – The Decoys, Guides, Clubs, and Places, and Texas Market Hunting: Stories of Waterfowl, Game Laws, and Outlaws, available from Texas A&M University Press.*

*Todd Merendino, Ph.D. is Manager of Conservation Programs for Ducks Unlimited, overseeing habitat programs in Texas, Oklahoma, and New Mexico. Todd previously worked with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, where he directed operations on several state owned Texas Coast Wildlife Management Areas.*



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SUNDAY, APRIL 1	EASTER	CLUB CLOSED
MONDAY, MAY 28	MEMORIAL DAY	OPEN 9:00AM - 5:00PM
WEDNESDAY, JULY 4	INDEPENDENCE DAY	OPEN 9:00AM - DUSK
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3	LABOR DAY	OPEN 9:00AM - 5:00PM
MONDAY, OCTOBER 8	COLUMBUS DAY	CLUB CLOSED
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31	HALLOWEEN	OPEN NORMAL HOURS
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12	VETERANS DAY	CLUB CLOSED
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22	THANKSGIVING	CLUB CLOSED
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23	DAY AFTER THANKSGIVING	OPEN 9:00AM - DUSK
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**10:45 am**

**Welcome & Safety Instructions**

**11:00 am**

**Ladies report to assigned stations**

**1:30 - 4:00 pm**

**Lunch provided by**

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**Entry Fee: \$90**

Sign up as an individual or as a four lady team. Includes Golf cart, Lunch and targets. Participants must provide their own ammunition.

Ladies participating will shoot a 72 bird course. Beginners can sign up for the 25 bird mini course accompanied by an instructor.

**To register please fill out the registration form and return it to:**

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# 2017 BRILEY BLUE GOOSE TOURNAMENT WRAP-UP

BY R.K. SAWYER

The smoke has cleared from the 2017 Briley Blue Goose at Greater Houston Gun Club (GHGC), held Memorial Day weekend, May 26 to 29. Over 200 registered shooters, with some from as far away as New Zealand, participated in this year's event that pledged to "bring back everything fun about skeet!" Weekend activities, in addition to the NSSA sanctioned competitions, included fun affairs such as the 28-gauge Handicapped Calcutta, Blue Goose May Madness, and, by popular demand, return of the 20-gauge Practical Skeet Prelim. New in the schedule this year was the 12-gauge Bounty, in which 12-gauge handicapped Class A through E shooters could elect the option to tie or beat all-time great Todd Bender's score and collect the cash bounty.

Friday morning festivities opened under gray skies with the 72-target, 20-gauge "Practical Skeet" Prelim Event, the score calculated by a time/target ratio based on the number of targets broken while under pressure from the clock. The 12-gauge Beretta A400 and custom silver Briley money clip top prize went to Michael Peterson, who bested the field of fifty competitors. Runner-up Armour Strunk took home a \$200 Briley gift certificate. The Doubles Event kicked-off after lunch, and at the end of the shoot-off, Houston Deshotels won the \$500 purse and the runner-up was Josh Poole.

With the heat index over 100°, Saturday gave the shooters a taste of Texas summer. The first rotation of the 12-gauge Event started in the morning, with two 20-gauge rotations held in the afternoon. The smell of gunpowder mixed with aroma of BBQ Alaskan King Crab legs as the much-anticipated Saturday night party kicked-off just before the Todd Bender Bounty and 12-gauge shoot-offs. Top honors and the \$750 champion prize in the 12-gauge Event went to Todd Bender, with the \$400 runner-up purse captured by Rachel Barringer. Dinner and drinks were hosted under giant pavilion fans, a welcome cool breeze accompanying the Briley Juniors Sponsorship auction, live music, a special Briley Blue Goose tribute show by the Paxton Players, and the 28-gauge Handicapped Calcutta. Sixty-five shooters were auctioned off during the Calcutta, and the spectators, with their cash on the line, were as involved as the shooters, who had both the purse and a chance at the Sunday 28-gauge shoot-offs at stake.

The Sunday schedule included the 28-gauge competition and continuation of the 20-gauge Event. Under warm gray skies and light winds, Sunday's spectators saw spectacular shooting





2017 Briley Blue Goose Champion, Riley Chaddock



Giant Alaskan King Crabs on the BBQ



Sponsor Briley - a big name in the world of skeet



Saturday evening Alaskan King Crab feast in the pavillion

with perfect scores shot by twenty 20-gauge and nine 28-gauge competitors. Cameron Schuster won the 20-gauge champion spot with Todd Bender runner-up. Riley Chaddock took top honors in the 28-gauge Event, with runner-up Richard Funk. Regardless of how participants shot by the end of day three, everyone was a winner as the day ended with a banquet of giant shrimp.

Early morning rains on Monday, Memorial Day, nearly derailed a day packed with activities that included the Blue Goose May Madness shoot-off, four rotations of .410-bore, and the grand finale HOA shoot-offs. As the weather cleared for the May Madness Event, 64-shooters prepared to survive five elimination rounds, each more challenging, as the competition got tougher and the gun gauge-size got smaller. In the final round only two competitors were left standing, and it was Kendal Jaroszewski who earned the 60% split of the \$1,000 purse. Kendal was also the sole winner of the \$5,000 handicap 400x400 jackpot, and went home a happy man!

Four perfect scores were shot in the .410 Event, with Clay Baldwin earning the champion prize and

Riley Chaddock runner-up. Next on the schedule was the HOA shoot-offs in which Riley Chaddock, with a score of 399, took the Blue Goose HOA Champion honors and \$1,000 purse. The difference between the champion title and runner-up, won by Dan Jones, was a single target. Ladies Champion Mackinzee Swetman smashed a total of 393 targets. Lauren Burge and Emily Stienbaugh won Ladies Runner-up and Ladies third place winners, respectively.

GHGC once again hosted a knockout Briley Blue Goose program, mixing equal amounts of shot-gunning fun with flawless sanctioned competition. The GHGC Board of Directors and management team wish to congratulate the winners and thank all the participants who attended this year's Briley Blue Goose, sponsor Briley, and the referees who again proved they are the best in the business. The club invites returning and new shooters to the 2018 event, which again promises to be fun! For more information about the 2018 Briley Blue Goose, go to [www.Briley.com](http://www.Briley.com) or [www.GreaterHoustonGunClub.com](http://www.GreaterHoustonGunClub.com).

# Annual Thanksgiving Fun Shoot and Feast!

**NOVEMBER 18, 2018**

THE FUN BEGINS AT 9 A.M. | DINNER SERVED AT 2:30 P.M.

## **50 SKEET**

(2 rounds of 25) Lewis class awards

## **99 TRIPLE SPORTING CLAYS**

(3 machines per station) Lewis class awards

## **4 PERSON TEAM FLURRY EVENT**

100 targets in 100 seconds

Team awards, Lewis class

## **20 TARGET QUAIL WALK**

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### **ENTRY FEE FOR ALL EVENTS:**

Member – On the house

Guests – Skeet \$25, Super Sporting \$35, Team Flurry \$10 each shooter

*\*guests are not eligible for awards*

**Member participants will receive a commemorative pin and hat**

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## **FEAST**

Turkey and Dressing are compliments of GHGC.

If you plan to attend dinner please be sure to RSVP by Friday, November 18<sup>th</sup>.

If you would like to bring a dish please contact Ashley at [ashley@greaterhoustongunclub.com](mailto:ashley@greaterhoustongunclub.com)





# GREATER LADIES LEAGUE CLAYS FOR LADIES 2017 TOURNAMENT WRAP-UP



2017 marked the second year of the Greater Ladies League and annual Clays for Ladies sporting clays tournament. The Greater Ladies League ran from January through February, with the tournament held in April. The Ladies turned the league into a fun-filled event complete with post-shoot appetizers and wine and upped the tournament ante through partnerships with a myriad of vendors including Syren USA, a division of Caesar Guerini and Fabarm, which offers the world's finest line of shotguns and accessories created solely for the lady shotgun enthusiast.

The 2017 Clays for Ladies tournament was a blast. Ingrid Gonzales took HOA with her closest competitor 6 birds behind. First place in Class 1 went to Lindsey Plesco after a "lucky station" scorecard shoot-off with Sandi Nail. It was the same in Class 2 with a tie between Rose Hinz and Elizabeth Blakemore, with Rose taking the honors. Dawn Fields bested Class 3, and it was a tie breaker again in Class 4 between Pam Reed and Georgia Monk with Pam taking home the win.

The Greater Ladies League kicked off in January of this year and will run through March. The Third Annual Clays for Ladies Tournament is scheduled for April 21. Registration includes continental breakfast, golf cart, lunch and 72 targets. Follow the Greater Ladies League on our web page at <http://www.greaterhoustongunclub.com/greater-ladies/>. For sponsor and vendor information, contact Ashley Burnett at [Ashley@greaterhoustongunclub.com](mailto:Ashley@greaterhoustongunclub.com) or 281-437-6025.





Event I:	Doubles	Events I-V \$61 includes fees
Event II:	12 Gauge	*\$10 returned to class
Event III:	20 Gauge	Event VI – HOA \$15 Entry
Event IV:	28 Gauge	*All monies returned to class
Event V:	410 Bore	Event VII – HAA Honors only

**HOA PRIZES COURTESY OF NSSA  
HOA, RUNNER UP AND 3RD  
CLASS 1ST HOA  
TOTAL VALUE OF \$7,500**

HOA PRIZES ARE BASED ON 12GA, 20GA, 28GA & 410\*  
OVER ALL HOA, RUNNER UP & 3RD REMOVED FROM CLASS\*\*  
MUST PLAY HOA TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR PRIZES\*\*\*

## SEPTEMBER 6-9, 2018

Greater Houston Gun Club's, Board, Staff, Members and Sponsors invite you to join us at the 2018 US Open.

Head down to Houston, Texas to one of the South's finest clubs. If you are not familiar with GHGC, we are a full service facility that takes pride in catering to the needs of our guests. Our hospitality is renowned and we hold ourselves to the highest of standards in everything we do. The 2018 US Open is no exception. We are committed to call in every resource available to us to make the 2018 US Open one to remember.

Our top notch Refs and fantastic background are sure to create some unprecedented competition. Please come and be our guests and enjoy everything our facility has to offer.

For more information please visit our website at: [www.greaterhoustongunclub.com](http://www.greaterhoustongunclub.com)

We thank you and Happy shooting!

All the best,  
Kevin Dougherty  
Manager – Greater Houston Gun Club  
US Open – Tournament Director

	ROTATION	1	2	3	4	5
THURSDAY	DBLS	8:30	9:40	10:50	12:00	
THURSDAY	12	1:10	2:40	4:10		
FRIDAY	12				8:30	10:00
FRIDAY	20	11:30	1:00	2:30	4:00	
SATURDAY	20					8:30
SATURDAY	28	10:00	11:30	1:00	2:30	4:00
SUNDAY	410	9:00	10:30	12:00	1:30	3:00

### Entry forms returned to:

6700 McHard Road, Houston TX 77053 or  
[manager@greaterhoustongunclub.com](mailto:manager@greaterhoustongunclub.com)  
Questions: 281-437-6025

Entries cannot be post marked prior to June 1st, 2018  
No refunds after August 15th, 2018

### KRIEGHOFF VINTAGE SCROLL K80 SPORTER



RETAIL VALUE \$13,195  
\$100 per ticket. Only 450 sold  
Drawing will be held Saturday night during banquet.





Paxton Arms



# TEXAS SIZE PAYOUTS

## HOA \$2000/\$1250/\$1000

**HOA/RUNNER/ 3RD REMOVED FROM CLASS**

**\*\* GUARANTEED \$10 ABOVE HIGHEST CLASS PAYOUT**

GUARANTEED CHAMPIONSHIP PURSE			
HOA	\$2,000	\$1,250	\$1000
12ga	\$1,000	\$750	\$500
20ga	\$1,000	\$750	\$500
28ga	\$1,000	\$750	\$500
410	\$1,000	\$750	\$500

**12 GAUGE SPONSOR**



**20 GAUGE SPONSOR**



**28 GAUGE SPONSOR**



**BRILEY**  
*A Legacy of Shooting Innovation.*

**410 BORE SPONSOR**



**DOUBLES SPONSOR**



**\$1000 ADDED MONEY FROM TSSA**

**TEXAS HALF WAY HOA**

**BROUGHT TO YOU BY TEXAS SKEET SHOOTERS ASSOCIATION**

**\$25 Entry all monies returned to class**

**Ties will be broken according to 20ga shoot offs**

**AAA – E 1st \$100 + Class Money**

**AAA – E 2nd \$50 + Class Money**



# 2017 NSSA & NSCA MAJOR TOURNAMENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS BY OUR MEMBERS

**G**HGC's globe-trotting members collected an impressive number of wins around the world behind their shotguns in 2017. We are proud of the success of our members whose names appear in this section and wish you all the best in the coming year. A few of the highlights from 2017:

NCSA. Bobby Fowler continued to dominate the 2017 NCSA circuit, capturing HOA in 5 sanctioned events. Zachary Klienbaum and Cory Kruse placed in 15 and 8 events respectively last year, including 4 HOA's for Zachary and one for Cory. Desirae Edmunds had a busy year, placing in 20 events and earning the Lady Champion title in eight. Nasir Nadim was hard to beat in the Veterans class, with trophies in 17 events last year. Justin Napier placed in 9 events this year, including Junior Champion in four. Forrest Montealegre placed in 5 events last year, including Junior HOA at the *European Boxbird and Helice World*. Forrest is perhaps our youngest gunning super star. The 13-year old student at Spring Branch Middle School student already has 9 years of experience under his belt, and already has a winning resume two pages long.

NSSA. John Barnes took a whopping 43 titles in every available gauge category on the 2017 NSSA circuit, including the 12-gauge Overall champion at the *Briley Louisiana Open*. Brandon Cage was equally gauge proficient, titling in 38 events with an Overall Champion in the doubles event at the *Texas State Championship*. Lindsay Plesko was the lady to try to beat in 2017, placing in 13 events that included 4 Lady Champion titles. Mathew Ward will be the guy to watch in 2018 after winning an impressive 12 titles in 2017, including a Junior Champion title at the *Briley Louisiana Open*.



## 2017 NSSA MEMBER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

<b>JOHN BARNES</b>	Mini World Championship	28ga	TS 3rd
	World Championship	12ga	AAA 1st
	World Championship	12ga	TS Runner up
	Briley Blue Goose	28ga	AAA 1st
	Briley Blue Goose	28ga	TS 3rd
	Briley Blue Goose	410	AAA 4th
	Briley Blue Goose	410	TS 1-2
	Briley Blue Goose	Doubles	AAA 4th
	Briley Blue Goose	Doubles	TS 1-1
	Briley Blue Goose	HOA	TS 1-2
	Texas State Championship	12ga	AAA 1st
	Texas State Championship	12ga	TS Champion
	Texas State Championship	20ga	AAA 2nd
	Texas State Championship	20ga	TS Champion
	Texas State Championship	28ga	AAA 1st
	Texas State Championship	28ga	TS Runner up
	Texas State Championship	Doubles	AAA 1st
	Texas State Championship	Doubles	TS Runner up
	Texas State Championship	HOA	AAA 2nd
	Texas State Championship	HOA	TS 3rd
	Krieghoff Masters	20ga	AAA 3rd
	Krieghoff Masters	20ga	TS Runner up
	Krieghoff Masters	410	AAA 7th
	Krieghoff Masters	410	TS 3rd
	Krieghoff Masters	Doubles	AAA 5th
	Krieghoff Masters	Doubles	TS Runner up
	Krieghoff Masters	HOA	TS 1-1
	Southwest Classic	28ga	TS 1-2
	Southwest Classic	410	Over all Runner up
	Southwest Classic	410	TS Champion
	Southwest Classic	HOA	AAA 5th
	Southwest Classic	HOA	TS 1-1
	Western Open	12ga	AAA 2nd
	Western Open	12ga	TS Runner up
	Western Open	20ga	TS 1-2
	Western Open	410	TS 1-2
	Western Open	HOA	TS 3rd
	Briley Louisiana Open	12ga	Over All Champion
	Briley Louisiana Open	12ga	TS Champion
	Briley Louisiana Open	Doubles	Over all Runner up
	Briley Louisiana Open	Doubles	TS Runner up
	Briley Louisiana Open	HOA	AAA 3rd
	Briley Louisiana Open	HOA	TS 3rd
<b>PETER BUZZINI</b>	Briley Blue Goose	12ga	E 1st

## 2017 NSSA MEMBER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

<b>PATRICK BYRNE</b>	Briley Blue Goose	28ga	AA 1st
	Briley Blue Goose	28ga	SU Runner Up
	Texas State Championship	20ga	SU 3rd
	Texas State Championship	28ga	SU Runner Up
	Texas State Championship	410	SU 1-2
	Texas State Championship	HOA	SU 1-1
	Southwest Classic	12ga	AA 1st
	Southwest Classic	12ga	SU Runner Up
	Southwest Classic	20ga	AAA 4th
	Southwest Classic	20ga	SU 3rd
	Southwest Classic	HOA	SU 1-2



Congratulations to **Bobby Fowler** and **Desirae Edmunds**, 2017 World English champions



**Forrest Montealegre** adds to his growing collection of wins

### KRIEGHOFF ALL AMERICAN TEAMS

Brandon Cade	Open 1st team
John Barnes	Open Honorable Mention Team
Lindsay Plesko	Lady 1st Team
Matthew Ward	Junior Honorable Mention Team
Armour Strunk	Triple-Sub 1st Team
Hunter Edmunds	Triple-Sub 2nd Team
William Edmunds	Sub-Senior Honorable Mention Team
John Castillo	Senior 1st Team
Cliff Moller	Senior Honorable Mention Team

### CLASS ALL AMERICAN TEAMS

John Castillo	AAA Honorable Mention
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### TEXAS ALL STATE TEAMS

Brandon Cade	Open 1st Team Captain
John Barnes	Open 1st Team
Hunter Edmunds	Open 2nd Team Captain
Armour Strunk	Open 2nd Team
Lindsay Plesko	Open 2nd Team
Cliff Moller	Open 2nd Team
William Edmunds	Open 2nd Team
John Castillo	Open 2nd Team
Matthew Ward	Junior 1st Team
Randy Wall	Sub Senior 1st Team
Frank Tucker	Veteran 1st Team

### TEXAS HIGH AVERAGE LEADERS

Brandon Cade	20ga High average Leader
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## 2017 NSSA MEMBER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

<b>BRANDON CADE</b>	Mini World Championship	20ga	AAA 3rd
	Mini World Championship	20ga	SU Runner up
	Mini World Championship	Doubles	Champion
	Mini World Championship	Doubles	SU Champion
	World Championship	12ga	SU 1-1
	World Championship	28ga	SU 1-1
	World Championship	410	SU 1-5
	World Championship	Doubles	AAA 4th
	World Championship	HOA	SU 1-2
	Briley Blue Goose	20ga	SU 1-1
	Briley Blue Goose	410	SU 1-1
	Briley Blue Goose	Doubles	AAA 3rd
	Briley Blue Goose	Doubles	SU Runner up
	Briley Blue Goose	HOA	SU 1-1
	Texas State Championship	12ga	SU 1-2
	Texas State Championship	20ga	Champion
	Texas State Championship	20ga	SU Champion
	Texas State Championship	28ga	SU 1-2
	Texas State Championship	410	SU Champion
	Texas State Championship	Doubles	Over all Champion
	Texas State Championship	HOA	SU Champion
	Krieghoff Masters	410	SU 1-1
	Krieghoff Masters	Doubles	AAA 7th
	Krieghoff Masters	Doubles	SU Runner up
	Krieghoff Masters	HOA	SU 1-2
	Southwest Classic	12ga	AAA 5th
	Southwest Classic	12ga	SU 3rd
	Southwest Classic	20ga	SU 1-1
	Southwest Classic	28ga	SU 3rd
	Southwest Classic	410	AAA 5th
	Southwest Classic	410	SU 3rd
	Southwest Classic	HOA	AAA 1st
	Southwest Classic	HOA	SU Runner Up
	Western Open	12ga	SU 1-2
	Western Open	20ga	AAA 4th
	Western Open	20ga	SU Runner Up
	Western Open	410	SU 1-1
	Western Open	HOA	AAA 3rd
	Western Open	HOA	SU 1-1

## 2017 NSSA MEMBER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

<b>JOHN CASTILLO</b>	Briley Blue Goose	410	SR 3rd
	Texas State Championship	28ga	SR 1-2
	Texas State Championship	410	AAA 1st
	Texas State Championship	410	SR Champion
	Texas State Championship	HOA	AAA 1st
	Texas State Championship	HOA	SR 3rd
	Southwest Classic	410	SR 3rd
<b>HARRY DANIEL</b>	Briley Blue Goose	12ga	SV Runner up
	Briley Blue Goose	410	SV 3rd
	Briley Blue Goose	Doubles	SV Champion
	Texas State Championship	12ga	SV Runner up
	Texas State Championship	20ga	SV Runner up
	Texas State Championship	410	SV 3rd
	Texas State Championship	Doubles	SV Champion
<b>HUNTER EDMUNDS</b>	World Championship	410	TS 1-5
	Texas State Championship	410	AAA 3rd
	Texas State Championship	410	TS 3rd
	Texas State Championship	HOA	AAA 4th
	Texas State Championship	HOA	TS 1-2
	Briley Louisiana Open	20ga	AAA 3rd
	Briley Louisiana Open	20ga	TS 1-2
	Briley Louisiana Open	410	AAA 2nd
	Briley Louisiana Open	410	TS 1-1
	Briley Louisiana Open	HOA	TS 1-1
<b>WALTER EDMUNDS</b>	Texas State Championship	20ga	VT 1-2
	Texas State Championship	28ga	A 6th
	Texas State Championship	28ga	VT 1-1
	Texas State Championship	410	AA 3rd
	Texas State Championship	410	VT Champion
	Texas State Championship	HOA	VT 3rd
<b>WILLIAM EDMUNDS</b>	Texas State Championship	12ga	AA 5th
	Texas State Championship	12ga	SS Runner Up
	Texas State Championship	20ga	AA 2nd
	Texas State Championship	20ga	SS Runner Up
	Texas State Championship	410	AA 4th
	Texas State Championship	410	SS 3rd
	Texas State Championship	HOA	Over all 3rd
	Texas State Championship	HOA	SS Champion
	Briley Louisiana Open	410	A 4th
<b>MIKE FOX</b>	Texas State Championship	Doubles	SR 1-1



## 2017 NSSA MEMBER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

<b>DAVID HEBERT</b>	Mini World Championship	12ga	AA 3rd
	Briley Blue Goose	12ga	SR 1-1
	Briley Blue Goose	28ga	B 3rd
	Briley Blue Goose	28ga	SR Runner up
	Western Open	20ga	A 3rd
	Briley Louisiana Open	28ga	SR 1-1
	Briley Louisiana Open	Doubles	SR Runner up
<b>STEVEN HICKS</b>	Briley Louisiana Open	28ga	SR Runner up
<b>TOMMY MAYS</b>	World Championship	12ga	D 1st
	World Championship	20ga	D 10th
<b>CLIFF MOLLER</b>	Mini World Championship	28ga	SR 1-3
	Briley Blue Goose	12ga	SR 3rd
	Briley Blue Goose	20ga	AA 3rd
	Briley Blue Goose	20ga	SR Champion
	Texas State Championship	20ga	SR Runner up
	Texas State Championship	Doubles	SR 3rd
	Southwest Classic	28ga	AA 5th
	Western Open	12ga	SR 3rd
	Western Open	20ga	SR Champion
	Western Open	28ga	SR Champion
	Western Open	410	A 2nd
	Western Open	410	SR 1-1
	Western Open	HOA	A 1st
	Western Open	HOA	SR Champion
<b>CHARLIE MORELLO</b>	Briley Blue Goose	12ga	D 1st
<b>DAVID PERRYMAN</b>	Briley Blue Goose	12ga	A 1st
	Briley Blue Goose	12ga	SS Champion
	Texas State Championship	20ga	SS 1-1
	Texas State Championship	Doubles	SS 1-2



## 2017 NSSA MEMBER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

<b>LINDSAY PLESKO</b>	Mini World Championship	28ga	Lady 3rd
	Mini World Championship	410	Lady Champion
	Mini World Championship	HOA	Lady Champion
	World Championship	20ga	Lady 3rd
	World Championship	410	Lady 1-1
	World Championship	HOA	Lady Runner up
	US OPEN	20ga	Lady Champion
	US OPEN	28ga	AA 4th
	US OPEN	28ga	Lady Champion
	US OPEN	410	Lady 1-2
	US OPEN	HOA	Lady Runner up
	Southwest Classic	20ga	Lady 1-1
	Southwest Classic	28ga	Lady 1-2
<b>EDWIN RAMSEY</b>	Texas State Championship	12ga	C 5th
<b>ARMOUR STRUNK</b>	World Championship	28ga	TS 1-5
	Texas State Championship	28ga	Runner Up
	Texas State Championship	28ga	TS Champion
	Texas State Championship	410	TS 1-1
	Texas State Championship	Doubles	AA 2nd
	Texas State Championship	HOA	AA 4th
	Texas State Championship	HOA	TS 1-1
	Krieghoff Masters	28ga	Over all Runner up
	Krieghoff Masters	28ga	TS Champion
<b>FRANK TUCKER</b>	Texas State Championship	12ga	A 1st
	Texas State Championship	12ga	VT Champion
	Texas State Championship	28ga	A 5th
	Texas State Championship	28ga	VT 3rd
	Texas State Championship	HOA	VT 1-2
	Briley Louisiana Open	12ga	VT Runner up
	Briley Louisiana Open	28ga	VT 1-1
	Briley Louisiana Open	410	VT 3rd
	Briley Louisiana Open	Doubles	VT Runner up
<b>RANDY WALL</b>	Texas State Championship	20ga	A 3rd
	Texas State Championship	20ga	SS 3rd
	Texas State Championship	28ga	AA 5th
	Texas State Championship	28ga	SS Champion
	Texas State Championship	410	3RD
<b>CHARLES WARD</b>	Briley Louisiana Open	12ga	E 1st
	Briley Louisiana Open	20ga	C 3rd
	Briley Louisiana Open	28ga	D 1st
	Briley Louisiana Open	HOA	D 2nd



<b>KAREN WARD</b>	Briley Blue Goose	HOA	D 3rd
	Briley Louisiana Open	12ga	D 2nd
	Briley Louisiana Open	12ga	Lady 1-2
	Briley Louisiana Open	20ga	D 1st
	Briley Louisiana Open	410	D 3rd
	Briley Louisiana Open	HOA	D 3rd
<b>MATTHEW WARD</b>	Texas State Championship	12ga	A 4th
	Texas State Championship	28ga	AA 1st
	Texas State Championship	28ga	JR 3rd
	Texas State Championship	HOA	A 5th
	Briley Louisiana Open	20ga	AA 2nd
	Briley Louisiana Open	20ga	JR Champion
	Briley Louisiana Open	28ga	JR 1-1
	Briley Louisiana Open	Doubles	JR 1-1
	Briley Louisiana Open	HOA	JR 1-1
	Junior World	12ga	JR 1-2
	Junior World	410	JR 1-1
	Junior World	HOA	JR 1-1

## 2017 NSCA MEMBER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

<b>ROBIN ANDERSON</b>	Texas State Championship	5-Stand	D 3rd
	Texas State Championship	5-Stand	Lady 5th
<b>DYLAN ANDERSON</b>	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	Main	D 10th
<b>RONALD ANDERSON</b>	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	5-Stand	D 4th
<b>GARY ANGLIN</b>	GHGC Grand Prix	5-Stand	AA 3rd
<b>CESAR ARISTEIGUIETA</b>	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	Main	C 9th
	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	5-Stand	C 6th
	World English	Main	B 10th
<b>BLAKE BAJJALI</b>	South Central Regional	Main	C 7th
	South Central Regional	FITASC	C 2nd
	GHGC Grand Prix	Main	B 2nd
	GHGC Grand Prix	Main	Junior 3rd
	GHGC Grand Prix	Prelim	Junior 3rd
	GHGC Grand Prix	5-Stand	B 2nd
	GHGC Grand Prix	5-Stand	Junior 3rd
<b>GEORGE BALL</b>	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	Main	Senior Super Veteran Champion
	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	5-Stand	Senior Super Veteran Champion
	Texas State Championship	Main	Senior Super Veteran 3rd
	Texas State Championship	5-Stand	Senior Super Veteran Champion
	National Championship	5-Stand	Senior Super Veteran 4th
<b>DOSS BOURGEOIS</b>	Texas State Championship	FITASC	Veteran 4th
<b>DAN CARLISLE</b>	World English	Main	Veteran Champion
	National Championship	Main	Veteran Runner up
<b>DAVID CHANDLER</b>	Texas State Championship	FITASC	Super Veteran Runner up

## 2017 NSCA MEMBER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

<b>LINDA CORDOVA</b>	GHGC Grand Prix	Prelim	Lady Runner up
<b>CAMERON COX</b>	Texas State Championship	Main	C 1st
<b>STEVE DERENTHAL</b>	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	Main	B 2nd
<b>KEITH DESALVO</b>	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	Main	B 4th
	GHGC Grand Prix	Main	B 3rd
	GHGC Grand Prix	Prelim	B 3rd
<b>DIEGO DUARTE</b>	Texas State Championship	FITASC	Master 5th
	Colombian Open	Main	HOA
	Ecuador Open	Main	HOA
	Bolivarian Games	Main	Gold Medal
<b>DESIRAE EDMUNDS</b>	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	Main	Lady Runner up
	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	5-Stand	Master 6th
	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	5-Stand	Lady Champion
	Western Regional	Main	Lady Champion
	World English	Main	Master 8th
	World English	Main	Lady Champion
	World English	5-Stand	Lady 5th
	North East Regional & National FITASC	National FITASC	Lady Runner up
	North East Regional & National FITASC	5-Stand	Lady Runner up
	Texas State Championship	Main	Lady Runner up
	Texas State Championship	FITASC	HOA Runner up
	Texas State Championship	FITASC	Lady Champion
	Texas State Championship	5-Stand	Lady Runner up
	North Central Regional	Main	Lady Runner up
	North Central Regional	Prelim	Lady Champion
	North Central Regional	FITASC	Lady Champion
	South East Regional	FITASC	Lady Champion
	South East Regional	5-Stand	Lady Champion
	National Championship	Main	Lady 4th
	National Championship	FITASC	Lady Runner up
<b>HUNTER EDMUNDS</b>	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	Main	D7th
<b>JOSEPH ESCH</b>	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	Main	C 6th
	World English	Main	C 5th
	World English	5-Stand	C 5th
<b>RON EWER</b>	World English	Main	B 6th
	World English	5-Stand	B 5th
	North East Regional & National FITASC	Main	B 3rd
	North East Regional & National FITASC	National FITASC	B 2nd
	North East Regional & National FITASC	5-Stand	B 2nd
	North Central Regional	FITASC	A 1st
	North Central Regional	5-Stand	A 2nd
	South East Regional	5-Stand	A 5th
	GHGC Grand Prix	Main	A 2nd
<b>CADE FAETCHE</b>	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	Main	B 8th
	GHGC Grand Prix	Main	AA 1st
	GHGC Grand Prix	Main	Sub-Junior Champion
	GHGC Grand Prix	5-Stand	AA 2nd
	National Championship	410 Bore	Sub-Junior Runner up



## 2017 NSCA MEMBER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

<b>STAN FAISON</b>	Texas State Championship	FITASC	Veteran Runner up
	GHGC Grand Prix	Prelim	Veteran 3rd
	National Championship	K-Kup	Veteran Runner up
<b>CURTIS FILLMAN</b>	Texas State Championship	FITASC	Super Veteran 5th
	GHGC Grand Prix	Prelim	Super Veteran Runner up
	GHGC Grand Prix	5-Stand	Super Veteran Runner up
<b>MIKE FINCH</b>	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	Main	AA 9th
<b>BOBBY FOWLER</b>	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	Main	HOA Champion
	World English	Main	HOA Champion
	Texas State Championship	Main	HOA Champion
	Texas State Championship	5-Stand	HOA Champion
	National Championship	5-Stand	HOA Champion
	National Championship	K-Kup	Master 4th
<b>MARSHALL GRAHAM</b>	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	Main	Senior Super Veteran 3rd
<b>DOUGLAS GREGORY</b>	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	5-Stand	C 3rd
<b>DOMINIC GROSS</b>	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	Main	Junior Runner up
	World English	Main	Junior 3rd
	North East Regional & National FITASC	Main	Junior 3rd
	Texas State Championship	Main	Master 7th
	Texas State Championship	Main	Junior Runner up
	Texas State Championship	FITASC	Junior 3rd
	Texas State Championship	5-Stand	Master 5th
	Texas State Championship	5-Stand	Junior Runner up
	National Championship	FITASC	Junior Runner up
	National Championship	5-Stand	Junior Runner up
<b>MICHAEL GUIGLIANO</b>	GHGC Grand Prix	Main	D 5th
<b>DAVID HAYNES</b>	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	Main	AA6th
	GHGC Grand Prix	Main	AA 5th
<b>CRAIG HILL</b>	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	FITASC	Veteran 3rd
	GHGC Grand Prix	5-Stand	HOA Runner up
	GHGC Grand Prix	5-Stand	Veteran Champion
<b>CHENG HOCK CHOO</b>	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	Main	AA 1st
	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	Main	Super Veteran Runner up
	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	5-Stand	AA 1st
<b>RON HONEFENGER</b>	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	Main	Super Veteran 3rd
	Texas State Championship	Main	Super Veteran Runner up
	Texas State Championship	5-Stand	Super Veteran 5th
	GHGC Grand Prix	Main	Super Veteran Champion
	GHGC Grand Prix	5-Stand	Master 3rd
	GHGC Grand Prix	5-Stand	Super Veteran Champion
<b>CHRIS KEYSER</b>	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	Main	Master 9th
<b>BRAD KIDD JR.</b>	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	Main	Master 3rd
	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	FITASC	HOA Runner up
	National Championship	Main	Master 5th
	National Championship	FITASC	Master 7th
<b>AUSTIN KIEMSTEADT</b>	South Central Regional	FITASC	A 5th
	GHGC Grand Prix	Prelim	A 1st
	GHGC Grand Prix	Prelim	Sub-Junior Champion
	GHGC Grand Prix	5-Stand	A 2nd
	GHGC Grand Prix	5-Stand	Sub-Junior Champion

## 2017 NSCA MEMBER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

<b>RICK KIEMSTEADT</b>	GHGC Grand Prix	Main	C 3rd
	GHGC Grand Prix	Prelim	C 2nd
<b>ZACHARY KIENBAUM</b>	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	Main	Master 5th
	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	5-Stand	HOA Champion
	Western Regional	Main	Master 6th
	World English	Main	Master 10th
	World English	5-Stand	Master 3rd
	North East Regional & National FITASC	Main	Master 1st
	North East Regional & National FITASC	National FITASC	Master 3rd
	North East Regional & National FITASC	5-Stand	HOA Champion
	Texas State Championship	Main	Master 3rd
	North Central Regional	Main	HOA Champion
	South Central Regional	Main	Master 3rd
	South Central Regional	FITASC	Master 1st
	South East Regional	Main	Master 4th
	South East Regional	FITASC	Master 2nd
	National Championship	FITASC	HOA Champion
<b>CORY KRUSE</b>	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	Main	HOA Runner up
	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	5-Stand	Master 1st
	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	FITASC	HOA Champion
	Texas State Championship	FITASC	Master 3rd
	Texas State Championship	5-Stand	Master 2nd
	GHGC Grand Prix	Main	HOA Runner up
	National Championship	Main	Master 1st
	National Championship	K-Kup	Master 5th
<b>STEVE LIBERTA</b>	GHGC Grand Prix	Main	Master 1st
<b>SAM MARTIN</b>	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	Main	C 4th
	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	Main	Senior Super Veteran Runner up
	National Championship	Main	Senior Super Veteran B 2nd
<b>MICHAEL MATTHEWS</b>	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	Main	B 6th
	Texas State Championship	5-Stand	A 3rd
	GHGC Grand Prix	Main	A 6th
<b>TOMMY MAYS</b>	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	Main	E 10th
<b>DAVID MCCOY</b>	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	Main	B 7th
	Texas State Championship	FITASC	B 2nd
<b>CODY MCCUTCHEON</b>	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	5-Stand	B 6th
	GHGC Grand Prix	Main	B 1st
	GHGC Grand Prix	Prelim	B 1st
	GHGC Grand Prix	5-Stand	B 1st
<b>FRED MEYER</b>	GHGC Grand Prix	Main	E 3rd
<b>HAROLD MILLER</b>	GHGC Grand Prix	Main	E 6th
<b>AUSTIN MOLLER</b>	National Championship	28ga	A 4th
<b>FORREST MONTEALEGRE</b>	Helice World Championship	Main	Junior HOA Champion
	European Boxbird World Championship	Main	Junior HOA Champion
	Helice World Championship	FAN 32	Junior 3rd
	National Championship	Main	Sub-Junior 3rd
	National Championship	K-Kup	Sub-Junior 5th

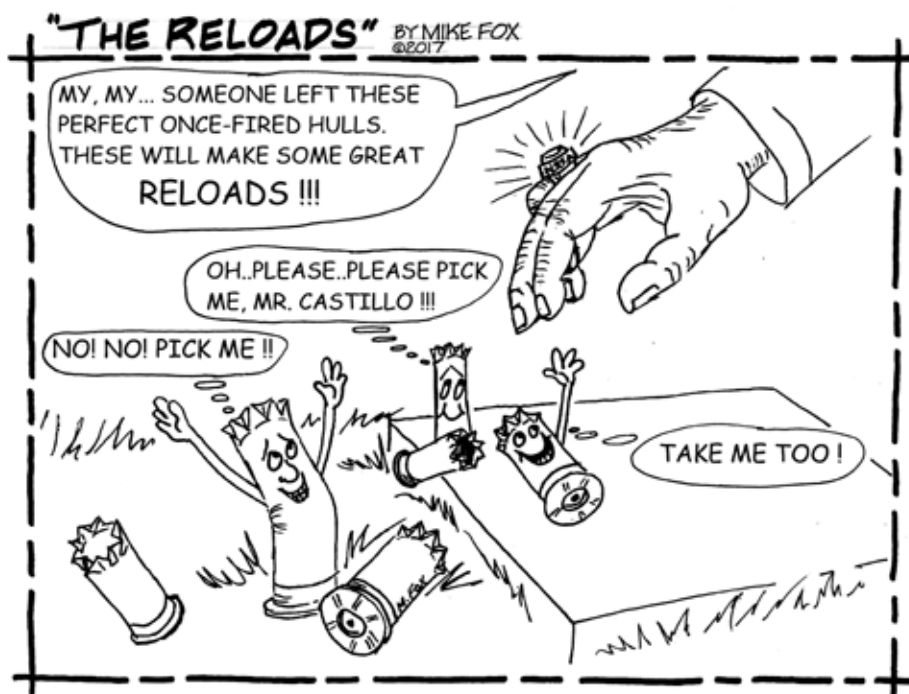


## 2017 NSCA MEMBER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

<b>VALERIE MOORE</b>	GHGC Grand Prix	Main	E 2nd
	GHGC Grand Prix	Prelim	E 1st
	GHGC Grand Prix	Prelim	Lady 3rd
	GHGC Grand Prix	5-Stand	E 2nd
	GHGC Grand Prix	5-Stand	Lady Champion
<b>RICHARD MUNGUIA</b>	Texas State Championship	Main	D 3rd
<b>JUSTIN NAPIER</b>	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	Main	Master 7th
	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	Main	Junior Champion
	Texas State Championship	5-Stand	Junior 3rd
	GHGC Grand Prix	Main	Junior Champion
	GHGC Grand Prix	Prelim	HOA Runner up
	GHGC Grand Prix	Prelim	Junior Champion
	GHGC Grand Prix	5-Stand	Junior Champion
	National Championship	Main	Master 9th
	National Championship	Main	Junior Runner up
<b>NADIM NASIR</b>	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	Main	Veteran 3rd
	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	FITASC	Veteran Champion
	Western Regional	North American FITASC	Veteran Champion
	World English	5-Stand	Veteran 3rd
	North East Regional & National FITASC	National FITASC	Veteran Runner up
	Texas State Championship	FITASC	Master 4th
	Texas State Championship	FITASC	Veteran Champion
	Texas State Championship	FITASC	Veteran 3rd
	South Central Regional	FITASC	Veteran 3rd
	South East Regional	FITASC	Veteran Champion
	South East Regional	5-Stand	Veteran 3rd
	GHGC Grand Prix	Main	Master 4th
	GHGC Grand Prix	Main	Veteran 3rd
	GHGC Grand Prix	5-Stand	Master 2nd
	GHGC Grand Prix	5-Stand	Veteran 3rd
	National Championship	FITASC	Veteran Runner up
	World Cup	Main	Veteran Champion
<b>SANDRA RODRIGUEZ</b>	GHGC Grand Prix	Main	E 5th
	GHGC Grand Prix	5-Stand	E 3rd
	GHGC Grand Prix	5-Stand	Lady Runner up
<b>AUSTIN SHURLEY</b>	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	Main	C 3rd
	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	FITASC	C 4th
<b>TOMMY SHURLEY</b>	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	Main	C 10th
	World English	Main	C 7th
	World English	FITASC	C 5th
	Texas State Championship	FITASC	C 1st
<b>ROBERT SMITH</b>	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	Main	D 2nd
<b>DAVID SMOLENSKY</b>	National Championship	28ga	AA 2nd
<b>BRITTON THEODOROFF</b>	GHGC Grand Prix	Main	E 4th
<b>CHARLIE VAQUERO IV</b>	Texas State Championship	Main	E 5th
	Texas State Championship	5-Stand	E1st
	GHGC Grand Prix	Main	D 6th
	GHGC Grand Prix	5-Stand	D 1st
	GHGC Grand Prix	5-Stand	Sub-Junior Runner up

## 2017 NSCA MEMBER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

<b>JAMES VAQUERO</b>	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	5-Stand	E 4th
	Texas State Championship	5-Stand	E 2nd
	GHGC Grand Prix	Main	D 3rd
	GHGC Grand Prix	5-Stand	D 2nd
<b>GONZALO VARGAS</b>	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	FITASC	Super Veteran 3rd
	Texas State Championship	FITASC	Super Veteran 3rd
	Texas State Championship	FITASC	Super Veteran 5th
	South Central Regional	FITASC	Super Veteran 5th
	GHGC Grand Prix	Main	Super Veteran 3rd
<b>CLARK WALRAVEN</b>	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	Main	Veteran Runner up
	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	5-Stand	Veteran 3rd
	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	FITASC	Veteran Runner up
	Texas State Championship	Main	Veteran 4th
	GHGC Grand Prix	Main	HOA Champion
	GHGC Grand Prix	Main	Veteran Champion
	GHGC Grand Prix	5-Stand	Master 1st
	GHGC Grand Prix	5-Stand	Veteran Runner up
	National Championship	FITASC	Veteran 7th
<b>NOLAN WILLIAMSON</b>	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	Main	B 9th
	Beck and Masten Diamond Classic	FITASC	B 4th
	South Central Regional	FITASC	B 2nd
	GHGC Grand Prix	Main	B 4th
	GHGC Grand Prix	5-Stand	B 3rd
	GHGC Grand Prix	5-Stand	Super Veteran 3rd



## 2017 NSCA MEMBER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

KRIEGHOFF ALL AMERICAN TEAMS	
Zachary Kienbaum	Open 1st Team
Cory Kruse	Open 2nd Team
Brad Kidd Jr.	Open 3rd Team
Bobby Fowler	Open 3rd Team
Desirae Edmunds	Lady 1st Team Captain
Haley Dunn	Lady 3rd Team
Forrest Montealegre	Sub-Junior 1st Team
Dominic Gross	Junior 1st Team
Justin Napier	Junior 1st Team
Clark Walraven	Veteran 1st Team
Craig Hill	Veteran 3rd Team
George Ball	Senior Super Veteran 1st Team
Thomas Haberle	Senior Super Veteran 2nd Team
12GA ALL AMERICAN TEAMS	
Zachary Kienbaum	Open 1st Team
Cory Kruse	Open 1st Team
Brad Kidd Jr.	Open 3rd Team
Bobby Fowler	Open 3rd Team
Desirae Edmunds	Lady 1st Team Captain
Haley Dunn	Lady 2nd Team
Forrest Montealegre	Sub-Junior 2nd Team
Dominic Gross	Junior 1st Team
Justin Napier	Junior 1st Team
Clark Walraven	Veteran 1st Team
Craig Hill	Veteran 2nd Team
George Ball	Senior Super Veteran 2nd Team
20GA ALL AMERICAN TEAMS	
Zachary Kienbaum	Open 1st Team
Richard Malone	Open 2nd Team
Linda Cordova	Lady 1st Team
Barbara Garney	Lady 2nd Team
Forrest Montealegre	Sub-Junior 3rd Team
Gonzalo Vargas	Super Veteran 3rd Team
Thomas Haberle	Senior Super Veteran 1st Team
George Ball	Senior Super Veteran 2nd Team
Richard Ruiz	Senior Super Veteran 2nd Team
Carol Keyte	Senior Super Veteran 3rd Team
28GA ALL AMERICAN TEAMS	
Zachary Kienbaum	Open 1st Team Captain
Linda Cordova	Lady 1st Team
Barbara Garney	Lady 2nd Team
Forrest Montealegre	Sub-Junior 2nd Team
Dylan Anderson	Sub-Junior 3rd Team
George Ball	Senior Super Veteran 1st Team
Thomas Haberle	Senior Super Veteran 1st Team
Richard Ruiz	Senior Super Veteran 3rd Team

410 BORE ALL AMERICAN TEAMS	
Zachary Kienbaum	Open 1st Team Captain
RJ Mehnert	Open 2nd Team
Paul Montealegre	Open 3rd Team
Forrest Montealegre	Sub-Junior 1st Team
Scott Kramer	Veteran 2nd Team
Gonzalo Vargas	Super Veteran 2nd Team
Goerge Flournoy	Super Veteran 3rd Team
Thomas Haberle	Senior Super Veteran 1st Team
Richard Ruiz	Senior Super Veteran 2nd Team
Carol Keyte	Senior Super Veteran 3rd Team
BLASER FITASC ALL AMERICAN TEAMS	
Zachary Kienbaum	Open 1st Team
Brad Kidd Jr.	Open 1st Team
Nadim Nasir	Open 3rd Team
Cory Kruse	Open 3rd Team
Desirae Edmunds	Lady 1st Team
Justin Napier	Junior 1st Team
Dominic Gross	Junior 1st Team
Craig Hill	Veteran 2nd Team
Gonzalo Vargas	Super Veteran 3rd Team
SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL TEAM	
Diego Duarte	Open Team
DUPONT KRIEGHOFF ALL STATE TEAMS	
Paul Montealegre	Open Team
Michelle Miles	Lady Team





# BECK AND MASTEN DIAMOND *Classic*

## 2017 DIAMOND CLASSIC TOURNAMENT WRAP-UP

BY R.K. SAWYER

The Greater Houston Gun Club's biggest annual event, the *Beck and Masten Diamond Classic*, was held March 16 through 19. It was not an idle boast from club manager Kevin Dougherty, who promised that the 2017 event would be "bigger and better." It was. With 453 registered participants and 335 in the Main Event, this was the largest attendance in the shoot's 16-year history.

The 2017 Diamond sported 650 NSCA registered targets and over \$55,000 in prize money offered to all 7 classes, from Master to E-class, in the 200-target Sporting Clays Main Event, 100-target NSCA 5-stand, FITASC, 3 Sub-Gauge (20, 28 and 410), and 100-target Prelim events. And in contrast to last year, when the prospect of monsoon rains threatened to cancel the festivities, the weather was nearly picture perfect for all four days.

The week before the shoot, GHGC's staff worked feverishly to transform the club grounds. Flags were set lining Champions Drive. Room was made for vendor trailers and tents. The skeet line along clubhouse road was converted into 5-stand, clay snooker, and practice 5-stand. At first glance the North and South Sporting Clays courses didn't look very different, but the 45-foot crane over Station 3 on the South course gave a hint of the challenging *Diamond Classic* targets to come.

On Thursday and Friday, the opening *Diamond Classic* festivities included practice fields, the Prelim Sporting Clay, 5-Stand, FITASC, snooker qualifying rounds, and sub-gauge events. Zachary Kienbaum won the Prelim Sporting and Josh Marks bested the field for the Sub-Gauge HOA title.

Saturday was an event filled day, starting with the Sporting Clays Main Event, and continuation of FITASC and 5-Stand. At the end of day GHGC members led the pack! Bobby Fowler was the Main Event leader with a score of 98, but Cory Kruse was only a target away with 97. Brad Kidd was close with a 95.

The Saturday evening hospitality party was planned as a time for respite, and the Diamond delivered. Entertainment kicked off with several gun giveaways and the Calcutta Auction, in which the top 8 shooters in the snooker qualifying were auctioned off. The Snooker single elimination bracket shoot-off took place immediately following the auction, with the \$3,500 prize pool going to high scorer Robin Irvine and Cory Kruse in second. Gun barrels were barely cool before dinner started, with its customary ice sculpture loaded with a mountain of shrimp, quail, lamb chops, deviled eggs with smoked duck, and never-ending refreshments from the open bar.

Sunday's 9:00 start time was met by only the sound of silence, the shooting delayed until the morning

fog burned off. The second – and final - Main Event rotation had all three leaders shooting the South course, the more difficult of the two courses. Anything could happen, and a flurry of spectators were glued to the scoreboards as the shooters began to come off the course.

By the time breeches were opened Sunday afternoon, Bobby Fowler with a 194 took top honors as the Main Event HOA, adding to his collection another Hinz Jewelers custom gold Championship ring, and a check for \$5000. Look for his name next year, engraved on the Diamond club trophy and the year “2017” added to his impressive tally on the flag along Champions Drive. Runner-up Cory Kruse shot a 189. Zachary Kienbaum, with a 96, took the 100-bird 5-Stand honors, and Cory Kruse was FITASC HOA top gun with a score of 92.

The 2017 *Diamond Classic* marks GHGC's 16th year as host to this popular competition, the “premier shoot in Texas.” The pre-planning and experience combined with Mother Nature's cooperation made this year's Diamond one of the smoothest ever. “I kept checking my radio to see if it was still working,” Kevin said, “with our professional and experienced staff everything ran perfectly, keeping radio traffic to almost zero.” It was a challenging but reasonable course, this year set by GHGC's Matt Garver and Kevin Dougherty, and Briley's Jason Menke. “We tweaked it a lot,” Matt said, “but I think we got it right. We expected the high score to be between 94 and 96, and were a little surprised when a few guys did a little better than that.”

The GHGC members, Board of Directors, and management team wish to congratulate the winners and thank all the participants who attended the 2017 Diamond Classic. We had a huge response from our sponsors again this year. A very special thanks to Beck and Masten GMC North, Hinz Jewelers, Able's Sporting, Legacy Ford, Westside Drywall, Mach Industrial Group, Briley, Alliance Printing, Big Guys Shooting Supplies, Texas Premier Sporting Arms, Liberty Golf Cars, Nettles & Co., White Flyer, Sanders, Morris and Harris, Pro Shot, Long Range, and Mustang Rentals and Long Range. We were fortunate, as well, that the ‘Old Guys Let it Fly Club’ returned to referee. And thanks are once again extended to our neighbor, Demarco Machine, who allowed us to park vehicles and trailers near the club entrance again this year. We hope to see everyone again next year for yet again a bigger and better Diamond Classic!



# CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP AND INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

**Sunday, July 1, 2018**

*Don't miss it!*

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO SIGN UP PLEASE VISIT  
[WWW.GREATERHOUSTONGUNCLUB.COM](http://WWW.GREATERHOUSTONGUNCLUB.COM)





# RESOURCES

## SHOOTING INSTRUCTION:

Gil, Vicky & Brian Ash	281-346-0888	osp4u@ospschool.com	ospschoolshooting.com
Dan Carlisle	706-566-1276	dan@shooting4gold.com	shooting4gold.com
C.H. Choo		chchoo88@gmail.com	
Diego Duarte	346-317-6460	diegoduarte@shotgunacademy.com	
Haley Dunn	614-660-6174	hdunn@hotmail.com	
Desirae Edmunds	907-227-3892	desi.edmunds@gmail.com	
Tom Fiori	281-384-1529	tfiori@sbcglobal.net	skeetshootinginhouston.com
Jeff Foster	512-413-8707	jfoster@apexshooting.net	
Bobby Fowler	713-858-4200	elitestgun@aol.com	elitestshooting.com
Mike Fox	713-292-6962	allsmoke@gmail.com	
Jay Herbert	281-797-4707		
Ron Ingles	951-317-7207	ron@rpmschoolshooting.com	rpmschoolshooting.com
Brad Kidd Jr.	985-232-1696	bradkiddcoaching@gmail.com	bradkiddjr.com
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Cory Kruse		ckruse@cgsboats.com	kruseschoolshooting.com
Steve Liberta	845-453-3916	libertasteve@gmail.com	
Mike Maskell	812-322-6905	maskellshotgunacademy@gmail.com	theschoolgunacademy.com
RJ Mehnert	713-614-1205	rjonline@gmail.com	
Gonzalo Vargas	713-854-0961	gm628@icloud.com	

## LOCAL GUNSMITHING:

Briley Manufacturing	800-331-5718	sms@briley.com	www.briley.com
Big Guy Shooting Supply	713-416-6331	low8X2@yahoo.com	www.bigguyschoolshooting.com
Feland's Gunsmithing	281-373-0335	felandsgunsmith@yahoo.com	www.felandgunsmith.com
Dustin Mounts Gunsmithing	281-431-0240	info@dustinmounts.com	www.dustinmounts.com

## CUSTOM AUDIO PROTECTION

The Audio Protection Company	832-647-3836	timholt@earthlink.net
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## GUNS, AMMO, ACCESSORIES, RELOADING, TRAPS AND RENTALS

Briley Manufacturing	800-331-5718	sms@briley.com	www.briley.com
Big Guy Shooting Supply	713-416-6331	low8X2@yahoo.com	www.bigguyschoolshooting.com
Ables	800-720-3275		www.ableammo.com

## SHOTGUN FORUMS AND GUN TALK:

Shooters page Texas	www.shooterspagetx.com
Shotgun World	www.shotgunworld.com

## OTHER FRIENDS:

National Skeet Shooting Association	www.mynssa.com
National Sporting Clays Association	www.mynsca.com
Texas Skeet Shooting Association	www.mytssa.com
Iclays	www.iclays.com
Myskeet	www.myskeet.com
National Rifle Association	www.nra.org
National Shooting Sports Foundation	www.nssf.org



John Petty



Ira Jones



William  
Brookshire



Randy Freeman



Jimmy McDaniel

*Friends we have lost but will never forget*

IRA JONES  
1943-2017

JOHN PETTY  
1953-2017

WILLIAM BROOKSHIRE  
1935-2017

RANDY FREEMAN  
1953-2016

JIMMY MCDANIEL  
1931-2017



# SAFETY AND ETIQUETTE

## SAFETY

The safety of our members, guests and staff is our Number One priority! It is everyone's responsibility to practice safety at all times and report violations. For everyone's protection always be aware of what is happening around you and never hesitate to report a safety violation, suspected safety violation or anything that makes you uncomfortable. You just may save someone's life. Target shooting is a sport we all love but it can also be dangerous if safety is not our first priority.

Always remember it is your responsibility to see that your guests are following all of GHGC's safety rules. Upon check-in, be sure your guests have the proper equipment and are well versed on safety rules and appropriate etiquette.

Below is a list of GHGC's safety rules that everyone, **WITHOUT EXCEPTION**, must follow at all times.

1. While on any shooting venue, eye and ear protection are required at all times.
2. Never mix gauges while shooting, pick one gauge to shoot at a time.
3. 7.5, 8 or 9 shot only.
4. Never load more than two shells.
5. A yellow chain pulled across a shooting station indicates GHGC staff is servicing that station, please move on to another station.
6. Guns must be open and empty unless you are in the designated shooting position.
7. Always make sure your gun is empty before leaving the shooting position.
8. Always check your breech for obstructions before loading.
9. The speed limit on GHGC property for all motorized vehicles is 15 mph.
10. Alcohol is not permitted on any venue at any time.
11. Shooting after consumption of alcohol is strictly prohibited.

## ETIQUETTE

For the enjoyment of all, please practice the following:

12. Always be respectful to other members, guests and staff.
13. While shooting Sporting Clays it is courteous when stopping at a station to pull your cart off to the side of the road to allow others to pass.
14. While waiting for a group to finish at a station, be respectful by keeping your distance and keeping conversations and radios on a low volume.
15. While shooting Sporting Clays, if you plan to practice on a particular station for an extended period of time, it is courteous to allow others to shoot through.
16. Skipping over stations is permitted, but do so in a manner so as not to disrupt the flow of the course or the group you are passing.
17. To keep the flow of the courses moving when the Club is busy, please only move from station to station in a clockwise direction.
18. The Gun Care Center is for all members and guests. Please pick-up after yourself so others can enjoy the space.
19. All tools, brushes, oils and cleaning supplies are complimentary, please use what you need and leave the rest.
20. Please keep dogs out of the main Club House during the dinner hour.

## REMINDER

As of July 1, 2014 the policy of BYOB is no longer permitted anywhere on GHGC property. No alcohol can be brought onto GHGC grounds at any time.





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HOUSTON, TEXAS 77053  
(281) 437-6025

[WWW.GREATERHOUSTONGUNCLUB.COM](http://WWW.GREATERHOUSTONGUNCLUB.COM)

