

The safest gun is the one that is pointed in a safe direction

MIXED CALIBERS

Official Publication of The FLORIDA SPORT SHOOTING ASSOCIATION

Dedicated to defending the "Right to keep and bear arm" and the promotion of the shooting sports

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I am happy to start my second term serving you as President of our Association.

The last time I wrote I gave you all my phone number; I was seeking volunteers for the nominations committee for 2003.

I also announced we were moving the Mixed Caliber's to an "on-

line" publication. After that announcement arrived in members my phone number started to ring. It was members who did not want the Mixed Caliber's an "on-line" only publication. Unfortunately the request did not result in volunteers to serve on the nominations committee for 2003. So I will include it again here and ask for volunteers to help us 561-798-4574.

If you are reading this on-line a copy will also arrive in your mailbox, for others you are reading this after taking it out of your mailbox. Your wishes have

resulted in a change of policy and copies of the Mixed Caliber's will arrive in your mailbox over the year and Still be available on line at our web site www.FLSSA.org. For the most up to date information please keep checking the web.

For our Affiliated Clubs, the "Best Management Practices", for shooting ranges is expected to be released soon by the Department of Environmental Protection, concerning lead. Watch for more information on this in future issues.

Please make sure that your discipline directors, and local club match directors get their match schedules, and contact information to our editor so they can be posted in the Mixed Calibers and on the web site.

Mark Evans



Annual Meeting

By Tom Brusherd

The Annual Florida Sports Shooting Association meeting took place at the end of January. The day had an early start with a swap meet in the morning and the fellowship continued thru out the day. After an excellent lunch Mike Baker, the guest speaker, gave an outstanding presentation on NRA: A Historical Perspective. Mike is such a great asset to preserving our gun rights. I will try to give you some highlights of his life.

Mike and his wife have been married for 36 years and have two children and one grandchild. Second amendment activist and advocate on nationally syndicated radio programs and regional talk shows. He is an independent technical consultant for the firearms industry. Mike is a benefactor of NRA, A charter and sustaining member of NRA's golden Eagles and NRA's James Madison Brigade. He is a legislative activist - organizing RKBA projects, gun rights billboard campaigns and home

Firearm's safety booths in shopping malls and plazas where NRA

safety and training material are distributed.

In his spare time Mike participates occasionally in IPSC, BULLS EYE, long range rifle silhouette and cowboy matches, but his primarily interested in reactive target and bowling-pin shooting. When time permitted, he used to enjoy hunting Florida's feral hog with level-action .45-70 or putting a rabbit in the pot with a .22 rim fire rifle. His preferred hunting technique is still hunting or as he calls it "woods creeping"

Mike sums up his vision for the NRA as follows: "NRA's top priority should be grassroots 'seed planting' -----starting new grassroots activist groups, that nurturing, train and communicating with them to protect the 2nd Amendment. Getting folks involved is what it is all about!" To those of you who missed the meeting you missed a glorious day to brag about your shooting experiences. We hope to see many more of the members at the future FSSA Annual meetings.

A letter from the Editor



Ouch!! Did I get your attention? Mixed Calibers is still growing and having more growing pains and the editor is still learning and making mistakes. More changes for the Mixed Calibers on the way its being distributed. At the annual meeting the Board of Directors decided that we would mail out a condensed version of the Mixed Calibers this month to every member. A full version of Mixed Calibers will be on the web page, www.flssa.org, along with the back issues of the newspaper. If you like to continue to receive a copy of the Mixed Calibers by mail you must fill out the form that you will find in this issue and mail it back to us. Hopefully this will get the

FSSA news out to members who do not have access to the web and need a printed copy.

If you did not attend the annual meeting then you missed some great socializing, lunch and maybe picking up a few good bargains at the swap meet. The fraternal item's table was doing a brisk business. I understand the polo shirts were a hit and a lot of members bought them. Does this mean at the next FSSA meeting we will all be dress the same? I want to thank everyone that helped with the Official FSSA photo album on identifying the pictures. The photo album was enjoyed by the membership and I would like to fill it up even more so if you have any pictures to share of events or people and maybe a few black mail pictures (smile) please send them to me and I will make it part of the photo album. The album brought back some good and bad memories depending on how good your score was at the time the picture was taken.

Since there are members who do not have access to email and would like to send information or articles for the Mixed Calibers I now have three ways you can reach me.

Email: mixedcal@bellsouth.net

Mail: The Editor, P.O. Box 14024, Jacksonville, FL 32238-4024

Fax: (904) 772-6408

Good shooting to everyone!



To receive Mixed Calibers by mail you **MUST** return this form to the following address,

THE EDITOR- MIXED CALIBERS
 P.O. BOX 14024
 JACKSONVILLE, FL 32238-4024

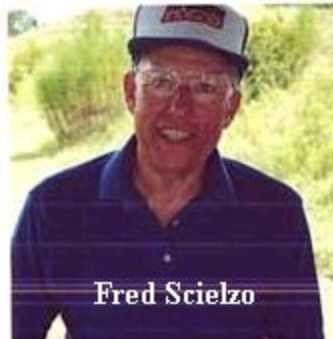
NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

SMALLBORE NEWS

By Al Dart



Fred Scielzo



Megan Fitzgerald



Rebekah Vaughan



Jake
Hershorin

Rich Muller

Well, this may sound like old news, but three Small bore Rifle State Championships were held in 2001. I just missed the first edition of the new Mixed Calibers. The Conventional Prone and the Outdoor Three Position Championships were held on September 1-3 at the Central Florida Rifle and Pistol Club (CFRPC) in Orlando. 30 shooters entered the Conventional Prone Championship. This was one of the best turnouts in a number of years. The Three Position Championship had 22 entrants. The prone match was a hot contest between reigning champion **Randy Schwartz** of Miami and **Fred "Fast Fred" Scielzo** of Palm City. At the end of the Metallic Sight Match on the first day of shooting, Scielzo had a 2 point lead over Schwartz and that was all it would take to win the Championship. On the second day, Scielzo and Schwartz both tied with a 1597-112X so the 2 point lead from the first day was all Scielzo needed to claim the 2001 Championship. As it turned out, Scielzo won the Any Sight Match when the tiebreak rule was applied to make it a clean sweep of all three aggregates. First Expert for the match was **Megan Fitzgerald** of Orlando. First Sharpshooter went to **Rebekah Vaughan** of Jacksonville and first Marksman went to **David Sprecher** of Tarpon Springs. Fitzgerald, Vaughan, and Sprecher were all Intermediate Juniors at the time of the match. The Three Position Championship was totally dominated by Junior shooters. In another close match, the English Match (60 shots prone) was won by Vaughan by one point over Schwartz. **Katie Harrington** of Jacksonville was first Sharpshooter and Sprecher was first Marksman. Fitzgerald won the Three Position Championship. **Catie Leach**, Orlando, was first Expert and Vaughan and Sprecher were again first in Sharpshooter and Marksman class respectively.

The Metric Prone State Championship was also held at CFRPC in November. It was also a tight match. **Rich Muller**, Jacksonville, was the Metallic Sight Match winner by one point over Randy Schwartz. On the second day, however, Junior shooter **Jake Hershorin**, Miami shot out in front of the pack by 5 points to win the Any Sight Match and ultimately, the Metric Prone Championship.

Congratulations to all the winners

Interview of Claire Nicholas

By Sue Preston, British Junior Team Coach for
Britain's "The Rifleman" Magazine



Current British National Junior Champion, 16 year old Claire Nicholas, has been winning championships and medals since she was 11 years. Living in South Florida, she has an impressive medal collection from US National Championships, British Championships, Junior Olympics, Florida Championships and Grand Prix's.

What first interested you in the shooting sport?

Claire: The excitement of traveling and the enthusiasm of participating in such a unique, and not so common sport. Especially since I had never took part in a sport before.

How did you get started?

Claire: My Mother had been shooting competitively for a couple of years. After making fun of her 'pointless' sport, I decided I would give it a try and saw what a big challenge it was.

What do you like most about shooting competition?

Claire: The state of sub-consciousness that you automatically enter into, but don't realize it until it is all over. It shows me that there is a whole different element to myself that I had never taken the time to notice. I also like it because I use it as a way to define myself. It has become a part of me and has changed my entire mental state of perception.

What do your friends think of your shooting?

Claire: Some of my friend's think that it's pointless to shoot at paper instead of the more common use of guns for hunting, a the mind set that I pertained before I started. My other friends are really proud of me and recognize that since it is not the 'norm' it fits me perfectly.

Has shooting impacted other parts of your life?

Claire: Of course, I have fun meeting people from all over the world. I have also gotten a lot closer to mother/coach/financial provider. It was really cool to talk to her on a different level. I think that I have matured a lot quicker, especially when I traveled to matches alone. I became able to think in a way that many of my friends never knew existed. Finally, shooting comes with a lot of bragging rights; it can be used during an awkward silence, to argue with hunters, and impress people with another amazing fact that they would never have thought about.

What is the hardest part of shooting competition?

Claire: Simple, blocking out the eternal presence of distractions. People talking, the condition of competitors around you, a particular lighting that clashes with your preference, the occasional mishap in the mechanics of your gun, lingering on past mistakes instead of present improvements, and your score. These elements plague all shooters at one time in their career, but the progression of their career portrays their conquest of this problem.

Where have you traveled to compete?

Claire: Over my five years of shooting, I have traveled and competed in all parts of the Unites States, Canada and England.

Protecting Our Sport Range Issues By Captain Ed Tyer

I have been designing buildings and managing public shooting ranges for the Florida State's Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission for 28 years. I retired this past year on November 28, 2001 and during my career there have been many changes. All there was to building a range was stacking up dirt, building a shed then banging away. Now we need to do an environmental study before we can even get started designing a range. Lead was something we shot, and when it filled the berm to the point where we had ricochets from all the lead in the berm, we dug it out and made new bullets and we began again.

With today's environmental sensitivity, a totally new approach is required on the issue of range lead. When I attended the 1993 National Range Symposium, I heard a representative speak what must be done to solve this lead problem and it hit me like a ton of bricks. To paraphrase what the representative said that made such an impression on me, as long as a range is operating and steps are taken to minimize any negative impact on the environment then the range is complying with the intent of the law. However, as soon as a range is closed, it becomes a toxic waste dump and all related laws apply. What is meant by "steps being taken to minimize any negative impact" is the development and adherence to a Best Management Practices Plan (BMP).

Florida's regulatory agency has put together a committee of people with shooting range experience; to develop guidelines for BMP's for ranges in Florida. The committee includes representatives from the National Shooting Sports Foundation, the National Range Association, the National Rifle Association, The Wildlife Institute, range designers, engineers, and range owners/managers and shooters from around the state. Representatives of the State Law Enforcement Training Center coordinate all this. The group has a good representation of shooters, - covering most types of facilities including civilian shooters,

Rifles and Pistol clubs, and police and military agencies.

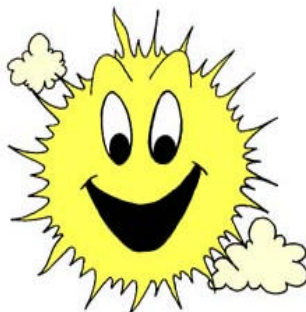
There are those among us who will say this issue is just another one of the anti-gun people's ploys to take our guns away. I assure you that this is not the intent of this group. There is a problem with lead and we must face that fact. We must address the lead issue on our ranges and have a plan to deal with the lead. If we do not address this issue, the anti-gun people can use the lead issue to impact gun owners and ranges. The direction the committee is taking is to produce a guide that range managers can use to develop a BMP for their range. Some of the best management practices include such things as removing and recycling lead on some regular basis, soil maintenance, controlling surface water run off and other site specific activities. How often lead will need to be removed will depend on the amount of use and type of shooting done, the location of the range and the ph level of the soil. Other factors will guide ranges toward developing a BMP that will help ensure the ranges are taking proactive action to reduce any negative impact they may have on the environment. The use of a BMP will help in other ways such as providing proof to neighbors that the range is being responsible in the use of their site. A BMP can help discourage action against a range by its neighbors concerned about the lead issue.

Several of us are considering starting a Florida Range Association to help us keep up-to-date on the issues facing ranges, and to promote cooperative activities to enhance or improve shooting sports in our state. If you are interested in information on the next BMP Committee meeting or in becoming part of a State Range Association or if you have questions about ranges that I may be of an assistance with, please feel free to contact me, Ed Tyler, at (850) 926-7375 or email at sportshooting@aol.com

SUNSHINE GAMES

BY AL DART

The schedule for the Shooting Events of the 2002 Sunshine State Spring Games has been set and the schedule is on the next page under match schedules. Shooting Events booklets containing information on mail around Feb. 9. If you have participant for at least the last 2 a booklet. Shooting Events requested directly from the Florida www.flasports.com.



each event should be in the been a Sunshine Games years, you should be getting booklets can also be Sports Foundation at

In 2001, it was estimated that there would be about 400 entrants in the Shooting Events. The actual participation was over 500. This year the participation should be near 600 in the Spring Games. The shotgun events (trap and skeet) will be held as part of the Summer Games in West Palm Beach.

See match Schedule for the dates and location of the Spring Sunshine State Games Shooting Events – On Next Page



A BIG THANKS for all the workers for the Annual FSSA Meeting. Without all your hard work the day would not have been enjoyable as it was.

WEB SITES OF INTEREST

FSSA (our own webpage) www.flssa.org
 National Rifle Association www.nra.org
 Civilian Marksmanship Program www.odcmp.org
 USA Shooting www.usashooting.com
 Florida Small bore www.floridashooting.com
 Hunting Information www.HuntInfo.org
 Florida High Power <http://forums.delphiforums.com/FlaHighpower>
 Your Second Amendment Rights www.2ndamendment.com
 The Second Amendment Club – They are working on a project to get a specialty license plate “Protect the Second Amendment” www.secondamendmentclub.org

Match Schedules*

Pistol Matches

TBA	Senior Games Air Pistol & Air Rifle (50 yrs or older), Villages of Fl near Ocala
TBA	State International Championships, Wyoming Antelope Club, St. Pete
March 8,9,10	Convention Championship – 27 Leg, Wyoming Antelope Club, St. Pete
May 4,5	Florida Regional – 2700, Wyoming Antelope Club
June 16	Pre Perry, 2700, Wyoming Antelope Club
July 8 thru 13	Camp Perry, National Championships, 2700 Leg team – 100 Camp Perry, Ohio
September 21,22	Florida Fall Conventional Champions (tentative leg) Wyoming Antelope Club, St. Pete Contact: Gene Pitts, Debbie Story or Kim Radford
October 26,27	Fall International (AP-FP-SP-CF) Orlando, Fla, Central Fl R&P Club Contact: Al Dart

Sunshine Games Matches

Central Florida Rifle and Pistol Club

April 27	International Pistol (AP, STD, CF/Sport)
April 28	Conventional Pistol 2700
May 4,5	Small Bore Rifle Prone
May 5	IDPA
May 11	Small Bore rifle Three Position, Air Rifle, Sporter Air Rifle
May 11,12	Cowboy Match
May 18	Tactical Three guns
May 19	300 Meter High Power Prone, Muzzle Loading
May 25	IPSC
May 26	CMP High Power Rifle

Port Malabar Rifle and Pistol Club

May 4	Hunter Pistol Silhouette
May 11	Conventional High Power, Small Bore Rifle Silhouette
May 18	Air Pistol Silhouette

End of Sunshine Games Matches

Smallbore Matches

February 23	Canceled	CANCELED NRA Junior Sectional Smallbore – Jacksonville
March 2, 3	9:00 A.M.	NRA Metric Prone Regional, Orlando
March 9,10	8:00 A.M.	NRA Metric Prone Regional, Orlando
March 9, 10	8:00 A.M.	USAS PTO – Tom Lowe Shooting Grounds, Atlantic, Georgia
March 16	9:00 A.M.	DCJRC Roundup March – Trail Glades Range, Miami
March 16, 17	8:00 A.M.	NRA Conventional Prone, Hollywood
April 6,7	9:00 A.M.	NRA 3 Position Regional, Orlando
April 13	8:30 A.M.	NRA Conventional Prone 1600, Hollywood
April 13, 14	8:00 A.M.	USA PTO – Tom Lowe Shooting Grounds, Atlantic, George
April 20	9:00 A.M.	DCJRC Roundup Match – Trail glades Range Miami
April 20, 21	9:00 A.M.	National 3 Position Air Rifle Council – State Qualifier & NRA 3 – Position Air Team Championships, Jacksonville
April 27, 28	8:30 A.M.	USAS PTO, All Air will be shot on the 28 th Gateway Rifle Pistol Club, Jacksonville

*ALL MATCHES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE SO PLEASE CHECK BEFORE YOU ATTEND

