



POWDER CREEK NEWS

Newsletter of
Powder Creek Shooting Park
8601 Monticello Road
Lenexa, Ks 66227
Website: www.powdercreek.com

Issue 22 Spring 2006

Things Are Booming at Powder Creek

Al Gehrt

The year 2005 closed out setting an all-time record for revenue generated at Powder Creek. To put things in an even clearer perspective, annual revenues have increased by an average of almost \$54,000 yearly since 2002. What an accomplishment! We saw record income from sporting clays, trap, and supply sales, throwing almost 2.5-million targets along the way. The mark on the wall your Board of Directors has set is to continue that upward trend.

We've seen some significant achievements and milestones already in 2006. Through the promotional efforts of Dan Buie and John Francis, coupled with a track record of past successes, record turnouts have been the word for the day on the first two sporting clays shoots held in 2006.

Dan and John, along with Kent Troughton, got a 20-foot tower erected on the Sport Course. I trust that John and Dan will touch on these items in a little more detail later on in this letter.

Larry Hicks and Dan Buie have the Spring Skeet League up and running already, which is reflected in skeet revenues for 2006. Some nine teams and 36 individuals are participating in the league this spring.



One of the most enjoyable weekends I've ever spent at Powder Creek was that of March 11th and 12th at the first annual Kansas State University "Shootout at the Crossroads." Some 84 shooters representing 11 colleges and universities from across the Midwest –

from the University of Wyoming to Eastern Kentucky - participated in the event.

Dan Buie and his staff, along with a cadre of volunteers, including Tim Bruggeman, Bruce Payne; Don, Vickie and Russ Stevens; Larry Stacey, Matt Ewing, Jerry Veneklasen, Mike Latham, Paul Bredthauer, John Francis, Greg Moats, and Phil and JP Gehrt, did a superlative job in conducting the shoot. After all was tabulated, some 31,000 program targets were thrown. Look for articles in upcoming issues of "Sporting Clays" and "Trap and Field" magazines. To quote one of our volunteers, "This is the neatest thing that's ever happened at Powder Creek!" Trust me, I share his enthusiasm. You may want to check out the article posted in the KC Star on March 15th at:

<http://www.kansascity.com/mld/kansascity/14099710.htm>..

Upon reflecting what's been written, there seems to be a common thread



among all of these success stories and that is Dan Buie. Dan has been with us a little over two years now. I've seen him grow - a lot. I'm proud of the man and grateful to him for making my job so easy. Which brings me to the next story. On March 5th, at the "Chili Blast" Sporting Clays shoot, Dan was presented with a Beretta 391, 3 flats of shells, and a Harley Davidson gift certificate. While John Francis made the presentation, it was the culmination of the efforts of our own Matt Ewing, working behind the scenes, soliciting donations from various members, making the gift possible. To some, Matt may appear a bit crusty on the outside, but the man has a heart of gold – and he avoids the limelight like the plague! When presented with the gifts, Dan was at a complete loss for words – a first since I've known him. The message is clear. We love you, Dan Buie! (A grateful "thank you" to all who contributed and made the gift possible – I know that Dan is getting a lot of mileage out of that shotgun.)

The rifle and pistol range remain closed at this time. The Board of Directors continues to evaluate the feasibility of implementing needed improvements.

The 2006 shooting season is getting into full swing. Many of us have already filled up our dance cards with 2006 shoot dates. Make sure you check out Powder Creek's web we b

site – www.powdercreek.com for a complete listing of all registered shoots scheduled for 2006.

Finally, I would be truly remiss in closing without expressing my thanks and appreciation to Tamala Harsha, Karen Thrasher, the many fine trappers and volunteers - that are the day-to-day faces of Powder Creek. My sincere thanks and appreciation to each of you for your hard work and dedication!

Trap Report

Phil Gehrt

Spring Trap League

It's time to think about getting your team together for Powder Creek's Thursday night Spring Trap League, which starts April 6 and runs through June 1. We presently have 14 teams signed up, and would like to encourage more shooters to participate. Like last year, teams will be assigned a time to shoot each week, and a schedule will be distributed after the first week of shooting.

Our Trap League is designed to be fun for the recreational and beginning shooter, and is not intended to be highly competitive. Teams are broken down into three 'flights', with awards presented to the top team in each flight. This ensures that new shooters aren't competing with more experienced teams. Teams should be comprised of five members, and include up to two

alternate shooters to cover absences of any shooters who can't make a scheduled shoot date.

League fees are \$125 per team, which includes a dinner on the last night of league shooting, as well as prizes. For additional information on the Trap League, contact Dan Buie or Phil Gehrt.

Registered Trap Shooting

Ready to take your trap shooting to the next level? If you are, then you should consider participating in one of Powder Creek's registered trap shoots. This year we will be hosting seven registered shoots, on the following dates:

This year we will be hosting seven registered shoots, on the following dates:

Sunday	April 23
Sunday	May 21
Sunday	June 25
Sunday	July 23
Saturday	August 19
Sunday	September 24
Sunday	October 15

Each registered trap shoot typically consists of 100 targets in each of the three trap disciplines: 16-yard singles, handicap, and doubles. Prizes are awarded to shooters in various categories in these events (e.g., sub-junior/junior, ladies, vet/senior vet), and Powder Creek's management

strives to find ways to make these events fun for all shooters.

Membership in the Amateur Trapshooters Association (ATA) is required, along with the Kansas Trapshooters Association (KTA) if you are a Kansas resident. For more information on registered trap shooting, see Dan Buie or Phil Gehrt.

It appears that spring arrived

Remember to Renew Your Membership

Powder Creek is owned by its members and your dues allow the Club to continue to improve Powder Creek.

**Don't Miss the 2006
Powder Creek
SWAP & SHOP
Bring what you don't need
and get those treasures
you have been wanting.
Tuesday April 18th
5 PM Until 8 PM**

MEMBERS ONLY

Skeet Report

Larry Hicks

early this year; in fact, some would claim that we went from fall straight into spring. The weather has been very accommodative for shooting and if you have been to the club you have noticed that the shooters have been many.

The new lights are getting quite a work out. We have had shooters out practicing under the lights until closing time on both Tuesdays and Fridays. Many positive comments have been received concerning the new lights. If you have not been out after sunset to shoot under the new lights, you are certainly missing out.

The first registered shoot of the season will be the Kansas Northern Zone held on April 28 – 30, 2006. This will be a good warm up for the shooting season as it is the first four gun shoot in the area this year.

The Summertime Open will be shot the weekend just prior to the Fourth of July. We had 59 shooters for the sixty available slots last year. We have increased the available slots to 75 this year. It appears these additional slots will be filled this year. We had shooters from several states attend last year and interest is being

shown from additional states for 2006.

Our Spring League is off to a good start. We have nine four-man teams. While it is usually very windy during the spring league, the wind has been exceptionally calm this year. The scores are good.

The last registered shoot of the year will be held on Saturday, September 29, 2006. Those of you that are acquainted with Larry Mills will appreciate the fact that we named this shoot the Larry Mills Double Mania. The shoot will consist of 50 registered doubles (100 targets) in the morning and 50 registered doubles (100 targets) in the afternoon. We plan to have a small cook out and then practice doubles (non-registered) under the lights. Being that the date is only a couple of weeks prior to the World Shoot, this will give everyone a chance to practice under the lights for the shoot offs at the world.

Only minor construction on the skeet fields is scheduled for this year, so come on out and break some targets. We will be looking for you. Remember, the object is to shoot two at low eight.

Larry Hicks, Skeet Director

THINK FIREARM SAFETY !

POWDER CREEK COWBOYS

S.A. Barber, aka Tame Bill
President, Powder Creek Cowboys

No articles submitted for this edition of the Newsletter. Hello Cowboys?

www.powdercreekcowboys.org

SHOTGUN SHELLS RELOADING SUPPLIES ACCESSORIES

**For your convenience
Powder Creek carries a
wide variety of shotgun
shells for use on all
shotgun ranges. Reloading
supplies are available as
well as other shooting
accessories.**

Powder Creek Shooting School By John Francis

The Spring CO snow goose season is over now and I'm getting back to my usual routine. The hunting was great while it lasted and I tried to do my part for the conservation order by taking over 120 geese in a four week period. I won't tell you how many shells I went through but my Benelli is still smoking hot.

Last November I finished my NSCA Level III Instructor Certification. It was an intense five day class taught by some of the best target and wing shooters in the country. Part of our class was a seminar by Lanny Bassham from Mental Management who covered all the mental aspects of shooting. The instructors were Gary Greenway, NSCA Chief Instructor, Vance Barnes, Gil Ash, and NSSA Director, Don Snyder. We had 35 students each day and there were six instructors taking the class. We had the entire National Shooting Complex to play on and they left it just like it was set from Nationals.

There are very few level III instructors in the country and I am the only one in the Midwest. I plan on teaching instructor classes across the country as well as giving private and

group lessons at Powder Creek or traveling to other clubs. Most of the active Level III instructors spend their time writing books or making videos but I intend to focus on the future of the sport, the new shooters, hunters, and the competitive shooters.

I have been shooting competitively for over 15 years and have been an avid wing shooter for over 30 years. Most of my experience is in sporting clays and FITASC but I have been known to break a few trap and skeet targets on occasion.

If you have any questions or concerns about your shooting give me a call at 816-590-0285 and I will do whatever I can to assist you.

Good Shooting,

John Francis
NSCA Level III Instructor

Coming Soon New 12 Station SPORTING CLAYS Course

SWAP MEET

Tuesday April 18th!!!!

MEMBERS ONLY

Call it a Swap Meet, a Flea Market or just an excuse to clean out your gunroom, your tacklebox and get rid of the hunting and camping equipment you no longer use. This **MEMBERS ONLY** event is scheduled for the evening of Tuesday April 18th. That evening the clubhouse will be open to Members only and allow you to bring in all those items that you just do not use or need anymore.

If you are any kind of shooter, you have accumulated reloaders, gun cases, holsters, brass, shells, books, owner's manuals, scope mounts, or memorabilia that is just gathering dust. If you fish, camp or hunt, or maybe used to do all of the above, you too have numerous items also gathering dust.

Bring your goodies to the SWAP MEET and trade them for other priceless gems that you can trade again next year. Since this event is only open to **MEMBERS**, shotguns, rifles and other firearms will be displayed and traded. It has been several years since we have held this type of event so the demand will be high for space. Bring your own card table or make arrangements through Bill for the limited table space available through the club. If you are looking for that one special item to complete your

collection (of whatever) or you just need more space in your home or safe, this event is for you. If you are a new shooter and have still have space in your home wasted on living areas, come on to the SWAP MEET and get started. No such thing as too much stuff, sometimes you just need different stuff. For more information, just call the club, 913-422-5063

Information will also be available in our clubhouse. You don't need directions, but you must be a Member to attend. Food and Beverages will be available. Hope to see you on April 18th.

Schedule Your Corporate Outings at Powder Creek

Powder Creek Shooting Park is an outstanding facility for hosting your corporate events. The Club can structure your outing to any size group, large or small.

You can schedule any or all available shotgun disciplines, arrange for professional instruction and include catered luncheons and/or dinners.

The clubhouse can accommodate approximately 120 people for your day of shooting, meeting, luncheon or social gathering.

Please call Dan Buie at the Clubhouse for details. It is better than golf!!!

Safety Notes:

From Dan Buie

For the Shotgun Shooter, **Powder Creek Shooting Park** is a target shooting park only, not a hunting area. In all of the shooting disciplines we shoot only target loads.

A target load is a shot shell with #7 ½ or smaller shot. (The larger the number the smaller the shot) Maximum Dram Equivalent of shells allowed at Powder Creek is as follows:

Gauge	Weight of shot	Dram Equivalent
12	1 1/8 oz	3
12	1 oz	3
12	7/8 oz	3
20	7/8 oz	2 ½
28	¾ oz	2
410	½ oz	Max

No Shells over 2 ¾ inches in length or larger than 12 Gauge are allowed.

Remember the use of proper shells is for your safety as well as the safety of all of the shooters and visitors to **Powder Creek Shooting Park**.

From your BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Powder Creek Shooting Park is a full service gun club that is member owned and is operated through a Board of Directors elected by the voting membership. The Board of Directors is always interested in the thoughts and suggestions of members and guests regarding the Powder Creek facilities and the operation of the Club. Powder Creek continues to move forward into the electronic age. We are focusing on keeping our website current and will be increasingly relying on that venue to share information with our membership and the public. We will be placing the Powder Creek Newsletter on our website, <http://www.powdercreek.com>, beginning this month. To help us reduce future printing and mailing costs, you can elect to receive an email notification that the most recent copy of the Powder Creek Newsletter has been posted to our website. To receive an email notification in lieu of a hard copy by regular mail, please email Tamela at tjharsha@powdercreek.com indicating your preference. If you wish to keep receiving a hard copy of the newsletter, no action is necessary.

Sporting Clays

John Francis
Sporting Clays Director

This year promises to bring big things to Powder Creek's Sporting Clays. With two registered shoots down and nine to go we have already had 164 entries in our events. The March shoot had more entries than a lot of State Championships have throughout the country. We are signing up three to five new National Sporting Clays Association (NSCA) members at every shoot. This game is really growing in Kansas so the future looks very bright.

We have added a new 20' tower to our sporting clays course and it is currently serving two stations with high shots. This was a trial run which is working fine so we will be adding a second tower soon. New target lanes are added monthly and we will continue to change up the course to keep everyone on their toes.

Our NSCA registered shoots are now so popular that we have continued to have certified scorekeepers at every station until the rush is over. Some of the referees are still fine tuning their skills so be patient and try to help if they need it. We are the only Kansas club that has referees during one day events and we continue to have bigger prize structure and payouts than any of the other sporting clubs.

I would like to thank the regular group of sport shooters at Powder Creek for supporting our club and continuing to make our sport grow through your kind words. Powder Creek is proud to have three members of the NSCA All State Open Team. Kevin Jacobson (Swede), Phil Gibbs Jr., and myself made the team this year and will be shooting "lights out" to make it again next year. Special recognition goes out to Swede as he represents the United States next week in Mexico as he competes in the World Flyer Championships.

If you are interested in trying sporting clays or would like information on joining and competing in the NSCA give me a call, I will be happy to steer you in the right direction. Our goal at Powder Creek this year is to have 80-100 shooters at all of our registered events. Sporting Clays is also a great way to improve your wing shooting skills.

Good Shooting,

John Francis
 Director of Sporting Clays
 And all-around good guy

Scholastic Clays Event

By Phil Gerht

Scholastic Clay Target Program (SCTP)

By the time you get this newsletter, Powder Creek will be starting its fourth year of sponsoring a youth instructional program affiliated with the National Shooting Sports Foundation's (NSSF) Scholastic Clay Target Program (SCTP). SCTP is a program intended to introduce responsible youth to the trap, skeet and sporting clays disciplines. Powder Creek's program is designed for responsible youth that are interested in self-development, firearms safety, and learning the fundamentals of shooting trap. While our focus is on junior and senior high school students, we will work with any shooter that can safely handle a firearm. No previous shooting experience is required.

Practices are held on Saturday mornings from 9:45 until around 11:30. Cost to participants is \$12 per week, which includes 50 targets and two boxes of shells. Shooters need to provide their own shotgun of either 12 or 20 gauge, as well as eye and ear protection which are required to be worn at all times (eye and ear protection are available at the clubhouse).

Powder Creek's SCTP is made possible by a group of volunteer instructors, and will run from April 1 through June 3. Attendance at every practice is not mandatory, but is strongly encouraged. Financial support for this program is provided in part by Powder Creek Shooting Park, the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, and the Friends of the NRA.

For additional information, visit our website at www.powdercreek.com. Questions or comments regarding SCTP should be addressed to Phil Gehrt in care of the Club.

News From the Rifle Pistol Range

By Joe Orr

A Note From Joe Orr:

Anyone who has personal property in the rifle-pistol range office has until May 1, 2006 to pick it up. See the club manager for access to the building. Sorry it turned out this way guys. I tried.

Joe Orr,
Rifle-Pistol Range Director

field,field

The safety of the Members of Powder Creek Shooting Park, the guests and staff is the number one priority in the operation of Powder Creek. Because safety is a way of life at Powder Creek, the Club can boast an impeccable safety record. To maintain that record, the Club has established a set of safety rules that are required to be followed by all members and guests.

- **Eye and hearing protection** is required by everyone on the shooting fields.
- When on the firing line, all firearms will remain **unloaded, pointed downrange**, with the **action open** until it is your turn to shoot. The only time a shotgun will be loaded is when the shooter is actually on station and ready for their turn to shoot. Practice swings behind any shooting station are not allowed.
- Guns must be carried **unloaded**, with the **action open** when moving when moving about Club facilities.
- **Only target loads** with size 7 1/2 shot or smaller may be used. If you have a question about a particular load, please ask prior to going onto the shooting fields.
- Place **only one shell** in the gun at a time **unless shooting trap doubles, a skeet pair, or a pair on the Sporting Clays or 5-Stand course**. At no time will a shooter load more than 2 shells in a shotgun.
- Prior to moving between shooting stations or leaving the shooting field,

shooters must ensure that their gun is **unloaded** and the **action** is **open**.

- **NO alcoholic beverages** are permitted prior to or during any shooting activity, nor are they allowed on any shooting course or field. Illegal drugs are not allowed on Powder Creek property.
- **Never handle another shooter's gun** without permission. If permission is granted, always check to ensure the gun is unloaded.
- If you experience a **malfunction** with a firearm or ammunition, **keep the muzzle pointed down-range** until the firearm is rendered safe.
- **Shooting any bird or animal** is strictly **forbidden** on Powder Creek property.

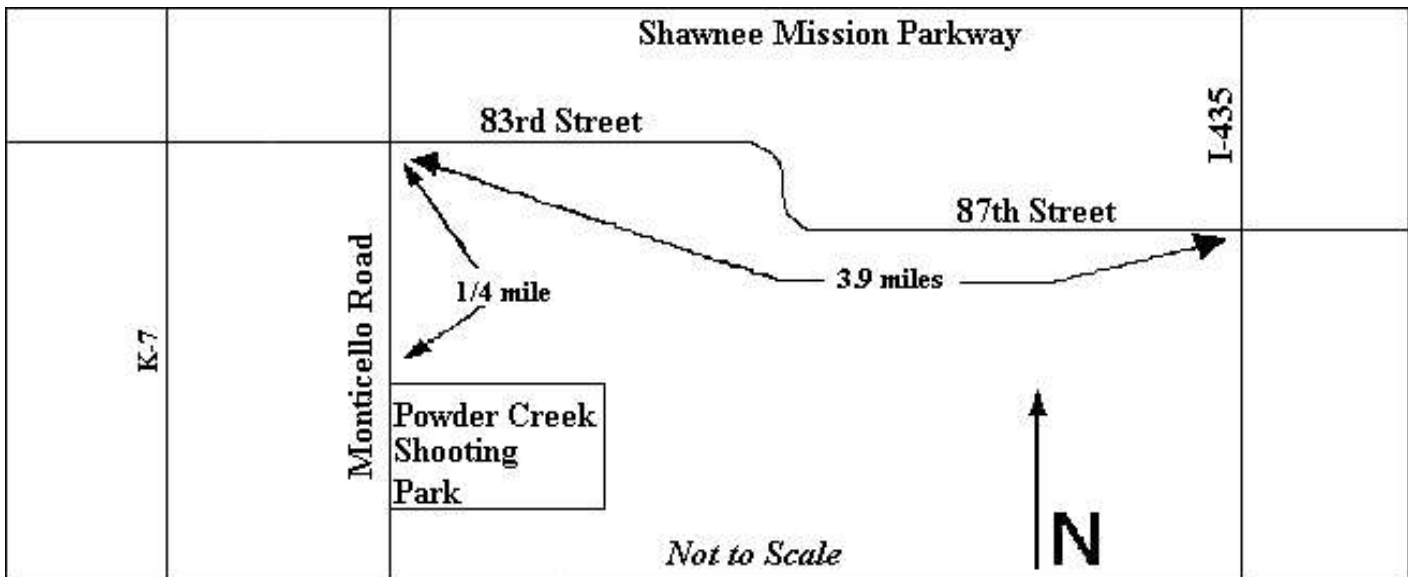
Rules of Conduct

- ATVs and golf cart-type vehicles are permitted on Powder Creek grounds. Operators must exercise extreme caution in the operation of these vehicles and respect fellow shooters who are walking. Keep your speed moderate.
- All Pets must be kept on a leash or have an electronic collar. Pets must be under owner control at all times, except in the off-leash area. Pets are not permitted in the clubhouse.
- If you experience a problem with any staff member, please bring it to the attention of the Manager of Powder Creek for resolution.

POWDER CREEK SHOOTING PARK

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POWDER CREEK NEWS SPRING 2006



POWDER CREEK SHOOTING PARK

A PLACE TO SHOOT