

BROKEN CLAYS



NEWSLETTER OF THE FRANKFORT SPORTSMAN CLUB

APRIL 2010

ST. PAT'S SHOOT A HOOT

FSC members who took advantage of the St. Patrick's Day shoot on March 14th certainly got their money's worth. Shooters found a strong northerly wind blasting in their faces. The effect on clay targets was most impressive. Trap shooter Jim Galligani noted that several birds may still not have come down. Despite the low temperatures and strong wind conditions, several hardy FSC souls braved the elements to win free rounds in their favored clays events or hams/shells in the case of splatter board shooters. In trap, Mark Jossart took first place honors, while Luke McGuire and Bob Brud took second and third. In five stand the honors went to Sean Cryan in first, Jim Stanearth in second, and Ted Puch in third. Splatter boards were very active (wind being much less a factor at ten yards with stationary targets) with Ron Woodman and Mark Jossart among others demonstrating sharpshooter accuracy.

Indoors there was no hint of the nasty weather as FSC's resident chef, Vince Picciola, prepared a complete corned beef dinner with all of the trimmings for all attendees. Vince noted that every seat in the clubhouse was taken. After dinner the attendees were treated to a terrific variety of pastries in St. Pat's green provided through the generosity of Mary Jane and Mike Wrobel, Sportsman Members of FSC and proprietors of The Cake Walk bakery.



Photos clockwise from upper left: Ted, Sean, and Jim with shoot cards won on 5 stand. Mark and Bob flank the figure Luke dreams of with shoot cards from trap. Goodies from "The Cakewalk" (and all low-cal). A bleak afternoon in Mokena. Setting up a splatter board. Plenty warm and cozy in the clubhouse with lunch just getting started!

2010 EVENTS

EASTER SUNDAY OBSERVANCE, APRIL 4

CHICAGO FIREFIGHTER LOCAL 2 SHOOT
SATURDAY, APRIL 24

BLUE ISLAND FIREFIGHTER LOCAL 3547 SHOOT
SATURDAY, MAY 8 (JUNE 19 RAIN RATE)

MEMORIAL SHOOT – SUNDAY, MAY 16

CLUB PICNIC – SUNDAY, AUGUST 22

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP – SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12,
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13,
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

TURKEY SHOOT – SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21

CHRISTMAS PARTY/HAM SHOOT
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12

POLAR BEAR SHOOT – SATURDAY, JANUARY 1

**FRANKFORT SPORTSMAN CLUB
WILL BE CLOSED ON APRIL 4TH
IN OBSERVANCE OF EASTER**

SPRING LEAGUE OPENINGS

Openings remain for the Spring Trap League, which is scheduled to kick off in early April. The league will shoot for twelve weeks and be scored on 100 birds each evening. The scores of the best ten of the twelve weeks will be used to determine the league winners. The total fee for the league is \$250, with advance payment required to hold a spot. A sign-up sheet is posted in the clubhouse. For more specifics, refer to previous issues of "Broken Clays", or contact Mel Peterson at 708-207-6379.

HELP WANTED

Member support is needed for the Firefighter outings to be hosted by your club on April 24th and May 8th. Help is needed generally, but specially in operating the traps, loading the machines, scoring, and hosting. Contact Brian Svoboda at the club to volunteer at (815) 469-9887!

DAYTIME WEEKDAY TRAP?

At the last meeting of the Board of Directors an inquiry was made on behalf of several members who had suggested the desirability of daytime trap shooting during the week this summer. President Brian Svoboda mentioned that member interest might be sampled through our newsletter. If you would like to participate in daytime shooting during the week, please contact Luke McGuire by e-mail at lukemcguire@att.net or by cell phone at 708-280-0909. The Board needs to know if you are interested, how many rounds of trap you would expect to shoot on any given day, and what day/hours you would like to see the club open on a weekday.

EASTER HAM SHOOT CHILLER

March 28th was the date of the FSC annual Easter Ham Shoot. In keeping with a trend that's been developing with FSC events, the weather was hardly cooperative. That nasty cold wind was out of the north once again, as it had been for the St. Pat's Shoot several weeks earlier, and shooting was quite a challenge. Fortunately the clubhouse was the same warm and comforting shelter that it was on that previous occasion.

Vince came through with another delicious luncheon, this time featuring pasta with sausage, meatballs, pork, and all the sides we could want. The Wrobels also came through with desserts and bakery for a raffle.

The committee came up with plenty of activities to offset the difficult weather conditions. There was a 50/50 Split the Pot raffle, won by John Decker. Bakery from The Cake Walk was won by several members, including Brian Svoboda, Ted Puch, Luke McGuire, Vince Picciola, and Jim Stanearth.

Five squads competed in a ten bird trap event with hams won by Mike Smrz, Ed Jung, and Mark Jossart coming through with the "piggy hat trick" by winning three of them himself.

Splatter boards were again an attraction with hams going to Kevin Wrobel and Andy Topel. Sunday was not only Andy's first prize win at FSC, but also his first day as a brand new member.

For those with a bit more resistance to the elements there were two squads who took on full 25 bird rounds from the 16 yard line. Hams in this event went to Mike Wrobel and Luke McGuire.

The ultimate challenge of the elements for the day went to the hardy souls who took on a 25 bird "slider". With wind gusts all but blowing the birds straight up into the stratosphere, a ham was won and richly deserved by Ron Woodman in this event.

A successful shoot such as this could not have happened without the generosity of several members who gave their time and energy. The club owes a debt of appreciation to Mel Peterson and Mike Wrobel for coordinating the shooting events and raffles, and to Clarence for his assistance. A ham shoot wouldn't be the same with no hams now, would it? For this we need to thank Vince Picciola for procuring the hams as well as preparation of a great meal. Of course we also need to thank Mike and Mary Jane for the bakery that has become a staple of FSC events.

SHOWING OFF AT MIDWEST

March 20th was the date of Midwest Sporting Good's annual open house/sale in Lyons, IL. Frankfort Sportsman Club was represented by an all-star team consisting of VP Sean Cryan, members of the Board of Directors Mike Wrobel, Benny Nelson, Luke McGuire, and new member John Decker. As at the Tinley Park event, a 2010 Shooting Membership was offered as a drawing prize for the reasonable investment of a single dollar. Lisa Siebert was the winner of the drawing from seventy eligible names. Lisa plans to apply the value of the Shooting Membership toward a Sportsman Membership for her, husband Tom, and family. The FSC crew was kept busy throughout the first day of spring with questions about our Club, even while a snow storm raged around them. Special thanks should be extended to each member for his efforts on the club's behalf.

SEE YOU ON THE LINE

Hello!

My name is Brian Svoboda. I am President of the FSC, and serving in my third term in that position. I am pleased to say that the club is doing well, despite recent difficult times in the economy. We've had the pleasure of welcoming quite a few new members already this year. I haven't met all of my fellow members as yet, but would certainly like to do so. Please come out and shoot a couple of rounds so I can get to know you. We have a good year planned with plenty of club activities and shoots.

With spring fast approaching we will be scheduling work parties, and we hope to see many members participating. You do not have to spend an entire day, but all help would be greatly appreciated. The club is a team effort, and the contribution of each of us is vital. See you on the line!

Club President
Brian Svoboda

SOMEBODY YOU SHOULD KNOW

You've seen his name in the past few issues of Broken Clays, and will probably notice it again on a private parking space sign recently erected in our lot. He's Mike Smrz (no vowels, as he points out) FSC Club Champion for the last two years. You may recall that Mike opted for the parking space instead of a champion's jacket this year. (How many can you wear?)

Mike has been a serious shooter for about fifteen years. His favorite game is Sporting Clays, but at FSC his preference is Five Stand. Mike apparently shoots trap only when the club championship is involved or there's a ham to be won. He is currently rated a Master in the NSCA, and travels extensively in the area to enjoy his sport. Mike shoots a Kreighoff K80, and it apparently fits him pretty well.

Off the line, Mike is the owner of MDS Direct, a direct mail company in Downers Grove, now in its eighth year. He earned his Bachelor degree in Business from the University of Illinois, and has been married to his wife Diana for eighteen years.

This newsletter is being sent by e-mail wherever possible to reduce costs to the club. If you know members with e-mail, please spread the word. Photos will come in future issues. Thanks. Luke McGuire (lukemcguire@att.net)