



Reload!

The Newsletter of the Connecticut Travelers

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MAY 2008 NEWSLETTER **BEGINNING OUR 21ST YEAR!**

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ED SHINE FILES WITH AUTHORITY AT TMR TAX-TIME REVOLT!

By Phil Steinkraus

With all the economic uncertainty these days—it was especially galling to file that tax return and write those big checks this year. Four-dollar-a-gallon gas notwithstanding, Uncle Sam still demands his pound of flesh. I always heard that you've got to take pleasure in the little things—especially when things are tough, so it was a special treat indeed that our April 19th Tax Time revolt event was held at Ten Mile River, in Dover Plains NY. It was a day that began overcast but developed into a perfectly crystalline azure blue sky and temperatures in the low seventies only added to the spring fever epidemic. One-hundred-ten Travelers took advantage of this rare invitation to one of the area's premier luxury venues—if you haven't shot there yet, I strongly recommend going—particularly as Pawling mountain is no longer on the schedule.

I was promptly chauffeured in a stretch clays cart from the parking lot up to the clays cabin (my driver was equally frustrated by both the economy and his particular tax burden in it) where I elbowed my way past Ted Burke in silver hi-def-spex doing his best impression of U-2's Bono to the coffee table. If you are familiar with my physique, you know that food is always a big part of every event for me. Decaf and regular coffee, pastry, croissant, muffins as well as fresh fruit were my idea of a perfect start to this perfect day. A safety talk was followed by our national anthem and salute to the flag - we were off and running.

TMR is fairly unique in that its course is cut into the side of a hill and half of the stations are facing uphill, the other half down (another fairly unique course like this is Tamarack). This elevation issue as well as the preponderance of quartering shots makes for a technical, subtle course. There are never monster [presentations, but they'll beat you just as often with angle and line (The first time I shot this course it ate me alive—the eye sees what it sees and I was a mile in front of everything).

Nothing beats a really good mini presentation, especially when there's a little speed and distance on it. This was the case with a presentation that gave us a rising trap mini at 20 yards followed on report by a dropping out-goer from a tower behind your right shoulder. I've always found the mini to be a very unforgiving target—they launch faster than a standard, but they also slow down much faster, meaning the whole flight time and therefore shooting process is compressed. If you were off line for this target, you didn't really have an opportunity to make a correction. The dropper was all about being on the correct line as well—you had to make the smooth stroke to be under this bird and making lateral corrections on it wasn't an option.

Another favorite had a high, arching left-to-right chandelle followed on report by a right-to-left, flat crosser. The chandelle had me waiting and mounting to a point just off its peak, whereby I went right

into that quick, flat crosser. This was a contrast in timing and line. One was slow and changeable, the other quick and as direct as a laser pointer.

Another example was at the farthest right side of the clubhouse. This seemingly simple enough true pair came as a floating dropping standard and battue. Timing was again paramount on this station: If you were late with the standard, Flash Gordon himself couldn't move the gun fast enough to kill the bat. But if you were premature on the standard, you might quite possibly also be early on the bat shooting it more edge on than necessary.

This time around Travelers took a page from the NSCA "big blast" playbook. In an effort to move things along and reduce backups we adopted for this shoot the system of two and three pairs to a station – the success of this system was immediately evident to this traveler. Things definitely seemed to run right along but I think this newly adopted menu will pay the greatest dividends when we come to our most popular events—the club championship and the sub-gauge championship.

Gary Hall spoiled us when he was running the show at Pawling Mountain and he continues to be *our host extraordinaire* at Ten Mile River. When the TMR staff lay on a spread for the Travelers at their truly exceptional facility it's like flying business class on frequent flyer miles! As a foodie with the all of the guilty evidence to prove it (I hope to make my fighting weight by the Lobster classic!) I especially went nuts for the barbeque pheasant nacho dip—a chile con queso-like savory stew of game bird meat that exposed me as the glutton I am (I promised my wife I will get that recipe.) Thank you, Ten Mile River Club, for throwing us such a wonderful party.

HOA	Ed Shine	89
Cl. 1 Champ.	Bruce Galotto	88
Cl. 1 RU	Larry Prather	87
Cl. 1 3 rd	Brian Flanagan	86
Cl. 2 Champ.	Ted Burke	87
Cl. 2 RU	Mike Primavera	84
Cl. 2 3 rd	Bob Repella	83
Cl. 3 Champ.	Lans Christensen	79
Cl. 3 RU	Dick Mann	78
Cl. 3 3 rd	Charles Szabo	75
Cl. 4 Champ.	Robert Adams	78
Cl. 4 RU	Sheldon Steinmetz	71
Cl. 4 3 rd	Bob Burgess	69
Cl. 5 Champ.	Dan McCullough	69
Cl. 5 RU	Howard Dennis	69
Cl. 5 3 rd	Robert Holtzmann	65
Cl. 6 Champ.	Cathy Culkin	61
Cl. 6 RU	Frank Ehrlich	52
Cl. 6 3 rd	Dan Mahony	41
Lady Champ.	Paula Moore	79
Lady RU	Sue Uliano	71
Lady 3 rd	Allison Sagnelli	63
Lady 4 th	Carol Roesslein	59
Vet. 1 Champ.	Paul Elia	85
Vet. 1 RU	Lavert Cypher	84
Vet. 2 Champ.	Jim Henion	75
Vet. 2 RU	Fred Roesslein	70
Junior Champ	Mike Griffin	69
Junior RU	Andrew Redman	62
Junior 3 rd	Philip Battaglia	62
Junior 4 th	Kristen Hachmann	57

SWAP MEET

The CTSCA Club Championship held at Mid-Hudson on June 22nd will also serve as our annual swap-meet. That means if you have any guns, clothing, artwork, shooting or hunting related objects-d'art or ephemera, lug them up from the basement and lay it out for all to behold! It's just a matter of writing up an accurate description of what it is you're selling and slapping a price tag on it.

WEBSITE UPDATE

***DON'T* KEEP YOUR COMMENTS TO YOURSELF!**

By Jeff Hunter

Back in the days before the Internet, you opened up the newspaper and read the articles that caught your interest. If you strongly agreed or disagreed with the article, you might have whipped out the "portable" L.C. Smith typewriter and fired off a letter to the editor.

Today it's a much different story, at least on CTSCA.org. If you have a comment about a particular article, click "comment" in the lower left hand corner of the post and add your thoughts. The whole world will be able to read your comments. Of course, you have to login before you can post your comment, but everybody's got a CTSCA.org account by now, right?

Mom's rules apply, though. If you don't have anything nice to say, don't say anything at all!

SPRING TRIP, CRABS & CLAYS

By Jim Comiotes

Although I've been a member of the Connecticut Travelers for several years, my work had prevented me from going on any of the Spring or Fall trips until after my retirement last November. I had heard a lot about them and looked forward to this trip with anticipation. The weather reports were not reassuring but knowing the intrepid nature of this traveling group, I knew we would still have a great turnout. Upwards of 57 participants and a goodly number of significant others came to shoot or cheer us on.

Several of the more ambitious of us started their shooting early in the trip stopping to shoot at M&M in Pennsville, NJ on the way down on Thursday and still more partook of the targets at Pintail Point in Queenstown and Hopkins Game Farm in Kennedyville, MD on Friday morning. The weekend officially got started 12:30 sharp on Friday at Hopkins Game Farm. Long a sporting clays Mecca for local shooters as well as national competitors, the target quality at Hopkins was as one would expect, excellent. The terrain is varied, providing incomers and crossers over a pond, a particularly difficult right and left quartering pair both starting from behind the shooter and ending up in front and below the shooter's feet. Although not much more difficult than a trap shot, many wanted to start the gun back near the trap and subsequently had a hard time chasing these birds down. The tower shots were spectacular and provided tall crossers and looping chandelles to our heart's delight. At other stations, some were heard to wonder "what do we do now" when they found themselves behind a 10-foot-tall mound with no view of the traps or the shooting field. Although somewhat difficult, these targets were fair and hittable as were the rest on the course leaving me to wonder once again why I missed so many. Most had their fill after shooting a round but many stayed to sample all of the 27 stations that were available to us.

After a quick shower, the evening's activities started in earnest as we made our way to the bar at Harris' Crab House. My wife--not being a shooter--particularly enjoyed this part of the event. Raw oysters and clams as well as boiled crab were washed down with the appropriate chaser in anticipation of the crab imperial and top round roast beef buffet. Al Anglace opened the ceremonies and welcomed the Pittsburg contingent of Keystone Ramblers that joined us. After supper there was opportunity to brag

about the day's successes over cigars and cordials on the waterside deck. The gods on day one were kind enough to us given us excellent shooting weather.

Saturday started off ominously, with a soupy fog and clouds but soon the sun was peeking out. Nevertheless, heavy clouds threatened from the southwest perhaps as a portent of things to come. The day's venue was Schrader's Bridgetown Manor. I had never shot this course and knew nothing about it but I would come to find out that this was a fine facility. The staff was friendly and helpful and each squad was provided with a trapper. This facility also boasted upwards of 23 stations with many having more than one shooter box location and several traps so that we were provided with a steady variety all day long. Again the target setter here did a fine job setting traps leaving me more than once to wonder how I missed such gimmies. Particularly memorable and definitely not a gimmie, were a long crosser at about 40 yards followed by a long chandelle from a high tower that left many scratching their heads. Another shot we don't see often came from the "Too Tall" tower which, standing about 65 feet tall, sent two black birds speeding horizontally above and curling away from the shooter. A certain lady showed her stuff at this station by being the only one of her squad to break all six. Hmm... In fact I would guess not many broke all six at this station. The rest of the targets were interesting, varied and fun. Just as we were finishing up the morning session Mother Nature finally arrived as the skies opened up with a torrent. We made it to the clubhouse without getting too wet and had the good fortune to miss most of the rain: By the time we had finished our fine lunch and were ready to go back out for the afternoon session, things were drying out. I do need to mention the five-stand at this club. It was a concrete structure about ten feet high that boasted a good combination of targets. Many commented on its quality.

It goes without saying that there was another round of evening festivities with drinks, raffles, singing and celebrating anniversaries before most tucked in for the night to get ready for the drive to Quinton Sportsmen's Club for the last day's shooting. This is a member-owned facility located near M&M and open to the public on Sundays. The members were friendly and helpful, the clubhouse was new and spacious and the breakfast and lunch there delightful. In addition to the 16-station sporting course (all automatics) they offer five-stand, trap, skeet and multiple firearms ranges including a 200-meter rifle range to both members and non-members alike. The rates were reasonable at \$24.00 for a 100-bird sporting round and they were even kind enough to keep the kitchen open for us until after 2:00 pm knowing we were still coming in from shooting.

The targets here were also interesting and fair with an appropriate level of difficulty and variety. My personal horror at this course was station 13 which boasted a fast, going-away, quartering downhill from the right, followed by a looping crosser from the left. The quartering bird was about 40 to 45 yards when I could first compose myself to shoot at it and the crosser was at about 30. A fun target was the last one; it sported a rabbit that crossed the elevated stand from left-to-right at about eight yards and was followed, on-report, by a right-hand, quartering-away screamer. The rabbit frustrated many to the point where they forgot all about the second bird.

My first trip with the Travelers was great fun and I hope to be able to make many others.

COLD BE GONE!

sportingpoet@yahoo.com

clocks sprung ahead,
calendars flipped anew,
Mother Nature has her own schedule,
accommodating neither me nor you.

the calendar reads April,
the thermometer declares March still,
one day its near seventy,
the next a sub-freezing chill.

we've paid our dues,
with longjohns and sweaters,
i'd even take rain,
and a little warmer weather.

in due time,
the sun will rise high,
just so we can complain,
about the heat in July!

QUARRY THAW ROUNDUP

By Jeff Hunter

I crossed my fingers and headed out to Lehigh Valley Sporting Clays in Coplay, PA on Sunday April 13th for the sixth Annual Quarry Thaw. The weatherman was predicting rain all afternoon, so I packed the Gore-Tex for insurance. The three hour drive to was clear the whole way but I was welcomed by a sinister sky and building winds.

Lehigh Valley is one of the most unique sporting courses I've ever seen. It's situated on the grounds of an old limestone quarry with the stations threaded in and out of the quarry remains. These were some of the more unique targets that I've ever seen.

Right out of the gate, there was a true pair of black minis against a dark sky backdrop. They were launched slightly from the right and presented like a pair of driven pheasants. The first third of the course is laid out along a lake front that looks like an old quarry pit. You would think that with a wide-open area that the majority of the targets would be quartering or straight away birds, but it wasn't that way. Each station was unique and had a twist. One station had two incoming birds from across the lake. On another you were down at the lakeshore and one came over your head from behind!

The second third of the course was where things got interesting. A brief sprinkle had poked through the clouds long enough for me to break out the rain gear. Station five was a crossing rabbit from the left with a crossing bird on-report from the right. The rabbit rocketed out and picked up speed as it rolled downhill. By the time you caught it, you were too far right and had to quickly change direction to try to catch the bird. I saw many people miss in front of the bird because of too much gunspeed as they swung through it. Fortunately for me, I have the built-in habit of stopping my gun--I did fairly well here!

The wind had picked up by the time we got to station seven. Here we were presented with a report pair of black teals--one straight up and one slightly off-line, left-to-right. The straight-up teal was

protected from the wind by a berm about 15-feet-high. As this target passed the top of the berm, the wind caught it and it very visibly accelerated. This was definitely not your run of the mill teal.

By the time we got to station nine the rain had stopped altogether and the Gore-Tex went back in the bag. An old stone building left over from the days when the quarry was operational was the setting for station nine. The stand was directly in front of the building where a crossing bird from the left flew parallel with the front wall. The second bird on-report was a rising, quartering clay that came from behind another part of the building. This was my favorite station as it combined unique terrain and challenging targets.

These 100 targets were thrown at 17 fully automated stations. This entire course was paved with blacktop for easy walking or riding and there are several shooting platforms at each station. I imagine that on a normal day the two platforms are configured for slightly different presentations. Lehigh Valley also has a five-stand and on tournament days it's set up for practice and make-a-break. Mark your calendars for the Quarry Heat Tournament on July 20th! <http://www.lvsclays.com>

“POCONO SHOOTOUT” FALL TRIP

By Robert Schrager

I came back from our Spring Tour of the Eastern Shore having had such a great time with 55 fellow Travelers and Keystone Ramblers that I started thinking about our Fall Trip already. Yes, I know Fall is a way off, but October in the Poconos is prime leaf peeping season and hotels fill up fast. Anyway, our Fall trip, “The Pocono Shootout,” is now planned. The Connecticut Travelers travel to Pennsylvania on October 3, 4 and 5, 2008 for orange and green clays flying among the red, orange and green foliage. After all, we like things Traveler Tough. So mark your calendars.

Reservation forms will be sent out as we get closer to the date.

Friday afternoon we visit a new venue, Whitetail Preserve. www.whitetailpreserve.com. This was a private club with only trap and skeet, but last fall they re-opened as a public facility with a 19 station sporting clays course set up by the internationally known course designer, Michael Davey. Early reports are that this is a top course. Saturday, we start the day at Rock Mountain Sporting Clays. <http://rockmountainclays.com>. Many of us have been there before and know that the Rock is a shotgunner's paradise. It is considered to be one of the premier courses on the East Coast. After a round of sporting in the morning, we go down the road about 20 minutes (we are Travelers) and find lunch and 16 more sporting clay stations, a Tower Field, and a Five Stand waiting for us at Hausmann's Hidden Hollow. <http://www.hiddenhollowsportingclays.com> We shot there a couple of years ago and everyone had a great time. On the way home, Sunday morning we shoot the Rod and Gun Club at Pocono Manor. www.therodandgunclub.com. 16 stations, each one more spectacular than the last.

Based upon early promises to attend, it looks like we again will have a fine turnout. Therefore, we are going to try a new place to stay and eat, Shadowbrook Inn & Resort, Route #6, Tunkhannock, PA (800-955-0295). www.shadowbrookresort.com. For those not shooting, Shadowbrook offers a challenging golf course with scenic par 3's, rolling terrain, and plush greens. Also available are sauna's, swimming, bowling, miniature golf, and racquetball. In the area, non-shooters can stop and stroll the nearby towns to peruse an assortment of antique shops and specialty stores. They can even catch a few museums and historic sites, such as the Steamtown National Historic Site and Lackawanna Coal Mine Tour in Scranton or the Anthracite Museum and Coal Mine Tour. Dinners on Friday and Saturday nights will be at Shadowbrook. We have twenty rooms reserved there at a special Ct. Traveler rate. First come, first serve (and remember how quick the rooms went for the Spring trip).

If you have any questions, contact Bob Schrager, robert@schrager.org or (if you must) 203.531.6930.

CONTACTING THE TRAVELERS...

CTSCA.ORG – Webmaster: Jeff Hunter, marist89@excite.com.

CTSCA Home Office: Al Anglace, email aaa738@aol.com (by far the best way) or telephone 203 417-6295 if you absolutely must. **Mailing address:** CTSCA, 16 Davis Road, Seymour, CT 06483.

Editor: Phil Steinkraus, e-mail philistein@aol.com

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Guide Book advertising and other questions contact Dick Orenstein at email oren@umich.edu or call 203-226-5251.

Past issues of Reload! are available online at www.ShotgunReport.com.

NSCA Representative: Robert Schrage @ 203 531-6930 or robert@schrager.org.

--- 2008 CTSCA SHOOTING CALENDAR ---

MAY 18 – “MAY MINUET” – Ten Mile Preserve, Dover Plains, NY.

JUNE 22 – **2008 CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS** – Mid Hudson Sporting Grounds, New Paltz, NY.

JULY 20 – “SUMMERTIME SUMMERTIME” – Orvis Sandanona, Millbrook, NY.

AUGUST 8, 9 & 10 – **LOBSTER CLASSIC** – Addieville East Farm,

SEPT. 14 – “SEPTEMBERSHUTZENFEST” – Millbrook Rod & Gun Club, Millbrook, NY.

***OCTOBER 3, 4 & 5 - FALL TOUR**

OCTOBER 19 – **SMALL GAUGE CHAMPIONSHIPS** – Fairfield County Fish & Game Protective Association, Monroe, CT.

NOVEMBER 16 – “SALUTE THE COLORS” – Ye Olde Newgate Coon Club, Norfolk, CT.

DECEMBER 14 – **DICK LOSEE MEMORIAL CHRISTMAS PARTY AND SHOOT,**
LaGrangeville, NY.

***Check ctsca.org for details.**

--- OTHER 2008 SHOOT OF INTEREST ---

See listing on ctsca.org.

FOR SALE**CLASSIFIED ADS****WANTED**

For Sale – Parker DHE SXS 12 gauge – 30” BRLS., imp. cyl. / light mod. fixed chokes. Double triggers, pistol grip. Addition of a third dogs head factory option engraved on receiver to enhance original engraving. LOP 15” front and 14” rear trigger. Professional restoration completed by Larry DelGreggo in 2006. \$4975.00. Contact Al Anglace 203 417-6295 or aaa738@aol.com or aaagunsandammo.com.

For Sale – Beretta 686 Onyx side by side 20 gauge – 26” brls., screw in chokes ic/mod, LOP 14 1/2”, single selective trigger, raised rib and beaver tail forearm. Excellent condition, pictures on request. \$1825.00. Keith Anglace, 203 417-5424 or kaa111@aol.com or aaagunsandammo.com.

For Sale – Golf Cart Conversions – Ready for any Sporting Course. Built to suit your needs. Keith Anglace, 203 417-5424 or kaa111@aol.com or aaagunsandammo.com.

For Sale – Browning Cynergy Sporting over/under – 12 gauge, 32” brls., beautiful wood. Like new. \$1695.00. Keith Anglace, 203 417-5424 or kaa111@aol.com or aaagunsandammo.com.

For Sale - Beretta Centennial “Limited Edition” #2 of 300 manufactured over/under – positively gorgeous -12 gauge 28” brls, Briley chokes w/4 gauge tube set. A must see. \$2950.00. Keith Anglace, 203 417-5424 or kaa111@aol.com or aaagunsandammo.com.

For Sale – Weatherby Athena Grade 111 o/u 20 gauge – 28” barrels, 2 ¾” and 3” chambers, single selective trigger, 5 chokes, LOP 13 7/8”, 7 lbs., engraved with gold inlays. Beautiful gun. \$1725.00. Contact Keith Anglace, 203 417-6295 or aaagunsandammo@aol.com.

For Sale - Remington 3200 Competition over/under four brl. Set – 12, 20, 28 and 410 – all gauges have multiple Briley chokes, 28” brls., factory case. Beautiful! Reduced: \$5175.00. Keith Anglace, 203 417-5424 or kaa111@aol.com or aaagunsandammo.com.

For Sale – Benelli Nova 12 ga. pump – like new condition. \$425.00. Keith Anglace, 203 417 5424 or kaa111@aol.com.

For Sale – Beretta Silver Hawk SXS 20 ga. – 28” brls., 3” chambers. Mobile chokes, English stock, LOP 14 ½”, Single selective trigger, engraved receiver. 6lbs. 7oz. Factory hard case. Like new. \$2750.00. Keith Anglace 203 417-5424 or aaagunsandammo.com.

For Sale – Remington 1100 Sporting Clays 410 – 27 ½” brl. with Rem chokes, forearm weight, 98% condition, LOP 14 ½”. \$845.00. Keith Anglace, 203 417-5424 or aaagunsandammo.com.

For Sale – Knight in line CUSTOM 50 cal. Muzzleloader – ONE OF A KIND! Extra Dlx. French walnut stock from Cooper Arms with skeleton butt plate, 2X7 Browning scope with Leupold mounts. New unfired. Truly one of a kind for the discriminating hunter or lover of engraved fine guns. \$2250.00. Keith Anglace, 203 417-6295 or aaagunsandammo.com.

Traveler’s Logo Vests, Rain Shooting Coats, Cold Weather Shooting Coats, Shooting Aprons and Shooting Shirts. A few of each left. Al Anglace, 203 417-6295 or aaa738@aol.com.

ADDITIONAL LISTINGS ON OUR WEB SITE ctsca.org

THE UPCOMING **CTTRAVELERS** MONTHLY SHOOT

“MAY MINUET”

SUNDAY, MAY 18, 2008

TEN MILE RIVER PRESERVE

266 BERKSHIRE ROAD, DOVER PLAINS, NY

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REGISTRATION APPLICATION

YOUR APPLICATION MUST BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE

-- WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 2008 --

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST AND
REGISTRATION OPENS AT 8:30 AM – SHOOTING STARTS AT
9:45 AM. \$70.00 ENTRY FEE. LUNCH IMMEDIATELY
FOLLOWING – OPEN BAR INCLUDED – GUESTS ARE WELCOME
\$85.00

+ + + + + WARM UP STATION OPEN FROM 8:30 TO 9:30 + + + + +

MAIL THIS FORM, AND YOUR CHECK, PAYABLE TO “CTSCA” TO:
CTSCA
16 DAVIS ROAD, SEYMOUR, CT. 06483

LIST NAME(S) – BEING PAID BY THE ENCLOSED CHECK ONLY:

- 1. _____ 2. _____
- 3. _____ 4. _____
- 5. _____ 6. _____

IF POSSIBLE, PLEASE SQUAD WITH: _____

Concurrent selection, please check if qualified: Lady _____, Vet. 1 (55 – 69) _____, Vet. 2 (70 and older) _____ Junior (17 and younger) _____.

Reminder: Concurrent and handicap participation is the members’ responsibility to note same on their score cards.

DIRECTIONS: Take Route 684 North and Route 84 West to the intersection of Route 22 North. Take Route 22 North towards Pawling. Continue on Route 22 through Pawling. Just beyond the Pawling/Trinity School complex look for the Old Drovers Inn sign on right and take that right, East Duncan Hill Road. Continue .5 mile to the stop sign. Turn left onto Old Route 22 and proceed to the steel bridge. Turn right across the bridge onto Lime kiln Road. Continue .4 mile to Berkshire Road. Turn right onto Berkshire and continue .6 mile. Bear right at the “Y” and continue to the Lodge on the right. 845 877-3560.