

Straight Shootin' From Sullivan's Sharpshooters

SHARP SHOOTERS KICK OFF THE NEW SEASON

The Sharpshooters kicked off the 2012 season with a 6 week indoor .22 league at the Pine City Sportsman's club. It has been over 6 months since their trip to Raton, NM for the national shoot and the kids were itching to get back into the game. The indoor league allows them to gradually ramp up their accuracy in a non-stressful environment with their teammates. It also gives the newest members of our team the opportunity to develop skills and get to know their teammates. As the days get longer and warmer, .22 practice will move outside, where the focus will be to work on accuracy at shooting knockdown targets. In their competitions, the shooters will be shooting 25-35 yards from the standing position, 50-60 yards from the sitting position and 75-85 yards prone.

In the junior division, first place went to Zach Reese, followed by Damon Smith in second and the third place finisher was Alex Morton.

In the highly competitive senior division, the top shooter was Kyle Strong with Josh Askey and Austin Voorhees finishing second and third respectively.

We would like to extend a heartfelt "Thank you" to the members of the Pine City Sportsman's club for graciously allowing us to use your facility for practice, as well as the indoor league.

SULLIVAN'S SHARP SHOOTER'S INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN NED SMITH CELEBRITY CLASSIC



Kendra Lathrop (above, left), a junior at Troy, PA high school and Josh Askey (above, right), a senior at Elmira Southside high school, both members of the Sullivan's Sharpshooters, were honored by receiving an invitation to the Ned Smith Celebrity Classic sporting clay shoot in Linglestown, PA (Near Harrisburg). They had the opportunity to compete with former professional and Penn State football players.

Ned Smith was a naturalist and an artist. He also worked as an illustrator with the Pennsylvania Game Commission. Over the course of his career, he illustrated over 100 cover paintings for the Pennsylvania Game News. He passed away in 1985 but a nature center was started in his name with the mission of educating others regarding conservation, nature and art. For more information, go to Nedsmithcenter.org.

The celebrity classic is a way to raise money for the center. Kendra and Josh realize what an honor it is to have been invited to the event and both had a wonderful time.

THE SHARPSHOOTERS COMPETE AT ADDISON/THUNDER RIDGE SPORTSMAN'S CHALLENGE



Shooters await their turn at Thunder Ridge

Many of the kids enjoyed the opportunity to shoot at the recent sportsman's challenge. The day started out with 50 rounds of trap and 50 rounds of skeet at the Addison Fish and Game Club and concluded with 100 rounds of sporting clays at the Thunder Ridge facility. While the focus at their Youth Hunter Education Challenge (YHEC) shotgun competitions is sporting clays, many of the shooters also enjoy trap and skeet and compete in local leagues. The sportsman's challenge gives them a taste of all 3.

We would like to thank the members of the Addison Fish and Game club, as well as the folks at Thunder Ridge for being very gracious to the kids. We appreciate all of the donations that allowed a reduction in the entry fees for them. We also extend a special thanks to Tim Mosher and Scott Van-Etten and everyone else who donated their winnings to the kids. This experience will go a long way toward preparing them for their upcoming season.

DONATIONS MAKE NEW TRAP THROWER A REALITY

With the assistance of donations and grants, the team was recently able to purchase a new trap-thrower from Laporte America. The machine is capable of throwing minis, middies and battues. The shooters are faced with a wide array of targets during their sporting clay competitions and the addition of their new thrower will be an asset as they prepare for their

upcoming shoots. Coach Terry Wheet wants no surprises at nationals and feels that the new thrower will add more to their repertoire. If they have seen a particular target or presentation before, it is easier to hit in competition. Thanks to all who donated toward the trap thrower.



The Sharpshooters stand around their new trap thrower at the Chemung County Rod and Gun Club

Thanks to our Sponsors

The main purpose of this publication is to update those of you who have donated time, money or resources to the Sullivan's Sharpshooters. Some have donated a significant amount to the kids and the newsletter is our way of showing you that your contributions and efforts are being put to good use. The shooters realize that, without your contributions, there literally would be no club. They are grateful for all of your generosity, as it has allowed them to enjoy and excel in their chosen sport. It is no secret that shooting sports are not available in our local schools. While this can certainly be a disadvantage when shooting against states such as North Carolina, where competitive shooting sports are offered scholastically, we have never felt deprived. This is due to the strong outpouring of local support from all of you. Rest assured that, when competing in Maryland next month and in the national competition in Mansfield in July, the Sharpshooters will not only be shooting for personal achievement, for their team and the state of New York, but also for you, their sponsors. We will continue to keep you updated regarding our progress. Feel free to stop by any of our practices. Shotgun practice is at 11 AM on Sunday at the Chemung County Rod and Gun Club, .22 and archery practices are held Mondays at 5PM and muzzle loader practices are Tuesdays at 6PM, all at the Pine City Sportsman's Club.

