

NSSA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
National Shooting Complex
San Antonio, Texas
January 30, 2009

- A. ROLL CALL** – Meeting was called to order by President Bill Batty at 8:30am. Executive Committee members present: Jim Gast, Vice President; Bob DeFrancesco, Secretary/Treasurer; Louise Terry, Immediate Past President, Mike Ferchaw, Zone 1; Sam Armstrong, Zone 2; John Haugh, Zone 3; Ken Keth, Zone 4; Jack Tans, Zone 5; Bill Wright, Zone 7; John Bratty, Zone 9. Also present were: Don Snyder, Executive Director; Rick Stockstill, NSSA Director; Steve Scales, Finance Director; Al Magyar, Past President; Al Means, World Shoot Committee Chairman; and Billy Williams. Absent were: Wayne Black, Zone 6 due to weather; and Newman Shufflebarger, Zone 9 due to military duties.

President Batty welcomed everyone, and provided a brief overview of the order of business. Targets are down throughout all the shotgun shooting sports. Focus for the next two years is to promote skeet at the grass-roots (small club) level; open communications between the EC, our membership and small clubs. The large shoots have always performed pretty well; will be interesting to see if they are affected by the down-turn in the economy, and whether or not the smaller shoots grow as a result of people staying closer to home; also need to market our sport better. In the area of youth shooting, the SCTP program has a lot of potential for future growth.

B. MINUTES

1. **Motion by Bill Wright, 2nd by Jack Tans, to approve the May 17, 2008 Executive Committee meeting minutes. Motion passed all in favor.**
2. **Motion by Ken Keth, 2nd by Jack Tans, to approve the December 1, 2008 Executive Committee phone conference meeting minutes. Motion passed all in favor.**

C. UPCOMING MEETINGS

1. The Summer Executive Committee meeting will be held Thursday, June 18, 2009, at the Great Eastern in Richmond, VA.
2. The annual Board of Directors' meeting will be held October 4, 2009, at the NSC Complex (Beretta Pavilion) with dinner at 7:00pm, and the meeting at 8:00pm.

D. OFFICERS REPORTS & ZONE REPORTS

1. President Bill Batty – Covered in opening remarks.
2. Vice President Jim Gast – The nice thing about being VP, is that I have no comments, other than to say I look forward to serving the Association. We do need to closely scrutinize the direction of our Association; need to look at the smaller clubs, and provide incentives for shooters to attend. Need to get the club shooters off of the porch and back into registered shooting.
3. Secretary/Treasurer Bob DeFrancesco – **Motion by Bob DeFrancesco, 2nd by Jack Tans, to appoint Trish Magyar as Assistant Secretary; motion passed all in favor.** Provided unabridged minutes from the December phone conference meeting; will be abridged in the future.
4. Executive Director – Just returned from the Shot Show... all our sponsors have committed their support. Exmark on board. Visited with a new shot reclamation company out of Colorado; they feel they can reclaim additional shot from our property. Winner of GMC was Craig Espenhain of Canton, MA. Rick Stockstill has been doing a great job, especially in the IT arena. He is also improving some of our internal paperwork procedures. Free entry to the World Shoot has been provided to one small skeet club (have three fields or less) throwing the most targets in 2008 in each Zone, which can be used by the clubs as they see fit. Specific guidelines have been posted on the web to encourage more clubs in 2009. Have on-line registration for Toni Rogers Spring Extravaganza; will also be available for Master's and World Shoots. Completed Class All-American review; need results from All-American selection in order to publish. Recommend to All-American Selection Committee that points be the sole determination, then no need to convene a selection committee. All NSCA Teams are based solely upon points; recommend NSSA follow suit. The Cross-Fire program has proven to be a benefit to the Association; targets shot went up, but number of members decreased slightly, since two memberships didn't have to be purchased.

Though we lost a little financially the first year, it is hoped we will do better in the future. Planning to change our marketing contractor; potential new contractor is a shooter. World English Sporting Clays Championships will be held at NSC this year, which is always beneficial to the Association.

5. Zone 1 – Had annual Zone meeting in December, and directors feel all is going well. Smaller shoots seem to be filling up, since people appear to be staying closer to home. This year's Zone shoot will be at Hartford, CT for the first time. U.S. Open will be hosted by Rochester Brooks; steps have been taken to improve the targets – now have a fulltime trap mechanic.
6. Zone 2 – Large shoots don't seem to have been affected by economic situation; remains to be seen what will happen with the smaller shoots. Shenecoy Sportsmen's is increasing their efforts to hold more shoots. Pennsylvania's junior shooter program is going very well; they even have their own Junior State Shoot. North-South is moving to a four field club located in Damascus, MD. This year's Zone shoot will be held at Fairfax Rod & Gun Club, VA.
7. Zone 3 – Held annual meeting at last year's Zone shoot in Ft. Wayne, IN; all states were represented. This year's shoot will be in Canton, OH. The large shoots appear to be doing fine; still waiting to see what happens to the smaller ones. One problem is a lack of volunteers or people that know how to run a shoot. Sportsman's Gun Club, in West Virginia, was the Zone 3 Small Club of the Year; they threw nearly 34,000 registered targets. As Executive Committee representative, planning on attending a shoot or state association meeting in each state of the Zone.
8. Zone 4 – Club of nearly 40 years in Chattanooga, TN was closed, due to zoning issues. Forest City appears to want to get back into holding shoots again; however, the registration building was destroyed in a hurricane. Kudos to Stuart Brown for his efforts to make sure everyone had great targets at last year's Zone shoot at Ft. Bragg. Winter shoots are full; but receiving a lot of comments from shooters that they will have to cut back.
9. Zone 5 – This year's Zone shoot will be held at Northbrook, IL outside of Chicago. Knollwood Gun Club, in Batavia, IL was Zone 5 Small Club of the Year; they threw 35,000 registered targets. E-mail from Steve Nuss, manager of Omaha Gun Club, which is run as a "for-profit" club... 35 million baby-boomers... more than half of new members last year were freshly retired... need to target this population segment... held 14 shoots last year... gave 6 free rounds, if shot at 1st or 2nd registered shoot...
10. Zone 6 – This year's Zone shoot will be at NSC, for the first time in a number of years; Texas State shoot will be held Waco; TSSA has put forth a lot of effort to bring Waco back. Whitetail Ridge in Tupelo, MS will host the Junior World Shoot.
11. Zone 7 – This year's Zone shoot will be end of April at Ben Avery in Phoenix, AZ. Travel, as always, is an issue in the Zone. The Copper State Open, which will be at Ben Avery Clay Target Center February 13-15, is going to use voice activated traps; results will determine whether or not they will be used at the Zone shoot. Will be going back to the "Two-Club" format in Colorado for next year's Zone shoot, which proved quite successful last time.
12. Zone 8 – Zone shoot will again be a satellite shoot; six clubs have already signed up. Shooting down quite a bit last year in Ontario, largely due to club closures because of shot-fall; several clubs have already taken steps. Unfortunately, *Target Dust*, is no longer in publication. Thanks to Ron Atkinson for his many years of services.
13. Zone 9 – Armed Services Skeet Championships will be held in Albuquerque, NM at the High Desert Sportsmen's Club.

E. BUDGET & FINANCE – NSCA Executive Council members joined us for the Budget & Finance review. Louise Terry, Finance Committee Chairwomen, introduced the Executive Committee members.

1. Steve Scales presented the Association financials and end of year statements. Operating budgets for 2008 and 2009 comparisons. Major differences include: additional revenue in 2009 due to World English Sporting Clays; decrease in daily fees due to down-turn in economy;

planned for relatively flat membership; and interest expense is virtually non-existent, since we paid off our long term debt in 2008. Profit & Loss statement for FY2008 shows a small operating expense surplus... however, an overall net deficit, due to decreased market value of Life Member fund. Event revenue was up slightly over budget, due to better than planned attendance at the Toni Rogers, National Sporting Clays Championship and corporate events. Donations were up due to trap shooter donations for facility improvements (for addition of PAT traps) for registered trap events. Postage and freight were both higher than planned, as a result of rate increases by both UPS and USPS.

2. Lynn Johnson, our investment manager from JGP, presented the Wachovia Investment Report. The Wachovia merger with Wells Fargo will not affect the current investment strategy that JGP employs. We have shifted to a more conservative strategy, which has served us well. Originally had a 60/40% allocation between equities and fixed income, and have now shifted towards a 40/60% allocation, due to the current market environment. It was pointed out the recent increase in FDIC insurance to \$250K is temporary, and would it be best to keep our cash investments at \$100K? In response to that, Lynn Johnson said we will continue to rollover CDs, keeping individual CDs under the \$100K ceiling. It's anyone's guess as to what the market will do in the future, but the American "can-do" attitude has proven we will recover; it just might take a little longer than we would like.
3. Audit Committee Report – The committee has held two meetings, via conference call, since they last met at the World Shoot in October approving the engagement letter for our auditors to conduct the annual audit; and reviewed the results of the audit.
4. Padgett & Stratemann & Co. Report – The annual audit was conducted in accordance with generally accepted accounting procedures. The staff and committee members were very helpful throughout the audit process. The Association was given an unqualified, or "clean", opinion, which is the best possible rating. With reference to recommendations from the auditors, the following items need to be addressed by management:

Documentation of Closing Process and Review of Accounting – Although a monthly closing process is being performed, there is no documentation. Recommended development of a monthly close checklist, and document the procedures performed, including all reconciliations and substantiation of financial statement accounts, either electronically or on paper.

Audit Committee – Recommended an Audit Committee Charter be drafted and formally approved by the Board. **Action: Review and approve Charter at the summer Executive Committee meeting.**

With reference to prior year recommendations, the following items have been addressed, or are in the process of being addressed.

EDP Policies and Procedures – Are being documented; it was recommended this year that management create a project list for development and documentation of EDP policies and procedures with completion dates and persons responsible.

Computer Access Passwords – IT management has implemented automatic password reset that forces all users to change their passwords every three months, if they have not already done so.

EDP Segregation of Duties and Review of Systems – E-mail service and web server are now managed by an outside provider; a new firewall has been installed; antivirus software has been installed; improved back-up service has been implemented.

Reconciliation of Membership Software – Though IT management has concentrated on improving reliability and reporting from the TEAMMS software program, it was recommended management continue to work on a process for reconciliation of the TEAMMS and financial data systems.

Motion by Jack Tans, 2nd by Bob DeFrancesco, to charge management to renew our line of credit of \$250,000 with Frost Bank, which expires in March, for an additional one year term. Motion passed all in favor.

- F. EXECUTIVE SESSION – Motion by John Haugh, 2nd by Bill Wright, to empower the Finance Committee to carry-out the wishes of the Executive Committee regarding the present financial advisor's (JGP) recommendations. Motion passed all in favor.**

G. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Finalize World Shoot Program/Format – Attendance has decreased over the last several years. Last entry fee increase was in 2005 (\$38 per 100 targets to \$40), which was primarily for returning more money to class and the 12 Gauge event; returning money to class in the Mini World; and change the referee rotation to 3-on-2, so no change in referees would occur for a squad. Expenses have gone up in the last four years; accordingly, our entry fees should increase to reflect that. Also, we need to look at the format, to see if there are changes that can be made that would help to attract more shooters and/or reduce expenses. For example, Al Magyar pointed out we could have four flights a day, with a 50 minute break, which would allow one referee per field.

Zone 1 – Consensus appears to be to not make any radical changes (i.e. keep the same number of targets). However, there are some things we can do to attract shooters like, shorten the Mini World; reduce the number of flights.

Zone 2 – Majority of shooters don't want to give up the 250 12 Gauge event; okay with cutting a day from the Mini World.

Zone 3 – Focused on people who aren't coming to the World Shoot. If we don't do anything, we stand a good chance of having lower attendance in 2009 than 2008. Time and expense, appeared to be the major obstacles. It's time to try something; if it doesn't work, we can always change back.

Zone 4 – It's a given that you are going to lose some shooters from our base; but need to do something to bring replacements in. Time and expense are the primary factors. Haven't found support for changing format; fewer rotations will allow us more time during the day to add events to make the shoot special, or allow time away from the grounds.

Zone 5 – Original position was to drop the Mini World in its entirety; have since changed that view. It is best to reduce the Mini World to two days. Keep 2009 the way it is (except the Mini World). Need to make the event better through referees, shoot-offs. Ask (4-gun) shooters who haven't been coming to the World, and ask them what would entice them to attend. There is already a lot of extra time after one shoots their 100 targets; what can they do with it?

Zone 7 – There are not a whole lot of people who want to see the format change. However, we could eliminate Friday of the Mini World. Perhaps, in keeping with the 550, hold a 200 12 Gauge event; 125 target 20 & 28 Gauge events; and 100 .410 event.

Zone 8 – Those who travel from overseas want to keep the program unchanged. In October hunting is very popular in Canada, and changing the format won't attract those shooters; a change in the time of year might, but need to plan several years out.

Vendor point of view by Lonesome Charlie – Everyone talks about the World Shoot being "special" – what makes it special? Hear again and again, time is the biggest deterrent to attendance. Need to knock two days off of the program, and can't wait until next year. Majority of vendor sales (70%) is on Saturday and Sunday of the Mini World.

World Shoot Committee Chair, Al Means – Eliminate Friday of the Mini World; reduce the Main to four flights; go back to the "New York" targets; add special shotgun games/events during the day.

Secretary/Treasurer – Reduced number of flights will leave more time for sightseeing; add shotgun games/events, like the 2-man flush we used to have; put the Class shoot-offs on the stadium field.

Vice President – The more people spoken to, about half of whom come to the World, will all come regardless of the format. Of those who have never attended, personal time/money were reasons for not attending. Agree to eliminate Friday of the Mini; and don't change the number of targets at this time.

Immediate Past President – Still feel we need to do something; like the 200/125/125/100 idea. For sure, eliminate Friday of the Mini; reduce the number of flights; one-on-one for referees.

Shooter's point of view by Billy D. Williams – Prefer to leave it as it is, with Mini one day shorter. Stay with one target; moot if one flight is eliminated.

NSSA Director – Keep format same this year; poll the shooters on options for future changes.

Straw Vote – Ten in favor of maintaining the Status Quo, but with 2-day Mini; four flight Main; and current 650/550 targets.

John Haugh presented the results of the input received by his ad hoc committee to investigate and encourage ideas that might entice people to attend the World Shoot. A number of the ideas boil down to better marketing. In addition, though some of the ideas might not attract new shooters (this year) but might help to retain those who currently attend and, in the end, ultimately attract new attendees. Ken Keth will work with Don Snyder to flesh out the list of suggestions presented by the ad hoc committee. Additionally, John Haugh suggested we also find ways to incent the vendors to stay open for the entire Mini World and World Shoots.

Bob DeFrancesco, Ken Keth and John Haugh will work with Don Snyder to revise the World Shoot SSR ad. As soon as the new ideas are available from the above work group, Headquarters will begin to contact shooters who are already signed up to map their choice of shooting times to the new shooting times for the revised Mini and Main rotations.

Proposal for increasing entry fees for the Mini World and World Shoots was discussed. Increased entry fees reflect an adjustment for the CPI; the additional revenue will off-set expense increases, increase referee pay and enhance awards for Class 1st. Additional analysis and cost/expense scenarios will be developed.

Bill Batty, Bob DeFrancesco, John Haugh, Ken Keth and Don Snyder will vet the ideas presented for World Shoot improvements and the format for this year's Mini World and World Championships by March 1st for presentation to the Executive Committee.

2. Small Shoot Management Video – Rick Stockstill has taken over the project. Outline has been developed; working on story boards; script to be completed by end of February, followed by videotaping. How a club puts together a shoot program, is essential. Video will use "manual" shoot processing, not a computer-run shoot.
3. Zone 9 Executive Committee Representation – This has been an ongoing item to restructure the Executive Committee, but it would not be appropriate to make any changes without input/representation from the Armed Forces Skeet Association. **Motion by Louise Terry, 2nd by Bill Wright, to table any changes and take no further action. Motion passed all in favor.**
4. Mid-West Classic at Sparta – This year's date has been set for September 18-20, 2009, because the Briley shoot is being held at Sparta June 5-7.
5. Contracting NSSA Shoots – The Masters has been conducted in the past using NSSA staff, at considerable expense to the NSSA. This year, we will only use two NSSA staff members, and contract with an outside entity to run the shoot.
6. GMC – At the summer meeting last year, the expectation was for GMC's sponsorship to continue; it did not. It had been agreed to use the vehicle for the Association, and provide some form of "advertising" indicating affiliation with GMC. Since GMC is no longer a sponsor, advertising benefiting GMC is not necessary. However, there will be something on the vehicle indicating it is

a “company” car. Have taken steps to acquire a replacement sponsor. After approaching every manufacturer, now looking to engage Toyota.

7. Past President's Council Report – Bill Harder was elected Chairman. The Council is very happy to have been afforded this vehicle for communicating ideas to the Executive Committee. A Past President becomes a member of the Council as soon as they are a Past President, as opposed to when they are no longer on the Executive Committee (i.e. the Immediate Past President is a member of the Council).

H. NEW BUSINESS

1. Established Zone Shoot Dates & Criteria to Waive – **Louise Terry will work with Rick Stockstill to document the process for requesting a waiver to the required Zone shoot date.**
2. Historical Shoot Records and Pre-2000 Shoot Data – At the time our TEAMMS membership software was implemented, data from 1980-2000 was not incorporated because it had to be converted in order to be accessed by TEAMMS. The original files were archived, however, some of them have been found to be corrupted, but there is another copy that appears to have a lower error rate. The question is, how do we make the data available to our membership? Rick Stockstill recommended we make the data available in a summarized format (i.e., yearly totals), on an as requested basis (i.e., the data would not be available on line). **Motion by Jim Gast, 2nd by Bob DeFrancesco, to make the data available per Rick Stockstill's recommendation. Motion passed all in favor.**
3. Request for Residency Change – **Motion by Bob DeFrancesco, 2nd by Jim Gast, to approve the shooting residency change requested by Bill Myers (NSSA # 116117) from New Mexico to Texas. Motion passed all in favor.**

Addendum: Via an email ballot of the Executive Committee, a request for residency change for Thomas Keegan (NSSA# 141761) from Idaho to Montana was approved February 9, 2009.

4. Trap Machine Purchase Prior to Southwestern Grand – Donations have been received from trap shooters for the sole purpose of acquiring additional PAT traps. Currently have \$170,000, with additional pledges to bring us to the total funds required. However, need to use ~\$30,000 in NSSA cash to make the purchase now. This amount will be recovered when additional pledges are received. **Motion by Bob DeFrancesco, 2nd by John Haugh, to authorize the use of \$30,000 in NSSA funds to purchase the PAT traps. Motion passed all in favor.**
5. Published History of NSSA and NSCA – Spoke with a company at the Shot Show that will assist in assembling the material and publish the books. Upfront cost for the Association is about \$24,000, which can be solicited in the form of industry sponsorships. We would need to sell approximately 1,000 books to break-even, and would have an initial run of 1,500 books. **Motion by Jack Tans, 2nd by Bob DeFrancesco, to move forward with publishing the NSSA/NSCA history, with a targeted date of 2010, our 85th anniversary. Motion passed all in favor.**
6. Supporting Youth Shooting – Don Snyder would like to develop a NSSA/NSCA/3SF SCTP patch for junior shooters and coaches. Last year we had over 300 skeet and 300 sporting clays shooters at the SCTP Nationals. It has taken time to develop the SCTP program, but it is gaining momentum. NSSA/NSCA funded the awards for the Nationals, and provided NSSA/NSCA representation. The patches would be another way to help market our Associations, and can be done at minimal cost. **Motion by Louise Terry, 2nd by Jack Tans, to authorize the design and purchase of an NSSA/NSCA/NSSF SCTP patch for shooters and coaches, not to exceed \$2,500. Motion passed all in favor.**
7. Club Outreach Program – Each Zone Executive Committeeman, by the summer meeting, will identify at least five individuals in their Zone to assist with club outreach. Rick Stockstill recently sent letters to all non-renewing clubs, asking what NSSA can do to help them. He will provide the list of clubs to each respective Zone Executive Committee member. Don Snyder recently spoke to the President of the NRA, and is getting a list of NRA member clubs that have skeet and/or sporting clays facilities, who might not be NSSA/NSCA member clubs.

I. INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY REPORT – We have the best IT Department we have ever had. The information is reliable, and in an easily understandable format. As we continue to enhance our websites with a *Members Only* section, we are in the process of determining what information should be generally available to the shooting members, and what data is reserved for “internal” Association consumption.

J. NATIONAL SKEET SHOOTING ASSOCIATION – Both membership and target volume continued their declines from 2007 to 2008. Perhaps by making more, and better, information available to our membership, we can encourage more participation. For example, Rick Stockstill recommended that All-American point standings be posted on the web site throughout the year. Seeing where an individual stands might encourage additional shooting. Shooters have to understand that points are not the sole determinate for selection to an All-American team. The recommendation will be addressed by the All-American Selection Committee. If the All-American Selection Committee agrees to post points on the web site, then Rick Stockstill will make it happen.

K. NSSA SHOOTS

1. 2009 World Championship – Preregistration numbers at this time are: 386 for the Mini; 424 for the Main; 409 for Doubles; 172 for CofC. Ad for the SSR will be changed.
2. 2009 Krieghoff Masters – Preregistration for the main is 228, and 197 for Doubles. Shenecoy Sportsmen’s Club, in Pennsylvania, has expressed an interest in hosting the Masters in 2010 if the location were to be changed. It was noted that our title sponsor has to be very much involved in any decision to move the Masters from Ft. Bragg. Shenecoy has actually submitted a bid; more than having expressed interest. This was e-mailed to the EC some time ago (Rick S.)
3. 2009 Junior World – This year’s championship is being held at Whitetail Ridge, in Tupelo, MS. Rick S. recently sent letters to 43 clubs who meet the number of fields requirements to host the Junior World for 2010. Copies of the letters were sent to Howie Altman.
4. 2009 U.S. Open will be held at Rochester Brooks, NY September 11-13. The 2010 site will be selected at the summer Executive Committee meeting.
5. 2009 Vintage World Skeet Championship/Event 6 will be held at Prairie Grove Shooting Sports, Columbia, MO April 23-26.
6. 2009 International Skeet Championship will be held at Tulsa Gun Club, Tulsa, OK August 28-30.
7. 2008 World Shoot Survey Results – Comments are all over the board... They ranged from “best experience ever had” to “not coming back”. Will have the fields open Thursday and Friday night so shooters can practice under the lights. Plan on doing next year’s survey electronically.
8. 2008 Target Breakage Report – Breakage, once again, was extremely low...
9. Toni Ann Rogers Spring Extravaganza, March 27-29. There are 105 shooters preregistered. So far, have 12 applications for “shooting with the stars”, however five are not eligible, but still want to be squadded with the “stars”. Will extend the deadline for applications another month. The seven shooters who are qualified, will be notified they are in the shoot so they can start making travel plans.

L. NATIONAL SHOOTING COMPLEX

1. 2009 Schedule of Events – Have a full calendar of events slated for 2009.
2. 2009 Construction/Maintenance Budget – Purchase and install six PAT traps, and plaques recognizing PAT trap donations, once all monies have been received; cover the Stephen Hoff Courtyard between the offices and museum, which is being funded by the museum; complete installation of cardboard bailer (already done, and \$1,500 under budget); road improvements; reset footers on fencing for fields 39-50 (AKA the “Dirty Dozen”); replace RV bath house (still need to develop cost); it was recommended to improve the RV dump station, which needs a concrete pad. Will continue to perform routine maintenance; approval for major improvements will be requested at the summer Executive Committee meeting.

- M. CLUB ASSISTANCE PROGRAM** – Rick Stockstill has developed a sample package for grant applications, to assist clubs with their submissions which is posted on the NSSA web page. **Motion by Jack Tans, 2nd by Bill Wright, to approve a \$4,000 grant, each, for Flagler Sports & Conservation Club, St. Augustine, FL; Cottage Grove-Eugene Sportsmen’s Club, Creswell, OR; and Courtenay & District Fish & Game Protective Association, Courtenay, BC, CAN; with conditional approval for Roanoke Rifle & Revolver Club, Hardy, VA, pending receipt of a registered shoot application and business plan; and Camillus Sportsmen’s Club, Camillus, NY, pending receipt of a business plan. Motion passed all in favor.**

Request for grant for Uvalde Gun Club, Uvalde, TX (is deficient in six areas, including no approval from state or Zone, yet) will be returned.

- N. NSSA HALL OF FAME** – **Motion by Bob DeFrancesco, 2nd by Jack Tans, to induct Craig Kirkman and Holly Paul for shooting achievement, and King Heiple as the Ray Boller awardee. Motion passed all in favor.** The Chairman of the Hall of Fame Committee will provide notifications. Induction will take place October 5th at the Hall of Fame banquet. There was discussion regarding exploring other options for our Hall of Fame banquet venue, which Don Snyder will investigate.

- O. MEMBERSHIP** – No new report from the Committee. However, we continue to implement the Committee’s recommendations from their previous report. The marketing company we have been working with recommended, based upon reader surveys, to drop some of our SSR contributors. But, we need to have a replacement. To that end, for those who remember the “Tail Gunner”, looking to resurrect Norm Hill and/or his articles. Sam Armstrong was contacted by writer about shotgun instruction. Subsequently, he has started shooting, and will be attending the Toni Rogers.

- P. RULES & CLASSIFICATION** – The Committee is meeting January 31st. The most controversial item pertains to the recent clean-up of the “World Records”, which resulted in a number of age-concurrent team records being disallowed, due to the individuals not being from the same state or club. The consensus is to allow the non-open (i.e., age, military and retired military team concurrent) records to stand. Any recommendations will be addressed by the Executive Committee during a phone conference or the summer meeting.

- Q. SKEET SHOOTING REVIEW** – Suzie Fluckinger and her staff continue to do an excellent job with the SSR. Lisa Stinson replaced Julie Houtman, who moved on to a civil servant job in MS, after the World Shoot. Lisa is coming up to speed quickly, and is a good addition to our SSR staff. The company that has been handling our advertising isn’t doing a very aggressive job to sell ads and identify new advertisers. Alternatives are being sought.

- R. NATIONAL SPORTING CLAYS ASSOCIATION** – Both membership and targets were down slightly; member clubs, however, were up. Similar to NSSA, one-third of their members didn’t shoot registered targets during the past year, and one-third of the clubs don’t throw registered targets. The date change from mid-September to the end of October for the Sporting Clays Nationals has been very successful.

- S. LEAGUE & SWEEPSTAKES** – Slightly more clubs participated in 2008 than 2007, even though the number of shooters was down. In an effort to re-energize the program, will publicize the league better through the web site.

- T. MUSEUM** – Mike Brazzell and Jim Harris continue to do an exceptional job managing the museum and improving the displays. New displays have been added; the member library has been expanded; cataloging is an ongoing effort. They are always looking for new acquisitions. Take some time and stop in to see what they have done.

- U. INSTRUCTOR CERTIFICATION** – Four youth camps were held last year, with funding support from NSSA. Also, have 45 new Level 1 instructors and five new Level 2 instructors, as a result of courses

last year. **Motion by Louise Terry, 2nd by Bob DeFrancesco, to continue funding up to \$1,000 per youth camp, not to exceed \$5,000 for 2009. Motion passed all in favor.**

There being no further business to discuss, there was a **motion made by Jack Tans, 2nd by Bill Wright, to adjourn. Motion passed all in favor.** The Executive Committee was in session from 8:30am – 7:00pm, with a short recess for lunch from 12:30-1:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob DeFrancesco, Secretary/Treasurer

Trish Magyar, Assistant Secretary