

# Kansas State Shoot

//// by sandra jo jack

If you are arriving from I-35 north you will no doubt be driving through Flint Hills Nature Trail area in route to the Kansas Trapshooting Association located in Salina, Kansas. The wind blew the few trees back and forth as I entered the Flint Hills with hints of an approaching storm having me think, please don't let the winds blow for the 134th annual Kansas State Shoot. Brown and Black cattle dotted the grassy hills of the scenery that lets you see for miles and miles into the vanishing horizon.

Sponsored by Mid Kansas Ag out of 161 shooters was a special event for one resident trapshooter named Audrey Jones, a Junior shooter. Audrey shot her first 100 straight in Handicap from the 19.0 yard line with the next closest in-state score being a 98. Non-residents Justin Debrie and Shelly Heitner both shot 99's from 27 yards with Justin claiming the trophy.

Event 3, The Eddie Johnson Doubles Sponsored by Mid Kansas Seed saw 138 entries. Two 100's were shot. One was by

his last name to make sure it was spelled correctly. Mom, Rachel has been taking him to shoots for the past three years. Dad, Adam who does not shoot trap taught Evan how to shoot. Maybe Adam should take up the sport himself.

Event 5, The Hall of Fame Handicap was sponsored by Indiana Gun Club - Michael Gooch. Resident trophy collector Dakota Clark shot from the

198 residents. Non-Residents shined with four shooters shooting perfectly 200's to include Sandra Jo Jack (WI) Lady II, Rylon Arnold (OK) Sub Junior, Jon Marsh (NE) Sub Veteran and Ron Bliss (OK) Veteran. At the end of the day ten randomly drawn names from the event's Singles had the chance to win WINCHESTER ammo Sponsored by Winchester. After going three rounds, 1st place winner of this shoot-off Gary Gooch MO, was proud to collect his five cases of Winchesters especially since his name was drawn in the second wave of shooters to be called.

in his boxers resulting in Fred carrying Goobie to the camper from trap 1 to trap 7. Perhaps one of the campers facing the trap line has a video of this spectacle. And yes, permission was granted to tell on Fred and Goobie.

## Friday

Event 8, The Kansas State Class Doubles sponsored by MTS Custom Coating was held with a South wind causing the targets to sneak down under our barrels. There were three shooters who managed to beat the wind.

Event 9, The Kansas State Preliminary Handicap sponsored by Kreem Kup - Phil Stultz. With the humidity setting in with the threat of a storm that blew by, the Handicap event was won by resident Champion Eddie Johnson's 100 from the 27 yard line, besting all of the 322 shooters. Eddie

Arriving at the KTA Home grounds you notice the well groomed trap fields of the 10 Banks. Shooters shoot 50 per trap moving to the right. Campers align on the gravel to the West and East ends of the club house. Competition started on Tuesday with the 1st event ringing the bell for the week.

## Tuesday

Event 1, The Hunter Prockish Singles Sponsored by Straight Line Steel kicked off with 159 resident and non resident ATA shooters after the announcement from President Rob Taylor, "shooters to their traps".

Event 2, The Devon Helget Handicap

resident Cody Eye winning the Junior Gold and the other was from non-resident Wyatt Debrie (NE) who took home the Sub Junior prize.

## Wednesday

Event 4, The Hall of Fame Doubles Sponsored by Fischer's Irrigation consisted of 196 entries. Jerrod Lies started the week's resident HOA events with a 99 and shoot-off victory over Bruce Davis for AAA class. Evan Peterson is a rising star in the sport and at only 12 years old, the Nebraskan Sub Junior broke the only 100 for the day in Doubles with his CX-10. Interviewing Evan was a pleasure with him spelling

22.5 yard line posting a 98 to win his trophy. Following Wednesday's events, free ice cream Sundaes compliments of Maloan's Restaurant, owner Kevin Maloan were enjoyed by all. Shoot-offs began for Ryan Despain (AR) Junior, and Jeff Webb (TX) Veteran going 3 rounds with Ryan winning. Jeff kept saying "I just want to go eat", priorities first, ha.

## Thursday

Events 6 was the Kansas State Class Singles Sponsored by Elite Concrete. 283 shooters enjoyed the perfect day of no wind and plenty of sunshine. Resident Will Esfeld captured the Junior trophy with the highest score for the

Event 7, The KTA Hall of Fame Wolf Sponsored by Rick Scheer (in memory of Dick Scheer) was a non registered 50 bird Handicap race that was shot off before the evening of free catered chicken dinner by Chicken Marys, compliments of the Taylor Companies Manhattan, KS.

There was a unique event that happened about 3:30 am. While most shooters were fast asleep there was one individual and his companion running the trap line. Goobie decided to go out for relief but also decided to go for a run. Fred Smith, the owner of Goobie, had to act quickly to catch her. This special event was finally completed after a run in the field and down the trap line

A perfect 100 straight was shot by resident Junior Gold winner Hayden Thomason. Two non-resident Juniors posted 100's and needed a carryover round to settle the dispute. In the end Kohen Burda (NE) took home the out of state Junior trophy over Leo Brand (MN).

made the 27 yard line in 900 targets and has shot a total of 18 ATA events. Cole Henning (IA) Junior Gold and George Lee (NE) Sub Junior both completed the event with 99's shooting off in two rounds, Henning finished as Champion and Lee was Sub Junior winner.

The Annual KTA Hall of Fame



KTA President Rob Taylor



Audrey Jones  
Event 1 Handicap, 100 Straight



Fred Smith & Goobie



Perfect 500 Squad - Funkhouser, Stacey, Bliss, Wommack & Adams



Lone 200 Singles Champion Tyson Adams with his son and father



Eddie Johnson, HOA Champion

Banquet honoring State Team members, ATA All-American Team members, directors and officers was held in the HOF building that displays past and present HOF inductees along with their trophies and photos. No Hall of Fame member was inducted this year.

**Saturday**

Event 10, The Kansas State Singles Championship Sponsored by Fred Smith started out as a perfect day to shoot Singles. So perfect for Tyson Adams that he posted the lone 200 in state. Adams is from Johnson, KS and has worked as a farmer since he was a little guy. He has shot a Perazzi MX10 since 1999, using reloads or whatever he can find by way of new shells. His dad Troy along with the 4-H program taught Tyson to shoot. A favorite memory of his was not his own but when his son Colton broke his 1st 100 & 200. This was Tyson's 4th 200 shot and his first time being on a 500 squad in the first 100 of Singles. It was the 2nd time winning the Singles State Championship. The first being back in 2009.

A highlight for 5 shooters along with most friends on the grounds was a squad shooting their first hundred in the Singles event in harmony Tyson Adams (KS) 100, Dave Wommack (MO) 100, Ron Bliss (OK) 100, Pat Stacey (OK) 100 and, with her heart beating on the last shot, post 5 shooter Kya Funkhouser (OK) 100. Yes, a perfect 500 squad.

A gentleman named Martin Wilbur (KS) shot his first 100 straight back in 1974 exactly 50 years later, on this day, he repeated the feat.

Four out-of-state shooters, Justin Ballantyne (MO), Leo Brand (MN), Patrick Hopson (MO) and Zach Hennecke (NE) all shot perfect 200s. After five overtime rounds Ballantyne was the champion. The Kansas two in a Family event was won by Rob Taylor and JR Taylor 394x400 and the Husband and Wife trophy went to Lara Strauss and Caleb Strauss 379.

**Sunday**

Event 11, The Kansas State Doubles Championship was sponsored by Jim Kuhn. Shooting commenced after the national anthem on a hot day with wind. 98 was the highest resident score, David Osborn, a 2 time All American, and 2 time State Team member, took home a nice glass vase for being the Doubles Champion. David has shot his Perazzi MX10RS with Precision release/pull triggers since 1992. He is retired now but he keeps busy by welding copper for a feed mill. I asked David what he liked best about attending the shoots and he said "to be with friends, if not for them I would not shoot".

Event 12, The Kansas Handicap Championship Sponsored by Bruce Davis Construction added the wind to end the day with a hot-shot winner named Jennifer McBee who fell in love with trap "watching the clays blow up". Her score of 96 was from the 20.5 yard line with her Kolar/PFS Stock. Her husband Hal introduced her to shooting at their farm in 2021 and she has been shooting ATA targets ever since. Scores



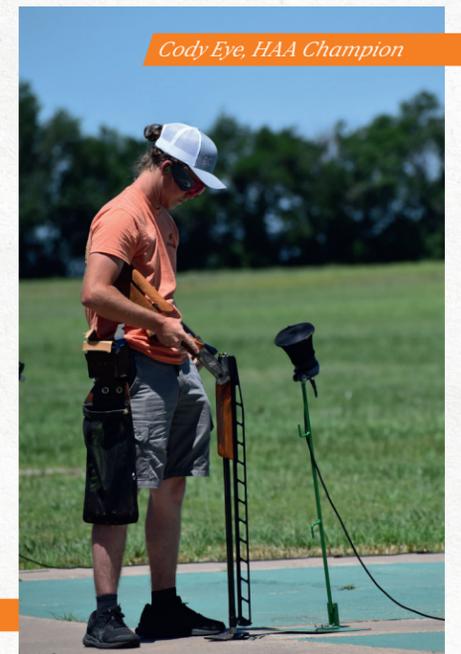
of 96's were also the winning scores in non-resident, Cohen Harre (NE) Sub Junior won in a one round shoot-off to James Kent Frost (MO).

**HAA and HOA**

HAA trophies were sponsored by Roy Rathbun for resident and non-residents.



Jennifer McBee, HDCCP Champion



Cody Eye, HAA Champion

**Singles Championship**

Champion	Tyson Adams	200
RU	Jerrod Lies	199
AAA	Eddie Johnson	198
AA	Stephen Scharz	198
A	Brandon Miller	198
B	John Guth	197
C	Brody Mccoy	196
D	Daniel Booth	195
LDI	Jennifer Mcbee	195
LDII	Deborah Richter	191
Sub Jr	Ozzy Neu	196
Junior	Hunter Prockish	199
Jr Gold	Cody Eye	198
Sub Vet	Scott Farmer	198
Veteran	Mark Crist	198
Senior Vet	David Osborn	199

**Doubles Championship**

Champion	David Osborn	98
RU	Caleb Fischer	97
AAA	Eddie Johnson	96
AA	Rob Taylor	95
A	Jeremy Hess	96
B	Fred Smith	92
C	Michaela Baalman	91
D	Jennifer Mcbee	88
LDI	Morgan Domme	94
LDII	Deborah Richter	77
Sub Jr	Mason Mans	78
Junior	Hunter Prockish	94
Jr Gold	Cody Eye	97
Sub Vet	Martin Wilbur	92
Veteran	Sidney Burkholder	96
Senior Vet	Kenneth Johnston	96

**Handicap Championship**

Champion	Jennifer Mcbee	96
RU	Joe Blazek	93
3rd	Will Esfeld	93
4th	William Loecker	92
5th	Dakota Clark	92
6th	Chandler Brown	92
LDI	Morgan Domme	91
LDII	Julie Rowe	87
Sub Jr	Dylan Vieux	95
Junior	Logan Maier	95
Jr Gold	Cody Eye	93
Sub Vet	Daniel Booth	95
Veteran	Steve Wittrig	95
Senior Vet	Dale Richardson	92

Residents Cody Eye, a Junior Gold shooter and David Osborn tied for the week with 388x400. Eye was the winner after a forfeit by Osborn.

Eddie Johnson, shot the best total of 969x1000 to win High Over All Champion with no shoot-off. Out of State winner Cole Henning had a score of 976 to win his Champion trophy also with no shoot-off.

I had the chance to interview Craig Schmitt (KS) about an accident that took place involving an enclosed buggy vs pickup truck on the shooting grounds. Somehow Craig managed to run his buggy smack into the side of a parked pickup truck. Windshield protected his head but not enough to not get a scratch, busted up shooting glasses and a dent in his pride. How he managed to achieve this is a mystery even to Craig.

2024 parting words from Rob Taylor: "Anytime you have multiple 100s in the Handicap and Doubles, 200s in the Singles races, you have had a successful shoot! Shooters seemed to enjoy the extra activities also".

How about attending the 2025 Kansas State Shoot to see what all the good targets are about and the extra activities? ■

**High All Around**

Champion	Cody Eye	388
RU	Eddie Johnson	383
AAA	Hunter Prockish	381
AA	Tyson Adams	380
A	Jennifer Mcbee	379
B	Martin Loecker	370
C	Josie Strauss	365
D	Daniel Booth	374
LDI	Morgan Domme	380
LDII	Deborah Richter	352
Sub Jr	Mason Mans	353
Junior	Will Esfeld	382
Jr Gold	Robert Mckain	368
Sub Vet	Martin Wilbur	375
Veteran	Rob Taylor	380
Senior Vet	David Osborn	388

**High Over All**

Champion	Eddie Johnson	969
AAA	Caleb Fischer	948
AA	Martin Wilbur	941
A	Brandon Miller	938
B	Don Schepmann	914
C	Brian Smith	892
D	Daniel Booth	914
LDI	Morgan Domme	930
LDII	Deborah Richter	858
Sub Jr	Parker Stark	864
Junior	Hunter Prockish	958
Jr Gold	Cody Eye	956
Sub Vet	Donald Budd	945
Veteran	Rob Taylor	948
Senior Vet	Kenneth Johnston	922

