#### **Missouri Skeet Shooting News for September 1, 2017**

**2017 State Shoot Review** Submitted by Rob Gyngard and Bill Wayne

The Missouri State Championships were held Aug 4, 5 and 6<sup>th</sup> at Prairie Grove Shotgun Sports. The club was in beautiful condition and the weather for the entire weekend was perfect. No rain and the high temperature in the mid 80s, typical weather for August. Friday's doubles event was won by Bill McCaulley, with our host club owner Ralph Gates second and Archie Alexander third.

On Saturday Glen Duncan won the 12 ga Championship, I think this is the only shoot Glen shot this year, great shooting Glen, with Mark Presnell RU and Archie Alexander third. In the 20 ga event Josh Beard was our Champion and Glen Duncan RU and Rob Gyngard third.

Following the shoot offs on Saturday evening we were treated to a great pork steak dinner with salad, potatoes, dessert and drinks. Our thanks to Maryann and her staff for preparing an excellent dinner.

Immediately after dinner our annual membership meeting was held. Our first order of business was the induction into our Hall of Fame, with the Charlie Smith award, which is our equivalent to the NSSA's Ray Boller award, which is given to shooters who have made a significant contribution to the MSSA. Our inductees this year were Roger Spann and Bill Wayne. Roger has been involved with skeet since the mid 70s starting as puller at the Bridgeton Winchester Gun Club, now Gateway Gun Club, when he was 15 years old, and shooting his first registered event at 16. Not only does Roger compete at our state shoot he has been our chief referee since 1990, and has done an outstanding job.

Bill Wayne was not only inducted into our Hall of Fame he was also awarded his NSSA 50 year pin. Bill created MSSA's website in 2002 an has filled many roles as shoot manager, referee, scoreboard man etc, at many of the 20 Missouri clubs where he has shot, winning two state championships along the way. The Plaques which were presented read as follows.



After the awards were presented we then moved on to the election of directors at large. Carter Finnell and Ralph Gates were re-elected and elected for his first time Kevin Hess. Kevin was a Junior All-American in the early 1970s and has just returned to shooting, and we are very glad to have him back. We are also glad to see Bill Mc Caully return to the state shoot, Bill hasn't shot in many years and we were happy to see him, and to see him bring his 12 year old grandson Mason with him. Mason a skeet rookie won his class in 3 guns and HOA, also sweeping Sub-Junior. At the end of the evening we held an auction with Mr. Ralph Gates being our auctioneer and he did a great job, many thanks to everyone who donated.

Special thanks also to the entire board of directors and others for all their hard work organizing and managing the state shoot, Nancy and Michael Rodney, Jeff Nichols, Ralph and Maryann Gates, Dean Rapp even though he was sick, Mike Schriever, Kathy Gyngard, Roger Spann, Bill Wayne, Carter Finnell who sponsors our points challenge and all the referees and the staff of Prairie Grove Shotgun Sports. And of course thanks to all our sponsors.

After all the shooting was over Sunday, Josh Beard won the 28 ga, 410 championship and the HOA. Runner-up in the 28 was Rob Armstrong with Mark Presnell third. In the 410 Mark Presnell was RU and Bill McCaulley was third. Following Beard in the HOA was Archie Alexander RU and Mark Presnell third. Our ladies HOA was Maryann Gates. HAA was won by Alexander , Presnell RU and McCaulley third.





Special Note, this was Archie Alexanders 42<sup>nd</sup> consecutive year competing in the state shoot. Along the way he has won 31 State Championships. In my 40 years of shooting I have seen many shooters come and go, but his record of longevity, and number of championships won will never be matched. Archie was the first person to introduce me to skeet shooting and thanks to him my wife and I live in substandard housing. Is that a goat on his head?

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# **Upcoming shoots**

September			
9/9	Prairie Grove	Early Fall Open - Program in PDF format	
9/15-17	Springfield R&G	Hunters Open * - Program in PDF format	
October			

10/14	Prairie Grove	Falling Leaf - Program in PDF format		
November				
11/4	Prairie Grove	Day of the Dead Open		

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