

President's Message



This will be my final newsletter as your President. I want to thank all those who volunteered their time to make the two years I have served a success. As an all-volunteer organization it takes a little help from everyone to make it a success. Please lend a hand to our incoming administration when you can.

Congratulations to our Points Winners: Tim Ripperger, Terry Pollard, Mark Presnell, Donald McPherson, William McCaulley, Thomas Houlihan, Rob Armstrong, Don Beard, Kevin Hess and Josh Beard. Check out moskeet.org for all the details.

It has been an honor!

Dean Rapp
MSSA President

Board Meeting



The next board meeting will be at Prairie Grove Shotgun Sports on Saturday, November 7th. The meeting will be held in the Club House and Masks will be required. The meeting will start at 11:30am or soon after the first flight has concluded. Please be sure to bring your own lunch.

November Shoot



The final shoot of the season for Missouri Clubs will be held November 7th at Prairie Grove Shotgun Sports. Be sure to bring your own lunch.

Further details please go to MoSkeet.org / Events / Shoot Schedule or e-mail us at info@moskeet.org.

Skeet Lessons

Springfield Rod & Gun Club will be hosting World Skeet Champion Mike Schmidt, Jr. December 10th thru the 13th. Mike will be sharing a wealth of knowledge to all who participate in this event. Please contact Micah Gibbons at 417-844-5444.



Flying with Firearms by Dean Rapp

I fly with firearms on a frequent basis and have garnered knowledge I wish to share with you. Contained here you will find some must know information for those that have either, never flown with or not flown lately, with firearms. I hope by sharing my experiences, your next flight with firearms will be a smooth one. Of course, you should confirm with the airlines, TSA and all authorities any possible changes to regulations that might contradict what I provide below.

- **Arrive Early** – Several factors will dictate just how long and complex the process of checking your firearm will be. I always arrive two hours before my flight, as at times, the process takes a good hour.
- **Declare Firearm and Ammunition** – When you check your bags be sure to inform the airline associate that you will need to declare firearms and ammunition. They will have a form you fill out to include with your firearm and ammunition. Upon occasion I have been instructed not to complete the form for my ammunition. Once, flying out of LaGuardia, I had to walk them through the process step by step.
- **Quality NON-TSA Combination Lock** – Yes, that is correct, do not use a TSA lock. The most gun friendly airports will escort you to an area where the case will be opened and inspected in your presence. The non-friendly airports will have TSA call you and request the combination if they decide to inspect the interior. If you get lucky, the case will never be opened.
- **Name and Phone Number** – You want to ensure that TSA can reach you if they so desire to peek into your case. So be sure and have your name and phone number clearly written/attached to your case.
- **Extra Locks** – After arriving at my destination with an unlocked gun case, I now carry a spare or two with me. Yes, TSA opened the case and failed to re-attach the lock. In addition, I have had two MasterLocks fail and in one case TSA had to cut the lock with bolt cutters. Thankfully, I was carrying a spare lock. I have switched to Brink locks and have had zero issues.
- **Quality Case** – I have used several cases over the years and my favorite is a ToughPak. I have model 1050. With this model I place my firearms in a padded sleeve to prevent any damage from bouncing around while in flight. The ToughPak duffle bag, a must have, allows me to also include a lot of clothes.

- **Limit Packed Items** – Avoid packing knives, gun oil, wad knockers, ammo or anything which might trigger TSA with a desire to have the case opened. For the most part, if I limit my packed items to clothes and firearms, the case often passes security without being opened.
- **Insurance** – This probably goes without saying, do not fly without insurance on your firearms. I once had my gun case lost in flight for 72 hours. If I have not shared that story with you then I suggest we have a cordial and a story telling session.
- **Ammunition** – You can fly with up to 11 pounds of ammunition. I keep my ammunition in their original containers placed inside an MRM model case... locked with a standard TSA lock. I suggest checking your ammunition separate from your gun case.
- **Expect the Unexpected** – The process is never the same. I have learned to do exactly what I am instructed even if it makes no sense. One time I opened and closed the case containing my firearm 3 times because the airline associate had no idea what they were doing.