

By David Guinn

### **Black Wing Shooting Center hosts 1<sup>st</sup> annual Black Wing Skeet Classic**



Delaware, OH – Black Wing Shooting Center hosted its 1st annual Black Wing Skeet Classic, May 21 – 23, 2010. Traditionally, May, Dick Cross and The Heritage Skeet Classic were one and the same. With the passing of Dick Cross, his family asked that the Heritage name be retired. However, our May shoot, for many of our shooters, will always be the Heritage shoot, in memory of Dick Cross. Dick will forever be remembered for his support of skeet in Ohio and his efforts to encourage new shooters in this great sport. Rex & Suzanne Gore, owners of Black Wing Shooting Center, are the new sponsors of our May shoot and our thanks to Rex & Suzanne for supporting this great game called “Skeet”.

The 3rd annual CDE Event, managed by Bryan Rogers and Bruce Poyer, was an overwhelming success. This year, because of its success, Bruce signed on as Bryan’s assistant at an undisclosed salary. It’s rumored his pay broke the salary cap for the shoot. Both Bryan & Bruce enjoyed managing the event and all the CDE participants really enjoyed it. Plus each Classic participant received a 2010 Black Wing hatpin. A true keepsake awarded to each participant from this inaugural Black Wing Skeet Classic.

The Doubles event was contested on Friday with 31 participants. Alan Leonard claimed the Championship with a 95. Other Doubles winners were: AA1, Bruce Poyer, A1, Michael Harm, B1, Ed Brooks, C1, Timothy Witzler, and D1, Richard Irene.

The 12 Gauge Event, with 38 participants, started Saturday’s activities with 1 perfect score recorded by John Koch, a Veteran shooter. In fact, John recorded the lone 100 for the whole shoot; way to show those young guys John. For his 100 straight, John received a \$25 Black Wing gift certificate at Saturday’s dinner. Congratulations! 12 Gauge class winners were: AA1, Bruce Poyer, A1, Richard Smelko, B1, Timothy Witzler, C1, Steve Seggebruch, D1, Ken Quintenz, and E1, Sam Burton.

The 20 Gauge Event with 39 participants followed with Bruce Poyer claiming the title with a 98. Class winners were: AA1, Bryan Rogers, A1, Larry Israel, B1, Thomas Pitcavate, C1, Paul Kautz, and D1, Mike Dunmyer.

Next up was the CDE Event (doubles at 3, 4, & 5, miss and out) managed by Bryan and Bruce. 16 shooters were eligible to participate and 15 of our 12 Gauge CDE shooters participated in the Event. Each shooter was given a handicap based on class with a C class shooter allowed 1 lost target, a D class shooter 3 lost targets, and an E class shooter 4 lost targets. Also, Bryan and Bruce had one last rule for the shooters – Anything that Bryan or Bruce did was ok. Alan Leonard, emerged victorious to claim top prize of \$250

with Norm Day settling for \$150 and Paul Kautz \$100. Our thanks to Bryan and Bruce for managing this fun event; it was a tremendous success and enjoyed not only by the participants but by all the other shooters who did not participate and everyone else in attendance.

Saturday night's dinner consisted of a roasted pig with all the trimmings. Our thanks to Judy Stadlander and Rex & Suzanne Gore for making this great dinner happen. All leftovers disappeared Sunday afternoon.

After dinner, Rex Gore, owner of Black Wing Shooting Center, spoke about Dick Cross and Dick's impact on Black Wing and the game of skeet. Dick was a rock for the skeet discipline and skeet community through out the State of Ohio.

Also, over \$250 in awards was given to our shooters in random drawings plus 3 bottles of Ohio wine; a \$75 Black Wing gift certificate hi-lited the list of awards. The Roger's family donated the wine.

The 28 Gauge Event, with 36 participants, started Sunday's activities. John Grehan took the Championship with a 99. Class winners were: AA1, Michael Harm, A1, Joseph Charles, B1, Holt Mallard, C1, James Nappi, and D1, Gregory Pike.

The shoot concluded with the 410 event, which totaled 33 participants. Larry Bolino captured the Championship with a 99. Class winners were: AA1, Larry Israel, A1, Joseph Charles, B1, Monty Murphy, C1, Holt Mallard, and D1, Gregory Pike.

Our HOA Champion and Runner Up were Bruce Poyer, 387, and Joseph Charles, 382. Our HAA Champion and Runner Up were Bruce Poyer, 481, and Michael Harm, 474. Congratulations are a must for these fine shooters.

The Black Wing Classic cannot be closed without several special mentions. First, our thanks go to our referees, Bob, Casey, John, Melanie, LeAnn, and Bill. The targets were great and your hard work was appreciated by all the shooters.

Second, a sizeable contingent from Indiana, Kentucky, & West Virginia made it to this year's Classic and should be recognized for their dedication to the sport. I believe Black Wing made your stay enjoyable and we look forward to hosting your return trip.

As always, Black Wing Shooting Center provided the shooters with great facilities and the local shooter's hospitality added to the enjoyment of the Classic by the shooters who made the journey to participate in this great tournament.

Our thanks to Rick Knepper and the hard working Black Wing staff who worked the shoot and dinner. Thanks to all just in case I neglected to mention anyone.

