

BINGHAMTON GUN CLUB



SPRING 2026

FACTS YOU MAY NOT CARE ABOUT

Yevgeny Petrov won the International Skeet Gold medal at the 1968 Olympics by shooting 200 straight with a Russian made MC-8-3 12 g O/U. He shot wide open chokes- in fact wider open than cylinder. It was belled out to .830 which effectively made it a blunderbuss.

Bob Brister in his must-read book, *Shotgunning, the Art and Science*, states emphatically that a cylinder gun at 25 yards is more effective than a full choke at 50 yards.



Smashing Clays Never Gets Old!!

NEW OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS ARE ON BOARD

In January of this year, we elected board members and appointed officers. The list is in this newsletter and if you are unsure who someone is, please ask around. We want to meet all members and prospective members. New additions are Parris George as a Board of Director, Alan Davey as a Vice President, and Ted Bryant as our new President. This will be a good team to bring us into the new year and tackle the many challenges any volunteer club must deal with. Your board and officers put in a lot of hours to make this an enjoyable place to shoot, miss and laugh. Join the fun, get involved.

LOTS OF WORK TO BE DONE

Your board has been itemizing infrastructure improvements that need to be addressed soon. These include painting, skeet house repairs, some insulation/plumbing issues in the club house, 5 stand high house repair, and a whole lot more. We are always looking for volunteers with ANY SKILLS you may lend. Keep an eye out here, on Discord, Facebook and in the clubhouse for work party dates. And as stated before, pay is commensurate with the pay at all volunteer clubs. If you have a particular skill such as painting or carpentry, or ideas to help us, please see an officer or email to info@binghamtongunclub.com

Heard on the skeet field after a high house miss:

“It was a sudden gust of gravity!”

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO JOHN AND BILL

Bill Barrows recently termed out as president of our club and was replaced by Ted Bryant. Bill has been a long time member and has never failed to add a perspective we often missed. He probably knows more about the club than most have forgotten. Thank you for your years of service Bill. John Drabo, who I affectionately think of as our “Yoda” (or maybe Father John), recently stepped off the board after 17 years of service. Wow. John makes all of us laugh, not just with his shooting but with his wit! John’s wisdom and level head have kept many situations from becoming unbearable and has helped this club countless times with his birds eye view of what works and what doesn’t work. Please thank both gentlemen when you see them next!

EDITORIAL

We have a plethora of talented members in our club. We have trade professionals, doctors, lawyers, engineers, law enforcement, you name it. Every one of us has something to teach or pass on. Knowledge that is shared is a gift. We are so lucky to have the USA Olympic (Bunker) Trap NATIONAL CHAMPION in both the Para and Senior Classes as a member and a friend. I'm very proud to have him write our member piece this issue. When I asked Albert to write this I just-about had to pry him off the ceiling fan he was so excited. I think you'll find this motivating and humbling. Albert has excelled at THE hardest shotgun sport there is despite physical challenges. Tap into his knowledge, he will share.

Sincerely, *Your Editor Until Somebody Wants It*, Andrew Sacco.

MEMBER PIECE: PARA TRAP ON THE INTERNATIONAL STAGE BY ALBERT FIORI

Competing internationally in para-trap as the USA Para Trapshooting National Champion and Senior National Champion is an extraordinary honor and privilege. It is a role that carries pride, pressure, sacrifice, profound isolation—especially when navigating the sport without consistent funding or coaching support. Representing the United States on the international stage is not just about performance; it is about dedication, resilience, self-reliance, and an unwavering commitment to excellence in the face of adversity.

International para trap competition is a test of precision under pressure. “Bunker” demands split-second timing, visual discipline, refined gun control, and the ability to reset mentally after every target. At the international level, the margins between podium placements are thin. One target can separate first from fifth or not making a final at all. The environment intensifies this pressure: unfamiliar ranges, different lighting conditions, varying target speeds, wind patterns, background contrasts, medical issues, language barriers and jet lag all influence performance. Athletes must adapt quickly, often within limited training windows before competition begins.

Wearing “USA” on my back brings an incredible amount of pride but also weight. It's a feeling that words cannot describe. I am not only competing for myself, I am representing my country, my community, the adaptive sports movement and the CIDP/MMN community. This is a role I take with great pride, respect and gratitude. There is a responsibility to perform, to conduct myself professionally and to demonstrate that American para shooters belong on the world stage.

Competing internationally without funding magnifies every logistical and emotional challenge. Travel alone is a major financial burden. International airfare with firearms requires additional fees, insurance, documentation, and often specialized travel cases. Most importantly I must have a passport that conforms to the “Schengen Area.” This is an open-border area of 29 European countries. This was a lesson I learned the hard way. Shipping equipment internationally can be costly and risky, with the constant anxiety of lost or delayed firearms. Entry fees, training rounds, accommodations, ground transportation, meals, and range fees accumulate quickly. Unlike fully funded programs, self-funded athletes must weigh every expense against personal financial stability.

International success is built long before match day. It requires consistent training, access to quality facilities, ammunition and exposure to high-level competition. When finances limit practice rounds or travel to preparatory events, I must maximize every session. There is no luxury of wasted ammo or targets. Training becomes hyper-efficient, often squeezed around adversity at every angle. In addition, I need to navigate an infusion of immunoglobulin once every two weeks with premedication, due to my physical condition. *“Adversity introduces a man to himself.”*

When competing internationally, I become my own analyst, technician, and motivator. Every miss must be diagnosed internally in real time. There is no one behind the line observing muzzle movement or body alignment. There is no immediate reassurance after a lost target. Mental resets must be self-generated. This demands an ability to analyze emotion under competitive stress. Shotguns must be perfectly tuned; minor mechanical inconsistencies can translate into lost targets. If something fails overseas, access to qualified gunsmiths may be limited or costly. The stress of protecting and transporting specialized adaptive equipment adds another layer of complexity.

Para trap also presents “classification” and accessibility considerations. Ensuring compliance with international adaptive regulations requires familiarity with evolving rules. Navigating accessibility in foreign venues—transportation, lodging, range layout—can present unexpected obstacles. Without a dedicated team liaison, I must proactively advocate for accommodations while maintaining focus on performance. Mental discipline often becomes the defining skill. When targets are missed, self-doubt can surface quickly- especially when you know every aspect of your journey was self-financed and self-directed. Adversity, however, can also be a source of strength. There is nowhere to hide on the bunker field. Despite the challenges, there is profound fulfillment and pride stepping onto the world stage wearing red, white and blue, representing the greatest country in the world.

I think about a very special moment that Stephanie and I shared with a stranger during a training session at the Worlds in Brno Czech Republic. A young female athlete wearing a Czech vest approached us and asked if she could train with me. Without hesitation I said, “Yes, of course.” I had no idea who she was, but she conducted herself in a humble, angelic manner. We shot together on the same squad not paying attention to her performance but to mine. After the round she approached me. She said “Albert, even though you miss some targets, you’re always smiling.” She said, “I’m not used to seeing that.” Just as she completed her sentence, I could see tears streaming down her face. I could tell that something profoundly moved her to tears which moved Stephanie and I to tears. In a split second three of us were sharing a moment that words cannot describe. That moment reminded me how powerful the Para Trap movement is. I realized later that my new friend’s name was Tereza Zaviskova the Czech Republic’s junior national champion, a very accomplished athlete and one to follow for Los Angeles 2028 and the Olympics.

Competing internationally is about standing on the trap field-prepared, disciplined, poised and proud; knowing that every broken target represents not just skill, but perseverance. It is a testament to commitment, self-belief, confidence and the unwavering drive to represent the United States at the highest level, no matter the obstacles.

Thank you to all the people that helped to make this journey possible for me. I am grateful and truly blessed

Never give up on your dreams.... No matter the cost.

Go USA!!!!!!

Albert Fiori

2025 USA Para Trap National Champion

2025 USA Senior Champion

2025 5th Place World Championship Brno Czech Republic

2025 Bronze Medalist Italian Green Cup



INTRODUCING OUR 2026 RAFFLE GUN!



Browning 825 Sporting 12 Gauge 32”

Browning Item# 0183233002 MSRP \$3,980

Up for grabs to a lucky winner is one of the hottest clays guns of 2026. This gun is brought to us by Shydas Outdoor Center in Lebanon, PA.

- Gloss oil finish Grade III/IV walnut stock with close radius grip
- Right hand palm swell
- Low-post floating rib
- Triple Trigger System with three trigger shoes
- Five extended choke tubes (Invector™ DS)
- Vector Pro lengthened forcing cones with back bored technology

IMPORTANT INFORMATION!

- Raffle is limited to *300 entrants at \$25 per chance*
- Binghamton Gun Club will pay for the firearm to be shipped to FMK Karate
- *You are ONLY responsible for the FFL fee to take delivery*
- ***Drawing date announced upon sale of last ticket***

Scan the QR code below to go to Zeffy, or use the link. They will ask for a donation which you may choose to do or choose “Other” and put in 0.00 to pay nothing. We get 100% of proceeds using this platform. If you do NOT use a smart phone or computer or have problems, see a board member or officer and we’ll make it happen!



<https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/binghamton-gun-clubs-annual-raffle--2026>



SHYDASOUTDOORCENTER.COM

717 273-6572

THE WINDS OF CHANGE ARE BLOWING

There has been some movement with our club, all of it in a very positive direction. We are off to a great start with our second sporting clays gun raffle, and we ask you to support Shyda's Outdoor Center. They have been good to our club and offer guns, ammo, reloading supplies and great support. They are holding your new sporting clays gun should you be so lucky to win! A special thank you to Jordan Reinbold at Shyda's who helped us get this hard to find 32" gun.

We will be unveiling a new card driven sporting clays system this season "on the hill" as I like to call it. It will make it easier and more reliable to shoot, and we think your experience will be a better one overall. We just took delivery of two new MEC traps and are rebuilding some of our existing traps with tilt bases to allow more varied presentations. It's going to be a great year at Binghamton Gun Club.

REFERENCE DATA FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

Choke Bore Sizes and Constriction

The following is a generally agreed upon list of shotgun bore diameters for all gauges and a list of generally accepted choke constrictions (in thousandths of an inch) for the various named choke constrictions.

Gauge	10	12	16	20	28	.410	British	Browning	Perazzi	Percents
True Bore Dia.	.775	.729	.662	.615	.550	.410				
Cylinder Bore	.000	.000	.000	.000	.000	.000	Cylinder	***	0	40% at 40 yards
Skeet	.005	.005	.004	.004	.003	.002	Imp. Cylinder	**\$	1	45% at 40 yards
Imp. Cylinder	.010	.009	.007	.006	.005	.004	Quarter	**	2	50% at 40 yards
Light Modified	.015	.015	.012	.010	.009	.006			3	55% at 40 yards
Modified	.020	.019	.015	.014	.012	.008	Half	**	4, 5	60% at 40 yards
Imp. Modified	.025	.025	.020	.019	.016	.011	Three Quarter	* _	6, 7	65% at 40 yards
Full Choke	.035	.035	.028	.025	.022	.015	Full	*	9	70% at 40 yards
Extra Full	.040	.040	.035	.027	.024	.021			10, 11	73% at 40 yards

Generalized Skeet Leads

Station	Target	Hold	Eye Position	Lead	Break Point
1	High	Break point	Above barrel	No lead	10-15' before center stake
	Low	10' from low house	Window	6" to 1'	15-20' past center stake
2	High	One third from high house	Left of barrel	6" to 1'	10-15' before center stake
	Low	10' from low house	Window	1.5 to 2'	15-20' past center stake
3	High	One third from high house	10' from high house	2.5 to 3'	10-15' before center stake
	Low	One third from low house	3' from low house	3.5 to 4'	15-20' past center stake
4	High	One third from high house	10' from high house	3.5 to 4'	10-15' before center stake
	Low	One third from low house	3' from low house	3.5 to 4'	10-15' before center stake
5	High	One third from high house	10' from high house	3.5 to 4'	15-20' past center stake
	Low	One third from low house	3' from low house	2.5 to 3'	10-15' before center stake
6	High	10' from high house	Window	1.5 to 2'	15-20' past center stake
	Low	One third from low house	10' from low house	6" to 1'	10-15' before center stake
7	High	10' from high house	Window	6" to 1'	15-20' past center stake
	Low	Break point	Above barrel	No lead	15-20' before center stake
8	High	4' from high house	Window	No lead	20-25' before center stake
	Low	4' from low house	Window	No lead	20-25' before center stake

Ed's Red: A highly effective shotgun solvent you can make at home. RECIPE: 1 part each acetone, kerosene, mineral spirits and automatic transmission fluid (ATF). Store in a glass mason jar. Avoid on wood and plastic as acetone can destroy it. Acetone is optional but it is less aggressive without it. This is like Brownell's red wad solvent which is fantastic but more expensive by far (\$38 for 16 ounces). Soak choke tubes in this and the plastic should melt.

Napier's of London: Learned this from Art Ruck and it is now my favorite product: *Napiers Gun Cleaner and Lubricant*; a super thin solvent and lubricant. I spray it on my ejectors, action, bores and wipe it off. Thin enough that canned air will blow it out of the ejectors. Fantastic product for auto loaders as it won't gum up on the pistons/springs...etc. Order direct from napierusa.com. Endorsed and used by Purdey, Holland and Holland, Westley Richards, EJ Churchill and more.

CLUB CALENDAR: *THIS IS FLUID CHECK DISCORD FOR UPDATES!

MARCH 14 TH , 2026	CLUB WORK PARTY, TRAP PREP	8AM
MARCH 28 TH , 2026	CLUB WORK PARTY, TRAP PREP/HILL OPEN	8AM
SUNDAY APRIL 26 TH , 2026:	SCTP BUNKER PRACTICE 1	
SATURDAY MAY 2 ND , 2026:	BBQ Fun Shoot	Register on Score Chaser
SUNDAY MAY 3 RD , 2026:	SCTP BUNKER PRACTICE 2	
SUNDAY JUNE 7 TH , 2026:	SCTP BUNKER PRACTICE 3	
SUNDAY JUNE 28, 2026:	SCTP CHAMPIONSHIP	

OTHER EVENTS:

JUNE 4, 5 and 6 TH , 2026	NE SIDE BY SIDE CLASSIC	HAUSMANN'S HIDDEN HOLLOW
JULY 23-26 TH , 2026	NORTHERN SIDE BY SIDE EXPO	ROCK MOUNTAIN SPORTING CLAYS
JULY 23-26 TH , 2026	NYS SPORTING CLAYS CHAMPIONSHIP	VERNON NATIONAL

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open annually from February to February. We do NOT pro-rate membership so if you have not renewed it yet now is the time. For questions or for new member inquiries email info@binghamtungunclub.com

IMPORTANT!! UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION!!

We encourage members to join Discord, our private message board, where you will be kept up to date daily on happenings of the club. This will prevent us from sending out too many emails to members. Scan the QR codes below to be directed to these pages.



DISCORD



FACEBOOK

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

BOARD of DIRECTORS

Dom Costantino
Parris George
Scott Jones
Ed Moran

OFFICERS

President: Ted Bryant
1st VP: Ken Hildebrandt
2nd VP: Alan Davey
Treasurer: Sonya Hildebrandt



Andrew Sacco
Secretary: Antoni Koziol

MISSION OF THE BINGHAMTON GUN CLUB

Our mission is to bring people together to enjoy and grow the sport of clay target shooting in Broome County and across New York State. We're passionate about fostering a love for shooting sports, from friendly competitions to skill-building events that welcome everyone—from beginners to seasoned shooters.

Beyond clay shooting, we support a wide range of outdoor activities, including hunting, dog trials, and other time-honored sporting traditions. We're dedicated to preserving these pastimes, protecting the environments that make them possible, and strengthening the bond between sportsmen and their communities.

At our core, we're more than just a club, we're a part of the local fabric of outdoor sports, working to ensure that our traditions thrive for generations to come. Whether you're here to compete, learn, or simply connect with like-minded individuals, we welcome you to join us in celebrating the great outdoors!

Follow Us

On the web at
binghamtongunclub.com

Follow Us on Facebook at
Binghamton Gun Club

Join us on Discord

BINGHAMTON GUN CLUB

Location is at the end of Quilty Hill Rd in
Kirkwood, NY

Mailing Address is:
Binghamton Gun Club
PO Box 126
Johnson City, NY 13790