

Kasle Family Charity Open

WALLED LAKE, MI – Because the Kasle Family Charity shoot is held mid-September, the weather can be a little “iffy” ... It might be sunny and warm; it could be cold and rainy; or we could even see thunder storms. For this year’s Kasle Family Charity shoot, held September 13th-15th at the Detroit Gun Club, we had a little bit of everything! There were a number of “first-timers” in attendance from among the competitors from 18 states, Canada and tribe of “Kiwis” New Zealand, and they were all anticipating the Saturday night show they had heard so much about. The shoot always starts with a .410 bore, 75-target “Event 6” in which the top ten scores participate in a themed shoot-off on Saturday night. For the first time in the 20 years of the event there were NO 75s (yes, it was a little breezy). The three 74s and four 73s automatically qualified for the “finals”, and seven 72s had a “shoot-in” for the remaining three spots, which took all of two stations to decide.

DOUBLES – Stormy conditions (everyone got rained on at some point), along with three delays due to thunder and lightning, saw to it that there were no perfect scores. Fortunately, there was a lull in the storms when it came time for the shoot-offs. Four 99s took to the field to determine who would be on the podium, with only two making it through the first box. Two pair shy of completing the second box, Aaron Benton let one slip away and Des Ivanov hit his pair to claim the title. Dave Scott was third, with Brent Edwards AAA1. Shoot-offs of 97s and 94s settled AA and B, respectively, with Owen Knight and Ron Ausman the winners. Reg Hooper (A), Steve Bourke (C) and Matt Wright (D) rounded out the class winners. Mallory Stanton was Lady Champ.



12 GAUGE – Saturday morning’s conditions started “severe clear”, but clouds moved in during the day accompanied by a light breeze. Surprisingly, there were only four 100s posted in the 12 Gauge; there were eight perfect scores in the 20 Gauge. Add to that the plethora of 99s (8 and 14, respectively) it’s a wonder that the number of 100 straights wasn’t higher. Paul Giambrone made quick work of the 12 Gauge winning over Des Ivanov in four stations. After Craig Parsons’ and Fran Kosmacki’s early exit, they resumed their battle to determine who would get the final spot on the podium, with Fran the victor after another box-plus. Shoot-offs were needed to sort out AA and B, with Dave Scott and Tom Davis the respective winners. Mason Reed (A), William Watson (C) and Bill Brown (D) won their classes outright. Stanton repeated as Lady Champ.



20 GAUGE – In the 20 Gauge event, Mark Vaillancourt was one station shy of completing the box, taking Third. Benton and Dennis Jameson finished the box and, four pair later, Benton was the victor. Ivanov was AAA1; W.C. Parks, AA1 and Dave Pratt, A1 with their 100s. John Lawson (B), Ron Galloway (C) and Kerri Wrigley (D) finished at the top their classes. Stanton, once again, was Lady Champ. With the day’s main events in the books, it was time to get on with the show!



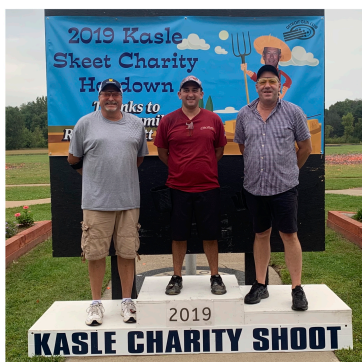
KASLE CUP – Nineteen years ago, in 2000, the Kasle Cup originally started as the Walker Cup, named for the original sponsor, Spike Walker. Over the years it has had different sponsors and, hence different names. But the idea behind the event has always remained the same... to put some fun back into skeet shooting. Each year has had a different theme, with the shooters making it to the finals dressing the part; often the contestants are on different “teams”, with the crowd getting into the action... The themes over the years have been WWF; Rock Stars; West-Side Story (Sharks vs Jets); Heroes and Villains; NFL (AFC vs NFC); NASCAR; Professional Rodeo; Pirates; the Olympics; Woodstock; Caddy Shack; Top Shot; Slap Shot; Dr. Seuss; “Stripes” and “Top Gun”; “Snow White” and “Dorf on Skeet”; “Detroit Skeet City” based upon the classic movie (Detroit Rock City) featuring KISS; the “Greatest Shoot (Show) on Earth”; and, last year, Looney Tunes. This year’s theme was “Old MacDonald’s Farm” with each participant sporting face-paint for a different farm animal.



The show started with a spectacular fireworks display. The contestants were “herded” onto the field to a chorus of “Old MacDonald had a farm...” naming each of the animals in succession. They shot flash targets, with “Old MacDonald” playing way and the crowd heckling them, making for quite a spectacle. Rarely has the shoot-off gone more than a round, which is understandable given all the commotion, and this year was no exception. When the smoke finally cleared, Bruce “Horse” Christian was the winner of the coveted crystal bowl, which was presented by Old MacDonald (AKA Billy Ray Suggs) and Scott Behnke on behalf of the event sponsors, Roger, Lisa, Matt & Jill Kasle. This was Bruce’s second Cup!



28 GAUGE – Sunday's conditions started out overcast, with an occasional drizzle for the 28 Gauge event in the morning. Three shooters scratched out 100s, with seven 99s right behind them. Giambrone was the Champ over Andy Peter on the last pair of the box, with Kosmacki Third. The 99s shot off to decide AAA, AA and A classes with Mike Stasio, Parks and Davis the respective winners. Lawson (B), Watson (C) and Linda Wright (D) won their respective classes. Debbi Perry stopped Stanton's run to claim Lady Champ.



.410 BORE – As it seems to usually be the case, the wind picked up for .410 bore in the afternoon. Why IS that?? Two shooters did manage to post 100s – Giambrone and Ivanov – with seven 99s close on their heels. Giambrone quickly dispatched Ivanov to claim the Championship. The 99s took to the field to decide Third, which took nearly the entire box for Dan Morris to best the field. Owen Knight was AAA1; David Miles, AA1; and Michael Schlarman, A1 with their 99s. Jerry Kott (B), Galloway (C) and Watson (D) were their classes outright winners. Perry was Lady Champ.



HIGH OVER ALL – In the High Over All race, after three events there were two shooters down one target; one shooter down two; five, down three. So, once again, it would all come down to the “baby bore”. When the final shot was fired in the .410, Gaimbrone was alone at the top with a 399, followed by Ivanov with a 397 for Runner-up. Three 396s took to the field to decide the last spot on the podium, with Parsons the winner after two pair; and Benton AAA1 and Vaillancourt AAA2. Andy Peter was AA1; Tom Davis, A1; “Montana” Mike Schmidt, B1; Galloway, C1; and Linda Wright, D1, all without having to fire another shot. Debbi Perry was Lady Champion.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU! Once again, a grand time was had by all on “Old MacDonald’s Farm”. Untold thanks go to our sponsors Roger, Lisa, Matt and Jill Kasle without whose generous support, this shoot, the fireworks show and charity donation would not be possible. Without fail, once again, Scott Behnke and his assistant manager, Danny, did a great job ensuring the targets flew true; the referees were excellent, keeping their thumbs on the buttons and giving us the targets when we called for them; the kitchen staff of Chefs Kaye and Sam, with waitresses Kristina, Jenny and Carol, made sure that no one went hungry (or thirsty!). Our shoot staff of Debbi, Debbie and Jessica, greeted the shooters with cheery smiles, efficiently entered and posted the scores and ensured the shoot-off sheets ready to go after the last shot was fired. Debbie (Behnke) even did “double-duty” as a referee!!

Next year the Motor State is scheduled for July 10-12th, and the Kasle Family Charity Open, September 11-13th. So, look for our ads in Target Talk or go on-line to MichiganSkeet.com, and get your registration in early; we guarantee you will think that we’re a bunch of animals at the Detroit Gun Club!

