

# Winning counts!

*THIS YEAR'S NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS IN SAN ANTONIO WAS A GREAT SUCCESS – PARTICULARLY FOR DAN CARLISLE, OUR WORTHY 2007 NATIONAL CHAMPION. CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL CLASS AND CONCURRENT WINNERS ACROSS THE MULTIPLE EVENTS OF THIS FIVE-DAY EXTRAVAGANZA.*

**MICHAEL BRUNTON  
PUBLISHER**

It's not the winning – it's the taking part that counts. Yeah? Ask Tyler Martin what he thinks and I'm sure he will tell you the opposite. It's winning that counts – every time.

Never heard of Tyler Martin? He is the 2007 National Sporting Clays Championship Main Event winner of C class. With a score of 242 he was a massive 16 targets ahead of his field. To him, and all class winners at this year's Nationals, winning matters. It's the culmination of a long season and just reward for effort and concentration. So, congratulations

to all class and concurrent winners – and particularly to Dan Carlisle, our 2007 National Champion.

This year's Nationals was a great success. Held late October early November, the changed date ensured perfect shooting weather and attracted a record attendance – including more youngsters, more Ladies and more first time participants than ever before. It truly was the perfect close out to the 2007 season.

Not surprisingly, this issue includes extensive coverage of the event, behind the scenes news, an overview of the championship from first time attendee Tom Thompson and an exclusive interview with Dan Carlisle as he stepped off the podium as this year's National Champion.

Carlisle has now won USSCA, SCA and NSCA National Sporting Clays titles. He is two time Olympian, a previous World Champion and multiple time National Champion in various disciplines.

Though he spends much of his time coaching, particularly youngsters and the current crop of young double trap and trap shooters, he confirmed after his win that "I've been looking for this trophy for a long time." It's your time Dan – and as one of the sport's top ambassadors you deserve the kudos.

## TIME FOR A BREAK

For many, this year's Nationals represented the conclusion to their sporting clays season – now turning to hunting or a well-earned break. But as Lanny Bassham and Chris Batha advise in their



respective columns this month, the New Year may be the right time for change – be it your mental approach to the game, re-establishing basic techniques or investing in a new gun and/or equipment.

Elsewhere in this issue Tim Woodhouse answers more questions on the viability of steel shot for sporting, there are various instructional articles and our regular Questions and Answers column. Richard Rawlingson continues his Classic Guns series with a look at the use of 'gold' by the world's top engravers and Don Brunt visits Perazzi in Italy. Together with shoot reports, new products, our regular gun test (Browning Sporting Clays Gold) and a report from Steve Fischer on his recent visit to Cole Gunsmithing, this is another bumper issue.

## NEW ORICE

The magazine continues to flourish – growing in size, covering ever more sporting events and expanding its circulation. This New Year sees further investment with the opening of a second office (for administration and subscriptions) in San Antonio (TX) and headed up by Tanya Gunzburger. In addition, we are pleased to welcome Nathan Towry to our team as Advertisement Manager. Exciting times! ■



NATHAN



TANYA