

# KEYSTONE SHOOTING PARK

**Keystone Shooting Park, located in Dalmatia, Pennsylvania, opened to fanfare on May 1st, 2011.** It's the brainchild of Allen Chubb Jr., the President and Treasurer of Chubb International Shooting Sports. Chubb and a handful of supporters got together to build a one of a kind shooting complex.

Keystone Shooting Park is located

on 16 acres in the center of Martz's Gap View Hunting Preserve in central Pennsylvania, close to both Harrisburg International Airport and Philadelphia International Airport.

Opening the doors on such a state of the art location did not just happen over night. For Chubb it was the culmination of over a half a decade of effort. He had started shooting Olympic

Trap in 1980 while stationed in Germany with the US Army. This led to his dedication to shotgun sports and Olympic Trap in the United States.





L TO R: DONALD KOONS, DEREK BROWNLEE, ALLEN CHUBB, ROBERT KALWAS AND RICARDO ALCANTRA.

What makes Keystone unique is that it is a fully automated trap range requiring no range attendants. Members are issued a prepaid smart card that is used at the range kiosk to activate the range. According to Chubb, the computer system creates a random draw and sequence for each shooter. The computer makes sure that each shooter gets two targets to the left, two to the right, and one straight away at each of the five shooting stations. All this while still keeping track of each shooter's score on a flat screen monitor. Shooters can practice seven days a week regardless of age, background and skill level.

Plans are in the works to install lights on the range that will extend the current 8am-5pm range time.

"Olympic Trapshooting isn't something you become good at by practicing only once in a while," says Chubb. "You need regular access to a range and you might not always have access to the staff to help run the machines." Chubb's goal is to satisfy the needs of international shotgun shooters while developing new shooter's interest in the sport.

The range includes a covered shooting area with all the fields facing in a north by northeast direction, thereby providing the optimum training environment. In Olympic Trap each of the five shooting stations has three traps for a total of 15 traps. All of the machines are manufactured by Mattarelli of Italy and are controlled

by a central computer which allows Chubb to monitor who is shooting at the range. (He can even shut down the range using his Blackberry from any where in the world.)

The fields were designed to match the ranges of Europe where most of the Olympic shooting takes place. This way, according to Chubb, "Our shooters can adapt to the conditions that they will experience in other countries. They will know what to expect and can hit the ground running. This is a tremendous psychological advantage. It can make the difference between being a competitor or just a participant."

Under the trap house, which is European style and flush to the ground, is the range's own bunker storage that consists of an elaborate concrete tunnel system capable of storing over 200,000 targets. The cost to construct this field was in excess of \$250,000.

The field is named after Chubb's friend and fellow shooter Donald Haldeman. "Don was a champion both on and off the field. He was not only our nation's only Olympic Gold Medalist in Trapshooting, but also a

true Gold medalist in life." Haldeman earned his gold medal at the 1976 summer Olympics in Montreal.

Now that Phase I is complete, there are plans for Phase II which will likely include a skeet range, Hélice ring and electronic scoreboard. The plans also include a more permanent clubhouse with classrooms that will function as a training center and may even include some modest lodging options. Plans have been set to expand further into a third phase which would include building a second Olympic trap range. The completion of the multi-phase project is estimated to come in at around \$1.2 million. So far, assistance from the R.K. Mellon Family Foundation along with various grants has helped to off-set cost, but funding sources are still being explored (and donations are accepted).

Some major events have already been held at Keystone Shooting Park, including the B&P USA Masters Cup and the Pennsylvania State Junior Olympic Trap Championship. Other industry supporters include Perazzi that sponsored the Perazzi USA Grand Prix in July of 2011. The newest corporate supporter to step forward is Krieghoff with their support and generous financial contribution. Another major advantage for Keystone is that it has recently been named by USA Shooting as a certified training center for USA National athletes. To find out more, visit [www.keystoneshootingpark.com](http://www.keystoneshootingpark.com)



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