

MINNESOTA TRAPSHOOTING ASSOCIATION  
Board of Directors Meeting  
December 5, 2010 at Minneapolis Gun Club

**Board members present:** Glen Lonneman, Keith Koosman, Tom Brooks, Mark Zauhar, Tom Sletta, Steven Shane, Perry Nodsle, Cindy Townsend, Tim Mackey, Mark Stevens, David Stearns, Glenn Linden, Ron Noren, George Pappas, Scott Steffen, Sally Stevens

**Also present:** Vicky Townsend, Tom Townsend, Kathy Shane, Dennis Steinhaus, Bob Wiltse, Jeff Hoppes

Meeting was called to order at 10:04am by President Glen Lonneman.

### Secretary Report

Sally Stevens reported that she has completed the 2<sup>nd</sup> draft of the shoot dates and will be sending the information out to clubs as soon as possible. Jeff Hoppes (DeTone) reiterated his dates and made a request on behalf of Mike Michaelis (Monticello); Sally stated that she would call Mike directly. Mark Zauhar questioned if the shoot cards could go out with the newsletter to save postage. Sally Stevens stated that she would check into ways to consolidate mailings and save the MTA money.

### Treasurer Report

Tom Brooks reviewed the MTA Treasurer's Report. He reported that the operating cash in the bank is up \$19,000 from 2009 due to a \$10,000 CD that was redeemed. The youth fund balance was just over \$52,000. Target revenues and expenses are up but he did not see a need to raise target fees for 2011. Discussion revolved around reimbursing the MTA General Fund with profits from the 2010 Youth Fund to cover the 2009 Youth Fund losses which was absorbed by the General Fund. Mark Zauhar stated he felt there should be no reimbursement as it has not been done in the past. Sally Stevens read the minutes from December 2009 which stated that there was a \$5,600 loss in the Youth Fund. Glen Lonneman stated that the Youth Fund needs to be self-sustaining. Further discussion focused on understanding the profit and loss in both the General and Youth funds, and Sally Stevens suggested that we ask Darrel Terning to clarify both funds' balances. Tom Brooks will clarify with Darrel and report at the next board meeting.

Mark Zauhar also asked to have line 19, regarding raffle expenses, broken out. George Pappas questioned if the secretary received payment for work, and Sally Stevens confirmed that there was no pay for the MTA Secretary position. The expense listed refers to the cost of bookkeeping with Darrel Terning's accounting firm. Sally Stevens will request a change in wording for this line item. George Pappas also noted that the Youth Fund was charged for evening meal costs at the State Shoot and, instead, meal expenses should be incurred by the General Fund. Mark Zauhar stated Thursday's *Miss N Out* is a youth event and fundraiser and both expenses and donations should be attributed to the Youth Fund, but the other two meals were specifically to keep the shooters around for the day. Sally Stevens stated that we need to consider continuing the free meals if we are not losing money on the State Shoot. George Pappas commented that these meals were becoming very popular and created a comraderie among the shooters. Mark Zauhar reviewed the history of bringing the free meals to our state shoot, that many shooters he knows will come because we offer these events. Perry Nodsle suggested that we use proceeds (profits) from the meals to go towards paying the expenses first and any excess can be forwarded to the youth fund.

Glen Lonneman stated that expenses incurred from Tuesday and Wednesday meals at the State Shoot should be paid from the General Fund with goodwill donations given at the meals benefiting the Youth Fund. Tom Brooks will clarify the changes with Darrel Tarning. It was noted that this change in bookkeeping will also negatively affect the income line from the State Shoot.

Our financial year ends December 31 of each year. Tom Sletta moved that the Treasurer's Report be approved with changes as noted; George Pappas seconded. Carried unanimously.

### **ATA Delegate Report**

Ron Noren shared the sad news that the ATA president passed away and the ATA Executive Committee is in the process of replacing his position. He also noted the Minnesotans who achieved the 2010 All American teams included Scott Gens, Eric Munson, Bob Munson, Lou Ann Munson, Nick Fetzik and Lou Kosiba. This year the Grand American dates are August 2-13<sup>th</sup> with the \$300,000 added this year which should help with attendance. Ron Noren also commented that there was no more information about the ATA Executive Director at this date.

Discussion revolved around camping sites at the Grand American and additional changes to category rules.

### **State Teams 2010**

Ron Noren shared the work he and Sally Stevens completed on determining the 2010 State Teams with all the board members. He commented that there are more Juniors and Sub-Juniors who qualified for the team than in previous years. There was a brief discussion regarding the exclusion of one suspended individual. Sally Stevens stated that our actions should continue to reflect the actions of the ATA. Perry Nodsl commented on one female junior shooter who, while she declared herself in the Women's category most of the year, made the Junior All State Team. Ron Noren stated that the MTA has always done it this way in the past and would be continued in the same manner.

Mark Stevens moved that we accept the state teams; Glenn Linden seconded. Carried unanimously. Sally Stevens will forward the teams to our webmaster for inclusion on the MTA website.

### **2011 Hall of Fame Nominees**

Ron Noren stated that he had only one nominee until one week ago. He presented three shooters who were nominated for the Hall of Fame. Ron Noren reviewed the criteria for inclusion in the Minnesota Hall of Fame and that he had contacted several people for input on each of the nominees. The board members took a few minutes to review each nomination letter, and then Ron Noren shared some of the comments he gathered since receiving the nominations. Discussion centered around the requirements for inclusion in the MTA Hall of Fame and how each nominee fit within those requirements.

George Pappas asked that the information be shared ahead of time. Mark Zauhar suggested that we need to add a Hall of Fame Nominee deadline, which Ron Noren agreed with. It was suggested that the date of November 1<sup>st</sup> would be the annual deadline for MTA Hall of Fame nominees, which would allow the committee of the ATA Delegate & Alternate Delegates a chance to review and check nominees before the December annual MTA meeting. Sally Stevens also stated that she would include the deadline in the State Shoot Program.

Cindy Townsend suggested that we have a form put out on our website so that people can fill it in as the information required would be well outlined. Sally Stevens stated that, when the form is submitted, it can be set up to be sent to the ATA Delegate and the ATA Alternate Delegates at the same time. It was agreed that a form on our website should be implemented for the next nomination cycle as it would help the nominator do a better job and improve the quality of the nominees. Ron Noren suggested that he, Mark Stevens and George Pappas will work on creating a form for inclusion on the website and bring it forward to the April 2011 MTA board meeting.

Glen Lonneman called for a written vote of the fifteen voting board members in attendance. Votes indicated that Virginia Schmidt Hines would be inducted into the MTA Hall of Fame in 2011.

### **Minnesota Youth Shooting Foundation**

Mark Zauhar stated he has a meeting next week with the non-profit attorney the MTA board agreed to consult regarding the Minnesota Youth Shooting Foundation. All pertinent information, including the Articles of Incorporation, has been submitted to the State. Mark Zauhar sent all information he had collected to date, including the Articles of Incorporation, a copy of the Bylaws, and the work Darrel Terning had done to date for the 501(c)3 organization to the attorney. Mark Zauhar shared that there was an approximate six month window from the time that the forms were filed with the State and the receipt of the 501(c)3 status, and that we probably wouldn't benefit from the non-profit status for this year.

Mark Zauhar formally requested funds from the Youth Fund for the Minnesota High School State Shoot for this year only rather than transfer funds to the Foundation before it was solidified. He also shared that it will cost more for the High School State Shoot this year as more schools were going to be participating and there may be added costs from the Minneapolis Gun Club to accommodate the shoot, and suggested that \$6,000 may be needed to cover costs which include targets, trophies and lunch.

Tim Mackey moved that the MTA fund the Minnesota High School State Shoot; George Pappas seconded. Discussion included Mark Zauhar asking that some MTA Directors be present at the High School State Shoot to promote ATA shooting and the Minnesota State Shoot. Mark Stevens volunteered to work the High School State Shoot and promote ATA shooting throughout Minnesota, including our State Shoot and the Minnesota Youth Chain Shoot. Carried unanimously.

### **Youth Day at the State Shoot**

Mark Stevens shared that he and Sally Stevens have created a 501(c)3 non-profit organization called the Minnesota Youth Shotgun Association (MYSA), and would like to request that their nonprofit be allowed to take over the youth components of the Minnesota State Shoot. This includes the Youth Day and the youth component of Saturday's shoot. Their goal is to create a cohesive, streamlined youth component at the State Shoot. Sally Stevens shared that Dave Smith is in agreement with their suggestion and they would all work together on it. MYSA would promote and implement the shoot with all proceeds and costs continuing to be the responsibility of the MTA. Mark Stevens feels that creating a cohesive event will make for a much more positive experience for youth shooters as well as generate some real competition. Mark Zauhar commented that the current State Shoot program does not reflect what the day entails, including the classification requirements. Sally Stevens shared that MYSA would not receive any income for their involvement at the State Shoot; in fact, as a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit organization it would allow the materials needed for the youth shoot portion to be purchased tax free.

Glen Lonneman expressed concern that now Minnesota would have two youth fundraising bodies and that they may conflict. Sally Stevens explained that was not the case and that Mark Stevens, Mark Zauhar and she had already met to discuss each organization's goals. The Minnesota Youth Shooting Foundation is a fundraising body while the Minnesota Youth Shotgun Association is about implementation and programming, and both bodies will work together to provide the best environment for youth shooters in Minnesota.

George Pappas asked if there would be two different youth funds requiring MTA financial support; Sally Stevens said that MYSA is independent and completely distinct from the MTA. In fact she and Mark Stevens suggested that, for the one state shoot before the Minnesota Youth Shooting Foundation receives their nonprofit status, the Minnesota Youth Shotgun Association could run the Youth Silent and Live auction to provide tax deduction status to donors. Discussion centered around the benefit inherent in the partnership of the two nonprofits.

Tim Mackey stated that Mark Stevens and Sally Stevens should be commended for stepping up to take on the youth component of the State Shoot.

George Pappas moved that we allow the Minnesota Youth Shotgun Association to organize, in conjunction with Alexandria Shooting Park and the MTA, the Youth Day and the youth portion of the Saturday Singles tournament at the Minnesota Youth Shoot. Tim Mackey seconded. Discussion revolved around the fact that the Minnesota Youth Shotgun Association would organize the youth portions of the Minnesota State Shoot with continued funding, as in the past, from the Youth Fund. Glen Lonneman requested a proposal be brought to the April board meeting for approval by the MTA board. He also asked if the MTA could continue to promote the youth components on the website; Sally Stevens reiterated that the youth components at the State Shoot are totally controlled by the MTA and that the Minnesota Youth Shotgun Association would be providing service to benefit youth shooters. Carried; Mark Stevens and Sally Stevens abstained.

### **Lease Agreement with Alexandria Shooting Park**

Steve Schmidt will be meeting with Glen Lonneman in the next couple of weeks and bring the updated contract to the Alexandria Shooting Park board of directors for their meeting on December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Cindy Townsend asked that the approved contract be sent out to all the MTA board members ahead of our April meeting so the board could review it. Discussion revolved around details of the lease agreement.

Glen Lonneman shared that Steve Schmidt of Alexandria Shooting Park would be stepping down as manager later this month. Mark Zauhar stated that, during his time as MTA President, whatever successes there were at the State Shoot can also be attributed to the work of Steve Schmidt and his wife Lavern as they contributed so much to the sport. He recommended that the MTA find a way to recognize them publically, along with a letter, for their service to the State Shoot. Glen Lonneman would look into this and also suggested that we need to have some standardized recognition guidelines.

George Pappas moved that the MTA give a plaque to Steve Schmidt; Keith Koosman seconded. Discussion revolved around who should be acknowledged by the MTA and how this would be standardized in the future. Motion was tabled until the April 2011 MTA board of director's meeting.

## **Computer System for State Shoot**

Vicky Townsend, who works on our current system at the MTA State Shoot, presented a computer proposal for an updated system to be owned by the MTA. She handed out information to all board members and described the equipment and program needs to automate our State Shoot. Extensive discussion regarding the streamlined process, different scenarios of components, and the best way to get this system in place for the 2011 Minnesota State Shoot. The board was in agreement that, in order to facilitate implementation of the new system, the system should be purchased before Alexandria Shooting Park's two ATA shoots, allowing the staff practice before the State Shoot.

Sally Stevens moved that we agree to commit to the Automation Project for implementation for the 2011 State Shoot, with Glen Lonneman to make the final decision on behalf of the board; Tim Mackey seconded. Discussion: Mark Zauhar suggested that we also purchase and install larger flat screen monitors to view shooter's scores during events. The items agreed upon to purchase include two classification systems, three squading systems with dual monitors, three cashier systems with dual monitors, and possibly three larger screens for display. Mark Zauhar also suggested that the MTA also purchase a system that would allow the scores to be broadcast throughout the Alexandria Shooting Park compound so motorhomes could pick up scores and squad progression. Keith Koosman asked if this system would also allow us to upload scores onto our website. Vicky Townsend stated this would not be possible. Carried unanimously. The board thanked Vicky Townsend for her extensive work putting together the automation requirements.

## **Board Member Job Requirements**

Trophy Director: Scott Steffen has volunteered to take over the trophy director position. He has talked with Steve Richards who is willing to allow the MTA to use his computer and software in exchange for a golf cart at the State Shoot. Scott Steffen will be responsible for ordering, collecting and handing out trophies for the State Shoot and the Zone Shoots.

Keith Koosman asked why we handed out trophies up to 15<sup>th</sup> place as it seemed a little excessive. Mark Zauhar stated that it increased All American points for all shooters. Glen Lonneman recommended that, for now, we leave it the way that it is.

Ron Noren was concerned that we currently give out more trophies during singles and doubles during the preliminary days and very few trophies during handicap on those days. He stated that, during those days, there are no trophies for yardage classes and all trophies are open trophies. Ron Noren also stated that we are giving four more times the trophies in doubles with less people shooting them than handicap. It was agreed that more trophies would be beneficial.

Tim Mackey suggested that trophies need to be given at the Zone Shoots too in an attempt to grow the Zone Shoots back to what they used to be. Sally Stevens suggested that a new subcommittee, under the direction of the new trophy director, be established to look at the trophy situation at Zone Shoots and the State Shoot. Mark Zauhar shared his experiences with trophies at Zone Shoots and felt the money was better spent on State Shoot trophies. He suggested that, since the Zone Shoot clubs make money from the Zone Shoot, the MTA request the club put up additional trophies or added monies to encourage participation. Discussion focused on ideas to bolster attendance and additional requirements that may be placed on any gun club wanting to hold their Zone Shoot in the future. Ron Noren also shared that the added monies provided by the MTA to each Zone Shoot was cut off the bottom of the 2010 State Shoot Program.

Tim Mackey moved that each Zone gun club be responsible for an additional \$500 added money from the club, starting in 2012; George Pappas seconded. Carried unanimously.

Mark Stevens also brought up the quality of targets thrown by clubs during the Zone Shoots, and if the MTA had any ability to dictate the type of target thrown during Zones as he received a complaint that some targets at one Zone Shoot were not breaking when hit.. It was decided to leave the issue up to the Zone Directors to address within their own areas.

State Shoot Program: Julie Moran has agreed to help proofread the program, including the out-of-state mailings and the State Shoot (Hall of Fame) Banquet. Sally Stevens and Julie Moran already did much of the work for 2011 at the 2010 State Shoot, and Julie Moran would use the same printer as has been used in the past. Sally Stevens will share the information received from the board with Julie Moran. Mark Zauhar expressed past frustrations working with deadlines, advertising, and sponsorships as those who need to submit information for the program rarely do so on time. The mini-program and the Awards Banquet programs will also be included in this responsibility. Sally Stevens stated that Julie Moran has worked on the program in past years and would be very helpful.

Advertising: Cindy Townsend will talk to Sid Schmidt about helping out in the Northern Zone, Tim Mackey will help out in the Central Zone, and Mark Zauhar will check with Sheri De Jong to see if she would be willing to help. Mark Zauhar shared his challenges securing advertising for the State Shoot, and how at times we accept merchandise or gift certificates in lieu of cash payment for advertising. He stated that those garnering event sponsors keep an open mind and be willing to work with businesses to gain their support. Keith Koosman agreed to work on getting sponsors for 2011's State Shoot and will contact Mark Zauhar for a list of contacts and guidance.

Proposals for Clay Targets: George Pappas and Scott Steffen will work on it for next year.

Newsletters: Sally Stevens will layout out the format for the newsletter and be responsible for printing and distribution, as many of the components of it are already in the minutes she is responsible for. She will also set up different sections and ask the board for help filling out the newsletter.

Donations: Mark Zauhar will work with Keith Koosman to continue collecting donations for the Silent and Live Auction. Mark Zauhar will also be responsible for supplying information for the newsletters. Tim Mackey asked if donations taken in lieu of advertising and sponsorships would be going towards the general fund or the youth fund. Mark Zauhar stated that the board could choose to do whatever they wanted, however in the past the income generated from those items has gone to the youth fund. He suggested that we leave it alone unless we have a need to change. Tom Sletta suggested that it is impossible to take money out of the youth fund once it is in there and we should consider keeping the two sides separate. Perry Nodsle commented that, with the amount of money in the youth fund, we should consider using some of those funds to pay for the new automation system. It was questioned who would own the automation system if that occurred. It was decided to leave it as is for the time being.

General help throughout the year: Glen Lonneman alerted the board to the fact that he would require assistance in other areas throughout the year and would be contacting directors as needed.

Photography/marketing/relay to website: Sally Stevens requested to be relieved from other duties at the State Shoot and allowed to focus on photography and uploading information to our website daily. Glen Lonneman stated that he would create job lists for the April meeting and deal with this issue at that time.

## **New Business**

Mark Zauhar is working on another gun raffle to benefit the Youth Fund. He has agreed to purchase the gun on the MTA's behalf and, once we generate enough sales to cover the cost of the

gun, asks that he be reimbursed for his purchase cost. Mark Zauhar also generously assured the board that, if ticket sales garner less than the cost of the gun, he would donate the difference so the MTA would not lose money. This year's gun would be more expensive than last year's therefore more tickets need to be printed and he is asking for help selling tickets. Glenn Linden moved that the board accept Mark's proposal; George Pappas seconded. Carried unanimously.

Sally Stevens asked for and received board approval to 1) send congratulatory letters to our Minnesota All-American members and Minnesota All-State teams; 2) to order the State Team patches for 2010; 3) print our new MTA logo on a banner to be hung behind State Shoot winners while press pictures are taken, and; 4) make the necessary changes to our ad in the Trap and Field for 2011's State Shoot.

### **Minnesota Youth Shotgun Association 2010 closeout report and 2011 proposal**

Mark Stevens reviewed his 2010 closeout report and 2011 proposed budget regarding the Minnesota Youth Chain Shoot. The MTA Board granted the Minnesota Youth Shotgun Association \$3,500 for 2010; there is a \$325 cash surplus and an item surplus of \$480 that is reflected in the request for 2011. In 2011 there will be five youth shoots, with three in the Metro area and two out-state. Mark Stevens reported that they found that kids from the metro area were not traveling to the outstate shoots so, instead, they will advertise to the outstate programs for the metro shoots. George Pappas moved MYSA be given \$2,500 for the 2011 Minnesota Youth Chain Shoot program; Cindy Townsend seconded. George Pappas expressed concern that the requested amount be enough to cover costs. Sally Stevens assured the board that the grant of \$2500 would cover all costs. She also asked if the board would prefer a cheque be issued back to the MTA or prefer to have it carried over; Glen Lonneman suggested she keep the request the way it was presented. Carried unanimously. Mark Stevens and Sally Stevens abstained.

### **New Club Participation**

Keith Koosman suggested getting new clubs into the MTA/ATA by providing a trophy package. Glen Lonneman stated that it would be a very good idea, and Keith Koosman will bring a proposal to the next board meeting. Mark Stevens shared an experience with a new club and suggested some sort of brochure or DVD that would help clubs be successful from the beginning of their experiences with the ATA. Sally Stevens stated that the experience with Canby brought many new ATA shooters to registered shooting, while Cindy Townsend commented that new clubs should be given a lot of support in the future. Glen Lonneman volunteered to work with the new gun clubs and requested Sally Stevens forward him any information regarding Minnesota clubs new to the ATA.

Tom Brooks moved the meeting be adjourned at 2:47pm; Mark Stevens seconded. Carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Sally Stevens, MTA Secretary, on February 2, 2011.