

ATA DELEGATE REPORT

JULY 2015

Mark Stevens, Minnesota

The 2015 Minnesota State Shoot went off without a hitch. Weather cooperated for the most part and temperatures were tolerable, with no real hot days or cold nights. A good size rainstorm and tornado warning caused some havoc on Sunday evening, turning the grounds to a lake, but most of us missed that one.

Congratulations to all the shooters that went away with trophies, bling and points. The 2015 Minnesota Doubles Championship was won by Peter Walker (Sartell) with a score of 100x100; Runner-up honors go to Scott Gens who also carded a perfect score. Minnesota's Singles Champion is Frank Redfield with a score of 200x200k. Frank was perfect in all Singles competitions throughout the week and ran another 150 in the shoot-off to win the championship. Runner-up went to Guy Hessler and 3rd place to Nick Kubasch, a former Singles Champion. The Handicap Championship was won by Sub-Junior Max Bunning, a 26.5-yard shooter with a score of 99x100. Max also earned his 27-yard pin during this championship. Congratulations Max, you do your coaches, family and friends proud!

A large number of target attainment plaques were given to all shooters reaching milestones between 25,000-100,000 targets in a certain discipline, be it Singles, Handicap or Doubles. A special award was awarded, by the Minnesota Youth Shotgun Association, to Lindsay Zauhar for her years of providing original artwork to benefit youth shooting through our live and silent auctions. Her art has raised many thousands of dollars in contributions over the years. Lindsay was the auctioneer for this year's piece and, after bidding had ceased, she turned around and loudly asked for a bid of \$100.00 more! The highlight of the evening, in my opinion, and she got the bid!

Many live and silent auction items were bid on, including a DPMS rifle, Mathews Mission bow with arrows, Zeiss Binoculars, Crown Royal and shot bag bears, hunting and fishing trips, gun rebuild, meat package and various other items. Nearly \$9,000.00 was raised for registered ATA youth shooting in Minnesota. All funds raised will be used to pay for free 1st year ATA youth memberships, and reduced priced youth targets at the Minnesota State Shoot over the week. Costs for these youths and items are normally around \$20,000.00 per year. Remember, all items donated are tax deductible as the Minnesota Youth Shotgun Associations is a 501c3 nonprofit organization.

We wish to thank all the non-resident shooters who attended our shoot. The non-resident turn out was substantial, with 147 shooters from 25 states. We were up in percentage on all the days except Sunday, probably due to the threat of storms. Please remember the Minnesota ATA Central Zone Shoot is in Alexandria on July 31st through August 2nd, 2015. The 2016 Minnesota State Shoot will be held July 5-10, so make your motel reservations early!

At Saturday's annual meeting, incumbent board members were reelected to their positions without opposition. Congratulations to Scott Messenger (Vice President), Sally Stevens (Secretary), Dean Walker (1st Alternate Delegate) and Tom Petty (2nd Alternate Delegate). I am humbled to continue to serve as Minnesota's ATA Delegate and thank you for allowing me to serve. I consider it an honor to work for our shooting community. Should you have a concern or comment, please give me a call or email. The Grand American is less than a month away, so see you there.

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