

**ATA DELEGATE REPORT**  
**MARCH 2016**  
**Mark Stevens, Minnesota**

Spring is arriving in Minnesota and it is a very welcome sight to me. With it Jackpot shooting is coming to an end and most clubs are getting into the cleanup mode, and soon registered shooting will begin. Jackpot shooting in our state is becoming more popular than ever. Buffalo Gun Club reports they had over 925 entries this winter and paid back over \$5,000.00 to event participants. Ken Norman of Norwood/Young America claims the honors again this year, but not without a shoot off with Ron Smith to claim the top spot. Both shooters won the top spot 3 times over the course of the events. Buffalo Gun Club wishes to thank all participants. They know that costs are still accumulating with taxes, heating, water, lights, and maintenance whether they shoot targets or not. The event payments go a long way in keeping costs lower throughout the year. If you have been to Buffalo Gun Club lately, you will find it is one busy place. The club house is looking great, and the very final preparations are coming into place now, for a very enjoyable club for years to come. Thank you to all shooters that make this possible.

Dean Walker and his daughter, Julie Wiens, both of MN, experienced a very special day on March 18<sup>th</sup> at the Tucson Trap and Skeet fields in Arizona. Dean shot his 100,000 singles target half way through the round and hit it. Dean finished with a perfect 100. Not to be outdone, Julie shot her 25,000 singles target in the same round and broke it also, finishing with a 97 after running the back 50. Congratulations to both of you and fine shooting. If you reach a shooting milestone, please contact me at my email so we can notify Trap & Field and get target attainment plaques made for you to be presented at the Minnesota State Shoot in July.

My wife Sally and I have been busy teaching coaches the Level 1 NRA Shotgun Coach program. It always amazes us how well these people do, and how dedicated so many are. The last school we will teach this Winter/Spring season is coming up April 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. This will be the largest class of the year and will be held at St. Cloud- Del-tone/Luth Gun Club. We are eager to meet them also. Most of the trainees are floored at the knowledge they gain and most always say, "I thought I knew everything there was to coaching Trap, huh, I barely knew anything". Most are extremely excited to get out and try it on their own. It is so rewarding to us because we receive many emails, starting in just a few days after the class, saying "Wow!, what a dramatic change we have made in our teams and our shooters in just one night." "We can now be contenders at the state shoot this year, see you and your teams in the shoot-offs!" Kind of brings a tear to your eye.....

The Minnesota State Shoot will be held at the Alexandria Shooting Park (Alexandria, MN) from July 5<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup>. Youth day will be July 5<sup>th</sup> and the ATA/Aim Championship will coincide with the 200 bird Minnesota Championship Singles on July 9<sup>th</sup>. All shooters young and old are welcome. If you need more information feel free to contact us.

Minnesota Zone Shoots will be May 21<sup>st</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> for both the Southern Zone (Worthington) and Northern Zone (Monticello Sportsmens Club). The Central Zone will follow a month later at Forest Lake Gun Club on June 18<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>. The MTA board made these changes for a one year trial basis as so many shooters were concerned that youth shooters, their parents and coaches, were unable to attend because of the MN High School Championships being held mid-June, taking away some junior shooters and coach adults that normally would compete in the Zone shoots.

There will be a vote coming up in August as whether to eliminate the 18 to 19.5 Yard line for shooters. Your input is valuable to me and I will also ask you at the state shoot what your views are.

Please remember to always hug your family members when you go out. Tell them how you feel about them and make it in words. Don't assume. We are not promised tomorrow. Live your life to the fullest every day.

I am very proud to be your ATA Delegate for Minnesota. I thank you for your trust in me and will always work as hard as I can for you. If you have a question or concern, please contact me at [Mark@airclimatecontrol.com](mailto:Mark@airclimatecontrol.com) or my cell at 612-703-6155. Texting to my cell is probably best.

Have a very enjoyable summer season, good luck on your shooting, and remember take a kid or two along and give them the gift of a life time. My dad did and it worked out pretty good!

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