

## **Around the ATA- Minnesota**

**By Paul T.Cyr**

Greetings from the North Star State. I am writing this the day before the opening of duck season here in Minnesota. I will go out with my dad who turned 89 in April. I believe this is his 79<sup>th</sup> opening day! By this time you read this, many of you will have a coat of heavy oil on your trap guns and a number of you will turn your attention to hunting.

You will be getting this in your November Trap and Field and Jackpot shooting is in full swing in Minnesota, mostly at the Minneapolis Gun Club and at the Buffalo Gun Club. Minneapolis shoots their Jackpot on Saturdays, beginning at 10:00 AM and ending at 5:00 PM. For more information you can contact the club at 952-469-4386. Jackpot shooting at Buffalo is held on Sunday, beginning at 12:00 noon. The club is also interested in hiring trap help that are 16 years old and older. For information about a job or other information call 612-483-6388 and talk to Wally Shelstad (one of our Hall of Fame inductees in 2018).

The registered shooting season has come to a close here in Minnesota, but not before a number of state shooters performed very well at the Heartland Grand and the Steer and Calf Shoot in St. Cloud. The Heartland Grand had 71 shooters from Minnesota shoot and brave the torrential rain that was prevalent for most of the shoot. The list of trophy winners from the state was lengthy. Troy Haverly led the way with wins in the Sub-Vet HOA and HAA. Troy was one target behind in the HOA for all shooters with a 1072 of 1100. Bill VanNeiuwenhuyzen also was a double winner in the Vets category. Ben Dietz was the HOA Jr. Gold winner, but lost the flip for the HAA and ended up as AAA champ. Anthony Klassen was the Sub Junior HAA Champ and won his category in the Singles. Bob Neumann (who was the Summer League champion at the Owatonna Gun Club) was Veteran Champ in the Heartland Grand Singles with a 199.

Other trophy winners at the Heartland Grand were Peter Walker, his wife Dawn, and dad Dean, Nick Kubasch, Kallista Roers, Jeannie Stone, Dave Smith(Bemidji), Steve Fortmann, Corey Heitz, Tom Townsend, Erik Knight, Ed Dietz, Claude Banyai, Rich Wolf, Dannyelle Moon, Scott Gens, Mike Creapeau, Cody Smith, Jordan Trenne, Scott Larson, Bernie Merchlewitz, Jr., Curtis Peterson, Jeremy Knight, and MTA President Matt Bickell. Congratulations to all! My apologies to anyone that I may have omitted.

The weather really cooperated and there was a great turnout at St. Cloud for the Steer and Calf shoot. I don't have any official results, but if I can find some, I'll include them next month. The MTA Fall Meeting was held on Saturday, September 8<sup>th</sup> in St. Cloud. There were a number of items of interest on the agenda and I will give you a summary in a future column. You can look at the MTA website for the minutes.

By the time you read this I will have ventured off to our northern neighbors in search of some waterfowl, primarily mallard ducks. If you are a hunter, I hope that you have a safe and

successful season. If you are gearing up for the weekly jackpots, let's hope for some big scores. If you are taking a break from any form of shooting, I hope you enjoy the down time. I can be reached at 507-456-2000 or at [ptcyr54@gmail.com](mailto:ptcyr54@gmail.com). Until next time, keep your head down.