

July 2011 Trap & Field Article By Ron Noren

This will be known as “the year with no spring”. Cold temperatures, wind, snow, tornadoes and continual rain, has made it hard for Minnesota shooters to get targets registered in April and May. We should be in the midst of our State Shoot by the time you read this and hopefully we are having some great shooting weather. We are due for a little payback for the tough winter and spring we’ve endured this past year. I would like to thank all the shooters who attended our State Shoot!

Around the MTA:

Congratulations to the following shooters who reached target milestones this past year. Ralph Weber reached the unthinkable 675,000 singles mark last September. Neil Winston attained the 200,000 milestone; Dennis Vlasak reached 125,000, while Dean Neumann and Eric Munson made it to 100,000. In Handicap, Bob Munson reached the (wow!) quarter of a million plateau; while Mark Zauhar topped 100,000. Roger Lorenzen shot at 75,000 Doubles; while Bob Lalor and Charles Eckstein both reached 50,000. Sorry if I missed anybody...let me know.

Minnesota shooters won numerous trophies at the Missouri State Trapshoot in May. Scott Messenger topped the Non-Resident HOA in AA class and also won many other trophies. John Mor took HOA in Class D. Other trophy winners were Bob Munson, Curt Peterson and Ken Stoermann.

Dennis Vlasak was our state’s lone representative at the South Carolina State Shoot held in May. Dennis shot some respectable scores and brought home a couple of trophies.

Final Jackpot shoot held April 23rd at Minneapolis Gun Club had Mark Zauhar leading the way in some nasty weather conditions with a perfect 50! But, Jerry Demulling took home the money in the Added Money Jackpot event with a 49.

Mark Stevens led the way with a perfect 50 at the “May Mad Money Event” held May 1st at Buffalo. Forty-nine entries on a very cold and blustery day...not bad! The “Buffalo Stampede” ATA shoot held on May 7th was led by David Thrushenski with a perfect 100 at the 16’s. Sally Stevens topped the Handicap with a 92 and Keith Koosman had the high score of 94 in the doubles. Zach Warweg won the HOA with 279X300.

We want to welcome the Minnesota Sportsmen’s Club located near Zimmerman, MN into the MTA. Unfortunately, their first ATA registered “Guns of Freedom” shoot to be held on May 21st had to be canceled and rescheduled due to heavy rains. They held an A.L.S. Benefit shoot on May 7th and Dan Knudson was tops with 74x75.

Sally Stevens reports that the Minnesota Youth Chain Shoots are in full swing. There have been two chain shoots so far and both were very well attended considering the weather. The first chain shoot held on May 14th--The Shamrock Shoot-- was held in Waverly. Twenty youth shooters competed in 100 singles targets despite 40 degree weather, wind, and freezing rain! Fifteen ATA youth memberships and 11 AIM memberships were renewed, as well as 1 new shooter to the ATA. All AIM participants also had their scores submitted to AIM's national online shoot. The high score for the day was a 95 shot by Sub-Junior Kurt Potter! The 2nd chain shoot--the Root Beer Float Redo--was held on Sunday, May 22nd at the Crow River Sportsmen's Club in St Michael, MN. Twenty-five youth shooters bared the rain and tornado warnings to compete, and all shooters happily endured a one hour root beer float break while torrential rains pummeled the trap fields. Nine youth shooters renewed their ATA memberships as well as their AIM registrations! Sub Junior Colten Schoen broke a 93 to lead the group for the day.

To learn more about the chain shoots and upcoming events, as well as youth shooter information for the Minnesota State Shoot, visit www.minnesotaysa.org.

The St. James Gun Club poured new cement walkways on their two trap fields and also added sidewalks to make them handicap accessible. New lighting is on the way also. Our club is open Monday evenings for open and youth shooting, Tuesdays and Thursdays for League. Come check it out!

Please feel free to call or e-mail me if you have any concerns or questions about trapshooting in our state. I appreciate your responses and suggestions that I've been receiving. Also, let me know of any recognition for shooters accomplishments that should be mentioned in future articles. Remember to support your local gun clubs! My phone is 507-381-5908 and e-mail is: ronnoren@embarqmail.com. Visit our web site at www.minnesotatrap.com