

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

Shooting is now in full swing with many clubs up and running. Our Northern and Southern Zone shoots were this past weekend, held at Monticello Sportsmens Club (Monticello) and at the Worthington Gun Club, respectively. Forest Lake Sportsmen's Club will host Minnesota's Central Zone shoot on June 18-19<sup>th</sup>. The attendance at Monticello for the Northern Zone was great with many youth shooters in attendance. I was able to get involved in several discussions with shooters with opinions about events, shoot locations, and the time of year we hold shoots. Minnesota is far ahead of the curve this year for weather so an 84 degree day on Sunday is far from the normal and so appreciated. Yes! It was windy, but wind is our friend!!!

Sally and I ran the first of five youth-only chain shoots at Del-Tone/Luth (St. Cloud) on May 7<sup>th</sup>. There were 135 youth shooters in attendance, with over 90 that have never been to an ATA event before—so more than 90 new ATA shooters! New coaches helped to run the shoot as they were being trained to host their own youth-only chain shoots around the state. A good time was had by all. It is such a pleasure to work with youth shooters and coaches from around Minnesota, and lots of conversations and laughter in events like this is, what I believe, keeping me tired (I mean young). You know, this sport is so much about the people and the comradery in an event. Sure we all want to win, but in all the things I do, it's the people that are always so kind and outgoing toward others. More than anywhere else in life, these men and women, boys and girls, they have got their acts together, and I am proud to be associated with them all.

Sadly, Sally has given her notice that this will be her last term as MTA Secretary (ending in 2017) so as to start the process of finding a replacement. She has so many duties in life and the health of both of us in sketchy at times, so a little less stress on her plate will be a good thing. The board is actively looking for a replacement. Sally will be more than happy to work with them, hand in hand, until the duties are all clear to the replacement person. Sally is not leaving shooting or youth events that we run here and around the country. She has been torn with this decision for a while and I know it was very difficult for her to resign but eight years as secretary is an awful lot!

I have been working with several clubs, and get more calls every month, about certifying trap fields for speed, angles, type of machines, throw area's and conformity of a field for ATA Target presentations. The information on field layouts and measurements can be found on the ATA website ([shootata.com](http://shootata.com)) under the rule book tab. The layout with measurements is in the rule book. You can also request the information from the ATA. When you get your field ready to run, give me a call. If you have questions along the way call me! I cannot certify fields that use baseball home plates as posts, sorry.

The MN State Shoot is only a short six weeks away. Pre-squad is open. The shoot is to be hosted at the Alexandria Shooting complex, in Alexandria, MN. Tuesday, July 5<sup>th</sup>, will be both Youth Day and Preliminary Day, so we will hit the ground running hard right away that week. Youth shooters will be shooting reduced priced targets for this week. Targets for youth are \$20.00 plus the \$3 ATA and \$3 MTA fees, with shooters responsible for providing their own shells. A first time ATA shooter's membership into the ATA is free to the shooter, courtesy of the Minnesota Trapshooting Association. There will be a Live and Silent Auction at the Banquet event and all donations are greatly needed and appreciated.

Remember all donations are tax-deductible under the MN Youth Shotgun Associations 501-c-3 status. We will give receipts for all donations.

Remember, if you have reached a shooting milestone this year, please email me and let me know. There are over 3,000 Minnesota shooters in the database over the years, and for me to go through everyone is very difficult—I am always very concerned about missing someone.

Congratulations to Paul Cyr on his induction into the Minnesota Wrestling Coaches Association Dave Bartlema Hall of Fame last month!!! You deserve it. I spoke with your father at Monticello this past weekend and he is so very proud of you. Was so nice to see another old guy tear up besides me. I am so very happy to serve as your voice for trapshooting in Minnesota. I thank you for the privilege. If I can be of any help please email me at [Mark@airclimatecontrol.com](mailto:Mark@airclimatecontrol.com) or call me at 612-703-6155.

Good luck to the thousands of MN. High School shooters at your State Shoot in Alexandria. May the weather be perfect and the winds light.

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