

**ATA DELEGATE REPORT
MAY 2014
Mark Stevens, Minnesota**

Spring is trying to arrive although the 12 inches plus of snow last Thursday makes it hard to believe. The ice is leaving the lakes in the south, and soon to leave our lake too. It appears the fishing season will be delayed in the north, so it is a perfect time to get out and enjoy a few rounds of registered targets at your MTA gun clubs.

The winter shooting season in Minnesota is about over. Minnesota shooters braved the cold all winter. Clubs throwing "jackpot targets" included Minneapolis Gun Club, Metro Gun Club, Buffalo Gun Club, Del-Tone/Luth and Beaverbrook. We thank these clubs for their commitment to MN Shooters. Minneapolis settles its' winner in a week or so. Buffalo Gun Clubs 2014 winner was Ken Norman, who took home a beautiful Shamrock Leathers shooting bag donated by Buffalo Gun Club--congratulations Ken! Easter Hams were the prizes at Minneapolis Gun Club with hams being awarded to Ken Norman, Dean Campbell, Dennis Kecker (who also shot a 49), Cheryl Demulling, Terry Peterson, Glenn Linden, Jerry Demulling, Leo Switala and by drawing Steven Richards. Congratulations to all winners.

The spring shooting season has just begun in Minnesota with registered shoots coming as soon as this week. Minnesota's 2014 ATA shoot calendar was posted back in January on www.minnesotatrap.com, and the newsletter and shoot cards mailed out last week just when our thoughts started to turn back to competition. Some new additions to this year's events include a "Del-Monti Chain Shoot" with the first day held at Del-Tone/Luth Gun Club (St. Cloud) on Saturday, May 31st and the second day at Monticello Sportsmens Club on Sunday June 1st. The MTA welcomes Fort Thunder Gun Club in Perham into the 2014 shoot schedule, and encourage all shooters to attend Perham's marathon on May 18th.

Minnesota Zone Shoots will be held on June 21st and 22nd. The Northern Zone is being held in Bemidji, the Central Zone is Beaverbrook Gun Club and the Southern Zone is at Owatonna. Bemidji will also throw Marathon Targets on the 20th so shooters can warm up before the big event.

The Minnesota State Shoot is being held at the Alexandria Shooting Park July 7th – 13th 2014. Our shoot boasts 1400 targets, is an ATA Level 4 shoot, and lots of entertainment during the event. Auction items are needed for the banquet awards ceremony. If you have an item or a suggestion for an item, you may contact Sally Stevens for questions or donations at mta.secretary@icloud.com or 763-486-0853.

The ATA Central Zone shoot has been changed to Owatonna Gun Club this year as Minneapolis Gun Club had a scheduling conflict. Owatonna has been gracious enough to throw targets August 1st – 3rd 2014. Make sure to thank them, and please attend this shoot. It is not every state that throws ATA Central Zone event and we want to make sure to support Minnesota clubs who participate. We are and have been privileged in our state to have clubs step up and take the responsibility and added commitment for this shoot. Thank you, Owatonna, and our family can't wait to participate!

The Minnesota Youth Chain Shoot, run by the Minnesota Youth Shotgun Association (mySA), promises their biggest year ever. Many schools and clubs have expressed the desire to join these shoots, which are youth-only, youth-themed ATA registered shoots, and expect the attendance to grow substantially. The shoot dates are as follows: Del-Tone/Luth Gun Club (piggyback shoot) on Sunday, May 4th, Waverly Gun Club on Saturday May 10th, St. Michael (Crow River) Gun Club on Saturday May 17th, The "Return

Shoot” at Park Gun Club in Orono, on Saturday May 24th and the final shoot and award ceremony on Sunday, June 1st at Watertown Gun Club in Watertown, MN. MySA offers 24 trophies per shoot, with prizes in 4 youth categories from Pre-sub, Sub. Jr., Jr. and Jr. Gold as well as Classes A, B, C and D. All youth shooters ages 10 – 23 are welcome. If not an ATA member, we will sign you up at the shoot. New youth shooters, never before ATA members, are paid for by the Minnesota Trap Shooting Association—thank you to the MTA for this fantastic incentive! New AIM youth members who sign up, parents will receive a membership to the ATA for free.

We are saddened to learn of the loss of fellow shooter Steve Brua of Albert Lea, MN. Steve passed on April 6th, 2014, after a courageous fight with cancer. His service was held at St. Theodore Church, Albert Lea on Saturday April 12th. The Minnesota Trap Shooting Association and its members offer our sincere condolences to Steve’s family and friends.

On behalf of the Minnesota Trap Shooting Association, the ATA, and as your ATA Delegate, I wish you a safe and enjoyable shooting season. If you have any questions or concerns please email or phone me. Remember, take a kid hunting or trapshooting, show them the wonders of the outdoors, and help grow shotgun sports!

Mark Stevens
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