

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

Sorry for the absence on the last article as a busy life caught me by surprise and the dates just flew by. This season our lives were consumed by coaching and shooting and we have logged hundreds of hours coaching, training new youth shooters and youth coaches, as well as training 122 new NRA Shotgun Level 1 coaches. We have also explored many new theories and techniques, and have incorporated them into our coaching style as well as teaching others around the country. We were honored to speak at different venues on coaching, shooting and the learning styles we use were very well accepted and even surprising to some. The results speak for themselves. We will be starting NRA Shotgun Coach, Level 1, classes again in January 2015 and already have a class filling up (we try to have no more than 25 per class). If you want to be emailed for inclusion in these classes please email Sally at [minnesotaysa@icloud.com](mailto:minnesotaysa@icloud.com) to get on the list.

Trapshooting is winding down around Minnesota. It was a good year when the weather and wind finally subsided. When you can shoot in Owatonna in August without wind and perfect sunshine it is not bad. Many of our trapshooters are gearing up for the Waterfowl and Pheasant Openers in the near future. It promises to be a good year by all accounts as reported by the Department of Natural Resources.

Minnesota had a fairly large showing at the Grand All American and many Minnesota shooters did very well, with special mention made to Scott Gens who had an outstanding Grand! A complete listing of all Minnesota winners can be found on our official website at [www.minnesotatrap.com](http://www.minnesotatrap.com).

You can also find my previous and current ATA Delegate reports on our website, including the highlights of several meetings at the Grand and the outcomes. I will try to post that report on the site from now on as per requests from the Minnesota Trapshooting Association President, Scott Steffen. I am still taking donations for an enclosure at the Grand in Minnesota Trap Shooting Association's name. Several have donated and we now have \$500.00 toward the \$2,000.00 goal. Thank you to those that have donated. If you care to donate or to give a donation in someone's name, please send it to my address listed below.

Minneapolis has started the Jackpot shoots already with Scott Steffen and Gerald Demelling taking top honors this past week with 49's. Del-Tone/Luth, Buffalo and other hearty clubs are sure to follow in the near future. This is an annual event like geese flying south and points to the end of summer in our great State. I will be sure to update winners throughout my winter reports.

We are saddened to hear of the loss of two beloved Minnesota shooters. On August 20<sup>th</sup> David E Vice of Chaska, MN, age 57, passed away after a courageous battle with cancer. David was the club treasurer and youth mentor at the Park Gun Club in Orono, MN, for many years. He was a friend of mine and aided me in hosting the first youth chain shoot. He will be dearly missed. That same day we also lost Michael E. Schmidt of Oseola, IA, age 83, who was formerly of Lakeville, MN, and a past president of Minneapolis Gun Club. We offer our most heartfelt condolences to the families and friends of these two gentlemen. Please remember to hold your family tight. Tell them how much they mean to you and make sure they understand. We are not promised tomorrow, so live, love and laugh as if today is your last. You will never regret it, and neither will they.

Junior Maxwell Hartman won the ATA Life Membership at Buffalo Gun Club during the National Trap Shooting Day on September 13<sup>th</sup>, with Junior Ben Dietz winning the same at Minneapolis Gun Club's

NTSD event on September 14th. Congratulations! What a great gift, and a special thank you to the generous donor whom always wants to remain anonymous.

If you have any question or concerns, or if I can help in anyway, please contact me. I am here to serve Minnesota as your voice and link to the ATA and am honored to do so. Good luck shooting and hunting this fall. Enjoy the colors, sights and sounds, of our great state--it doesn't get any better.

Respectfully,

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