



THE OPTA CLUBHOUSE

March 2017 Edition

www.ontariotrap.com

Ontario 2016 All Star Team

1st Men's Team

Lloyd Beecraft	93.47
Billy Zager	93.37
John Costa	92.76
Joe Di Francesco	92.63
Dave Storrington	91.96

Senior Veteran Team

Keith Saunders	92.20
Ian Malcolm	88.35
Charlie Boggis	87.64
Lorenzo D Ospina	86.96
Warren McLay	85.70

Lady's Team

Erin Hannah	85.93
Emily Brown	81.15
Dianne Wood	81.01

2nd Men's Team

Jake Rosmaninho	91.86
Frank Bonaiuto Jr	91.62
Tom Batsos	91.45
BJ Jackman	91.36
Josh Faubert	91.00

Veteran Team

Terry Jordan	92.90
Ed Wilmott	91.22
George Iliopoulos	90.45
Ray Cockburn	89.77
Myles Jackman	88.94

Junior Team

Autumn Bergeron	84.55
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Sub Junior Team

No eligible entries

Hi Singles Average

Keith Saunders	97.77
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Hi Handicap Average

Jake Caldwell	90.50
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Hi Doubles Average

Dan Gris	94.70
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Hi Composite Average

Lloyd Beecraft	93.47
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Annual Award Nominations

Your Board is looking for nominations for the 2 annual awards this year.

Hall of Fame Inductee

Have Gun Will Travel (if you have attended 8 or more Ontario clubs in the 2016 registered shoot season)

Please contact Pam by March 31st with any and all nominations you would like to put forward.

Message from your OPTA President

A fresh shooting season will soon be upon us and I'm sure you're all looking forward to enjoying the sport in nicer weather and lighter clothes.

Your Board has been very active over the winter and the 2017 program is ready for dissemination. I think we have an active and fun season lined up for our members.

I am very impressed with the quality of the Board and the initiatives it has undertaken over the last 6 years. Our efforts have focused on what the OPTA can do to advance trapshooting but also on encouraging clubs to sponsor events that will socialize our sport and help remove the negative view the public has about firearms.

Progress is being made in advancing the profile of the sport. It may take some time for it to bear fruit but we are starting to see positive results and get positive feedback. There is a great deal more to accomplish and that will take support from both the clubs and OPTA members. Any effort that raises the profile of clay target shooting will enhance our exposure to the public. Several smaller clubs have sponsored events for people, with some support from the OPTA, who have never shot before to give them exposure to the sport. All the participants were excited by the experience and some will continue with the sport. Whether they shoot competitively is not important though we are pleased to welcome any that chose to join our ranks. What really matters is that they take a positive message to their circle of friends about the shooting fraternity.

There are more subtle benefits to sponsoring events. The Galt Sportsmen's Club opened its sporting clays facility for an event sponsored by the "The Childhood Cancer Foundation" that raised about \$150,000 for the children. This event gave the club exposure and some new members. It also was valuable in addressing a complaint by a neighbour who was trying to sell his property. I won't get into details but there was no interest in the community for supporting an individual given the huge positive benefit to a large segment of the community from the club's charitable efforts. The club has also make periodic contributions to local hospitals and sponsors a fishing outing for Kids with Cancer. Initially, the club was going to provide the fish and facilities but the Board decided the club would not take any profit from the event and all sections of the club made additional monetary contributions of a few thousand dollars to help send a child to Disneyland. The positive gain from this sponsorship was well worth the costs. All of these events help promote the profile of the shooting community.

A few years ago, the OPTA Board re-wrote the OPTA's bylaws to comply with the Ontario not-for-profit act. These bylaws have been used as a prototype by many clubs to draft their own bylaws. It took many months for the Board to draft and review the new bylaws and the pay-off has been worth the effort.

Finally, after about 6 years, the legal action against our prior Secretary/Treasurer is coming to a conclusion. In addition to the repaying of the \$15,000 absconded from 2 GICs, the individual has agreed to settle the claim for an additional \$75,000 which we are currently in the process of collecting. The Board accepted the settlement to

avoid continued and expensive litigation. This event emphasizes the need to make sure we elect the right people to the Board.

It has been an exciting time on the Board of the OPTA and I greatly appreciate the support and hard work from all of the Board members.

Good luck to all of you in the upcoming season and I look forward to seeing you all again.

Regards,
Nev

Message from Your ATA Delegate

I have a few things to report that may be of interest to many of you.

Firstly, there is a possibility that a further Satellite Grand may be hosted by North Carolina. No decision has been made on this as yet and there are issues – not with the club or its operators but with future implications. The Executive Committee and delegates have things to work out. Time will tell how all this unfolds.

There has been discussion about possibly eliminating the 18 yard line (and 19). This will be explored in detail. The Eastern Zone delegates and I believe unanimously of the view that these yardages should be kept as they serve a valid purpose. No decision will be made on this until the AGM at the Grand, if it proceeds that far.

Pam and I have combined our gun raffle ticket inventory so that Ontario shooters can have access to these tickets until they run out (a limited supply). Talk to Pam. Any leftovers I will take to the Eastern Zone where delegates have already told me they want any surplus tickets for their shooters.

I have been asked to do a formal explanation of how our Delegate Team and Category Delegate Team systems work. A lot of shooters in small states have reduced their registered target shooting in state/province and have opted for attending the large shoots only where they can get lots of targets in a short time period. What we have been doing in Ontario appeals to the ATA Executive Committee and it is felt something like our program may incentivize shooters to participate more in their own state/province at local clubs.

As always if there are issues you need help with let me know.

Paul Shaw

Ontario Delegate



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Message From Emily Brown

March marks the beginning of a new season of promotion, participation and competition with trapshooting and the OPTA.

In under two weeks, the Toronto Sportsmen's Show for 2017 will begin and the OPTA will once again have a booth to showcase trapshooting and to introduce visitors to the sport through the OPTA's dry fire system. This recently acquired dry fire system gives visitors to the booth the best possible experience with trapshooting, outside of an actual trip to the club. The dates for the 2017 event are March 15-19, at the International Centre. Details of the show can be found at the event's website at <http://tss.sportshows.ca/>

The focus of this year's exhibit will be not only to give people a taste of trapshooting at the show, but to have club information for visitors, and new shooter event information so that they are encouraged to actually visit a club and give trapshooting a try. I encourage each club to welcome and support the interest and enthusiasm of any new shooter that comes out or contacts your clubs because they are the future of our sport.

I have been asked to sit on a panel at the Sportsmen's Show for a Women in the Outdoors focus. It is to take place on Thursday, March 16th at 11:30 am. Prior to this event, the Burlington Post will publish an article based on an interview with me, which will provide more opportunities to speak positively about trapshooting in the province.

Volunteers for the booth are still needed, two per shift, for two or three hours each, in order to make this happen. If you are interested and able to help, please send an email indicating your interest to info@ontariotrap.com.

The OPTA is happy to welcome a new club into the ATA/OPTA registered shoot schedule. Napanee District Rod & Gun Club, in Napanee, Ontario is run by a very capable and enthusiastic group of volunteers who are looking forward to welcoming all shooters to their club. The shoot schedule is very full this year with several shoots in different corners of the province on some Sundays, and even a few shoots on some Saturdays, with only a few weekends without local OPTA shoots.

The Canadian Trapshooting Association Championships are being held this year at the Edmonton Gun Club in Edmonton, Alberta, and it is hoped that there will be a strong Ontario shooter presence. Some significant changes to this year's program include a \$5000 contribution from the CTA to the Lewis pool to be won by those who participate in the Lewis and championship points being awarded to all winners.

Besides the CTA website at www.shootcanada.com, the CTA has started a Facebook page with CTA history and news news (https://www.facebook.com/shootcanada/?ref=aymt_homepage_panel).

The location for the 2018 Canadians has not been determined yet, but it is hoped that it will return to the east to support the mandate of alternating east and west locations, and will be announced at this year's CTA Annual General Meeting.

The OPTA Twitter account (@ontariotrap) has seen some activity but the main social media communication tool continues to be the OPTA Facebook page, with the news feed from the Facebook page appearing in real time on the OPTA website at www.ontariotrap.com. At the time of writing, there are 365 members on the OPTA Facebook group page, up from 241 one year ago. What I am finding is with the posting of events, results and photos from ATA/OPTA shoots, as well as ATA shoots from other provinces and states, and from recreational and fun shoots, the numbers continue to grow. All OPTA Facebook group members are invited to post news, or questions or anything of interest to other shooters. I also enjoy sharing historical information about the OPTA, and gun clubs in the province, along with photos, information and stories about those who have participated in and contributed to the sport of trapshooting over the years. If anyone has a story to share, or one that they would like me to pursue, let me know. The OPTA Facebook page also allows for the sharing of significant current affairs and political information which may impact licensed and responsible gun owners. Awareness is key. The collaboration with the Ontario Council of Shooters (OCS) in meeting the new sport recognition and base funding requirements of the Ministry of Tourism Culture and Sport has continued to demand a lot of time and

energy in recent months. It was just reported that the base funding for the 2016-2017 period has been sent to the OCS but the sport recognition agreement is still in review at the Ministry. On March 6th, I will be meeting with two senior policy advisors at the Ministry to discuss some of the concerns and frustrations that we have with the Provincial Sporting Organization policies, procedures and requirements.

As always, you can get up to date information on the OPTA website at www.ontariotrap.com or on the Facebook group page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/OntarioTrap/> and to reach the OPTA, you can email info@ontariotrap.com

Written and submitted by Emily Brown

ATA Raffle



The advertisement features a background image of a trapshooting field. At the top, it says "UPCOMING SHOOTS presented by the AMATEUR TRAPSHOOTING ASSOCIATION". Below this are three event logos: "U.S. Open" (May 31 - June 4, 2017), "AIM" (July 27 - August 1, 2017), and "World Trapshooting Championships" (August 2 - 12, 2017). A central logo for "WORLD TRAPSHOOTING CHAMPIONSHIPS" is also present. Text at the bottom of the top section reads "ALL SHOOTS HELD IN SPARTA, ILLINOIS AT THE" and "VISIT WWW.SHOOTATA.COM FOR MORE INFO". The main raffle section is titled "GUN CLUB 2017 RAFFLE" and "PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT ATA GUN CLUB". It features a Perazzi High Tech rifle and states "Enter for a chance to win a". Below the rifle, it says "TICKETS \$20 EACH LIMITED NUMBER AVAILABLE" and "RAFFLE ENDS AUGUST 11, 2017 AT NOON". Contact information for state delegates and the secretary is provided at the bottom.

Ontario had 50 tickets available and by the time you receive this newsletter they have been sold out. If we are able to secure any more tickets we will let you know. Thanks to all of those that purchased tickets.

SPONSORSHIP AND ADVERTISING

If you would like to become a sponsor for the 2017 Provincial Championships, the following is a breakdown of the sponsorship levels.

- Platinum - \$500.00 and over
- Gold - \$200.00 to \$499.00
- Silver - \$100.00 to \$199.00
- Bronze – up to \$99.00

If you would like to advertise in the 2017 Provincial Program the following is the cost for each size of ad.

Inside front cover - \$300.00

Outside back cover - \$300.00

Inside back cover - \$200.00

Full page ad inside the program - \$ 125.00

Half page ad inside the program - \$75.00

Please email Pam at ppmuma@rogers.com by March 30th 2017 if you would like to sponsor or advertise in the program.

2017 Registered Shoot Dates

April

2 – Oxford

9 – Crumlin

14 – Hamilton

14 – Amherstburg

23 – Otter Valley (**OPTA Sponsored Shoot**)

30 – Oxford

June

4 – Amherstburg

4 – Quinte

4 – Crumlin

11 – Quinte

11 – Oxford

11 – Toronto International

18 – Hamilton (**OPTA Summer Blast**)

25 – Oxford

25 – Toronto International

August

5-7 – St Thomas Gun Club

12 – HAHA (**OPTA Sponsored Shoot**)

13 – Napanee District Rod & Gun

13 – Crumlin (**OPTA Sponsored Shoot**)

20 – Oxford

27 – Hamilton Gun Club

October

1 – Amherstburg

1 – Toronto International

8 – HAHA

May

7 – Otter Valley

7 – Quinte

7 – Toronto International

20-22 – St Thomas

28 – Hamilton (**Shell Shoot**)

July

9 – Amherstburg

9 – Waterford

9 – Toronto International

15 – HAHA

16 – Napanee District Rod & Gun

16 – Oxford

19 – Hamilton Gun Club (Doubles Marathon)

20-23 – Provincial Championships –

Hamilton Gun Club

September

3-4 – St Thomas (**OPTA Team Shoot**)

10 – Exeter

17 – Hamilton Gun Club

17 – Quinte

17 – Kippen

24 – Waterford (**OPTA Sponsor Shoot**)

If you are a member of a club in Ontario and would like your club to host registered shoot please talk to your Trap representative.

2017 OPTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Neville Henderson
Vice-President: Bert Blackburn
Secretary/Treasurer: Pam Muma
Director: Dave Storning
Director: Bill Drikos
Director: Dominic Gitto
Director: Warren McLay
Director: Emily Brown

YOUR 2017 ATA REPRESENTATIVES IN ONTARIO

ATA Delegate: Paul Shaw - (705) 445-1382 (office) or (705) 445-6230 (home) or shaw@smilaw.ca

ATA Alternate Delegate: Verne Higgs: vhiggs@rogers.com

YOUR CTA REPRESENTATIVE IN ONTARIO

Josh Faubert – joshfaubertcta@gmail.com

CTA Website – www.shootcanada.ca