



THE OPTA CLUBHOUSE

January 2014 Edition

www.ontariotrap.com

Can you believe how cold it is here in Ontario? I cannot remember it being this cold for this length of time! For those Ontario shooters who are able to go somewhere warmer good for you but for those of us who have to brave this cold, try to stay warm but get out there and do some shooting whether it be your winter league shoots or practice or just for fun.

It is that time of year again that your Board is looking for nominations for the annual awards. Your OPTA Board of Directors is looking to the Ontario shooters for nominations for the 2013 Hall of Fame inductee as well as the Mike Fulop Award and the Have Gun Will Travel award

Please submit your nominations to Pam at ppmuma@rogers.com by February 28th.

Hall of Fame – Please submit nominations by February 28th

Mike Fulop Award – Please submit nominations by February 28th

Mark Edmondson Award –

Resident New Shooter – Cody Wilson 85.52 (1200 Singles/1000 Handicap/1000 Doubles)

This award is given to the person who started shooting registered targets in the 2013 shooting year.

This shooter must shoot a minimum of 500 Singles, 400 Handicap and 300 Doubles.

In 2013 Ontario had a total of new registered shooters of which 3 were Lady's, 1 Junior and 1 Sub Junior.

Have Gun Will Travel Award – Please submit nominations by February 25th

2013 ONTARIO ALL STAR TEAM

Men's 1st Team

John Costa	93.89
Dave Storrington	93.15
Lloyd Beecraft	92.15
Mike Pickering	91.44
Paulo Sampaio	91.78

Lady's Team

Dianne Wood	88.4
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Men's 2nd Team

Gary Seitz	91.06
Dominic Gitto	90.80
Frank Bonaiuto Jr	90.74
Neville Henderson	90.725
Josh Faubert	90.722

Junior Team

No eligible winners

Sub Junior Team

Matthew Van Haaren	85.98
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Veteran Team

George Iliopoulos	93.77
Bill Wylie	90.77
Wayne Higgs	89.18
Peter Tresp	85.51

Senior Veteran Team

Keith Saunders	92.07
Warren McLay	88.90
George Jonckheere	88.44
Don Dolbear	88.32
Charlie Boggis	87.97

High Averages

Singles – Keith Saunders	98.38
Handicap – John Costa	92.64
Doubles – Paulo Sampaio	94.25

High All Around

John Costa	93.89
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President's Corner

I'm sure you're all looking forward to the end of winter and the start of the registered trap season. Some of you will be going to the southern US to kick start the season. I'm sure you'll have fun and good luck with your shooting.

The Board is well prepared for the upcoming season. We have planned some meetings with HGC to convey our thoughts on how the Provincial Championship shoot has to be run to ensure efficiency. As I've mentioned earlier, the Board will not be taking a role in the administration of the Ontario Championships as it did in 2011 and 2012 and we do not want a repeat of issues prior to 2011 when we encountered major delays and frustration, regardless of who may have been at fault.

Emily is doing a great job of developing a strategy to increase participation in trapshooting in the province. It would be overly optimistic to think we could attract new shooters into the OPTA without some initial exposure to the game and the development of the fundamental skills. Initially, this will involve getting gun clubs to try and promote the sport to attract new shooters. The new shooters will be the base from which we attract new OPTA members. Unfortunately, we do not have any statistics on the percentage of new shooters who eventually become registered shooters but it is clear that the larger the cohort of new shooters, the greater the number that will join our ranks. Getting new shooters to participate in registered events will require a strategy and some incentives, such as special shoots, awards, or other approaches and we are considering how that might be accomplished.

The criminal court case is continuing. The Board had been informed that Gord Kerr's sentencing date was towards the end of January, 2014. As it turns out, this is the date to set the sentencing date so, consistent with most court cases, things are progressing at glacial speed. However, the guilty plea will be a strong factor in our civil case. The civil case has also been moving very slowly so the Board increased the legal pressure on the parties involved to provide the requested information in response to our questions. I'm sure all of us would like to see this resolved and the OPTA recover lost funds, but the Board is particularly keen as the case has been in process for almost four years and it has taken a disproportionate amount of time.

I trust you all had a great holiday and wish you all the best in health, wealth and shooting success in 2014.

Regards,
Nev

Message from Your ATA Delegate

Some Ontario shooters have had an opportunity to break up our cold winter by shooting south of the border. Florida conditions this year for the Dixie Grand have been tough with temperatures often in the 40's (F⁰) with wind chill on top of that.

At the time this article was submitted we are about half way through the Dixie. Verne Higgs our Ontario alternate delegate has been doing a good job as a volunteer, setting targets each day. There were some complaints, but others verified the settings were right on the money. To dispel any issues Verne shot back to back 100's in singles which was a feat equalled by only a handful. Most of the Ontario shooters are just trying to cope with the elements.

As you know, the Canadian (ATA) championships are in Quebec this year. There appears to be a strong interest from American shooters in attending that event. I get calls regularly and while in Florida I was approached by several shooters asking about the laws on importing their firearms temporarily into Canada. I will devote a Trap and Field delegate article on this issue which I believe will be scheduled for publication in April. If you have any tips you would like to share to assist our American colleagues please let me know right away and I will try and include them.

Obtaining quality ammunition at affordable prices is an issue for more than just Ontario shooters as I have heard complaints by many shooters south of the border who are having a difficult time obtaining ammunition. If you have an inside track that you can share with our shooters let me know. As always, if you have any issues or information that I should know about you know how to reach me.

Yours truly



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Phone (o) 705-445-1382

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AIM (New/Youth shooter) Program Update

Since October, much of my time has been spent understanding what is needed to move forward with what I am calling the youth/new shooter portfolio. I have continued to connect with fellow shooters and local club representatives asking them for their comments, suggestions and support. Many clubs are having great success with new shooter events. The key is to be welcoming to those new to the sport as soon as they set foot on your club grounds! We all were new once!

I have a verbal agreement with a club to host an event early in the spring so as to give new shooters an opportunity to have a shooting season ahead of them, should they get the 'bug'. A group of committed volunteers to be with each new shooter while they are on the line and guns for them to borrow, are the critical things on my list right now. I have a lead on the

possibility to borrow a set of user friendly firearms for a season and will be following up on that. I am looking at a small instructional but fun event, followed by a bbq where the conversation can continue about the targets they smoked and the ones that got away!

Below I have included a link to an interesting article that I came across which talks about the gap that exists in shooting participation, those aged from youth to about 45 years old. It suggests that the typical age for shooters is between 45 and 70 years, and I think that seems right if we look around any club on most days. The author makes some good suggestions for bringing new people to the sport and I have brought some of these ideas and others to the attention of the OPTA Board; such as corporate events, hosting special interest groups and the like.

<http://trapshootingonline.com/one-way-to-grow-trapshooting-a-trap-field-article/>

Connecting and communicating is one important challenge to growing our sport and with more people communicating through social media, it seemed important to engage youth and new shooters in ways they like to keep informed. On January 8, I created an OPTA Facebook group and invited shooters to participate.

https://www.facebook.com/groups/489177534535326/?bookmark_t=group

I have posted photos, and shoot information and am having good response so far, with members inviting others to participate. Several gun clubs, the ATA, and Trap and Field communicate to their members this way as well, making it easy to pass on information quickly.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions, suggestions or to volunteer or donate in any way to the youth/new shooter program.

Emily Brown

emilyabrown@bell.net

FAMILY FAIR RESULTS

1ST W. McLay 98
L. Hummason 94
P. Kinson 96
J. Henning 94
T. Ortenzi 96
A. Wysocky 99 **483**

2nd N. Kardaris 93
J. DiFrancesco 99
D.Koutsothanassis 91
G. Iliopoulos 91
J. Iliopoulos 98
T. Batsos 97 **478**

3rd J. Costa 92
V. Roberto 91
F. Bonaiuto 97
V. Rinaldi 91
P. Shaw 96
F. Bonaiuto Jr. 97 **473**

4th R. Zadro 95
M. Pickering 98
D. Marino 82
S. McAndrew 98
D. Gitto 88
B. Leece 93 **472**

5th D.Henning 92
P. Tsementzis 98
D. Gris 98
C. Tsementzis 90
A. Henning 93 **471**

6th R. Treaner 95
M. VanHaaren 92
V. Tomlinson 95
S. Souter 90
B. House 95 **467**

7 th	J. Wood	83	8 th	J. Monteiro	92
	J. Wood	90		R. Morais	97
	B. Wylie	90		R. Santos	89
	R. Cockadoo	98		R. Figo	96
	E. Brown	92		L. Vidal	91
	K. White	95		J. Gomes	79
		465			465

SPONSORSHIP AND ADVERTISING

If you would like to become a sponsor for the 2014 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 2014 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 2014 if you would like to sponsor or advertise in the program.

Nora Ross Shooting Clinic

June 12 & 13 second clinic 14 & 15, 2014

At the Bridgeport Rod & Gun Club

1229 Beitz Rd

N0B 1M0

Two full days

Day 1 ... Singles

Day 2 ... Handicap and doubles

Price ... \$300.00 U.S. funds

Shells and targets will be the shooters' responsibility

To reserve a spot call Jim Close 519-884-9392

jclosen224@rogers.com

59th Canadian Trapshooting Championships in Montreal, Quebec

For those of you that are interested in going to the Canadian Championships this year in Quebec here is the link to the program.

Let's show our support to Quebec.

<http://www.losttarget.com/flyer/59thCanadianTrapshootingChampionships28-01-14.pdf>

2014 Registered Shoot Dates

MARCH 30 – Hamilton (100 of each)

MAY 4 – Quinte
4 – Hamilton **(100 of each)**
4 – Oxford
17-19 – St Thomas **Federal Shell Shoot**
18 – Quinte
25 – OtterValley Rod & Gun
25 – Toronto

JULY 6 – Amherstburg
6 – Hamilton **(100 handicap-100 doubles)**
13 – St Thomas
20 – Toronto
20 – Oxford
27 – Waterford Sportsman's Club

SEPTEMBER 1 – St Thomas Gun Club **TEAM SHOOT**
7 – Quinte
7 – Claybird Gun Club (Exeter)
7 – Waterford Sportsman's Club **(OPTA Sponsor Shoot)**
14 – Hamilton **(100 of each)**
14 – Kippen Gun Club
21 – OtterValley Rod & Gun **(OPTA Sponsor Shoot)**

APRIL 6 – Oxford
13 – Crumlin
18 – Amherstburg **(Good Friday Shoot)**
18 – Hamilton **(100 of each)**
27 – OtterValley Rod and Gun
27 – Toronto

JUNE 1 – Hamilton **(Summer Blast)**
7-8 – Algoma **(Marathon)**
8 – Amherstburg
8 – Crumlin
8 – H.A.H.A.
15 – Oxford
15 – Toronto
22 – Quinte
22 – Hamilton **(Shell Shoot)**

AUGUST 1 – Hamilton **(300 doubles)**
2-4 – **OPTA Provincial Championships**
Hamilton Gun Club
10 – H.A.H.A.
17 – Hamilton **(200 handicap)**
17 – Crumlin
24 – Waterford Sportsman's Club
30 – St Thomas Gun Club **(300 doubles)**
31 – St Thomas Gun Club

OCTOBER 5 – Amherstburg

2014 OPTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Neville Henderson: neville.s.henderson@cogeco.ca

Vice-President: Bert Blackburn: bertblackburn@gmail.com

Secretary/Treasurer: Pam Muma: ppmuma@rogers.com

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YOUR 2014 ATA REPRESENTATIVES IN ONTARIO

**ATA Delegate: Paul Shaw - (705) 445-1382 (office) or (705) 445-6230 (home)
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ATA Alternate Delegate: Verne Higgs: vhiggs@rogers.com