



THE OPTA CLUBHOUSE

August 2010 Edition

Greetings all! Although the registered 2010 shooting year will be over at the end of this month, our time with our friends on the trap fields and here in the OPTA Clubhouse continues! Here is your latest edition of the official newsletter of the Ontario Provincial Trapshooting Association to bring you up-to-date on what's happening (and happened) in our community.

We are delighted to learn that more and more of you are enjoying the OPTA Clubhouse! Please keep encouraging ALL of your OPTA friends to sign up for their own copies. Simply have them (or you could do it for them!) send their e-mail address to gord.kerr.opta@sympatico.ca and ask to be put on the "Clubhouse" e-list! *In the meantime, please take a copy of this edition to your home club and ask them to post it on their bulletin board.*

2010 PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Another championship is in the history books and the attendance increased by 57 entries over last year. There were 286 individual shooters – with competitors coming from across Ontario, Quebec, Eastern and Western Canada as well as Pennsylvania, New York, Florida and Ohio. Thanks to all for joining us this year! We were most fortunate with the weather and threw 117,000 targets. Complete results of the tournament can be found on the OPTA website - <http://www.trapshooting.on.ca> .

2010/2011 OPTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thanks to all who took the time to vote, here is your new Board and their contact information:

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

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

Secretary/Treasurer: Gord Kerr: gord.kerr.opta@sympatico.ca

Director: Bill Malcolm: billmalcolm@rogers.com

Director: Basil Zmiyiwsky: zeezee_m@hotmail.com

Director: Barbara Sheldon: sheldonshoots@can.rogers.com

Director: Pam Muma: ppmuma@rogers.com

Director: Warren McLay: (no email at this time)

ATA Delegate: Paul Shaw shaw@smilaw.ca ATA Alternate Delegate: Gord Kerr

2010 GRAND AMERICAN WORLD TRAPSHOOT

According to Bob Stuart's terrific website (rjstuart.com), there were 30 shooters from Ontario who made the pilgrimage to Sparta this year. Congratulations to all for giving it their best shots in extraordinary heat and humidity. A 12 gauge salute goes out to the following competitors who came back with trophies and/or medallions for their efforts: Bill Zager, Joanne Pollock, Bob Lee, Keith Saunders, Jake Caldwell, Jake Rosmaninho and Paul Shaw.

Speaking of Paul Shaw, you will see on the next page that our great ATA Delegate continues to keep us informed and has provided us with his very detailed insight from "behind-the-scenes" at this year's Grand. Once you read his report, we're sure you'll agree with the popular phrase.... *"what a Grand it was"!*



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FROM ONTARIO DELEGATE PAUL SHAW

"To all OPTA Members: I want to give a brief report on recent developments at the Grand American.

1. Bob Glatz issues.

There were several meetings at the Grand with delegates, the EC, ATA staff and we teleconferenced with ATA auditors and legal counsel. Here are some of the highlights:

- it was felt by most that Bob Glatz was not wrong in most if not all of the financial and accounting related issues he raised. His exacting standard was considered higher than necessary and more akin to an IRA audit if it were a "worst case scenario". The ATA tax lawyer assured us we should not be concerned about losing our tax exempt status and even if some irregularities were determined, it would impact on the individuals who received the benefits and not the ATA
- the gun gratuity to the President capped at \$16,500 US will remain and will be taxable in the hands of the recipient
- expenses incurred by the EC will be chopped rather significantly (areas of cut back to be determined)
- an oversight committee will watch the EC spending and influence policies and cut backs (currently this is compromised of 5 Past Presidents, all of whom have enough experience that they can do a meaningful job, but there are those that believe this is just another example of the "old boys club" being supervised by the "older boys club")
- bottom line - expect some positive change

2. Executive Director Frank Rively

It became apparent that Frank and members of the EC were bumping heads. The EC through its spokesperson Mike Seitz believed Frank was out of line and insubordinate. According to President Gary Sherrod, Frank was never authorized to give Bob Glatz access to the confidential financial information he reviewed.

Frank was not invited to the special delegate meeting on the Monday evening prior to the AGM. Issues that involved him and Bob Glatz were being discussed. Towards the end of the meeting, somebody discovered there was somebody sitting at the back of the room visually obstructed by a pile of boxes. On investigation, it was determined Frank Rively had been sitting in on the meeting all along. He was immediately asked to leave by the Chair and did.

Then Past President Kaiser initiated a motion (which was seconded) asking the delegates to vote to dismiss Frank immediately (based on this insubordination). I raised a concern that this was an employment issue and that the ATA delegates should not be voting on this issue as we had not heard Frank's side of the issues and were not sufficiently informed on all relevant matters. After similar concerns expressed by others, the motion was withdrawn and exchanged for a "confidence motion".



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FROM ONTARIO DELEGATE PAUL SHAW (cont'd)

"I abstained as I felt this was simply giving a comfort level to the EC by uninformed delegates on an employment issue. Of those that did vote, the majority expressed a lack of confidence in Frank. His surreptitious attendance at the special delegate meeting probably did him in. At the beginning of the Thursday AGM, there was an announcement that Frank was no longer with the ATA. I don't know all the details as yet, but Frank is gone.

3. Movements to reduce ammunition speed to 1200 fps - defeated and to increase target speed - defeated. Mostly routine stuff.
4. 5 All-American juniors and sub-juniors were sanctioned for destructive acts while on the sporting clays range during the preliminaries. Two rabbits were shot (out of season and without licenses), a portable toilet was shot up (apparently without even checking to see if occupied), and other items were destroyed like garbage can(s) and target boxes. They appeared in criminal Court in Chester (results there unknown), they were banned from the shooting facility and the ATA gave a 9 month suspension. One junior had qualified for the \$100,000.00 ten person shootout and had to forfeit.
5. We had 33 shooters at the Grand with some good results including Keith Saunders' 200 straight in the clay target championship.

The foregoing are highlights of some of the things that took place at this year's Grand. If you have any questions, get in touch with me. "

Paul Shaw

shaw@smilaw.ca or 705-445-1382 (office)

AND NOW A FEW WORDS FROM OUR NEW OPTA PRESIDENT, NEVILLE HENDERSON

"It is a privilege and an honour to serve now as President of the OPTA and have the opportunity to continue to work towards the betterment of the sport with my fellow Board members.

My predecessors have done an excellent job of building a solid foundation for trapshooting in the province that will provide a sound basis on which your new Board can further develop and grow the sport. I believe we have a strong Board of Directors that is enthusiastic about trapshooting and each is keen to make changes that will benefit our members.

Over the next few months, I will work with them to identify key areas where we will focus our efforts over the upcoming year to achieve our objectives. To ensure we enhance the sport for the members, we need to know your expectations and I urge you to give Board members your thoughts. This will enable us to make more informed and better decisions.

The OPTA Clubhouse is becoming a great platform for us to unite our OPTA membership and I will keep in touch with all of you here on a regular basis. Until then, thank you for your on-going support for trapshooting and your provincial association's efforts to grow it in Ontario."



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MEMBER UPDATES

We are thrilled to learn that one of our youth shooters recently reached a great milestone: Katie VanHaverbeke shot her first 50 straight in the singles event at the August 8th registered tournament at Verschoyle. Her final score was 95. Well done, Katie!

YOUR EDITION OF THE OPTA CLUBHOUSE

Please share this edition of the Clubhouse with the folks in your shooting circle and encourage them to register with Gord Kerr (gord.kerr.opta@sympatico.ca) for their own copy. They won't want to miss the news that's coming up in our next issue!

Remember, if you have important news about an Ontario shooter or about an interesting event that has happened at your club, please be sure to let us know by writing Barbara Sheldon at sheldonshoots@can.rogers.com.

~ Wishing everyone great times and great wins in our new shooting year! ~