



THE OPTA CLUBHOUSE

July 2011 Edition

www.ontariotrap.com

Welcome back to THE CLUBHOUSE! The 2011 Canadian is now in the history books (page 2) while the 2011 Provincial Tournament is about to *make* history! The buzz is on about the expanded opportunities at the Provincial to win more money and more trophies - and we're learning that numerous Clubs are organizing Teams for the new CLUB TEAM RACES on the first day, Saturday, July 30th. In this expanded edition of THE CLUBHOUSE, we've got final information for you on the Provincial Championships, including a revision on the Two-Shooter team requirement, as well as urgent news from Hamilton Gun Club for all campers (page 4). In the meantime, here is your latest news from our community-at-large.

THE 2011 GREAT LAKES GRAND AMERICAN

As this is being written, the 2011 Michigan State Shoot is wrapping up its final day. The MTA homegrounds continue to be restored from the violent tornado that touched down during the GLG and prematurely ended the tournament, as we reported in the last edition of THE CLUBHOUSE. Congratulations to the OPTA Members who certainly did us proud at the GLG!

Walter Edworthy for his Sr. Vet R/U win in The Paul Shaw Singles.

Kyle Mann for taking C-Class in The Donald Neilson Singles event, for becoming Champion in The Ian Darroch Handicap **AND** for securing B Class Champion in the GLG Championship Singles.

Denis Louiseize for his D-Class victory in The Lake Michigan Singles.

Dominic Gitto for becoming the Champion and earning a punch in The Lake Erie Handicap.

Charlie Montgomery for winning his yardage group in The Lake Erie Handicap.

Mike Pickering for taking home the C-Class R/U trophy in the Doubles Class Championship.

Don Dolbear for his D-Class R/U win in the Doubles Class Championship.

Ralph Zadro for winning B-Class in The Lake Huron Singles.

For more information on this year's GLG, as well as the MTA homegrounds, visit www.michigantrap.com.

THE 2011 OPTA SUMMER BLAST

As most of you know, especially those showed up to shoot the Summer Blast on its original date back in May, the weather that day was nasty enough to turn back even the bravest of our shooters. Well, the Trap Gods apparently answered our prayers and provided almost stellar weather on its rescheduled date of June 26th. Here are the final results – *well done everyone!*

SINGLES: 95 entries

AA – Joe Di Francesco 100
A – Ralph Zadro 99
B – Ken Fellows 99
C – John Antonopoulos 94
D – Jason Copeman 92
Lady – Cheryl Stiby 91
Vet – Warren McLay 97
Sr. Vet – Paolo Pronio 96
Jr. – *none entered*
Sub-Jr. – Patrick Bevilacqua 88

HANDICAP: 85 entries

18-21 Dominic Rosati 93
22-23 Ken Fellows 95
24-25 Nick Kardaras 92
26-27 Joe Di Francesco 95
Lady Christine Huizinga 82
Vet Clair Hutchinson 95
Sr. Vet Alex Papastamos 92
Jr. *none entered*
Sub-Jr. Patrick Bevilacqua 80

DOUBLES: 46 entries

AA – Frank Bonaiuto 99
A – Bert Blackburn 94
B – Jim Hannah 93
C – Logan Prizrenac 90
D – Domenic Marino 87
Lady – Christine Huizinga 68
Vet – John Rowan 95
Sr. Vet – Charlie Boggis 91
Jr. – *none entered*
Sub-Jr. – Patrick Bevilacqua 82

HOA Champ - JOE DI FRANCESCO

A HUGE THANKS to all for attending and as well to Hamilton Gun Club for running this year's event.
We'll let you know in the Fall which OPTA club will host the 2012 Summer Blast – and when!



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THE 2011 CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

For those of you not able to attend Canada's only national ATA tournament this year, it was hosted perfectly by the St. Thomas Gun Club. President Pam Muma will be submitting an article on the event for an upcoming edition of THE CLUBHOUSE. But in the meantime, here are the final results to tie you over 'til then. Congratulations to everyone, especially all the OPTA'ers who brought tremendous spirit to this prestigious tournament and gave it their best shots.

Event # 1 – 100 16 Yard Targets – 147 Entries

Class AA – John Costa 99
Class A – Brent Price 98
Class B – Erin Collins 99
Class C – Larry Lozon 96
Class D – Gerry Mitchell 97

Event # 2 – Savage Canada Handicap – 145 Entries

Champion – Eugene Bolton 95
18-20 Yards – Ryan Krete 94
21-22 Yards – Terry Caldwell 95
23-24 Yards – Joe Soos 94
25-26 Yards – Denis Koutsothanassis 94
27 Yards – Dwight Smith 91

Event # 3 – Jim Wood Singles – 161 Entries

Class AA – Verne Higgs 100
Class A – George Iliopoulos 100
Class B – Joe Soos 98
Class C – Kyle Newman 98
Class D – Christine Huizinga 96

Event # 4 – 50 Pair Doubles – 137 Entries

Class AA – Gerald Whitehead 97
Class A – George Iliopoulos 96
Class B – Jim Hannah 95
Class C – Mike Delmore 94
Class D – John Nicolle 93

Event # 5 – Bill McNeilly Doubles – 164 Entries

Class AA – Gerald Whitehead 97
Class A – Serge Pelletier 96
Class B – David Storrington 97
Class C – Mike Delmore 91
Class D – Peter Grant 90

Event # 6 – Gerald Smith Handicap – 214 Entries

Champion – Fadi Khalil 96
18-20 Yards – Jake Caldwell 92
21-22 Yards – Bryce Mann 94
23-24 Yards – Gerald Smith 94
25-26 Yards – George Iliopoulos 94
27 Yards – Jim Hannah 95
Class A – Serge Pelletier 96
Class B – David Storrington 97
Class C – Mike Delmore 91
Class D – Peter Grant 90

Event # 7 – Singles Championships – 256 Entries

Resident Champion – Brian Fooks 199
Resident Runner-Up – Donald Sutherland 199
Resident Class AA – Nick Kardaras 198
Resident Class A – Don Mattison 197
Resident Class B – Chuck Krieger 197
Resident Class C – Ryan Krete 191
Resident Class D – Doug King 184
Lady – Dianne Wood 196
Lady Runner Up – Erin Collins 189
Veteran – Warren McLay 196
Senior Veteran – Eugene Bolton 196
Sub Junior – Jake Caldwell 190
Junior – Kyle Mann 184
Open Champion – Dwight Smith 198
Open Runner-Up – Dan Gris 198
Open Class AA – Terry Jordan 198
Open Class A – John Iliopoulos 197
Open Class B – Jim Lee 197
Open Class C – Jason Copeman 190
Open Class D – Francine Sonne 183

Event # 8 – Doubles Championship – 178 Entries

Resident Champion – Dwight Smith 99
Resident Runner Up – Gerald Whitehead 99
Open Champion – George Iliopoulos 98
Open Runner Up – Paul Shaw 98
Resident Class AA – Donald Sutherland 97
Resident Class A – Brian Fooks 98
Resident Class B – Gerald Smith 97
Resident Class C – Harry Humby 92
Resident Class D – Denis Koutsothanassis 95
Resident Lady – Lisa Salt 91
Resident Veteran – Gerald Broten 97
Resident Senior Veteran – Bob Lee 98
Resident Sub Junior – Patrick Bevilacqua 91
Resident Junior – Garret MacDonald 90
Open Class AA – Kenny Ray Estes 97
Open Class A – Frank Bonaiuto 97
Open Class B – Peter Tarnowski 96
Open Class C – Ian Malcolm 92
Open Class D – Thomas Mann 93



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(results continued from previous page)

Event # 9 - Handicap Championship – 222 Entries

Resident Champion – Jason Copeman 94
Resident Runner Up – Peter Tsementzis 94
Resident 18-20 Yards – Rolland Paquette 91
Resident 21-22 Yards – Lloyd Smith 92
Resident 23-24 Yards – Don Mattison 92
Resident 25-26 Yards – John Costa 91
Resident 27 Yards – Verne Higgs 92
Resident Lady – Dianne Wood 92
Resident Veteran – Clare Hebron 91
Resident Senior Veteran – Harry Petrev 91
Resident Sub Junior – Patrick Bevilacqua 93
Resident Junior – Garret MacDonald 88
Open Champion – Jake Caldwell 93
Open Runner Up – Germain Laflamme 93
Open 18-20 Yards – Thomas Mann 93
Open 21-22 Yards – Kyle Newman 92
Open 23-24 Yards – Joe Woods 92
Open 25-26 Yards – Gerald Whitehead 91
Open 27 Yards – Don Henning 92

High All Around – Events 7, 8 & 9 (400 targets)

Resident Champion – Peter Tsementzis 387
Resident Runner Up – Brian Fooks 385
Resident Class AA – Gerald Whitehead 383
Resident Class A – Don Mattison 380
Resident Class B – Germain Laflamme 375
Resident Class C – Jason Copeman 369
Resident Class D – Garry Benko 346
Resident Lady – Dianne Wood 378
Resident Veteran – Clare Hebron 381
Resident Senior Veteran – Bob Lee 371
Resident Sub Junior – Patrick Bevilacqua 373
Resident Junior – Garret MacDonald 349
Open Champion – Joe Di Francesco 383
Open Runner Up – Dwight Smith 383

High Over All – Events 1 – 9 (1000 targets)

Resident Champion – George Iliopoulos 951
Resident Runner Up – Terry Jordan 950
Resident Class AA – John Costa 940
Resident Class A – Jim Hannah 935
Resident Class B – Gerald Smith 915
Resident Class C – Ryan Krete 886
Resident Class D – Garry Benko 870
Resident Lady – Dianne Wood 911
Resident Veteran – Gerald Broten 929
Resident Senior Veteran – Don Dolbear 901
Resident Sub Junior – Patrick Bevilacqua 917
Resident Junior – Kyle Mann 852
Resident Open Champion – Joe Di Francesco 950
Resident Open Runner Up – Gerald Whitehead 948



THE ST. THOMAS GUN CLUB WEBSITE: www.stthomasgunclub.com



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MEMBER UPDATES

We were very saddened to learn that **Doug Thorne** lost his battle against cancer on June 14th, 2011. Doug was a Life Member of the Hamilton Anglers and Hunters Association (HAHA) and during his 30+ years at the Club, he also served on the Board of Executives. Doug was a vital component to the smooth running OPTA tournaments hosted at HAHA. When things needed to be done, he was at it before you could even ask him. He was also a regular competitor of the Silver Horseshoe Winter Trap League. His contagious grin and great sense of humor was enjoyed and admired by everyone.

Perhaps one of the more admirable and recognized feats by Doug occurred at almost every turkey shoot he attended: it was almost always his van holding the bulk of the prized meat at the end of the day! Doug was a very solid family man, a tremendous sportsman and a great supporter of trapshooting in this Province. Our deepest condolences to his family. Rest in peace, Doug, you won't be forgotten.

We are pleased to report that a future OPTA All-Star trapshooter was born on May 14th, 2011 to **Mr. and Mrs. Jake Rosmaninho**. Welcome to our world, Evan Anthony!

Jake's family isn't the only one that's growing! Please be sure to extend a very warm OPTA welcome to the following new members of *our* family: **Derek Mereszak** from McGregor; **Newt Chilcott** from Tecumseh; **Harold Austin Wellwood** from Oldcastle; **Sue Weldon** (Lady) from London, **Brendan Bowering** from London; **Thomas Girdlestone** from London, **Brian Primeau** from Strathroy, **Robert McRae** from London, **Shawn Leeder** from Pembroke; and **Ted Dabrouski** from Sault Ste Marie.

And a 12 gauge salute to the following OPTA'ers on their recent registered target milestones!
Ron Alton – 50,000 singles; **Jim Pollock** – 25,000 single; **Dave Storrington** – 50,000 double;
Bill Wylie – 50,000 doubles

UPDATE FROM HAMILTON GUN CLUB: For Campers at the 2011 Provincial Tournament

An important news bulletin from "Uncle Warren"

"Management at Hamilton GC is suggesting and encouraging all campers to bring their own generators. While the electrical can be used, (15 amp. only) it must be used quite minimally, otherwise it will overload and blow.

As well, the City Health Department has deemed the Club's water unsafe, in other words, not potable. Therefore, HGC's water can only be used at your own risk! HGC Management states there will be hose hook-ups available again this year, but that the water should be used for toilets only. HGC Management has stated that the showers are going to be kept clean and operating, but again, use at your own risk. **DO NOT DRINK THE WATER!** HGC Management is advising all campers to bring their own fresh water.

For those driving from the west to HGC on Hwy 403, it is possible that the Lincoln Alexander Parkway may be closed during the weekend of the Provincial Championships due to on-going construction. In this case, here's an easy alternate route: Get off Hwy. 403 at Hwy. 6 South (this is also the main road to Hamilton Airport) and follow it to where it dead-ends at a stoplight. Turn left (north) at that stoplight and you will now be on Upper James Street. Take Upper James Street to Rymel Road (about a 5 minutes drive). Turn right (east) on Rymel Road and take this all the way to the Hamilton Gun Club. (Club is at 5th Sideroad on your left).

For daily construction information for all Hamilton roadways, you can check out the following website:
<http://www.hamilton.ca/CityDepartments/PublicWorks/Services/2006-cdn-open-closures.htm>

Looking forward to seeing everyone in a few weeks!"

Warren McLay (ps: the club's GPS co-ordinates are **N 043 09 416/W 079 43 307**)



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PATRICK BEVILACQUA – THE 2010 OPTA ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

The OPTA Board of Directors is excited to announce that Patrick is the recipient of the inaugural OPTA Rookie of the Year Annual Award. The purpose of this new Annual Award is to encourage and motivate the newcomers to our sport to enjoy the thrill and challenge of registered trapshooting in Ontario, in all three disciplines: Singles, Handicap and Doubles.

To be eligible for this Award, the OPTA Board set the following criteria: A shooter must have registered targets for the very first time during the 2010 ATA target year, September 1st 2009 thru to August 31st, 2010. Minimum target requirements to be fulfilled in Ontario at ATA-registered competitions entirely within the 2010 year were as follows: Singles – 500; Handicap – 400; Doubles – 300.

The Board then reviewed the composite averages of all new OPTA registered shooters during the 2010 ATA target year. It was a close call, but Patrick came out on top with a composite average of 84.70%.

Patrick will be honored for his achievement at this year's Annual General Meeting being held on Monday August 1st, immediately following the Doubles Championship Event at the 2011 Provincial Tournament. Congratulations to you Patrick, on an outstanding first year of registered trapshooting!

(Using the same criteria, the Board can't wait to determine next year's Winner from amongst the ATA/OPTA's 2011 new shooters – good luck to all of you!)

THE WATERFORD SPORTSMAN'S CLUB – THE 2010 OPTA CLUB OF THE YEAR

After reviewing the submission by Trap Co-Directors, Gary Seitz and Randy Wentzel, of The Waterford Sportsman's Club, it was quite evident to the OPTA Board of Directors that Waterford rightfully earned the very first OPTA Club of the Year Award! Following is an abridged excerpt from the Club's submission. Thank-you to the members of The Waterford Sportsman's Club for your on-going commitment and efforts to better service your members, your guests and your community.

- \$20,000 in renovations to its Club House facility
- New computerized accounting system to account for all cash transactions and to monitor activity in all venues.
- New closed circuit TV installed to monitor safety of indoor/outdoor ranges and safeguard club facilities.
- All new sidewalks installed to provide and meet "Accessibility Standards" to all Skeet Fields for all member needs with continuation to Trap Fields on the horizon.
- A Website was developed and continues to receive many upgrades and improvements: <http://waterfordgunclub.webs.com>
- Registered ATA Trap Shoots are back in Waterford with its first registered shoot in August 2010 after several years since the last registered shoot.
- 2 ATA Registered Shoots are scheduled for 2011 (Aug and Sept) and plans are to hold at least 3 to 4 annually in the future.
- Over \$40,000 in upgrades to the Trap Venue with 2 New Pat Trap Machines purchased in 2010 and 3 new all steel "Roll Top" Trap Houses with installation to be completed in 2011.
- 3 new wireless microphone systems purchased in 2010 valued at \$8,500 for trap shooters with plans to purchase another set in 2011.
- Waterford Gun Club is very active in the community, educating young shooters through the Boy Scout Program on Tuesday nights and hosting special young shooter shoots on Saturdays.
- Memberships have increased significantly from 2009 to 2010 with a total increase of 100 members bringing our club membership to over 450 in 2011 – and the total increase in the number of targets thrown in 2010 was approximately 67,500 over 2009. Both are good indications of the growth and future of the club.



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NEWS FROM OUR ATA DELEGATE, PAUL SHAW

"Greetings Ontario shooters. There are two things that I want to address with you in this communication as follows:

All States and Provinces have been given an opportunity to sponsor a "shelter" on a trap field on the east line at the Sparta Illinois complex. As any of you know who have attended the Grand, Sparta in August is hot and shade is in short supply. It will take years for the trees to grow to make a material difference.

Shelters will cost \$2,000.00 each and will have the sponsoring State/Province's name and insignia (which we supply). Choice of trap fields are on a first come, first allotted basis. Any unallocated go to the private sector.

I believe there is some urgency to this because I am told many State associations are on board and possibly one or more Western Provinces. These shelters once built will be around for many years and could be not only a promotional opportunity for Ontario but also a practical meeting area (or message board area) for Ontario shooters - a rallying location so to speak.

I have recommended it to the OPTA Board which has considered it but doesn't feel it appropriate to commit money to out of province initiatives without the full membership having input - and presumably the first opportunity will be at our AGM in early August. I fear that by then the opportunity may have been lost.

Are there enough Ontario shooters - say 10 who will donate \$200.00 each to at least secure a shelter and call it perhaps "Trapshooters from Ontario Canada" or some other name and if the OPTA membership votes to support it, then it can be sponsored by the OPTA with the 10 shooters being reimbursed? Don't misunderstand the situation - your OPTA Board is acting very fiscally responsibly and the membership should decide. But come August, my fear is that it will be academic. If you (as an Ontario shooter) want to pledge \$200.00 US let me know as soon as possible. I'll tabulate the results and once I get 10 shooters I'll announce Ontario is in and secure a trap field of the inventory choices then available. I am in personally for \$200.00. Are there 9 others?

The next matter is just a brief report on the Canadian Olympic style trapshooting championships held at the Toronto International Trap & Skeet Club starting the week of June 6. There were 28 trap participants and 5 double trap. BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec were represented as well as shooters that were citizens of US, India and Iraq. Shooting conditions were good for the most part, but scores were not terribly high.

Ontario shooters who finalled in trap were Paulo D'Elia (third), Drew Shaw (fourth), Paul Shaw (fifth). Based on prior established results and eligibility requirements Drew and Paul Shaw are eligible for the Pan Am Team in Guadalajara Mexico in October, although this is subject to inter-discipline comparative results compared to world standards in each discipline. Only 18 Canadian shooters may attend in all the disciplines of trap, skeet, double trap, rifle and handgun and for both men and women's events (where applicable).

Drew and Paul are also eligible in double trap (again subject to inter discipline rankings). Time will tell who is named to the Pan Am team. The Worlds are in Belgrade Serbia in early September and Drew and Paul will be shooting trap and double trap as two of the three men teams. Lots of ATA shooting (hopefully) in between.

As always, if you need help or advice, call me."

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



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PRESENTING TWO MORE OF YOUR OPTA DIRECTORS!

Warren McLay and Phil MacDonald are two very busy Directors, but we got them to sit still just long enough to answer some questions. As two of the newer Board members, Warren and Phil each bring a unique set of skills and a terrific personality that are helping to make our sport and your Association better for you. If you haven't had the opportunity to meet them before, here's your chance! (*Editor's note: Phil just became the NR Handicap Champion at the 2011 New York State Shoot!*)



"Uncle" Warren McLay and Phil MacDonald

When did you start trapshooting and how did you get into the sport?

WM: Started in 1983 and competition in 1984. Heard the shooting & drove up to HGC. Don Garr befriended me & I started clay bird shooting. Trap became my passion.

PM: Officially I registered my first ATA targets in the spring of 2009. However, many years before that I belonged to the Dundas & 403 trap club in Mississauga and I would spend Sunday afternoons shooting trap with my father for fun and practice using an old double barrel fox savage.

What is your home club?

WM: I am a life member of the Hamilton Gun Club.

PM: I currently do not belong to a club. This year my plan is to visit as many Ontario clubs as possible that are hosting ATA events and get to know the membership and enjoy the atmosphere of the host club.

What is your current occupation – and how many years have you been at it?

WM: I have been retired from Lafarge North America since 2007. Worked there for 32 years. Before this I was in banking, masonry construction, and a Supervisor at American Motors.

PM: I am the Vice President of Information Technology for Canada's largest Customs Brokerage, Livingston International. I have been with Livingston for 21 years, the last 4 years in my current role.

Will you share a bit of your personal life with our Members?

WM: I live in East Hamilton. We have two sons and one grandchild. I have been married to Jean for 47 years. She's very tolerant.

PM: I am originally from Ottawa, but for the past 30+ years Mississauga has been my home. My wife Paula and I have been married for 21 years and we have two children. Both of our children, Chloe and Garret, are involved in trap shooting, so it is a complete family affair for the MacDonalds.

What other interests do you have besides trapshooting?

WM: I used to participate in many sports activities. I played hockey with both sons until age of 51. I coached for several years. I enjoy fishing and hunting.

PM: I love to hunt, home renovation projects, camping and I enjoy running and spending time at the cottage.



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When did you join the OPTA Board?

WM: I joined in August 2010.

PM: I am the new kid on the block, joined the board in April 2011.

Why did you decide to join the Board - and what do you hope to achieve by being a Director?

WM: I have a fair amount of experience in running shoots & know the requirements. I thought I could be useful on the OPTA BOD & try to make trapshooting a sport where members enjoy themselves. Usually if I have something to say, there is no misunderstanding. The current BOD is progressive and I am proud to be a participant.

PM: Whatever activity or sport I have participated in, I always felt a need to give something back and step up and contribute in some way. I would like to see trapshooting grow in Ontario and with my background in Information Technology I believe I can help in communicating to our membership via the Internet and our new web site.

I would also like to see Ontario shoots run more efficiently. I would like to see results posted via the Internet soon after an event completes.

I believe if we are going to attract new and younger shooters to our sport we need to modernize our process on running a shoot and change the "old" ways. We also need to offer incentives (trophies) to young or new shooters so that they feel they are accomplishing something when they shoot well and can take that trophy home to show family and friends.

What would you like to see the OPTA achieve for its membership in the next 5 years? 10 years?

WM: Work for the members, consider their thoughts on how things can be improved. I would like to think I am approachable & will help if possible. With our current Board members, things are going in the right direction. We all have to do everything we can to stabilize and even increase the numbers of members. I would like to state to the shooter: "BE ON THE LINE ON TIME".

PM: I'd like to see Ontario membership grow with new younger shooters and upgraded infrastructure to promote the sport of trapshooting at the club level.

What positive differences do you hope to make/what do you hope to achieve?

WM: Be progressive, help other clubs, and get people interested in shooting.

PM: I would like to see trapshooting become a sport that is more visible and attractive to the general public. I'd also like the Ontario Championships to be known as one of the best run and attended tournaments in North America.

If you were to brag about shooting in Ontario to non-residents, what would you say?

WM: Make no mistake, Ontario has some of the best shooters in North America. They are tough to beat. The Ontario shooters are friendly as are all in Canada. Come and enjoy yourself. We Canucks like to enjoy ourselves and the beer (when not shooting) is tasty.

PM: We have some great facilities, we have many talented & hospitable shooters and when we put on a tournament we provide a friendly atmosphere with some great competition & trophies.

Is there anything you would like the membership to know about you that they don't already?

WM: There are a few things I like to do, but probably should not put these in writing. One thing I like to do once in awhile is draw. SURPRISE!

PM: I have run 13 marathons, my last two were the Boston marathon and this year at Xmas, Paula and I became the parents of a baby goat, named Lauchlan, courtesy of our son Garret. (We have not yet forgiven him & he is paying for his own shells until we do.)

Any final words for our Members today?

WM: That's all I can think of...

PM: I feel very fortunate to be a member of the OPTA board and am excited to contribute to the sport of trapshooting in Ontario. Please take the time to get to know your OPTA board and say hello next time you see us at a shoot.



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THE 2011 ONTARIO PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS: JULY 30 – AUGUST 1

A final update from your 2011 OPTA Board of Directors

Due to the postal shutdown, we were unable to mail the new programs as we had planned. Accordingly, a controlled and recorded distribution (direct hand-outs) went into immediate effect and with this method, almost all of you have received your program while attending various tournaments in Southern Ontario, including most recently the 2011 Canadian. Many thanks to the folks from the farthest reaches of the Provinces for generously agreeing to return to your home turf from the Canadian with programs in hand to personally deliver them to our Members in your area.

For those who we were unable to reach in this manner, you should be receiving yours in the mail within the next 10 days. In the event it does not reach you before you leave home for the Provincial Championship, you can always download it from our new website www.ontariotrap.com - and there will be some programs available at classification. Thanks for your understanding during this "postally-challenged" time. And thanks to so many for taking the time to voice your approval to the Board of the new design – we're really pleased you like it! ***PLEASE READ THE PROGRAM THOROUGHLY - THERE HAVE BEEN MANY CHANGES TO THE TOURNAMENT!***

It was also your Board's intent, prior to the Canada Post walk-out/lock-out, to mail each and every member a copy of the 2010 OPTA Financial Statement, instead of making you seek it out on the grounds as in years past, prior to the AGM. Unfortunately, the postal disruption kyboshed our good intentions in this regard as well. We still want our Members to have the easiest access to this information, so it will be available at the Classification desk when you check in.

We've heard from several members regarding the new requirements for the **TWO-SHOOTER TEAM RACE** during the Singles Championships. While we've received tremendous appreciation for the new format, as it levels the playing field and prevents "stacked" teams, apparently we had what's commonly referred to in trapshooting as a "brain fart" as we left out B Class shooters in the equation – please accept our apology!

So here's how we are fixing that mistake while maintaining the integrity and intent of the "3 Classes apart" requirement: **D Class is now the wild card in the TWO-SHOOTER TEAM RACE!** What this means is a D Class shooter can shoot with any Class shooter, including B Class even though they won't be 3 Classes apart. We trust this meets with everyone's satisfaction and we look forward to a very full and exciting competition in this race!

We are also pleased to announce several new improvements in the back-end operations of the Tournament that will be in place this year to make your overall experience at the 2011 Provincial Championship better than ever.

The Annex, the building just east of the Clubhouse, will become strictly a Business Centre for shooters. This is the place where you will classify, squad, register for all the new concurrent races - and cashier your events. This will also be the place to pick up your trophies. All business activities under one roof – no more going back and forth between buildings!

The scores will now be posted on the West Side behind the middle trap fields under the wooden pavilion for your convenience.

This pavilion is now going to become the social hub of the Tournament, where you can gather and relax at the picnic tables in the shade of the shelter, where you can sit and enjoy the offerings from the BBQ that Hamilton GC will be operating in front it - and this year you will also be able to view and talk about all of the results there as well!



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In keeping with your Board's unwavering focus on improving the 2011 Provincial Tournament's operations, it has purchased and will be operating its own software to speed up the processes to get you out of the Annex faster...so you can put up the big scores sooner! What this means is the administrative process is going to be practically paperless for you, except for your classification and cashier receipts.

With this in mind, it is imperative that each competitor brings their ATA card (or if you've lost your card, bring your ATA number!) in order to classify, squad and cashier. Of course you must bring your ATA Averages Card with you as well – and PLEASE BE SURE IT IS UP-TO-DATE!

With the aid of the new computer system, the OPTA Board will be entirely responsible for classifying, squadding, registering of all competitors for the special races, computing and posting the scores, as well as determining the winners and shoot-offs. Hamilton GC will be employing their own cashiers using our system and be right there in the Annex with us.

We are also pleased to announce that Hamilton GC has just appointed OPTA Director Warren McLay as the Trap Director for this Tournament. *EXCELLENT CHOICE – thank-you Hamilton GC!*

Here's good news for our American shooters competing in this year's Tournament: payouts exclusively from the OPTA will be made in cold, hard Canadian cash before you leave! If you have to head home before we can do this, we will send you a money order in American Funds. (No more grief at your local banks!)

For those of you who are concerned about the recent news about the lack of safe drinking water at Hamilton GC, we have been assured by the Club Management that fresh, clean water will be supplied to the shooters at every bank during the tournament.

Also out of respect for those who are shooting, no announcements will be made over the loudspeakers on the West Side during the Events. Announcements will be made on the East side, advising shooters which squads are 'on the ready'. Remember, squads will have only 5 minutes to wait for late members and no shooters will be called to the line!

It is the Board intent to have Squad Hustlers set up under canopies between Banks One and Two, Banks Three and Four, and Banks Five and Six. These folks will be responsible for hustling up and checking in the squads prior to them taking the fields. This means all shooters must report to the Hustlers in ample time before shooting. This will help Uncle Warren move the shoot along as smoothly and as quickly as possible – and we will appreciate everyone's participation in this regard!

Starting Banks will be rotated every day to be fair to all competitors – and signs indicating these will be posted all over the Tournament grounds well before the start of each day's shootings. Please check every morning to see where you are shooting that day and allow yourself ample time to sign in at your starting Bank *at least 15 minutes before your squad is shooting!*

Your 2011 OPTA Board of Directors is doing all that it can to make the 2011 Provincials the best ever. We believe that with your co-operation, everybody will have a much better time at this year's Tournament!

YOUR ATTENTION & HELP PLEASE!

The 2011 OPTA Board is in the process of recruiting adult Squad Hustlers for the 2011 Provincial Championships.

These are OPTA paid positions, suitable for customer-oriented, friendly and out-going former lion tamers.

Seriously, this can be a lot of fun for the right person – and certainly a vital role at the Tournament!

Family and friends of shooters – or shooters not competing - are encouraged to apply.

Please contact any OPTA Director or Barbara Sheldon at sheldonshoots@rogers.com or toll free at 877-809-9995!



IT'S ELECTION TIME AGAIN IN ONTARIO!

The 2-year terms of 4 OPTA Directors will expire this year, which means there will be **4 potential openings on the Board** and we are encouraging active OPTA members in good standing, who are interested in contributing their time and experience, to considering joining the Board. The current 4 Directors, with terms ending August 1, 2011, also have the opportunity to run again for the Board.

Anyone who is interested in knowing what is involved with being an OPTA Director should contact any current Director, in order to make an informed decision about standing for election. Your number of years shooting is not as relevant as your genuine willingness to contribute to the current mandate and progress of the Board to grow trapshooting in our Province.

The ATA Delegate and the ATA Alternate Delegate are also up for re-election – theirs are one-year terms. Anyone wishing to run for these positions must be a Life Member in good standing with the ATA as well as an OPTA Member in good standing. The current ATA Delegate and Alternate also have the opportunity to run again. Anyone who is interested in knowing what is involved with being the ATA Delegate or ATA Alternate Delegate should contact the persons currently in these position, or the ATA directly, in order to make an informed decision about standing for election for either of these positions.

YOUR 2011 OPTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

Vice-President: *Bert Blackburn: bertblackburn@gmail.com (*terms expires August 1/11)

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

Director: *Bill Malcolm: billmalcolm@rogers.com (*terms expires August 1/11)

Director: *Basil Zmiyiwsky: zeezee_m@hotmail.com (*terms expires August 1/11)

Director: *Barbara Sheldon: sheldonshoots@rogers.com (*term expires August 1/11)

Director: Warren McLay: wmclay@cogeco.ca

Director: Phil MacDonald: philipmacdonald@sympatico.ca

YOUR 2011 ATA REPRESENTATIVES IN ONTARIO

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

ATA Alternate Delegate: Gord Kerr gord12@sympatico.ca

If you would like to declare your candidacy, or for more information about the process of standing for election, please contact any of the current OPTA Directors.

The process of the Elections will commence at the AGM on Monday August 1st during the 2011 Provincial Tournament, immediately following the Doubles Championship Event.



WWW.PRESQUAD.COM

**is now open for
The 2011 ONTARIO CHAMPIONSHIPS
*and filling up fast!***

**Be sure to get on www.presquad.com
before it closes on July 22nd
to get the best available squads and positions
on all the events you want!**

***WHY WASTE YOUR TIME
STANDING IN LINE AT THE TOURNAMENT
ONLY TO BE DISAPPOINTED??***

UPCOMING EDITIONS OF THE CLUBHOUSE

The next edition of THE CLUBHOUSE will be released in August and will feature the report and results from the much anticipated 2011 Ontario Provincial Trapshooting Championships. As always, there will also be updates and news from our community-at-large.

Remember, when interesting events happen (or are going to happen!) at your Club or to Ontario shooters, please be sure to let us know by writing the Editor at sheldonshoots@rogers.com. And if you have a milestone or personal accomplishment that you'd like to share here in THE CLUBHOUSE, please send your info to the Editor as well. *Bragging rights are free here!*

Our goal is to keep our community and friends informed, inspired, connected and shooting! So, please post a copy of this edition of THE CLUBHOUSE at your Home Club - and remember to forward it to your shooting buddies as well. Anyone wishing to subscribe can do so by simply sending their e-mail address to the Editor with this request. As always, the OPTA respects your privacy and will not share your contact information with any third parties.

**~ Thanks for spending time with us in THE CLUBHOUSE.
See you again real soon! ~**