

Greetings from Ontario, Canada!

As I write this article in late May, we have just nicely concluded the Empire Grand American at Cicero, New York. Many of the days had some challenging weather conditions – gusty and a little chilly at times. But the New York State staff and volunteers are great, the shoot was efficiently and well run. And, as is becoming somewhat of a trend, more and more Ontario shooters are attending the larger shoots and are distinguishing themselves.

John Costa won the Championship Doubles event with a lone 98. John won the Ontario Provincial Championship doubles titles in 2011 (99), 2014 (98) and 2016 (96) but this is his first major out-of-province victory.

Lloyd Beecraft is no stranger to Championship Titles both in and out of province. At the Empire he won the Overall Championship besting a field of very talented shooters. His picture was on Trap & Field Magazine this month (May) for capturing the Southern Grand Singles Championship with the only 200 straight. It is getting tougher and tougher to win championship trophies in Ontario. Our shooter talent base is now quite deep.

For those who have been holding off re-configuring their not-for-profit associations until the Not For Profit Corporations Act, 2010 is in full force and effect, please continue waiting. It has been eight (8) years and no approval is in sight.

To add insult to injury, the Provincial Government has enacted a statute that includes bits and pieces of language that may help in updating existing not-for-profit associations/corporations. It is called . . . wait for it . . . ‘Cutting Unnecessary Red Tape Act, 2017’. It would probably be much more efficient to replace the statute makers.

I have noticed that some host clubs are not keeping a full inventory of target ammunition. New York State, for instance, is not providing ammunition sales anymore. Ammunition is provided by Urb Womer at competitive prices. At Tucson during the Spring Grand, some struggled to find handicap loads both at the club and at local retailers who were apparently all “sold out”. Some shooters took the precaution of shipping ammunition to the venue. Just a “heads up”. Make sure you can get your favourite loads at the venue or be prepared to make alternative arrangements.

I want to take a moment to thank the “commercial vendors and service personnel” that attend at many of the competitions. Your merchandise and services are vital to a well-run competition. Thank you for your participation.

And finally – hats off to all Ontario industry sponsors that contribute to the shooting sports in our Province. Lawry Shooting Sports Inc. (Rick and Derek) recently provided flats of ammunition as prizes for a well-attended “shell shoot” in St. Thomas. The new formula “Lawry” clay targets were used and reports by shooters to me were that “targets were smoking”.

Lou Hummason of Hummason Manufacturing Ltd. is also a huge contributor to our sport in many ways, not the least of which is the provision of state-of-the-art portable washroom facilities – not the Johnny-on-the-spot type, but an actual portable building structure with indoor washrooms, sinks, etc. This is used at our Provincial Championships.

To all those that contribute merchandise, equipment, time and talents for the benefit of our sport – thank you.

Paul Shaw,
Ontario Delegate