

NEW ATA article for May 2019.

Greetings from Ontario, Canada.

Many of our Ontario shooters have attended tournaments south of the border including the Spring Grand, Southern Grand and Florida State. Many have had very successful matches.

Lloyd Beecraft was at it again lodging the only 200 straight in the Florida State singles championship besting all in and out of state competitors. He (and others) I hope are on track for another stellar season.

We all know trapshooting is an expensive sport but I have witnessed some very creative and innovative ways in which shooters can make their trapshooting budget stretch further. There is carpooling, sharing of accommodations, getting together to pool volume discounted quantities of target ammunition, reloading supplies, etc. I would be pleased to receive input from anyone that has other suggestions for cost efficiencies and, in turn, I will share this with others in future columns.

Did you know that the Canadian (ATA) Championships will be held in St. Thomas, Ontario, June 26 to June 30, 2019? You can look at, or download, the program online from the Ontario Provincial Trapshooting Association's website. This will be our 63<sup>rd</sup> tournament. You can start pre-squadding on [presquad.com](http://presquad.com) starting May 20 to June 25.

The St. Thomas Club has 10 trap fields and is blessed with wonderful dedicated volunteers that will help make this event a pleasurable experience. For those chasing All-American team points, this tournament has a guaranteed competition factor of 2 but is likely to be higher based on expected entries in the three championship events (singles, handicap, doubles).

According to my rough calculations, St. Thomas is about 2 hours 11 minutes from Detroit (190 km or 118 miles), about 1 hour 29 minutes from Port Huron (121 km or 75 miles), and 2 hours 30 minutes from Buffalo (242 km or 150 miles). To put this into perspective, we have Ontario shooters that travel long distances in Ontario to arrive at St. Thomas. Ron Alton comes from Sault Ste. Marie (677 km or 421 miles). Smokey and the guys and gals from North Bay travel 512 km or 318 miles, and our shooters from the Ottawa area travel 639 km or 397 miles.

There are good roads in and out of St. Thomas. You can import your competition shotguns and ammunition into Canada temporarily for a nominal licensing cost [do this in advance, if possible, to streamline your entry at the border]. Don't complicate things by attempting to import handguns.

There are lots of things to do in the vicinity of St. Thomas for all members of the family. Put this on your bucket list – love to see you at our "Canadians".

Paul Shaw,  
Ontario Delegate