

ATA article for January 2017

Greetings from Ontario, Canada.

It is with sadness that I announce the passing of two people that have made significant contributions to ATA trapshooting in our province for many years.

Alice Sheridan died peacefully in Newmarket on November 13, 2016, at the age of 96. Alice, and her late husband Art, were legends for many decades. They were active registered shooters but are best known for the help and encouragement they gave to new shooters – especially youth. Alice once told me she had tutored over 200 young people and every one of them turned out to be responsible productive adults – none of them got into trouble with the law – “they wouldn’t dare”. The Sheridans led the volunteer group that managed the Timberline Trap Club, just north of Toronto. When I first started shooting in the early ‘80’s, Alice was very kind and helpful to all. She was the first recipient of the Mike Fulop “enthusiastic trapshooter” award in 1999. By coincidence, she came from a farm in Grey County near Thornbury, not too far from my parents’ farm. By an even greater coincidence, her father Mr. Londry certified me for my very first hunting licence when I was 15. Alice will long be remembered by her many friends who benefitted from her love and devotion to our sport.

We also grieve the loss of Henry K. Hamley (Hank) who passed away on September 8, 2016. I got to know Hank over the years as he was a prolific shooter who, in spite of his age, shot some very good scores. He was almost always on the Ontario Category Delegate Team which encourages and rewards registered shooters who participate at local Ontario clubs and achieve excellence. One of our ATA clubs, the Quinte Trap Club, benefitted from Hank’s “hands on” involvement. He was always the first to mow grass, cut wood and do whatever he could to keep Quinte viable. He coached new shooters. He encouraged everyone to participate and help others. Hank was no stranger to many of the ATA clubs across the province. Hank’s contributions to our sport have been significant and he will be missed by all.

Finally, after many grueling months, our neighbours to the South have selected their new President (President-Elect Trump). We wish him and his administration the very best. The Second Amendment hopefully will be safe for now and that alone may foster good cross-border relations with recreational firearms owners on both sides of the border as they navigate the complexities of the firearm (and accessories) and ammunition import and export bureaucracy.

Paul Shaw  
Ontario Delegate