

ATA Article for May 2016

Greetings from Ontario, Canada

In Ontario we incentivize our shooters by recognizing event victories achieved at ATA competitions shot at Ontario ATA clubs. (There is a minimum participation threshold.)

Delegate Pin Points are awarded to the men's winner of each event. Category Delegate Pin Points are awarded to the winner of all of the combined categories (using the original 5 categories of lady, junior, sub-junior, veteran and senior veteran). Our ATA clubs track the victories, conduct shoot-offs or tie-breaking measures where necessary, our OPTA secretary Pam Muma computes the results and I take it from there. Thanks to all those who help in the administration of this initiative. Our shooters I am told like the concept and have something tangible (a pin) to commemorate their achievement(s).

And, for the top ten men shooters (non-category) and top five category shooters, there is special recognition given. They make the Ontario Delegate Team and Ontario Category Delegate Team respectively. These Delegate Teams are designed to complement Provincial Teams which are based on composite averages that include all three disciplines of singles, handicap and doubles. Some of our shooters do not shoot doubles (for instance) and can never hope to make the regular Provincial Teams. The Delegate Teams are based on cumulative event victories and not on combined averages.

Congratulations to Ontario shooters who amassed enough event victories to make one of our two Delegate Teams. Here are the results:

**ONTARIO DELEGATE TEAM:**

	<i>Points</i>	<i>Name</i>
1st	9	Lloyd Beecraft
2nd	7	Bill Zager
3rd	5	John Costa
4th	4	Paulo Sampaio
	3	Ken Allan
	3	Tom Batsos
	3	Bert Blackburn
	3	Joe DiFrancesco
	3	Mike Pickering
5th	3	Frank Ruggiero

**ONTARIO CATEGORY TEAM:**

	<i>Points</i>	<i>Name</i>
1st	10	Ed Wilmott
	6	John Rowan
	6	Vince Roberto
2nd	6	Germain Spriet
5th	5	Warren McLay

In the February edition of Trap & Field I challenged readers with a quiz. I have had a lot of feedback from readers – some of whom solved the quiz and others that wanted additional clues.

Here is the quiz with the answers (in bold print).

*74 years ago today (December 7, 1941) brought **the United States** (a country) into the conflict known as **World War II** because of an attack on **Pearl Harbour**.*

*That conflict was shortened by about two years and saved an estimated 14 million lives as a result of the decoding of **The German Enigma Machine**.*

*The “decoding” device created was the world’s first **computer**. It was initially called the **Imitation game** (sometimes referred to as the **Turing Machine**). Under the laws of the country in which this individual lived he became a criminal, having been charged and convicted of **gross indecency**. That charge was based on evidence that he was **homosexual**.*

*The judge that sentenced him gave him two choices, the first was two years in jail or **chemical castration**. He chose the second and shortly thereafter committed suicide, a broken, broke and disgraced man. The world did not know his immense contributions until more than 50 years after the end of the great conflict that he helped shorten as everything he did was a “state secret”. As partial recompense he was given a **pardon** by **Queen Elizabeth**.*

*Who was this man? **Alan Turing***

*Hints:*

- *“sometimes it is the people no one imagines anything of who do the things that no one can imagine”;*
- *Sometimes it takes a machine to beat a machine.*

One of our Ontario shooters (Ethan Stempski) sent me a very nice letter. Not only did he solve the quiz but he told me that the movie “The Imitation Game” is among his top 5 all-time favourites. If you like movies based on true historical facts (as I do) you too may appreciate the movie and the triumph of human intellect that prevailed in doing what no one would have considered possible. Ethan also sent me two beautifully framed prints – one of which contained the following pivotal lines from the movie: “Sometimes it is the people no one imagines anything of, who do the things that no one can imagine.” Sometimes we mortals are shocked with achievements by those we underestimated. Have you ever watched the Susan Boyle rendition of “I Dreamed a Dream” (from Les Miserables) which stunned Simon Cowell and other hosts and the audience of “Britain’s Got Talent”? Watch it on YouTube – Susan Boyle Britain’s Got Talent.

Any equivalency in ATA trapshooting? What immediately comes to my mind is the late Leo Harrison III. Karla tells me that Leo started shooting registered targets just before his 11<sup>th</sup> birthday. His first score was 69. Few may have expected high end trapshooting achievements from this young man. But raw talent, practice and a competitive spirit made Leo a household name among all registered trap shooters. His proficiency and cumulative records may never be approached. And all from a modest, gentle giant of a man who, for those who got to know him, will always have fond memories of Leo the person and Leo the champion.

Paul Shaw

Ontario Delegate