

**MICHIGAN STATE  
MUZZLELOADING ASSOCIATION  
NEWS LETTER  
JANUARY/DECEMBER 2018**



**THE PRESIDENTS MESSAGE**

*Happy New Year. I hope everyone had a great holiday season. We were able to spend lots of time with family and friends.*

*I was able to go to the "Last blast shoot " this year. It was a blast. Was my first visit to the Blue Water Club but won't be my last. Good people with a great facility. The shoot was fun and challenging. The lunch after was delicious. Definitely on the list for next new year's eve.*

*It's time again for the February business meeting. February 3rd at the Eaton Rapids club. We will meet at 11 am. The meeting is a forum to discuss and plan for the coming shooting season and this year's state muzzle loading shoots. State and many club shot flyers will be there for distribution. Bring your club flyers and represent your club. We will also get a first look at this year's raffle rifle. It is being built by Dave Maddox and tickets will be available starting at the meeting.*

*The best way to continue to enjoy our*

*shooting sport is to help promote it. The more people we can get to join in at our events the fun we can have. An interesting new year's resolution is to get a new shooter involved. Give it a try.*

*See you at the range soon. Lyle*



*Hunted with Prime Time Outfitters in Unit 34. Elevation around 7000 ft., more or less, depending how high you had to climb. The only time we rode in a truck was from camp to the area we were going to hunt. Then it was all on foot. Did you ever climb a mountain in the dark? We did. Every morning when we went out and every evening when we came back in.*

*We did see elk every day and then it seemed to turn into an elk race instead of an elk hunt. Did I mention we were in the mountains? Trying to run up hill with*

*your pack and rifle and thin air is no easy task. Going downhill is not any easier.*

*After the entire mountain, sightseeing and exercising I finally managed to get a shot at a 6x5 bull. It was a downhill shot, 150 yds. The bull took about five steps and lay down in enough brush that you could only see his antlers and we had to wait about 20 minutes for him to stand up again. I ended up shooting two more times before he went down for good. The guide, Mat, said he could not see where the bullets were hitting the elk because of the smoke but he could see them hitting the ground on the other side of the bull. We ended up finding two of the bullets where the bull fell.*

*Then the work began. After quartering the elk, it was a 2 hr. hike out with the meat, head and antlers. Sure glad my brother Lee was there as we were able to get everything but the two front quarters out in one trip. Mat the guide went back to get the two front quarters while Lee drove Mats' truck down so we could get the meat loaded.*

*Over all I have to say, it was a great hunt, toughest one I have ever been on, not like hunting whitetails in Mich. According to our resident scorer, nephew Mike Niederquell, the elk rack scored 218. Not huge but great for a first elk with a muzzleloader. Thanks to Bobby Elka for the loan of his Remington Ultimate rifle, awful heavy to carry but does the job on elk. That was the second elk for that rifle. Lee used it last year to bag a nice bull. He liked it so much he bought his own to use this year and got a bull only 200 yards off the road. Alan Pichan*

**GRAND VALLEY  
CAP N BALLERS**

**JAG  
SHOP**

Now Selling Schuetzen & Swiss  
Call Jeff- 269-792-4384  
Ron – 616-836--5760

*Another trek to Nebraska has come and gone. The December 2017 Black Powder season was very different than past years, when Sharon and I arrived in Cody it was 80 deg. and stayed unseasonably warm through December 22nd.*

*The 26 days we were there the temp. never once dipped below the wrong side of "0" which is a first in the 20+ years I have hunted there.*

*The deer were very hard to find as they were not feeding in the corn or rye fields like they always do. I took a side by side 4x4 this year because the ole Grim Reaper is tugging harder every year. The ranch I hunt in the Sandhills is too much for these old get away sticks so I opted for what I call my "Buggy". I can go places in 20 minutes that used to take me the better part of the morning, even though I would start 2 hrs before first light to get to. And then I was only half way because I had to walk back. Those Sandhills seem endless and 7-8 miles back is where*

*the deer bed down. The "Buggy" makes those miles so much more enjoyable. December the 11th is when I first saw him, but due to other physical ailments could not hold the rifle up. (it weighs 14 lbs) 65 yards broadside looking other way is what everyone dreams about, but for me it was a nightmare. Four days passed before seeing him again but this time at 200+ yards and my tri pod was set up in wrong direction. Trying to adjust gave him time to give me the WHITE flag. Another 2 days went by before our next encounter, this time he was running on a mission some where but not my freezer.*

*Sad to admit it but He lives for another year. I figure at least 340 days before I match wits with him again and hopefully a rebuilt shoulder.*

*Ron Jr shot a very nice Mule Deer at, get this, 50 yards. I finally let my standards down and shot a very heavy but old Whitetail buck. At least 6 maybe 7yr. and declining and also lacking in headgear, not worthy of adding to the 33 we have in our Great room. I did get the chance to put the LR rifle to the test. I won't say how far because of unbelievers but lets just say a fir peace. Dialed to 26 on the Vortex 30mm Viper scope used 2nd hash mark below cross hairs and the 302 grain rifled KE bullet pushed by 94grs (w) Blackhorn 209 Powder flew true.*

*We let him hang a couple of days and then Sharon and I processed him. Cut a few Butterfly chops and ground the rest with a couple of pork butts.. Yum*

*Submitted by Ron Smith*



### **REMEMBER WHEN**

*The above picture taken at the Pine River Long Riflemen Club. The occasion was the bench and cross stick matches that ran for several years' and traveled to different clubs each year. The year here is 1984. Everyone will recognize Pa Keeler on the left. Does anybody know who the other two gentlemen' are? Please note the younger fellow in the building with an armload of targets. He is very popular among our muzzle loading family.*

#### **FLINTLOCKS LLC**

**6929 Beech Tree Road, Nineveh, In 46164**

**Ph.: 317-933-3441**

**[www.myflintlock.com](http://www.myflintlock.com)**

**Shotgun wads, cleaning patches,  
percussion caps, flints**

### **"REMEMBER WHEN CONT"**

*Of course the one on the left is Pa Keeler and the person on the right is Buck Burns. Of course by now you have figured out that is our own Ira Thumma with the arm load of targets.*

*Picture and story submitted by Wes O'Dell*

# **Kalamazoo Living History Show™ Scheduled for March 17-18, 2018**

*More than 10,000 historical re-enactors, history enthusiasts, collectors and the general public from the United States and Canada are expected to attend the 43<sup>rd</sup> annual Kalamazoo Living History Show™. The juried, nationally recognized show is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, March 17-18, 2018, at the Kalamazoo County Expo Center, Kalamazoo County Fairgrounds, 2900 Lake Street, Kalamazoo, Michigan. The show attracts over 270 of the finest artisans and vendors of pre-1890 living history supplies and related crafts from throughout the United States and Canada. Other highlights include children's activities, Native American dancing and singing, and many artisans who will demonstrate their crafts.*

*The Kalamazoo Living History Show™ is open to the general public Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Admission is \$7.00 for a single day adult pass; \$10.00 for a weekend adult pass. Children 12 years of age and under admitted free when accompanied by a parent.*

*Those interested in being a vendor at the show are invited to contact [kalamazoolivinghistoryshow@gmail.com](mailto:kalamazoolivinghistoryshow@gmail.com) for an application.*

***Theme of the 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Kalamazoo Living History Show™ Announced***

# ***THE BATTLE OF FALLEN TIMBERS 225<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION***

*The 1783 treaty signed between Great Britain and the new United States to end the American Revolution gave the U.S. paper title to a vast tract of land Northwest of the Ohio. Subsequent attempts to establish control of the region led to the destruction of two American armies at the hands of a great Native alliance. President Washington then selected General Anthony Wayne to create a new American army from the ground up. In 1794, Wayne's Legion scored this country's first post-revolutionary military victory at the Battle of Fallen Timbers.*

*The 2018 Kalamazoo Living History Show proudly welcomes members of the Fallen Timbers Battlefield Preservation Commission as featured presenters to share their expertise on that event as we approach its 225<sup>th</sup> anniversary.*

## ***Native American Drumming and Dance a Highlight of the Show***

*Members of the Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Potawatomi Indians, the **Bush Native American Drum and Dance** tell the story of their People through their outstanding drumming, singing, and dancing. Also featured will be **SouthEastern WaterSpider Drum**. These groups perform at many powwows, and their music and dance are eloquent representations of vibrant cultures.*

*Program times will be posted on our website several weeks prior to the show.*

## ***Contact Information***

*For information about the Kalamazoo Living History Show™, contact Leslie Martin Conwell, P.O. Box 2214, West Lafayette, IN 47996, telephone 765.563.6792, [kalamazoolivinghistoryshow@gmail.com](mailto:kalamazoolivinghistoryshow@gmail.com), [www.KalamazooShow.com](http://www.KalamazooShow.com).*

**SPRING BROOK TRADING CO.**

**EST 1990**

**Black Powder**

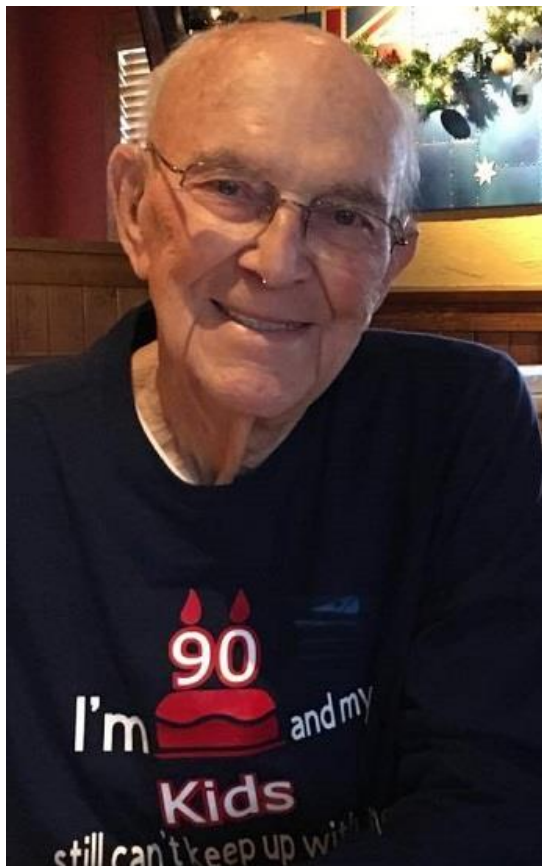
**Shopp**

[whammond88@hotmail.com](mailto:whammond88@hotmail.com)

**William F. Hammond, 9024 E**

**Spicerville Hwy. Eaton Rapids, Mi 48827**

**517-663-3115**



*Clark Kelly Frazier, age 90, of Rawson, died at 7:45 p.m. on Thursday, December 28, 2017 at Blanchard Valley Hospital. He was born in Albany, Georgia on December 12, 1927 to the late Clark W. and Treva (Powell) Frazier. He married Mary Lou Steegman on October 3, 1948 and she preceded him in death on January 7, 2017. Surviving him are daughters: Pamela (William) Cottrel of Springfield, Ohio, Deborah (Bill) Bolen of West Milton, Ohio and Christine (Eric) Doolittle of*

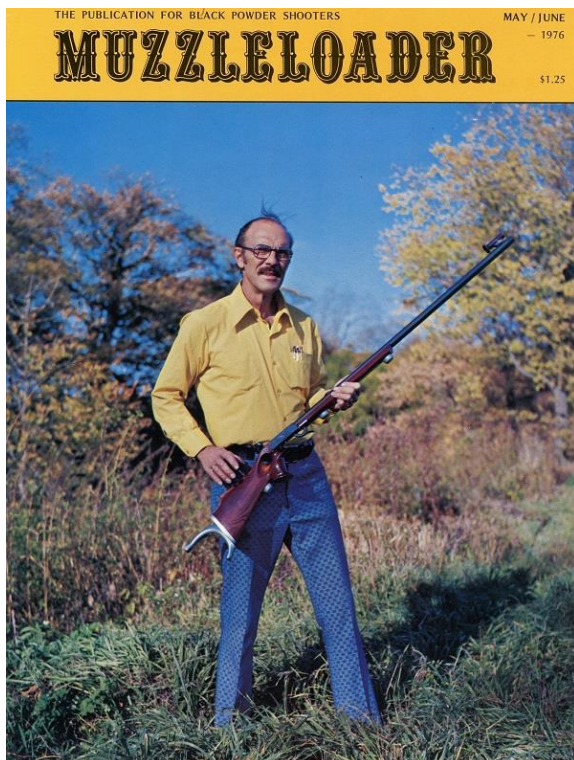
*Westerville, Ohio; grandchildren: Katherine Cottrel-Garrison, Liz (Wyatt) Culbertson, Erin (Aaron) Jenkins, Alisa (Stephen) Stoner, Kyle (Marie) Bolen, Matthew Doolittle and Andrew Doolittle; great grandchildren: Olivia and Amelia Garrison, Sophia Cottrel, Maddox, Clara and Owen Culbertson, Stella and Iris Stoner; brother: Ferrall (Gail) Frazier of Perrysburg, Ohio and special family friends: Becky Dillard, Pam and Gene Woods. He was preceded in death by a son: William D. Frazier and a brother that was M.I.A in World War II: Billy Frazier.*

*Clark attended elementary school in Rawson and Baconton, Georgia and high school at Kentucky Military Institute in Louisville, Ky and Venice, Fl. He earned his Bachelor of Science Degree in Industrial Arts from Ohio Northern University and his Master of Science in Education from the University of Toledo. He was a retired farmer and teacher, retiring in 1990 from Findlay High School where he taught Vocational Education. He was a life member of the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association and the N.R.A. and a member of the NRA Black Powder Committee. He was a National Champion multiple times with the N.M.L.R.A. and is in the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association Hall of Fame. He achieved Distinguished Rifleman rating in National Board of Marksmanship competition, and was a member of the Ohio Gun Collectors Assn. He was a designer and manufacturer of Matchmate Competition Rifles, with one in the Smithsonian Museum and another in the National Firearms Museum. He was inducted into the Hancock County Sports Hall of*

*Fame. He was a co-founder of Blanchard Valley School and served on the board, for many years and he served on The Mental Health Board. He was a member of the Central Ohio Soaring Association in Marion, Ohio and loved to travel having been to Germany doing M.I.A. research looking for his brother. He also traveled to England, Egypt, Hawaii, and all over the United States. He also enjoyed woodworking and was proud to have been an Eagle Scout. He was also a 32nd Degree Mason and a member of the Mt. Cory Masonic Lodge.*

*Clark was also a GREAT competitor at Friendship as well as a friend. Clark also made off hand rifles and heavy bench guns under the name of "Frazier Match Mate".*

*Clark will be missed on the "LINE" at Friendship*



## **JUST SAYING**

*Received my Muzzle Blast This week and was looking at the Charter Clubs in the state of Michigan. All so, the Muzzle Loading gun clubs that are not chartered and are affiliated with a local sportsman club, I am shocked at the number of Muzzle Loading gun clubs that do not sponsor a match in either the Rifle/Pistol Championships or the Shotgun Championships. Some of the clubs sponsor two or more matches and have some modern clubs that sponsor matches.*

*I came up with 20 clubs in the State that offer Muzzle Loading and just over a third of them sponsor a match for both Rifle/ Pistol and Shotgun.*

*I believe people do not know what the State Association does. I will list below some of the items and what the Association has to offer for your club.*

- 1. Put the State Shoot Matches together for the following year.*
- 2. Puts the state shoot schedule together for a small fee and is on the web for the year.*
- 3. Support the Keeler Society*
- 4. Writes the State News Letter with over 200 copies e-mailed and posted on the web*
- 5. Free Advertising for your club or Muzzle Loading business.*
  - a. All you need to do is e-mail your shoot agenda and or your business logo to [rbfern@triton.net](mailto:rbfern@triton.net) and let me know what issue or issues you want the article or business in.*
- 6. All sponsors are on the web for the year with the phone numbers of the business.*

Anyone that would like to receive the state newsletter by snail mail, just send \$10.00 to MSMLA, 16808 Peach Ridge, Kent City, Mi. 49330

The following matches are available for sponsor at this time. If you would like to sponsor a match is only \$25.00 and put a choice of 2 or 3 down in case they are covered before we receive your sponsorship. Specify Rifle or Shotgun.

## 2018 RIFLE/PISTOL

### Match

1. 25 Yard Off Hand-----
2. 50 Yard Off Hand-----
3. 50 Yard Rest-----
4. 100 Yd Rest-----
5. 50 Yard Rest-----
6. 100 Yard Rest-----
7. 100 Yard Off Hand-----
9. 50 Yard X Stick-----
10. 100 Yard X Stick-----
11. 50 Yard X Stick-----
12. 100 Yard X Stick-----
13. 25 Yard Off Hand Flint—
14. 50 Yard Off Hand Flint-----
15. 100 Yard Off Hand Flint--**Pine River Long Riflemen, (20)**
16. 50 Yard X Stick – Flint-----**Ira & Sue Thumma (18)**
17. 50 Yard Rest Flint----
20. 25 Yard Off Hand Women—
21. 50 Yard Off Hand Women-----
22. 50 Yard X Stick Women-----
23. 50 Yard Rest Women-----
26. 25 Yard Off Hand Juniors----
27. 50 Yard Rest Juniors----
30. 50 Yard Musket-----
31. 100 Yard Musket-----
34. Eric Hoskinson 25 Yard Pistol/Revolver--
35. 50 Yard Pistol Revolver-----
36. 25 Yard Revolver-----
37. 50 Yard Revolver---
38. 25 Yard Flint Pistol
39. 50 Yard Flint Pistol-----
40. 50 Yard OH Co-ed
41. 25 Yd X Stix 11 yrs & Under—
42. 50 Yd Rest 11 yrs & Under-----**John & Diana Reist**
43. 50 Yd Lite Bench Rest OS-----
44. 50 Yd Lite Bench Rest AMS-----
45. 100 Yd Lite Bench Rest OS -----
46. 100 Yd Lite Bench Rest AMS----

47. 25 Yard Off Hand-----
48. 50 Yard Off Hand-----
49. 50 Yard X Stix-----
50. 50 Yard Rest-----
51. 25 Yard Off Hand-----
52. 50 Yard Off Hand-----
53. 50 Yard X Stix-----
54. 50 Yard Rest-----
60. 25 Yard OH Old Timers-----
61. 50 Yard OH Old Timers-----
62. 50 Yard Rest Old Timers-----
63. 100 Yard Rest Old Timers-----

## AGGREGATES

- A. Michigan State Championship-- **Grand Valley Cap N Ballers™ Muzzle Loading Gun Club**
- B. Flint Off Hand Championship—
- C. Womens Championship-----
- D. Junior Championship-----
- E. Musket Championship----
- F. Flint Lock Championship—
- G. Serge Bourdeaux Pistol/Revolver--
- H. Bench Championship----
- I. Cross Stick Championship-----
- J. Off Hand Championship--
- K. Roy Keeler Championship----- **Eaton Rapids ConservL.**
- L. Thelma Keeler Championship-----**Eaton Rapids C C**
- M. Guy R. Smith Overall Championship—
- N. Novice Championship-----
- O. Flint Primitive-----
- P. Open Primitive-----
- R. Old Timers
- S. Trade Gun —
- T. Lite Bench Aggregate—
- U Trade Gun Line Match ----

### PRIMITIVE

100. Trade Gun Woods Walk—
101. Norm Blaker-----
102. James “Mac” Hall Open Woods Walk-----
104. Free Trapper-----
106. Fer-Du-Lac-----
107. Knife Throw-----
108. Tomahawk Throw—
110. Kids Knife----
111. Kids Hawk-----**John & Diana Reist**
115. Junior Knife-----
116. Junior Hawk----

If you would like to sponsor a match, see or contact:

Ron Fernwalt-----16808 Peach Ridge-----Kent City, Mi.  
49330-----616-836-5760-----e-mail [rfern@triton.net](mailto:rfern@triton.net)

**SHOT GUN MATCH SPONSORS**  
 WE APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT!!

- MATCH 1 25 BIRD ST. CHAMPIONSHIP.....
- MATCH 2 20 BIRD JR. ST. CHAMPIONSHIPS...
- MATCH 3 20 BIRD LADY ST. CHAMPIONSHIP...
- MATCH 4 PERCUSSION CHAMPIONSHIP.....
- MATCH 5 FLINT ST. CHAMPIONSHIP
- MATCH 6 15 BIRD ST. NOVICE CHAMPIONSHIP...**PAUL & LOUISE MERCER**
- MATCH 7 JUNIOR NOVICE CHAMPIONSHIP....
- MATCH 8 FLINT ONLY 16 YARDS.....**MORRIE & MYRNA HOLLOWAY**
- MATCH 8 a FLINT ONLY 20 YARDS.....
- MATCH 9 HUNTERS MATCH.....
- MATCH 10 FLINT ONLY.....
- MATCH 11 BLACK POWDER CARTRIDGE.....
- MATCH 12 LADIES ONLY.....
- MATCH 13 CLYDE CARR MEMORIAL MATCH.....
- MATCH 14 NOVICE ONLY.....
- MATCH 15 JUNIORS ONLY (RE-ENTRY).....
- MATCH 16 JUNIOR NOVICE.....
- MATCH 17 DOUBLES.....
- MATCH 18\*\* TRADITIONAL STYLE SHOTGUN.....
- MATCH 19\*\* TRADE GUN MATCH.....**DAN NUTTALL & JOHN CRAWFORD**
- MATCH 20 OLD TIMERS—**DENNY& KATHY TIGGLEMAN**
- MATCH 21 LADYS 55 AND OVER...**MORRIE & MYRNA HOLLOWAY**
- MATCH 22 JUNIORS.....
- MATCH 23 LADIES.....
- MATCH 24 SHOOT TILL YOU MISS.....
- MATCH 25 PERCUSSION OR FLINT.....
- MATCH 25 a SUPER SENIOR 70 & OVER
- MATCH 26 16 YARD NOVICE.....
- MATCH 27 DEAN & PAT KING CO-ED PROTECTIO
- MATCH 29 SATURDAY PROTECTION.....
- MATCH 30 SUNDAY PROTECTION.....
- MATCH 31 HANDICAP.....**GVCNB**
- MATCH 32 PERCUSSION OR FLINT.....
- MATCH 33 BLACK POWDER CARTRIDGE 16 YARDS...
- MATCH 34 BLACK POWDER CARTRIDGE 20 YARDS.....
- FLINT/PERCUSSION..... AGGREGATE.....

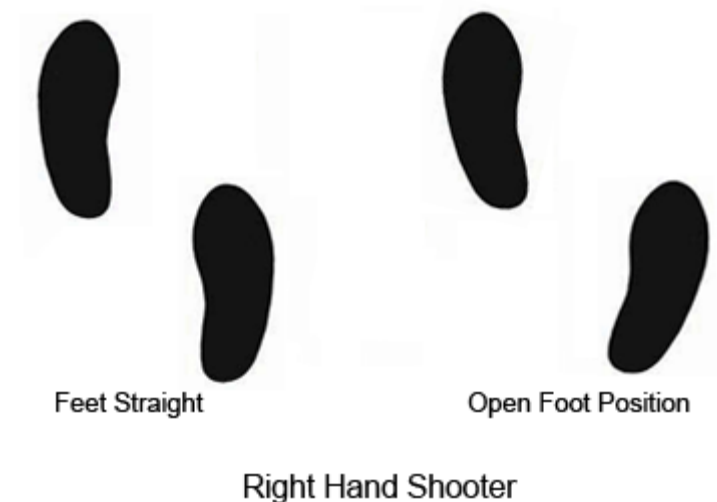
# Proper Positioning, Stance and Weight Distribution

*We refer to the next few steps before shooting the pre-shoot routine. The first step is setting up the body position for optimal success.*

*Upon approaching any station the shooter needs to take a comfortable stance. Each shooter is different and the following guidelines are more of a starting point and the shooter will need to find what works best for them.*

## Foot Position

*The feet should be about shoulder with apart and may be slightly open (do not need to be straight forward). No foot should be more angled than the other as we will obtain a balanced stance. We will want to keep the feet on the ground for the 5 shots at the station. No foot cool or lifting of the heels.*



## Stance

*The shooter should take a stance that again, is comfortable and allows for quick movement without over tension of the muscles. The forward knee*



should be slightly bent with the rear leg straight. The upper body will lean slightly forward from the waist up and not be overly aggressive.

## **Balance**

Place about 60% of the shooter weight on the forward leg and 40% on the rear. The shooter should feel a slight lean forward which will intern lean into the gun to manage our perceived recoil.

## **Alignment**

Lastly we can look at alignment. This again is very subjective to shooters preference. For the right handed shooter, square your shoulders to the front of the concrete shooting pad for station 1-3. Once we get to station 4 and 5 the shooter should angle a bit outside to assist with the point of aim. This slight angle allows for the shooters body to more naturally track the fast right hand targets at these stations.



The left handed shooter will open their stance for stations 1 & 2 while keeping their shoulders square for stations 3 - 5

## **How to Trap Shoot for the Beginner**

Trap shooting is an exciting sport that everyone should try at least once. Here's a few great tips for new shooters. Visit a muzzle loading gun club that

shoots trap and you will find people are more than willing to help you. Pick the person that you are comfortable with and work with him/her.

- When you are standing on any one post/station you will now notice that when a target exits you will receive one of three basic angled targets...left, straight or right. Keep this basic thought in mind and it will help you eliminate all of the angles in between from concern.
- Now, the idea here is to setup your gun hold (where you hold the gun over or on the traphouse) to take advantage of the most severely angled target you will receive on that specific post. Post #1, the hard extreme left target, is the most difficult; you want to mentally prepare yourself for that target to emerge. You don't anticipate it will exit, but if it does you are ready to go for it. Post #2 a less severe left target. At Post #3 you'll receive minor angled left and right so there is no need to setup for any of these angles so you setup for the straight target. Post #4 and #5 are the opposites of #1 and #2 as you'll setup for the extreme right angled target. Easy, huh? It is. But breaking the target is still hard to do consistently.
- Try taking a nice deep breath before you call for the target as this will settle the nerves and add a boost of oxygen to the eye to increase your vision of the target.
- If you can't hit the targets you can try closing your eye and rifle-shoot the target by aiming at it. The trick is to not take your eye off the target otherwise the muzzle will stop and you'll shoot behind the target. So no peeking back at the sight bead.

- *Don't be afraid to put that gun's muzzle/sight bead way ahead of the target before you pull the trigger.. it's hard to shoot behind a target this way.*

*The above guide lines were taken from the internet and is a guideline for the new shooter and those that are having trouble with their scores.*

*Give muzzle loading trap and skeet a try, It is a lot of fun. Clubs do have novice matches for the beginner. Give me a call 616-836-5760 or e-mail [rbfern@triton.net](mailto:rbfern@triton.net) and I will try and find a club for you that has muzzle loading shotgun near you..*

*Your Editor*

***MSMLA  
16808 Peach Ridge  
Kent City, Mi. 49330***