



## JOHN CLARK THE KEELER SOCIETY 2021

A quiet, behind the scenes worker with a long history of muzzle loading excellence characterizes the 2021 inductee into the Spirit of Roy Keeler Society: John Clark. Like Roy Keeler, John was a formidable competitor on the rifle line or at the trap range.

John attended his first shoot at Columbiaville in 1972. “I was such a greenhorn,” he said after telling that he arrived with a .58-caliber, Zouave musket and Minie balls; he had no idea the event was round ball only. “Max Schofield went around and found round balls for the Zouave.”

In 1973 John joined the Lansing Muzzle Loading Gun Club, and he’s been a life member there ever since. He’s also a life member of the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association and the National Rifle Association. He served twelve years on the MSMLA board of directors, which included terms as vice president.

An accomplished black powder gunsmith, John built two guns for the MSMLA state raffle: a rifle and the first shotgun ever offered—plus a shotgun raffled at LMLGC. He’s outfitted his children and grandchildren with custom muzzleloaders, passing on the muzzleloading tradition.

Behind the scenes, John has maintained club grounds, scored shoots and undertaken countless tasks with a smile on his face and dedication in his heart. When he saw the condition of target storage in the MSMLA trailer, he built and donated the racks that are still in use today.

“Keeler Society membership is the highest honor in muzzleloading as far as I’m concerned,” John said. “It’s amazing to be counted in with so many great people, a shock, really.”

“John wants to see shooters happy and enjoy the sport,” a Keeler member said, which sums up Roy Keeler’s devotion to America’s black powder shooting heritage. Congratulations John!