

MICHIGAN STATE MUZZLE LOADING ASSOCIATION

NEWS LETTER
SEP/OCT 2014

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I start off this article with a great deal of sadness with the passing of Scott Langworthy. Scott was an icon to the Black Powder community and as many of you may know Scott was one of our Chief scorers for our annual MSMLA Shoot. He will be greatly missed. It was very pleasing to see such a high turn out from the State Association to show such respect for a much deserving Man.

This next two paragraphs are a repeat from my last article.

A lot of discussion was had concerning adding a new in-line hunters Aggregate. I have appointed a committee led by Ron Smith and Serge Bourdeaux to come up with a program and rules as well as the type of equipment that can be used. They were appointed Thursday evening and had already prepared a prototype Friday morning. The only thing left to do is fine tune it and get approval at the February business meeting. A great stroke of business, Ron and Serge.

Flintlock shooters it is a very dangerous for you and others around you if you are not properly putting your priming horn or flask away after you have primed your flintlock pan. Many accidents and serious injuries have happened because it was just laid down or not

put away with the spout up. We all know that if a spark can get into the spout it will and a spark in the priming horn has the potential of a small bomb and cause serious injury. On another safety note for flintlock shooters if you are shooting bench or cross-sticks it is mandatory that you put a flash shield, on the lock side of you gun, up before you do any shooting. This protects other shooters from injury of burning powder from the pan or shards from broken flints.

Do not forget about our annual business meeting, February 7, 2015. All MSMLA members are welcome as well as all Michigan Black Powder Clubs are allowed one voting member.

A big "THANK YOU" to Russ And Marcie Anderson for donating their previous years of medals back to the association for recycling. They have saved the Association considerable amount of money. Thanks Russ and Marcie.

The Association elected Board members are listed below w/email addresses. Feel free to contact them with any questions or concerns you may have:

Russ Anderson (marshmellow@charter.net)

Ron Fernwalt (rfern@triton.net)

Eric Hoskinson (ComputerGuy@hoskinson.net)

Randy Macinnes (rmacinn1@comcast.net)

Lyle & Diane McGregor (tigerandtwodogs@yahoo.com)

Alan Pichan (afpichan@yahoo.com)

Ron Smith (rchasinrainbows@yahoo.com)

Joe Valentin (jvalentin@gmail.com)

Mike MacInnes (michaelmacinnes@aol.com)

Serge Bourdeaux (sbourdeaux@att.net)

David Maddox & Marty (dmaddox07@centurytel.net)

Until my next writing shoot well and keep your powder dry.

David Maddox
MSMLA President

WANTED

The state shotgun committee is looking for two positions to be filled. Give Dave McMurray a call at 269-370-0095. You are only required to attend 2 meetings a year.

THANK YOU

I want to thank everyone for the response so far on our match medals. We have had many people offer to recycle some of their hard earned medals. We have also had some interest in match sponsorship. The more matches are sponsored the lower the end cost for medals. The cost to sponsor matches for either the rifle/pistol shoot or the shotgun shoot is \$25 a match. The price is the same for aggregates as well. You can sponsor them as an individual or as a club or business. This is a great way to help support our shooting sport. Contact Ron Fernwalt to sponsor a match. Maybe you can sponsor your favorite match or even one that drives you nuts like the "free trapper" match.

We are nearing the end of the season and scheduling for next year has begun. Consider when you send in your dates to also send an email address for contact and/or a link for your club to be added to the state website. A link with a map and info on your shoot may help new shooters find your club. We had 3 new shooters find Bridgeport Gun Club this way for our rendezvous last June. The more we get the club info out the better chance we have of getting the new shooters we want and need to keep this sport alive

Lyle McGregor

Below are two excerpts from an article I read in regards to shooting modern high power but I think it holds true for black powder shooting. The Author is Greg Ficklin from South Carolina and has given us permission to include in our newsletter.

The discipline and practice of fundamental marksmanship is as old as firearms themselves. Over the years the weapons changed, but the fundamentals of making a well aimed round hit exactly where it was intended have never changed. Every course of fire in CMP competition has its roots in basic military training. The value of basic knowledge in the discipline of fundamental marksmanship has been proven throughout our history. From the pioneers that needed to eat and protect themselves, to every armed conflict America has fought, the effective use of individual arms cannot be understated. It doesn't matter how young someone was when they first shot a firearm. It doesn't matter how many guns one has collected, or what they are worth. It doesn't matter if you are male or female. In fact young women have a unique advantage over men to excel in the discipline because they see it for what it really is. It is a discipline that has to be learned, and by learned it has to be taught by someone that can teach it effectively. Most red blooded American men feel like they can hold their own with the fundamental use of a rifle. It is part of our culture, but it isn't true. In fact the very lowest NRA, or military classification of Marksman ranks them in the top 1% of all that have ever used a rifle for any reason. Rifle competition is the top 1% that are willing to take the discipline to apply fundamental concepts, based on a military standard, as close to perfection as one life span allows. I hear it all the time, "If only I had discovered this sooner in my life" Taking part in the discipline by shooting the matches changes a lifelong gun owner/enthusiast into something new. Like a young football fan can become an All-American by playing football instead of just watching it, and wearing official jerseys. It's fundamentals of how to run, how to hold the ball, are like how to load, how to use the sling, how to use the positions. You don't learn the fundamentals by owning guns, having them accurized, or finding the perfect load recipe. The bench is a means to eliminate the fundamentals of marksmanship, and reduce the act of shooting to the pure ability of the equipment, and not the shooter. You will never lose to a better rifle, but you will only lose to better shooters. You learn from others willing to teach, and the experience of competition. Every day at the range has a real purpose. Get in the game, and make every shot count. We need you in the 1%.

How to be more competitive. I want to restate that you will never be beaten by better rifles, and ammo. You will however be bested by more experienced shooters that have learned the things I want to touch on in this thread. The avid gun guys, shooters and hunters will often crow about a great shot they made once, especially when they know that you have taken up competitive shooting. I have a friend that told me about a running coyote he shot at 300 yards. Friends that is a good shot, and the fact that he can tell that story makes him a good shot. Often we proudly affirm our marksmanship skills based on a handful of incredible shots that make entertaining true stories. But the competitive shooter has a different reference. What if my coyote shooting friend had to make that shot twenty times under the exact same conditions? If he made that shot nine more times he would only be at 50%, but would make for an

unbelievable story and certainly qualify him as an incredible shot. Because hunting involves using firearms, we often think the two activities are related somehow in the skill set required to be successful, but in reality they aren't. The competitive shooting game is a game of perfection repeated consistently. It is consistency that separates the the new shooter from the national champion. The current record for 20 rounds at 200 yards standing is shared by Gary Anderson, and Carl Bernoski. They both have 200 points with 15X. To get to that level of consistency, the ritual, or shot process begins long before a round is loaded. Everything from getting to the line, to making the last shot is so familiar from countless repetitions, that they don't even think about how to do it anymore. The subconscious mind takes over the jobs of every motion, and action of setting up, picking up the rifle, loading, aiming, trigger pressure, and follow through like a program running from the subconscious mind. This is known as the "shot process", and it takes time to develop.

New competitors have no shot process, or the one they are developing has so many variables and inconsistencies. They have to think and decide what to do in every step. It is like starting to drive a car. You have watched your folks do it your whole life, and you are fairly confident that you "know" how to drive, but when you are handed the keys for the first time you have to look at them and decide how to put it in, and actually look for the ignition switch. Nothing is intuitive, you have to consciously decide what to do for everything with prompting from whoever is taking you out for your first drive. Fast forward a few years and look at what driving has become. It has become a natural extension of the subconscious mind. You start the car, check the mirror, change the radio station, hold a cup of coffee, and steer with your knee from time to time while answering the phone. You do a hundred complicated things going to work in the morning that you don't even think about. That is what competitive shooters do with their rifles, and you can do it too. It takes time and repetition for a refined shot process to build consistency. Stay with it and you will see what I mean.

FOUND



The above was left behind at the Lady's Rifle Frolic held at Grand Valley Cap N Ballers in August. If you know who it belongs to or it is yours give Ron Fernwalt a call at 616-836-5760 or e-mail me at rbfern@triton.net



Wayne Knop from Hastings took 1st place in the MSMLA Trap Championship followed by Larry Trantham of Bangor and 3rd went to Ron Fernwalt of Kent City.

His wife Ardith Knop took the Lady State championship followed by LM and third went to Missi Taylor of Coldwater.

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WHAT IS THIS?

Grand Valley Cap -n- Ballers Trade Gun Shoot October 11, 12, 2014

SEP 13 - 21	N. M. L. R. A. NATIONAL MATCHES FRIENDSHIP, INDIANA
SEP 20 - 21	TURKEY SHOOT LANSING MUZZLE LOADING GUN CLUB
SEP 19 - 21	FALL RENDEVOUS/SHOOT HOWARD CITY
SEP 19 - 21	FALL RENDEVOUS OAKLAND COUNTY SPORTSMAN CLUB
SEP 20 - 21	SPORTING CLAYS (modern Shotgun) GRAND VALLEY CAP N BALLERS™
SEP 14 – NOV 9	WINTER AGG BENZIE SPORTSMAN CLUB
OCT 4 - 5	MEAT SHOOT GRAND VALLEY CAP n BALLERS™
OCT 12	ASHLEY WOODS WALK ASHLEY SPORTSMAN CLUB
OCT 11 - 12	TRADE GUN SHOOT GRAND VALLEY CAP N BALLERS
OCT 11	TURKEY SHOOT HOUGHTON LAKE SPORTSMAN CLUB
OCT 25	TURKEY SHOOT BENZIE SPORTSMAN CLUB
OCT 25 -26	TURKEY SHOOT COLUMBIAVILLE SPORTSMAN CLUB
NOV 1 - 2	TURKEY SHOOT SAUK TRAIL LONG RIFLES
DEC 31	“LAST BLAST OF THE YEAR” BLUE WATER SPORTSMAN ASSN

**Sat. Oct. 11 9:00 AM Primitive woods walk.
(No starts after 11:00)**

**1:00 PM Line Matches
Awards to follow**

**Sun. Oct. 12 10:00 AM Novelty matches
with primitive prizes at firing line
50/50 Poker Shoot \$2 per hand
BE SURE TO SHOOT THE MYSTERY TARGET
FOR A CHANCE TO WIN FREE REGISTRATION
TO 2015 TRADE GUN SHOOT!!!**

Registration \$15

Electric hook-up \$10

Pre-1840 clothing is encouraged but NOT
required

Pre-1840 camping area is available **FREE**

No concessions available

Questions?

Grand Valley Cap-n-Ballers

Casey Kinney (616) 706-1067

3576 26th Street

Russ Povenz (616) 538-8043

Hopkins, Michigan

Please check us out on Facebook

49328

or www.gvcnb.org



Kevin Price of Jenison took first place in the MSMLA Percussion Trap Championship followed by Larry Trantham of Bangor and third went to Jim Mathis of Marne.

THE JAG SHOP

2103 – 101ST Avenue, Otsego, Mi. 49078

269-694-4749

cell 269-370-0919

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Glass Ball Traps

Target ball traps are interesting in that there was quite a bit of innovation in the designs. The most common traps in use seem to have been the Bogardus, Card's, and Mole's, however there were several patent designs that were developed and put into use. Several other traps that were produced were probably not on the market long enough to have been patented. For anyone with a specific interest in the early glass target balls you really must check out [Ralph Finch's site](#) and the newsletter that he publishes called On Target.



Bogardus Traps

Card's/Standard Traps



LOSS OF A LOVED ONE

Scott Langworthy of the Lansing Muzzle loading club, The Keeler Society, the MSMLA and a member of the NMLRA passed away September 2, 2014. There was no funeral but a luncheon was and Open House held in Dewitt on September 6. Keep the Langworthy family in your prayers while they go thru this tough situation. Janet's address is: 721 E. Harris St. Lansing, Mi. 48906

Denise Nuttall, wife of Dan Nuttall of the Grand Valley Cap N Ballers passed away August 28, 2014. A memorial service was held in Bailey, Michigan with a gathering of friends and family on September 1, 2014. Keep the Nuttall family in your prayers thru this hard time. Dan's address is 27 Probasco, Casnovia, Mi. 49318

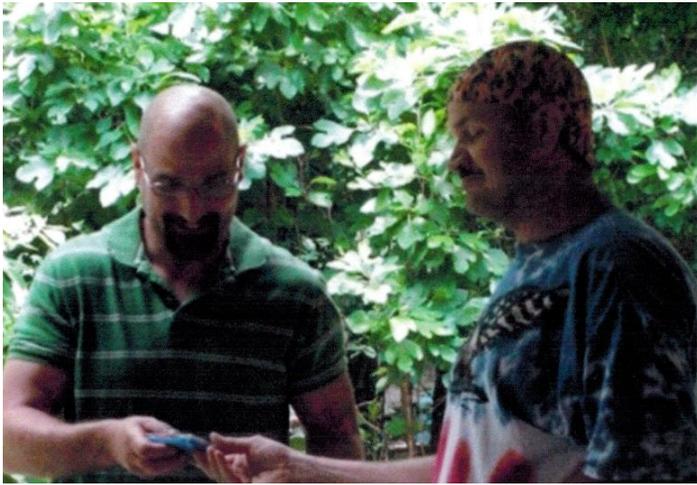
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Matt Crum receiving the Rifle MSMLA Championship aggregate medal followed by Ed Dennis and 3rd went to Marcie Anderson.



Drake Buell MSMLA 2014 Junior State Trap Champion



Serge Bourdeaux receiving the MSMLA Rifle Championship Aggregate Trophy followed by Ed Dennis and third went to Larry Mobley.

The Junior Rifle Champion for 2014 went to Robbie Hoskinson.

The Musket Championship went to Alan Pichan and Gordon Elliott took second.



John Shinabarger, of Jennison 2014 MSMLA Trap Flint/Percussion Aggregate winner followed by Will Cridler of Hastings and Missi Taylor taking 3rd



Who are these two clowns? If you can name them and write a story and a history of their actions and what they are involved in, send to rbfern@triton.net or MSMLA, 16808 Peach Ridge, Kent City, Mi. 49330

THE SPIRIT OF ROY KEELER SOCIETY NOMINATION BALLOT

Each Year a Michigan resident that has displayed the values that Roy Keeler Lived by will be selected to enter into this Society. Friendship, Sportsmanship, and promoting the black powder shooting sports in the state of Michigan are primary factors in the selection.

I nominate, _____
to be considered for this prestigious award.

I have known this individual for _____
years. The main reason that I feel this person should be considered is:

Please send or e-mail to Randy MacInnes, 8189
Eston RD South, Clarkston MI 48348, 248 394
0414
rmacinnnes01@comcast.net



Well folks, I ask for articles for the state newsletter and I had John Crawford send me this photo. He claims that he was riding around with Ron Fernwalt and they found a lake back in the wilderness and looked to be a nice fishing lake. They had no poles, boat or bait so they cut a sassafras tree for a pole and Fernwalt had some baler twine and a shovel in the back of his pickup in case they got stuck. They used the baler twine for line on their sassafras poles and found some barb wire to make a hook. Dug some worms and out in the lake they waded and started fishing. Well the pictures shows the results, 50 nice bluegill in about 3 hours.

Editor's note: Well, that's their story and they are sticking to it.

Have a nice day and send me some of your fishing, shooting and hunting stories.

Your Editor

MSMLA

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