

NEW YORK STATE ATA  
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
OCTOBER 3, 2009  
NEW YORK STATE HOME GROUNDS  
BRIDGEPORT, NEW YORK

Call to Order: 9:11 a.m.

Roll Call: Present: Roll Call – Present: Doug Dugan, Maureen Herbstsommer, Sam Bonetto, Dennis Hawthorne, Jr., John McDwyer, Bill Corsa, Dennis Hart, Jim Wright, Bradley Heath, John Barney, George Hart, Tim Herbstsommer, Peter Hamann, Jim Davis, Brian Whalen, Joe Strucker, Dave Cichelli

Absent: Joe Staats, Robert Foster

Roll Call of Clubs in Good Standing – Present: Bridgeport Rod and Gun, Camden Rod and Gun, Central Square Forest Fish and Game, Falcon Trap and Game, Hol-Field Rod and Gun, Holland Rod and Gun, Jefferson Trap and Skeet, Lima Gun Club, Mt.Morris Sportsmen's, Sardinia Rod and Gun, Sheridan Transit Rod and Gun, Toad Harbor Rod and Gun, Tonawandas Sportsmen's.

Reading of Minutes: The minutes of the General Membership Meeting of 2008 were accepted as read.

Report of Officers:

Secretary – Nothing to Report

Treasurer – Sam went over the treasurer's report and explained it page by page. Doug explained how payroll was listed on the report. There were less helpers needed at the NEG and wages were increased by \$10.00 per day to stay within the State's minimum wage laws, which changed in July, 2009. The pay for help is now \$75.00 per day.

Hal Tharrett questioned target loss number. Sam explained that 5% loss is the general rule.

Barney Knoeferl suggested that shooters volunteer to work at shoots and in return receive free shooting, minus options, to cut down on help. Doug responded that this may cut down on cost, but for several reasons, this is not feasible.

Sam stated that because the fiscal year ends on September 30, the figures for the NEG delay the Treasurer's report. Therefore, a change will be made. The NEG figures from the previous target year will be included in the current years' Treasurer's report. The Treasurer's report will now end on August 31. The fiscal year will not change.

Hal Tharrett made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as read, seconded by Howie Parmalee. The report was accepted as read.

Zone VP's Report:

Eastern Zone, John McDwyer– All is quiet. The Zone Shoot in August went well.

Central Zone, Jim Wright –The Central Zone shoot was the weekend before the Empire Grand. They had good attendance. The shoot will be after the Empire Grand in 2010.

Western Zone, Tim Herbstsommer – Tim reported that 37,200 targets were thrown at the Western Zone shoot and that there were four 200 straights. Tim has gotten feedback from several shooters regarding the location and program for the Zone shoot, talk about splitting the Western Zone shoot among two clubs. Shooters do think that Tonawanda is a good club for the Zone shoot, but feel the food prices are too high.

Tim stated that he received a letter of resignation from Joe Staats as director for the Western Zone. Joe will continue to help out in any way he can. He will continue to do the raffles and he is also working with the hotels at Carrier Circle to obtain reduced rates for shooters. He will keep Tim informed of his progress in this regard. Tim also has a suggestion for filling the now vacant director's spot.

ATA Delegate Report

Brian Whalen stated that the year went smoothly. Due to the ATA's decision to add trophies to events at the NEG and other events, the trophy package was not complete.

Brian asked that if there are any complaints regarding scoring or the help in general, that these issues be addressed and dealt with immediately. Doug stated that he has a meeting each morning with the help to go over the scoring procedure.

Brian suggested that the fall membership meeting be held at the NEG. We will discuss this further and make a decision at a later date.

Category declarations must be made prior to shooting, per the ATA. If a junior shooter comes to classification and doesn't want to shoot as a junior or sub-junior, they are not eligible for ½ price targets.

There has been an addition to the NYS By-laws: It was proposed that the following provision be inserted after the fifth paragraph of "Article IV, Officers and Directors:" "The criteria for holding any NYS ATA office as Officer, Director or ATA Delegate shall include: Such individual shall not have been suspended within the prior five (5) year; and shall not have been suspended, any time, for a period of one (1) year or more by any State or Provincial Association and/or the ATA."

Committee Reports

Camping – Jim Wright – There is a waiting list for camp sites. Four campers traded spaces with four other campers.

Vendors, who did not have ads last year or are new, would like to have ads in the program this year. All vendors are happy. Doug asked Jim if he wanted to continue charging vendors half price for their spot for the State Shoot by putting an ad in the program for \$65.00 per ad. We are losing money by doing this. It was suggested that vendors pay full price for their spot. John McDwyer made a motion that full price be charged for vending spots. This was seconded by Bill Corsa and the motion was carried.

Trap Setting – Tim Herbstsommer - Trap setting went well. We threw good targets. We realized that the speed of the targets changed due to fluctuation in the temperature. To alleviate this problem, all traps were backed off at night and reset in the morning. Tim thanked Jim Davis for all his hard work.

Cashiering Report – John McDwyer – We’ve completed our first full year running the shoots with the NYS owned equipment. Things went well. We have had some suggestions and have incorporated them.

Coordinator’s Report – Doug Duncan – As President and Coordinator, I’ve had a challenging year. I would like to commend Al Houlagard for all his hard work. The following improvements and upgrades were made: The tractor has been fixed and is running great. A sump pump will be installed in the spring at a cost of \$420.00. The doors were put on the trap houses and locked. Doug thanked George, Jimmy, and John Barney for all their help. With the help of Al Houlagard, the roads were graded and pitched for better drainage. All the drains were fixed. The fence was straightened and the new fence was also straightened. A new sump drain was added with power. The reclaim area was seeded. The septic tank was pumped. A new pump for the leach tank was purchased. A new steering rack for the tractor was purchased and installed. The fork truck had extensive repairs. The golf carts, tractor, and mowers were all gassed, washed, and winterized. New doors were installed with new openers. The speakers, traps, equipment were stored in the barn. A new toilet was installed. New transmission for speakers and TV’s were installed in the spring and we are industry-compliant 100%. TV’s and computer hard drives have been stored. Grass has been mowed. The walk-in cooler was fixed again. The road was graded at each shoot. Inventory was taken. The barn has been secured.

Legal Council – All quiet.

#### Old Business

Targets - Sam has had conversations with White Flyer. White Flyer suggested that we pay for the purchase of targets up front at a cost of \$7.62 per case. If the price goes up, we will be guaranteed that \$7.62/case cost and if the price goes down, we will be guaranteed the lower price.

New York State has received the Mega-million target award. We will receive this award again this year and probably next year as well.

Photos taken at the Grand American of the New York state shooters for the past three years have been hung in the Club House at the Home Grounds.

Charity Shoot Report – Dennis Hart – We took in \$2,000. The state added \$1,000. We awarded 22 cases of ammo and 68 prizes. All-in-all a great success.

#### Zone Shoot Dates

Western Zone – June 5 & 6 – Tonawandas Sportsmen’s Club

Central Zone – May 29 & 30 – Dewitt Fish and Game Club

Eastern Zone – August 21 and 22 – Whortelkill and Staten Island Sportsmen’s Club

#### Election of Officers

Brian asked for nominations for President. Jim Wright nominated Doug Duncan, seconded by Ed Terk. The Secretary cast one vote. Doug Duncan will remain as President.

Eastern Zone— John McDwyer was nominated by Bill Corsa as VP for the Eastern Zone, seconded by Brad Heath. The Secretary cast one vote. John McDwyer will remain as Eastern Zone VP. John's slate of Directors is Dennis Hart, Bob Foster and Bill Corsa.

Central Zone— Jim Wright was nominated by George Hart as VP for the Central Zone, seconded by John Barney. The Secretary cast one vote. Jim Wright will remain as Central Zone VP. Jim's slate of Directors is John Barney, George Hart and Brad Heath.

Western Zone— Tim Herbstsommer was nominated by Dave Cichelli as VP for the Western Zone, seconded by Peter Hamann. The Secretary cast one vote. Tim Herbstsommer will remain as the Western Zone VP. Tim's slate of Directors is Jim Davis, Peter Hamann and Larry Daigler.

Treasurer— Sam Bonetto was nominated as Treasurer. There were no other nominations. The Secretary cast one vote. Sam Bonetto will remain as Treasurer.

Secretary— Maureen Herbstsommer was nominated as Secretary. There were no other nominations. The Secretary cast one vote. Maureen Herbstsommer will remain the Secretary.

#### New Business

Brian mentioned again the addition to the by-laws (stated above). This was done to coincide with the ATA suspension ruling. Tim asked if this included Alternate Delegates also. The answer is yes. A motion was made by Ed Terk and seconded by Bill Corsa to accept this by-laws addition as read. It was voted on by a show of hands. The by-laws addition was passed.

Brian stated that the current by-laws have been in effect since 1995. He asked that a committee be set up to review the current by-laws to bring them up to date. The members of the committee are John McDwyer, Jim Wright, Dennis Hawthorne, Doug Duncan, Tim Herbstsommer and Hal Tharrett. They will bring their suggestions, comments and updates to the Board meeting in the spring.

AIM Program— Peter Hamann - Suggested that the AIM program be incorporated with the State Shoot to be run as a separate event on the Tuesday prior to the State Shoot. This year's program was good with 100 participants. George Hart made a motion, seconded by Tim Herbstsommer, that the AIM Program be held at Bridgeport Gun Club on the Tuesday prior to the State Shoot. The motion was passed at the BOD Meeting on October 2, 2009.

There is one problem and that is the kitchen at Bridgeport is not open on the Tuesday prior to the start of the state shoot. It was stated, however, that the Home Grounds kitchen is open on that day. Other details for this shoot to be held at this time, will be worked out.

Hal Tarrett suggested that there be more porta-potties placed on the Home Grounds. One will be put down at the Bridgeport end.

Hall of Fame— There were two nominees for the Hall of Fame; Jerry Ostrander and John Bertolozzi. These nominees were voted on and accepted by the BOD at the October 2, 2009 meeting.

The HOF would like to purchase display cases. Please contact Joe Strucker if you have access to any display cases that could be bought or donated to the NYS HOF.

There was mention of the new plaques over the door of the Hall of Fame room. These plaques were made by Paul Proctor of the Sheridan Transit Gun Club.

Doug has commissioned Jim Davis as the new Trap Setting Chairman. Tim will work closely with him. Jim did an excellent job this past summer and Tim thanked him for his hard work.

The question was raised as to whether or not we should keep the Nichols purse. Larry Grenivicki had suggested that we streamline the options and eliminate those that are not played. Some people were not previously paid for this option. Sam Bonetto is aware of this and will work with Hall Tharrett to straighten this out.

Barney Knoeferl suggested that the office be opened a half hour earlier each morning of the shoots as people line up early. In spite of this suggestion, the office will continue to open one hour earlier than the start time for the shoot each day.

Having name stickers put on the score sheets will be addressed.

Doug addressed the concern some have about the PA system and its use during shooting. Shooters find it distracting. However, it is necessary to make announcement throughout the shoot and the PA system will continue to be used for this purpose.

Sam Grasso, President of the Bridgeport Gun Club was thanked for a job well done.

A person, wishing to remain anonymous, has challenged the Eastern and Central Zone to match his/her offer to purchase the trophies for the junior shooters in the singles, handicap and doubles events for the local Western Zone Shoot.

Tim Herbstsommer announced that the Western Zone shoot date meeting will be held on Monday, October 12 at the Hol-Field Rod and Gun Club.

There being no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 11:34 a.m.

Respectfully submitted

Maureen E. Herbstsommer

NYS ATA Secretary