

# The Firing Lines



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## MRPA Junior Alumni Continues to Excel!



Last year Teresa Meyer participated in both Highpower rifle and pistol competition as a MRPA Junior. Her achievements include being a member of the Michigan Rifle and Pistol Association Junior Team ... three-time National Junior Conventional Pistol Champion (2001-02-03) ... 2001 Service Pistol Junior Champion ... 2003

Service Pistol Junior Team Champion (captain) ... 2001-02 Conventional Pistol Team Champion (captain) ... April 2003 set 11 National Pistol Records.

In the fall of 2004 Teresa began her college career at Ohio State University where she continues her shooting success. In January of 2005 the Ohio State pistol team placed second in the Collegiate National Championship. The team finished only 9 points behind the US Naval Academy. Teresa Meyer won the standard pistol and women's sport pistol events against the Naval Academy team.

On March 15, 2005 Ohio State competed and won a match against Southwest Missouri State. During that match Teresa set a new collegiate record in air pistol.

Ms. Meyer is a classic example of why junior programs are important for every shooting discipline. Every local club needs to have some type of program to develop junior shooters. We wish Teresa continued success.

Information on the Ohio State pistol team is available at:

<http://ohiostatebuckeyes.collegesports.com/sports/c-pistol/osu-c-pistol-body.html>

## President's Message – Leo Cebula

### Michigan Rifle & Pistol Association needs you!

The road to becoming an Internal Revenue Service recognized charitable organization has not been easy. It has involved a lot of paper work and a number of meetings. MRPA however now has obtained 501c3 status based on the organization's focus on amateur athletics. MRPA's programs need to focus on continuing to provide opportunities for competition, and develop programs to expand the shooting community. This will involve programs to introduce shooting to new individuals. This can be done by working within the MRPA divisions and with clubs within the state.

Most MRPA member's involvement so far has been to support the move to 501c3 status at the ballot box. However, now the real work begins for all of us. MRPA needs your financial support (donations qualify as tax deductible) and most important your time and energy for program development and implementation.

Is your local club affiliated with MRPA? Check the MRPA website to find out. If your local club does not have a website MRPA can host your website. If you are not on the web the public has no way of knowing about your programs.

Many of the MRPA programs will be handled through the Youth, women's and club committee. So, why not volunteer to serve on the committee and help coordinate programs with your club. Junior shooters and individuals new to shooting are the future of the sport. If you want to be able to continue to punch holes in paper you need to think about how you can be part of assuring the future of the sport.

## Division News

### Highpower

Our 2005 Highpower schedule is now complete. I'd like to highlight the successes of our shooters at our events and at the National Matches at Camp Perry.

The Annual Garand Match was held at the Monroe Rifle and Pistol Club. John Cerny won with a score of 288:5X.

The Inaugural Springfield Match was also hosted by the Monroe Rifle and Pistol Club. Tom Dean walked off the winner with a score of 282:8X.

The Michigan Service Rifle Championship was held at the Fort Custer Training Center located at Battle Creek, Michigan. The event was won by Steve Slee with a score of 786:39X. The training center at Fort Custer is NOT on the BRAC list of bases to be closed although the future of the Air Base is still in question.

MRPA hosted a RA Regional Championship at Fort Custer which was won by Kent Roach with a score of 787:30X.

The Michigan Highpower State Championship was hosted by the Washtenaw Sportsman's Club. Kim Copenhaver walked off with top honors with a score of 787:25X.

At the 2005 National Matches, Highpower Division shooters and teams did very well. John Cerny and Matt Malinowski made the Presidents 100, both for the first time. Harold Pangilinan and Jim Stewart went on stage at the CMP awards ceremony to receive their Distinguished Rifleman's badges.

Nick Till won the Pershing Trophy with a 495:18X in the National Trophy Team Match, an Elihu Root Medal and the Pietroforte Trophy for the aggregate of the National Trophy Individual and Team matches.

Congratulations to John Luitink, Nick Nazelli, Scott Wagner and James Mervyn for earning their first 4 points toward the Distinguished Rifleman's Badge in the M16 EIC Match. In the Garand Match, Bob Elka was second overall with a score of 290:10X,

missing the National Trophy score of 292:8X by a close margin.

This also seemed to be year of the runner up for some MRPA teams as well. The MRPA fielded one adult six man CMP team in the National Trophy Team (NTT) and National Trophy Infantry Team (NTIT). The division also sanctioned three, four person NRA Rumbold teams. In the NTIT, the Michigan team placed third Civilian (for a bronze medal) and Fourth overall out of 44 teams. Firing members were: Mike Ashe, Bob Elka, Dave Goebel, Matt Malinowski, Larry Remsnyder and Nick Till. Coach: Kim Copenhaver. Captain: Harlan Davenport.



In the Rumbold, the 'Michigan Gold' team won a gold medal for first in the Master, State Association, Service Rifle category. This score of 1942:63X was only two points behind the high Service Rifle team and the prestigious California Rifle & Pistol Association Grizzly Bear Trophy. Firing members were: John Cerny, Dave Goebel, Matt Malinowski, and Nick Till. Also in the Rumbold, the 'Michigan R&PA Melton' team placed for a gold medal for first in the Expert, State Association, Match Rifle category. Firing members were: Eric Hampel, Bill Melton, Ray Pennington and Scott Lara.

Lastly, it is time to thank those who helped set up the ranges and run matches this year: Greg Bush, April Cerny, John Cerny, Mike Craycraft, Tom Dean, Bob Elka, Matt Malinowski, Nick Nazelli, Steve Slee, James Stewart, and Rich Verrell. Also, special thanks to Ken Potter for running the line at the state championship at WSC.

Dave Goebel – Highpower Director

### Long Range

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It's been a good season thus far for the MRPA long range shooters. The Nationals are behind us now. Attendance has been at the same level as last season. Word is spreading that Camp Grayling is a challenging place to shoot and a good time.

The July match attendance broke the 2004 single day record of 37 for all the day of the three day Regional event. The winner of the Regional match was Bob Steketee, with 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> places going to Ray Gross and Jerry Engelman. A competitor from San Diego, CA even came and shot with us for the July match. Sunday morning of the July Regional was challenging. A violent thunderstorm moved through during the night leaving downed trees and power lines in its wake and occasional showers during the morning. The result of the delay was skipping the 800-yd. stage on Sunday.

The Long Range division sponsored 2 teams at the Nationals. The Palma team, consisting of Wayne Daniel (captain), Bill Newman, Vikki Gaddie (junior), and Dave Foltz took home 2 silver medals amongst some stiff competition in the Master, State Association class. Congratulations to them for their effort and accomplishments.

Our next match in Grayling is scheduled for September 17 and 18, with the usual set up on Friday. More than likely the base will issue unheated barracks again, so if you plan to stay on base, be sure to bring sufficient gear to stay comfortable. This will be our last match prior to the USA Palma team tryouts, so be sure to attend and cheer on our members heading out to Phoenix in October.

My thanks to all those competitors that have attended our matches and helped make them the success they have been under my tenure as Director. It's been a wonderful and satisfying experience running the division. My best wishes to you all.

Renzo Tormen, Long Range Director

#### Silhouette

Three of the four matches for this year at Camp Grayling have been completed. Results are reported later. The state championship will be the last weekend in August.

Neil Booze did an excellent job of putting on the smallbore rifle silhouette state championship. See his report below.

The other venues (Alma, Alpena, Dorr, Washtenaw) are conducting matches also. See the MRPA website for dates, directions, etc.

The Silhouette Nationals will be at Ridgway, Pennsylvania in 2006. They always run excellent matches there and since it is fairly close there is a great opportunity for Michigan shooters to participate.

Dates are:

Smallbore – July 9, 10, 11, 2006

High Power – July 13, 14, 15, 2006

The April match at Grayling was conducted at the time old man winter was refusing to give up. Perhaps you remember the blizzard of April 24<sup>th</sup>!

Having heard the weather forecast, we held two matches on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and bugged out. Unfortunately many shooters also heard the forecast and decided to stay in their warm beds.

The temperature was about 30° and one didn't need wind flags because the sleet worked fine for both direction and velocity.

- Match 1 Winner -Jeremiah Hoover - 22/40
- Match 2 Winner - Brad Ryan -13/40
- Aggregate Winner - Jeremiah Hoover -30/80

Conditions were much improved for the June match.

Saturday, June 4

- Match Winner Rich Franke 23/40
- 1<sup>st</sup> A Matt Regalia 15/40

Sunday, June 5

- Match Winner Rich Franke 25/40
- Aggregate Match Winner Rich Franke 48/80

Great conditions also greeted the shooters for the July match.

Saturday, July 9

- Match Winner Larry Medler 22/40

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Sunday, July 10

- Match Winner Rich Franke 23/40
- Aggregate Match Winner Rich Franke 43/80

The Smallbore Rifle Silhouette State Championship match was held August 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> at Northland Sportsmen's Club in Gaylord. Some of our top silhouette shooters traveled to Gaylord to attend this year's match. A Smallbore 'State Match' has not been held in Michigan for a couple years but there was reasonable attendance, Gary Dawson posted the highest 40 shot round score for the weekend with a 33/40. The shooters were blessed with fantastic weather and shooting conditions. Temperatures were in the upper 70's to low 80's, with sunshine, low humidity and very light breezes on both days. It does not get any better!

The match and class winners are as follows:

##### STANDARD RIFLE

- State Champ Gary Dawson 61/80
- 1<sup>st</sup> Master Amy Marshall 59/80
- 1<sup>st</sup> AAA Mike Jensen 60/80
- 1<sup>st</sup> AA Jeremiah Hoover 52/80
- 1<sup>st</sup> A John Kurbis 33/80.

##### HUNTER RIFLE

- State Champ Gary Dawson 60/80
- 1<sup>st</sup> AAA Neil Booze 51/80
- 1<sup>st</sup> AA Dean Danforth 50/80
- 1<sup>st</sup> A John Kurbis 30/80.

This year's match was sponsored by a contribution from Jay's Sporting Goods of Gaylord. The management at Jay's was happy to sponsor our event for the first time and have expressed interest in continuing to support the championship matches again next year. Please remember this support when purchasing your shooting and hunting supplies this year and in the future. We need good shooting sports supporters like Jay's and we need to show our appreciation.

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