

The Firing Lines



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Judy Tant wins National Pistol championship at Camp Perry.

Congratulations to Judy Tant, of East Lansing, Michigan. Judy became the National Woman's Champion at the National Pistol Championships, at Camp Perry, Ohio. Judy also won the title of Civilian Female Champion.

Michigan Shooters won four of the 50 red jackets awarded at the pistol championships. They are: Charles VandenBerg, a high master, from the Grand Rapids R & P Club, Judy Tant, a master shooter from the Jackson Sportsman's Club, Walter Wilfong, a sharpshooter from Ionia's Western Michigan R & R Club, and finally, Donald Sutherland, a Marksman from the Taylor Pistol Club. Congratulations to these fine shooters.

Michigan shooters do well at National Long Range championships.

Congratulations to Bob Steketee of Haslett, MI for placing third in the "Doc" Aiken Memorial trophy match with a score of 198 – 5x. The match is 20 shots at 1000 yards using metallic sights.

Wayne Daniels shot a 197 6x in the Doc Aiken match, finished 9th in the Palma individual match and finished 7th as a high master in the Andrus Memorial match.

Trevor Hengehold, finished 8th in the Wimbledon Cup Match. Trevor is a newly commissioned 2nd Lieutenant in the US Marine Corp and attended Western Michigan University.

● If there is a black dot next to your mailing address you have not paid your 2006 MRPA dues.

Blackpowder has a busy season.



The Black Powder Target Rifle Matches for 2006 started off with the Mid-Range State Championship which was held at the Cadillac Sportsmen's Club in Cadillac, Mi. The weather was excellent and the match was thoroughly enjoyed by all the competitors. Our new State champion is Brad Tipolt with veteran shooters Sam Krawczyk and Tom Yost finishing 2nd and third respectively. High Senior – R.K. Scott, High Woman – Barb Walters, High Muzzleloader – Dave Munch, High Junior – Matt Chase, Scope Winner – Fred Johnson. New National records were set by Paul Behe, Jodi Decker, Ray Hopkins, Dave Munch, and Barb Walters. GREAT SHOOTING!

The Ultimate Long Range B.P.T.R. Championship took place in June at Grayling and was attended by shooters from a half dozen states and the United Kingdom. Jim Kluskens finished first with Glenn Fewless and Bob Walline finishing 2nd and third. First Master – Paul Behe, 1st Expert – Brad Tipolt, 1st Sharpshooter – Jim Flick, High Woman – Barb Walters, High Senior – Don Hamilton, High Muzzleloader – Dave Munch.

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Congratulations to Barb Walters on her new Women's 15 Shot 1000 Yard National Record. Fine shooting Barb!

The Black Powder Cartridge Rifle Silhouette State Championship was held at the A.P. Goodrich Range at Alma, Mi. in July. Once again, the weather was perfect with shooters from 4 States in attendance. Don Leidich is our new State Champion. Glenn Fewless came all the way from Wisconsin and finished a very close second. AAA Class Winner – Charles Bowen, AA – Norris Gibson, A-John Wilson, B-Barb Walters, Scope Champion – Paul Prichard, High Senior – John Whittemore, High Junior – Matt Chase, and High Woman – Jodi Decker.

Thanks to all of you who come to the matches put on by the Black Powder Division. We sincerely hope that your shooting weekends have been enjoyable. We are always open to suggestions on how we can improve our events so let us know if you have any ideas.

The Black Powder Committee: Paul Behe, Charles Bowen, Steve Decker, Ray Saltzman, Brad Tipolt, Ron Walters, John Green

MRPA Highpower at the National Matches

The 2006 Michigan Civilian Service Rifle Team placed third Civilian and fifth overall, for a bronze medal in the National Trophy Infantry Team Match. In this match, the Michigan team has now placed with a bronze medal for two years in a row. The Michigan team score of 1289 is the highest ever shot by a Michigan team in the Infantry Trophy Match. The Virginia Civilian team placed above Michigan by only one point with a score of 1290, while the New York team won high Civilian with a score of 1330. For the last two years, the top Civilian teams have placed very high in this match only being out shot by the top Active Army or Marine teams.

Congratulations to Steven Slee, who finished 9th in the National Service Rifle Championship competition. Also to Baird Copenhaver who finished 25th and Harlan (Butch) Davenport who finished 30th in the National High Power Match Rifle Championship. Five hundred and fifty two (562) shooter competed in the National High Power Championship.



Left to right: John Luitink, Nick Till, Larry Remsnyder, Matt Malinowski, Mike Ashe, Dave Goebel, Kim Copenhaver, Butch Davenport, April Cerny and John Cerny.

Long Range at Camp Perry

As has been done for several years now, the MRPA funded the entry fees for two Michigan based long-range rifle teams, naming them Michigan Gold and Michigan Blue. As it worked out, the Gold team was organized as Palma category entry in the Master class. The members consisted of: Bill Newman (captain and coach), Bob Steketee, Vickie Gaddie and her dad Louis, and Brad Sauve. For the Roumanian Trophy, the team finished second out of the three entered as open club / state association teams. The team score was 726-10x. In the Herrick Trophy, Louis Gaddie was replaced by Max Sepke, and the team finished 4th of four with a combined score of 746-16x.

The Michigan Blue team consisted of Ron Walters (captain and coach), Barb Walters, Dick Pardini, Bill Hammers, and Tom Eschbaugh. The Blue team also landed in the Master Class and was configured as "any" rifle. With a combined score of 711-9x, the team finished third in the State Association category. For the Herrick Trophy, the team did better with a score of 746-18x. Unfortunately, so did everyone else dropping Blue down to 6th out of the eight teams fielded. Of special note was the High-Master scores shot by Bill Hammers (195-6x), and Barb Walters (196-5x).

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The weather held beautifully for both days of the team matches. In fact, I can't remember it being better at Perry. But, it came with a price tag. The wind, while being pleasantly balmy for the spectators, wrecked havoc with most of the shooters having a tough time deciphering flags that were standing straight out most of the time. In other words, you knew the wind was there for sure, but not necessarily how much.

All in all, regardless of the outcome, the chance these shooters had to let someone else do their wind doping was a welcome relief from the stress of the individual matches. So, I'm sure that all involved had a good experience with it. And as always, we can look forward to doing better next year.

Mike Ross – Director Long Range

Pistol Update

The last week end in April, the Michigan Rifle and Pistol Association in conjunction with The Taylor Pistol Club of Taylor Michigan held it's 2006 Indoor Conventional Pistol Championship. The Taylor Club ran seven relays across three days for this match. One relay was fired on Friday, three relays on Saturday, and three relays on Sunday. Each relay was a complete 2700 match that was fired in about 4 hours. All the scoring was done by range officials in a separate room.

Chris Johnson, a High Master from Libertyville, Illinois was the match winner with a score of 2660-130x. For the Taylor Club, this was a new range record and for Chris it was a new personnel high.

Charles Vandenberg from Grand Rapids, Michigan, with a score of 2625-105x finished second behind Chris Johnson, but was the high Michigan competitor and is the Michigan State Indoor Pistol Champion. Chuck is also the states High Master Champion.

Randy Tomac from Belding, Michigan, finished third with a score of 2602-103x. This was a personal high for Randy and the first 2600 plus score that he has ever recorded. Randy is also Michigan's Master Champion.

Brian Keelean from Kent City, Michigan is the Michigan Expert Champion with a score of 2556-28x. This was Brian's first time competing in Michigan's Indoor Championship and he did well for himself.

Port Huron, Michigan is the home of the Sharpshooter champion, Ben Johnson. Ben, who is the brother of the match winner, fired a fine score of 2381-46x. The Marksman Champion, Scott Bruce from Grand Blank, Michigan fired a score of 2391-44x.

East Lansing resident, Judy Tant, last years state champion, and a former National Woman's Champion, retains her title as Michigan's Female champion. Thomas Lewis of Chelsea, Michigan won honors as the Senior Champion.

The Michigan State outdoor Pistol Championship was held on the 18, and 19, of August. We had 38 competitors registered for this match, with four high masters, 10 masters, 11 experts, 6 sharpshooters, and 7 marksman. This was a relatively good turn out for one of our states 2700 matches.

Charles Vandenberg, for the third time, won the championship. His score was a resounding 2626-109x. Chuck is also the High Master Champion. Congratulations to you, Chuck, not only for winning the outdoor championship, but for also winning the indoor championship back in April. Keep up the good shooting. The Master Champion is Larry Menetti with a score of 2583-80x. The Sharpshooter Champion is Todd Roy, a relatively new shooter, who had a score of 2408-42x. Another new shooter, Tim Thompson, won the Marksman Championship with a score of 2390-46x. Congratulations to you new class state champions.

Nineteen competitors fired in the CMP Service Pistol "Leg" match, with Jim Lenardson from Ohio winning the match with a score of 276-6x. Chuck Vandenberg was second, and Judy Tant was third. There were 13 non-distinguished competitors, and The first non-distinguished shooter was Brian Patrick who lives in Palmyra, a town just north of the Ohio border, fired a score of 264-6x. Brian beat the next shooter by 1 x. X's can and do make a difference. Congratulations Brian on getting your first "leg" points. (The CMP will determine the number of points for this "leg"). There were 14 people shooting for the one ten-point leg being given out by the NRA for the Distinguished Revolver Match. Chris Johnson, from Libertyville, Illinois won with a score of 278-6x.

On a sad note, while on their way home from the national pistol championships, The Ottawa Sportsmen's Club Junior Pistol Team, who are from the Upper Peninsula, stopped for an overnight layover in Ann Arbor. They made a big mistake and

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left their guns in one of the vans in which they were traveling. They were wearing their shooting uniforms and hats. They were really proud of the fact that their club had won the championship. The motel that they stopped at had a rule, no guns in the rooms. That night their gun-laden van was stolen. The thieves were caught driving the van the next day, but the guns were not recovered. The police are still investigation with hope that they will recover the guns. They lost 21 guns along with two Marvel .22 conversion kits. The guns stolen are: .22 caliber automatic pistols, .45 caliber automatic pistols and, 9 MM automatic pistols. These pistols are all match guns. If you wish more information on these stolen guns, such as serial numbers and models, contact me at: rjzalewski@aol.com 586-791-4162, or Ron Granroth, Coach, Ottawa Sportsmen's Club

Junior Pistol Team. PH: (906) 523-4320
rgranroth@hotmail.com

On a lighter note, there are four, 2700 matches coming up in the next month or so. Sep. 10, the Taylor Pistol Club is hosting the 900-point aggregate Michigan (Service Pistol) Hardball Championship, with a CMP Leg match, and a Distinguish Revolver match. The Western Michigan R & P Club (Ionia) is conducting a 2700 short course match on the 16th of September and a regular 2700 on the 17th. Finally, on October 1, the Taylor pistol club is conducting the 2006, MRPA Fund Raiser 2700 match. We really need your support for this match because profits from this match go directly to funding team matches at the national championships.

Contact person for Taylor matches is Ron Zalewski, (rjzalewski@aol.com) 586-791-4162. Contact Person for Ionia is Janice Raymond, (jraymond@home.ionia.com) 616-761-3207.

Affiliated Clubs

Blue Water Sportsman's Association
Cadillac Sportsman's Club
Capitol Area Sportsmen's League
Capitol City Rifle Club
Detroit Sportsman's Congress
Houghton Lake Sportsman's Club
Kalamazoo Rod & Gun Club
Linden Sportsman's Club
Looking Glass River Sportsman's Club
Monroe Rifle & Pistol Club
Muskegon Pistol and Rifle Club
Riverside Shooting Club, Inc
SEMNO High Masters
South Kent Sportsman's Club
Southern Michigan Gun Club, Inc
Swartz Creek Sportsman & Conservation Club
Taylor Pistol Club
Western Wayne Co. Conservation Association

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Blackpowder Highpower Long Range

Pistol Smallbore Silhouette

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