March 2021

Well, we are two full months into 2021, and the skeet world is beginning to show signs of awakening after the winter hibernation, just like seed pods that are waking underground. Maybe this year we will all find a St. Patty’s Day “pot of gold” left by the leprechauns. Whether your pot of gold is finding some reloading components, shells at a reasonable price, winning a title or two, making one of our “State Teams”, or just getting back to your sport the way it was meant to be played, I truly hope those little fellas have enough magic to go around.

The shoot calendar is beginning to get populated with events, as Rockford has its 50’s, Gun River a “Fun Shoot” and Grand Blanc will again host the Shane Holton Memorial. March also has the first 4-gun event of the year, The March Winds Open @ DSC. So, if you are looking to dust off the shotgun and get some targets in you will have the chance. I am sure the “Andrew Crew” is behind schedule to get their 20,000 targets in so, come on guys, get to work and be the leaders! Members have been renewing their referee credentials, but we would like to see more referees become available to their clubs. With our sport needing to bounce back in many aspects, we all must pitch in a little more; and, what better way is there than to help at your club or even an event at which you are participating in. I know your shoot chairman and chairman of the club you may be visiting will be very appreciative.

The “Buckle Race” schedule has been set and distributed to all the MSA clubs. The new buckles have been ordered and received and, when I say they are top notch, that is an understatement. Thanks go out to Tom Pavlack for all his hours and work he has put into this project. If you have not read the current rules, which have been changed for 2021, they are posted on the MSA website. Our resident “IT” person, Trish, is diligently putting together the “Points Race Team” info. She will send out an email “blast” and post everything on the website when all the finishing touches are made.

As you read in the previous paragraphs, you can see the Board of Directors is working hard to come up with ideas to reestablish a foothold in the clay target world. It has been said for many years that the board has lost touch with its members and really wasn’t concerned about their well-being. With all the work that we are putting in now, that could not be further from the truth. If you throw in all the planning for the year and organizing the State Championships, we are giving it our all. I know I have been asked by event sponsors “what do you expect for 2021”? I tell them what I think to be the truth - “I DON’T KNOW”. I say we have events scheduled, but I have no idea about the mindset of you, the shooters. Are they willing to go out and participate as in the past, or do they even want to? Now let us apply the adage “you can lead a horse to water but cannot make him drink” or, “the best laid schemes of mice and men” to the rest of our Michigan shooters. All the work and effort we do to help the game is fruitless unless, you the participants, go out and visit clubs and shoot some holes in the sky. We can come up with all the events and teams, but they mean nothing without your participation. Hopefully as the year unfolds, we will all feel more comfortable in this crazy situation that has become daily life for over a year now. I know I miss my life as it was; time to take it back. Oops, I better be careful and not cause an uprising, LOL. You can always reach me at ricktraw@gmail.com or even give me a call and let me know your ideas or just to chat for a bit.

- Rick Trawinski