



**UTAH ATA DELEGATE
MONTHLY ARTICLE
ARCHIVE**

TRAP & FIELD , UTAH ~ AUGUST 2010

Target year 2010 is winding down. Hopefully you've met all your goals for the year and have set new ones for the upcoming year. If you haven't met your goals yet, or you would just like to get out and shoot, we have a full schedule for August.

Earlier this year I mentioned attending a shoot at Helper Gun Club for the first time. Helper's Summer Shoot is August 6 – 7. If you've never been to Helper, this would be a very good time to go. The weather should be excellent and I know Bill Curtice and all the fine people who assist him will make you welcome.

Cedar Gun Club has their Summer Shoot on August 14 -15. If you are in Southern Utah at that time make it a point to stop by and shoot. I've not had the opportunity to attend this shoot since it falls during the Grand American, but I know it to also be a shoot/club where you will be made welcome.

If you need targets to meet State Team requirements, the Marathon shoot at Spanish Fork on August 20 – 22 should be on your schedule. These marathon targets won't count toward meeting the club requirement for the State Team, but they will help you meet the total target level requirements.

And finally, to finish out the year, Sevier Valley Gun Club will be holding their Summer Shoot on August 28 – 29. This is a shoot that I have been to many times in the past so I can personally attest to the fact that you will have a good time at this club.

Maps showing the locations of all of the clubs that I have mentioned above are available on the "clubs" page at utahtrap.com or on the Utah portion of shootata.com

I know that there are a few Utah shooters who are planning to attend their first Grand American this year; hopefully you are one of them. If not, attending the Grand in 2011 is a good goal to start working on. I'm planning to "blog" about the Grand again this year, so go to my forum page on utahtrapshooters.com to see what is happening at Sparta.

If you need to contact me, you may call me at 801.791.5370, e-mail me at utahdelegate@comcast.net, or post on my forum page at utahtrapshooters.com.

Scott Hoover, Delegate

TRAP & FIELD , UTAH ~ JULY 2010

As I write this, we've just finished up the Golden Spike Spring shoot, although this year may go down as one of those years without a spring. The weather has been cool and wet, not at all what I would like it to be and certainly no way to run a desert. One good thing that happened at Golden Spike during the "spring" shoot occurred following the last handicap when Don Martin found himself with the top score and earned a 1/2-yard punch to the back fence for the first time. Congratulations to Don on his achievement.

Magna starts off July with their traditional 4th of July shoot (July 3 -4). This shoot is a great way to spend this weekend if you happen to be in town.

July is also the traditional month for the Western Zone Shoot. Keep in mind that one of the Western Zone sites is at Vernal this year. There will be a "warm-up" shoot July 10 – 11, followed by the Zone shoot July 15 – 18. If you can make arrangements, you can shoot the Warm-Up and then avail yourself of the many recreational opportunities around Vernal such as Dinosaur National Park or fishing on the Green River until it's time for the Zone shoot.

Spanish Fork will also be hosting shoots in July. Their doubles/handicap marathon will be on July 10 – 11 and the Fiesta Days shoot will be July 23 – 25. If you've never tried the 1,000 doubles, you should do it; it really is a lot of fun. Of course you don't need to shoot all 1,000 doubles, but if you do you can at least say you did. I find that shooting 1,000 doubles really helps hone my doubles game, so give it a try; it's not as difficult as it sounds.

The month ends with the inaugural Hall of Fame Benefit Shoot at the Lee Kay Center hosted by the Ogden Gun Club. Details are still being worked out as I write this, but I'm sure that at the least we will have a good shoot at a great facility. What more can we ask for?

Pre-squadding for the Grand American (August 3 – 14) has started. If you are planning on going, you can pre-squad on-line at rjstuart.com. There is also a form that you can print out and send in if you prefer that method. The Grand American is an event that I strongly encourage everyone to attend.

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Scott Hoover, Delegate

TRAP & FIELD , UTAH ~ JUNE 2010

The Utah State AIM (youth) Championship will be held 6 June 2010 at the Golden Spike Trap Club. If you have thought about getting involved in AIM or getting your sons or daughters involved, going up to Golden Spike and chatting with Ardith Stitt (AIM Utah Coach) about AIM could be helpful to you. I would also expect that they will have team fund raising opportunities (raffles, dinners, etc) if you are inclined to provide financial support to this very worthwhile program.

There was a typo on the shoot cards that have been distributed to the gun clubs. The Magna shoot will be on June 5th and 6th, not the 6th and 7th as shown on the cards.

The following week will be the Vernal Uintah Basin Shoot. If you haven't yet made your reservations, contact Sean Hawley (435.789.0418; vernalrodandgun@ubta.net) for a program or check the program posted on utahtrap.com. Be sure to get there early so you can participate in the fun shoots on Tuesday and Wednesday evening (the 8th and 9th.) They are always a great time. There is also a raffle that features a K-80 Trap Special Combo as the Grand Prize and four other shotguns and rifles for second through fifth prize. Tickets are \$20 apiece and you do not need to be present to win. Contact Sean for tickets.

The State Shoot will be June 23 – 27 at the Spanish Fork Gun Club. SFGC will be hosting a marathon shoot on Tuesday, June 22nd if you would like a warm-up before the State Shoot begins. Keep in mind that for State Team purposes, the State Shoot can count as two clubs. On Wednesday through Friday you can pick up SFGC as a club if you haven't already done so. And if you shoot all of the championship events on the weekend, you will pick up the USTA as a club.

At the State Shoot I will stand for re-election as your delegate. To help me out, I've chosen Earnie Shepherd to serve as my Alternate Delegate. Earnie brings approximately 40 years of practical ATA experience to this task. I hope that Earnie and I can count on your support so that we may serve you as your ATA representatives for another year.

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Scott Hoover, Delegate

TRAP & FIELD , UTAH ~ MAY 2010

A few weeks ago, Purgatory Clay Sports held the last of their 2010 shoots. Those of you who didn't attend this last shoot did not see the improvements that have been taking place there. The folks at PCS are putting in a large covered patio in the front of the clubhouse, two concrete handicap parking pads, and concrete walkways for all of the trap fields. These improvements will benefit everybody, but they will make this facility especially friendlier for our fellow shooters who rely on a chair or scooter for mobility. If you didn't get down to PCS this year, please make plans to do so in the fall.

The Round Robin was concluded a few weeks ago and the Northern Utah Open just finished up at Ogden, so I'm expecting that everyone is ready to move into the heart of the season. The next five months offer a shoot, or two, on just about every weekend, so map out your schedule and attend as many shoots as possible. At the very least, I hope you have made plans to attend a shoot at a club that you either haven't been to, or haven't been to recently.

One thing that instructors advise in order to maximize your performance is to set goals. Whether the goal be to run 25 or 50 straight, or to achieve the AA27AA pin, trapshooting is more fun when we have a goal that makes us work. One goal that can be achieved starting now is to make the State Team.

The State Team requirements have been changed a little bit for this year; the club requirement can now only be satisfied by shooting at Utah clubs. Clubs outside of Utah don't count for the club requirement, although the targets do count for the total target requirements. To help shooters get the required number of clubs, the State Shoot has the potential to count as two clubs. In order to get two clubs by shooting the State Shoot you will need to shoot 100 targets of each discipline some time during Wednesday through Friday, and then shoot the Championship events on the weekend.

So, the bottom line on all of this is: get out and shoot the clubs and have fun. I'll see you at the next shoot.

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Scott Hoover, Delegate

TRAP & FIELD , UTAH ~ APRIL 2010

Well, the snow should be going away by now as we move into spring; although I'm sure we'll get our usual late spring snow storm. Keep in mind that there is the traditional pre-Round Robin Finals registered shoot on April 10th at Spanish Fork. The Round Robin Finals will be at Golden Spike on the following day, April 11th. Good luck to all the teams and category shooters who made it to the Finals.

There are a couple of nice developments related to trapshooting in Utah. The Kane County Gun Club in Kanab has expressed interest in re-joining the state association. This club will be a nice addition to the shoot schedule once they get up and running. Details haven't been finalized yet, but I'm hoping that we can have two clubs (Kanab and Purgatory) with ATA shoots in each of the late fall, winter, and early spring months so that we can have a full-slate of shoots year-round.

The other development is what I am calling the "Hall of Fame Benefit Shoot." The shoot will be on July 31st and August 1st. It will be hosted by Ogden Gun Club, but it will use the Lee Kay Center venue. For state team qualification purposes, this will count as an Ogden shoot. Having the shoot at Lee Kay serves a number of purposes. It puts the shoot at a larger facility that is closer to the majority of shooters, at the same time utilizing the very nice facility that the State of Utah has provided for us. The shoot will also help a worthwhile organization: the Utah Trapshooting Hall of Fame. I think it is a winning solution all the way around. I'll post more details on the HoF Shoot as they become available.

Hopefully you have visited utahtrap.com, the Utah State Trapshooting Association website. Our goal with the website is to have all the programs and all the shoot results posted in a timely manner. So far I think we're doing a good job of that, but we need the help of each club's shoot management team to send us an electronic version of the shoot program as soon as possible.

I also have a Delegate's page on utahtrap.com that is put up every month. Those pages are slightly different than what gets published here in Trap & Field, so you might want to check that out too.

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Scott Hoover, Delegate

TRAP & FIELD , UTAH ~ MARCH 2010

Spring is almost here. And, while I will admit that the mountains always look beautiful blanketed in snow, I'm also always glad to see winter give way to spring since that means that the registered shooting season is about to get back into full swing.

Some of us have just returned from the Spring Grand at Tucson Trap and Skeet. I hope you were able to avail yourself of the hospitality of our Arizona neighbors. It's not too early to start planning to attend the Autumn Grand at Tucson in the fall. That's a shoot that I haven't yet been able to make; work always seems to get in the way. But that doesn't stop me from at least planning to attend. Maybe this year I'll finally make it down.

Sign-up for the non-registered State Round Robin should be starting at a club near you. The qualification rounds will be shot on March 14th, 21st, and 28th and the State Finals will be on April 11th at the Golden Spike Trap Club. If you've shot at the Great Salt Lake Gun Club in the past you will need to go to a different club this year as the state-run Lee Kay Center is not hosting Round Robin teams. But there are plenty of clubs nearby, so you shouldn't have any trouble getting on a team. The Round Robin brings out a lot of people who don't shoot competitively all year like some of us do. Please remain attentive to gun safety, both your own and that of those less experienced. Trapshooting is a very safe sport when we all pay attention, let's keep it that way.

Vernal Rod & Gun sent out a program book last month. The book contained the programs for all of the ATA shoots that Vernal will host this year, so hang on to it. If you didn't get a program book, contact Sean Hawley (435.789.0418; vernalrodandgun@ubta.net). If you need programs for any Utah shoot, they are also available at the USTA website (www.utahtrap.com) and the ATA's website (www.shootata.com.)

I'd like to congratulate the ATA Rookie of the Year, Robert Helms, from Kanab, Utah. Robert is a member of Purgatory Clay Sports club and put on a fine display of shooting skill last year. It was my pleasure to punch Robert to the 27-yard line at the 2009 Western Zone. He made it to the back fence in a little over five months. Robert joins a long list of Utah shooters who have been recognized as ATA Rookie of the Year.

In closing, I'd like to mention that I recently took advantage of an offer by the NRA to upgrade my membership from Annual to Life at a reduced rate. If you are an Annual member, keep your eye out for this offer and take advantage of it if you can. If you are like me, you believe that the Second Amendment is one of the main pillars supporting our country's freedoms. We need to support the NRA and the other organizations that are lobbying to protect those freedoms.

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Scott Hoover, Delegate

TRAP & FIELD , UTAH ~ FEBRUARY 2010

We have a fair number of Utah shooters who are planning on attending the Spring Grand the week of 22 – 28 February 2010, as evidenced by the pre-squads on Presquad.com. Keep in mind that there is a Preliminary Week this year. So if you can't make the Spring Grand maybe you can make the Preliminary.

Pre-squadding is starting for the Uintah Basin Shoot in Vernal (10 – 13 June). This is always a very well-run shoot that attracts a very competitive crowd. But don't let the high All-American ratio scare you off; they can be beaten. And if you do it at the Uintah Basin shoot you can be well rewarded. Contact Sean Hawley (435.789.0418 or vernalrodandgun@ubta.net) for a program or check the program posted on utahtrap.com.

Vernal is also the Western Zone site for Utah this year. The weekend prior to the Zone shoot they will hold a regular registered shoot. If you plan things well you should be able to shoot the weekend of July 10 - 11, head up to the Green River for some flyfishing and be back in time to shoot the Zone on July 15 - 18. At least that's what I'm going to try to do.

The Average Book should be coming out soon, if it's not already out. I find this to be a good time to review the Rule Book. If you receive the Average Book, the latest Rule Book is printed in the back. You should also be able to get a copy of the Rule Book from your local club. I like to re-familiarize myself with some of the basic rules such as those which apply to lost targets, no targets, and failure to fire since those situations occur most frequently. There were also changes made to category declarations and trophy eligibility that you may not be completely aware of. A good knowledge of the rules makes all shoots run more smoothly.

The State Round Robin tournament (non-registered) starts on March 14th. Sign-up will be the week or two preceding the start. This is a good opportunity to brush off the winter cobwebs and get back into the competitive game. It is also an excellent opportunity to get a friend or neighbor started in the sport. The Lee Kay Center (previous site of the Great Salt Lake Gun Club) will not be hosting Round Robin teams this year. However, the nearby Nephi, Magna, Heber, and Tooele clubs, as well as any of the other clubs that are hosting teams, will be happy to help you out.

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Scott Hoover, Delegate

As I write this, I've just returned home from the three-day, 800-target Fall Opener Tournament at Purgatory Clay Sports that was held on 20 – 22 November 2009. When I left, it was 60 degrees and clear blue skies. I got home to freezing temperatures and a couple inches of snow. A shoot in Northern Utah on this late November weekend would have been a miserable affair. And that's what PCS offers the shooter: a chance to shoot in the winter months in reasonable weather.

Shooters from Utah, Nevada, Idaho, Wyoming and Colorado took advantage of the nice weather and attended this shoot. We had the equivalent of about 8 squads for almost all of the events. The Fall Opener was very well run. The first event of each day started on time and we were able to complete each day's events with daylight to spare.

I'd like to thank the following people for helping make this shoot a success: Harold Curry, Sheri Vigil and Lisa Katseang who handled the Shoot Management; Eddie Vigil who took care of handicapping, and Mike Freeman and Barbara Freeman who provided the squadding and cashiering. Steve Hamilton did an excellent job keeping the traps loaded. We never had to wait because a house was out of targets thanks to Steve's tireless efforts.

Joe Sudbury attained a notable accomplishment at this shoot. Joe carded the first 200x200 singles at Purgatory. Congratulations Joe.

Buckles were awarded for the total high scores in the four handicap events. Winning buckles were: Joe Sudbury, Champion, 373x400; Randy Corder, Long Yardage, 364x400; Ron Green, Mid-Yardage, 370x400; Jeff Little, Short Yardage, 371x400. Scores for all the shooters are posted on the Results page at Utahtrap.com.

Shay Oaks, a Junior shooter from Vernal, shot the high handicap score of the weekend when she posted a 97 in the last event on Sunday. You might think that's not a big deal, but it's somewhat well known that the background at Purgatory is challenging. It places a premium on looking at the target. So, congratulations Shay, that was very good shooting.

If you have previously attended a shoot at Purgatory and swore you'd never come back, I hope you will reconsider. Shoot Management has made changes and is very interested in making the experience pleasant for all. There's nothing that can be done to move the mountains and ridges out of the background, but other clubs manage with similarly difficult backgrounds and, with your help, I think PCS will do OK.

For example, Shoot Management is considering changing target colors in an effort to provide greater contrast. There is also the possibility that additional traps will be added on the east end. The background on the east end is less disruptive than on the west end. None of this is finalized; so don't hold me to it. But a nice way to see that these changes come about is to attend a shoot at

TRAP & FIELD , UTAH ~ JANUARY 2010

Purgatory and make your opinions known. Only by supporting clubs can we ensure that they prosper.

Purgatory has shoots on January 9 and 10, February 6 and 7, March 6 and 7 and April 17 and 18. Start making you plans now. St. George, Utah is a very nice city and Mesquite, NV is a short drive down the interstate if you would like some of the entertainment that Nevada has to offer.

The TY2009 State Teams have been announced. I'd like to congratulate the following on their accomplishment:

Men's First Team – Joe Sudbury, 96.58; Darren New, 96.13; Gene Majers, 95.96; Ed Wehking, 95.71; Joe Roach, 95.29

Men's Second Team – Justin Bodily, 95.20; Chad Sorensen, 95.01; Steve Johnson, 95.00; Brad Averett, 94.97; Scott Hoover, 93.91

Women's – Leslie Bodily, 94.38; Linda Gibson, 92.52; Robin Fullwood, 90.80; Tonya Youngberg, 89.68; Lori Martin 88.47

Sub-Juniors' – Keylee Kugler, 86.03; Jarrett Tanner, 83.68; Cody Bassett, 78.85

Junior's – Colton Anderson, 92.81; Jackson Tuckett, 92.57; Steve Syndergaard, 90.99; Zac Hartley, 89.99; Hayden Johnson, 89.91

Veteran's – Bruce Allred, 93.27; Marlin McDaniel, 91.98; Lorin Bingham, 89.45; Earnie Shepherd, 89.44; Allen Palmer, 89.23

Senior Veteran's – John Baker, 93.63; Don Savage, 92.96; Deon Van Cleave, 92.48; Jim Duke, 90.38; Weldon Noland, 89.97

New State Team requirements have been posted on Utahtrap.com. The primary change is that all the clubs required for State Team consideration need to be Utah clubs. The Men's team requirement is now 7 Utah clubs; the other team's remain essentially the same as previous years except all the clubs must be Utah clubs.

In closing I'd like to acknowledge the end of an era at the Las Vegas Gun Club. I'd like to thank Steve Carmichael for his service in running the LVGC for the last 20 years. I've enjoyed shooting the Fall Handicap and the other shoots that Steve has put on. This club will be missed. Thanks Steve.

If you need to contact me, you may call me at 801.791.5370 or e-mail me at utahdelegate@comcast.net.

Scott Hoover, Delegate

Hopefully you were able to attend the Fall Opener shoot at Purgatory Clay Sports. If not, please try to make one of their other shoots this year. The facility in Hurricane, UT offers us the opportunity to shoot in weather that is a bit nicer during the winter months than that encountered further north. In addition to trap, Purgatory also has skeet, sporting clays, and 5-stand. Keep them in mind when you are in Southern Utah.

Pre-squadding for the Spring Grand has started. The easiest way to presquad is by using presquad.com. But don't wait. The Spring Grand is a very popular shoot and squads fill up quickly. If you have never been down to Tucson you owe it to yourself to go. There are quite a few Utah shooters who make the trip and enjoy the hospitality of our Arizona neighbors, so there will probably be someone you know there.

We have a list of fun shoots on utahtrap.com. There aren't any registered shoots in Utah during December, but you have plenty of choices if fun shoots are what you like.

We are also putting together an e-mail list on utahtrap.com. This will be used to notify subscribers of changes to scheduled shoots or the posting of programs and shoot results. Your e-mail address will be confidential and will only be used for the above stated purpose.

In closing, I'd like to wish everybody a happy holiday and I hope that everyone has a safe and enjoyable new year.

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Scott Hoover, Delegate

TRAP & FIELD , UTAH ~ NOVEMBER 2009

We're entering the season when fun shoots and turkey shoots dominate the schedule. This is a good time to invite friends who haven't experienced the clay target sports to go out with you and enjoy the sport we all love. We will be posting fun shoot schedules on utahtrap.com as we find out about them. If you would like to see your shoot posted please email the information to: utahstatetraps shootingassociation@comcast.net.

For those who would like to shoot registered targets during the winter in Utah, Purgatory Clay Sports has a full schedule of shoots. The season opener will be a three-day shoot, November 20 - 22, 2009. Purgatory recently purchased four Pat-Trap® machines and I am looking forward to shooting there to help break them in. Hopefully, I will see you there too. Following the opener, Purgatory will host one shoot a month from January 2010 through April 2010.

With the help of Shawn Seippel, ATA IT Coordinator, I've updated the Utah club maps at shootata.com. The maps now pin point the clubs more accurately.

We've managed to post programs and results for the last six or seven shoots on the utahtrap.com web site. We'll post programs for the remaining 2010 shoot dates as they become available. If you haven't visited the re-designed site yet, please do. I think you'll be pleased with the information available there.

As of this writing, the Western Zone sites have not yet been finalized. We will have a site in Utah, that much I know. I can also report that we will be conducting the 2010 Zone shoot on-line. Clubs will post results to a website immediately at the conclusion of each event. Shoot-off scores (banked targets) will be logged as they happen. We believe that this will greatly improve the shoot experience for everyone. The Western Zone shoot dates will be July 15 – 18, 2010, so start making plans to attend.

Error Correction: Unfortunately there were two errors in my Sep2009 Trap & Field article that I'd like to correct. The first was due to a typo I made. In reporting how many targets Ed Wehking has until he registers more than 250,000, I left off a zero. The correct amount (at that time) should have read "about 15,000."

The other error was in reporting that Denise Pope had registered her first 100 straight at the Western Zone shoot. Actually, Denise's first 100 straight was a few weeks earlier at the State Shoot. The one at the Zone was her second.

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Scott Hoover, Delegate

TRAP & FIELD , UTAH ~ OCTOBER 2009

The 2009 Grand American is now history. We had 32 shooters at this year's Grand, including 14 AIM shooters. Utahans picked up six trophies during Preliminary Week and two trophies during Grand Week.

The Preliminary week trophies were evenly divided between Sean Hawley and Linda Gibson. Linda's trophies were all in singles and Sean's were all in doubles.

The two trophies claimed during Grand Week were won by Sean, in the Nitro 27 Handicap, and Amber Oakey who won a Medallion in the Doubles Championship.

One of our AIM teams won Third Place in the B Class Junior Division. All three of the Utah AIM teams entered were from the Golden Spike Trap Club. I'd like to thank Ardith Stitt and Alan Tuckett for the time and effort they've spent as coaches. AIM is the ATA's newly created youth development program. If you are interested in fielding a team you can find more information on this program at aim4ata.com.

We had four of our State Shoot Singles Champions who were able to attend and participate in the Champion of Champions event: Joe Bakker (Champion), Lori Martin (Lady), Jackson Tuckett (Junior R/U), and Colby Anderson (Sub-Junior). They all shot well, but the Champion of Champions event is very competitive, as I'm sure you can imagine, and requires a 100 straight in order to get into the shoot-off. None of our champions managed that, but I was very proud of them all and glad they could attend to represent Utah.

As you are reading this it is early October and hopefully a club near you is holding a National Trapshooting Day event. National Trapshooting Day, 11 October 2009, is a good time to invite friends who may be interested in trapshooting to join the ATA and get into our friendly, competitive sport. Check the shoot listing in Trap & Field, or the USTA's website, utahtrap.com, for more information on where shoots are being held.

We're starting to move into the season that is dominated by fun shoots. These are also good opportunities to introduce friends to trapshooting. Please support the clubs near you whether they are throwing registered or non-registered events.

If you want to continue registered shooting during the winter months, keep Purgatory Clay Sports in mind. Purgatory is located near the Washington County Fairgrounds in Hurricane, UT. Directions can be found at utahsportingclays.com/map.html. Purgatory is planning to have their season opening trapshoot November 20 – 22, 2009. They have installed four new Pat traps and I'm looking forward to shooting there. Hopefully I'll see you there.

The utahtrap.com website was recently given a new look. I'd like to thank George Cook for his many years of selfless service as the website web master. We plan on having shoot programs and shoot results available on the website as well as contact information and maps for all of the trap clubs in Utah.

If you need to contact me, you may e-mail me at utahdelegate@comcast.net or post on my forum area at utahtrapshooters.com.

Scott Hoover, Delegate

TRAP & FIELD , UTAH ~ SEPTEMBER 2009

As many of you no doubt know, Joe Sudbury decided to step down this year as Utah's ATA delegate and I was elected to take his place.

Before I get too far into this, I would like to thank Joe Sudbury on behalf of the Utah ATA members for his service as Delegate. I know that I can count on Joe for help while I get my feet on the ground.

Hopefully you were able to attend the State Shoot, but if not, hopefully you can attend in the future. This year's State Shoot was held at Spanish Fork Gun Club and the weather, targets, and shoot management were just about the best that I can remember. The weather on Friday was a bit inclement, but that didn't detract from the overall tournament experience. And when Saturday dawned with a clear blue sky, with promise of the same for Sunday, I knew we were in for a very good championship weekend.

Joe Bakker won the State Singles Championship following a shoot-off. Joe has now won state titles in all three disciplines. He "doubled up" on his Doubles crowns by winning this year's Doubles Championship too. I look forward to seeing Joe at Sparta in the Champion of Champions event and I know that Joe looks forward to going.

Scott Syme won the Handicap Championship by recording the lone 100-straight. This was Scott's first 100-straight from the 27-yard line. Apparently the Double D Shooting Clinic that Scott attended earlier in June paid off. Congratulations to both Joe and Scott for some very fine shooting.

As I write this, we have just finished the Western Zone shoots. This year's zone shoots were held at nine sites across the West and it appears that attendance was up slightly from 2008. Spanish Fork Gun Club, Spanish Fork, Utah was one of the sites and we were pleased to welcome shooters from ten other states who journeyed to SFGC for this tournament.

This was, of course, my first zone shoot in my new position and it was quite an experience. I am very grateful to the following people for helping me throughout the tournament: Steve and Debra Johnson, shoot management; George and Jan Cook, squadding/cashiering; Heath and Vivian Sabey, classification/shoot-offs/trophies; George and Mary Shedd, shoot-offs/trophies; Karl and Chalean Chapman, shoot-offs/trap help; Doug and Kari Cook, shoot management; Stacey Hawley, data management; Justin and Leslie Bodily, shoot-offs/data management; and Joe Roach, John Vosnos, Jerry Batley, Brad Spencer, Brian Hartley and Glen "Burro" Brown, target setting.

During this shoot it was my privilege to punch two shooters to the 27-yard line for the first time. Robert Helms is a new shooter who did not waste too much time getting to the back fence. He started shooting earlier this spring and has marched steadily back over the last five months. The other newcomer to the back fence was Doug Ford. Doug is a past SFGC President who can now stand side-by-side with his daughter, Leslie Bodily, on the 27.

Doug's sister, Pam Wright, is another new shooter who seems to be doing well in the handicap discipline. Pam earned a one-yard punch to the 20.5-yard line with a 97 in Sunday's feature handicap. This score was not only her personal best, but it was also good for fourth place zone-wide among the Ladies. Congratulations Pam.

A long-time Utah shooter surpassed a milestone during Friday's "Class" Handicap. Ed Wehking shot at, and broke, his 100,000 handicap target. I notice too that Ed is closing in on the 250,000 total target milestone. He's got about 15,000 more targets to go. That's just a good year's worth of fun for some of us.

Shooters at Spanish Fork were very successful during the Zone shoot. By my count, 58 of the 174 zone-wide trophies were won by folks at Spanish Fork; and almost half of those were won by Utah residents.

Spanish Fork has the reputation as a great place to shoot handicap, and that was proven during this zone shoot as five of the six overall trophies in the Handicap Championship were won at Spanish Fork. Wynn Isom took the Champion's crown following a shoot-off with Scott Syme and Robert Minetti (who was shooting at Medford, OR). All three gentlemen carded 100 straights from the 27. And, yes, this was Scott Syme's second 100 straight from the 27. I was right, that Double D Shooting Clinic is paying off. Sean Hawley, Steve Williamson, and Corey Stubbs took 4th, 5th and 6th, respectively.

The Utah Ladies also made a strong showing. Second-year shooter Denise Pope had an especially good shoot. She garnered three zone trophies including Ladies Class Singles Champion which she earned by shooting her first 100-straight.

I hope you can tell that I think the zone shoot went very well. And I expect next year's shoot to be even better. One of the improvements that we intend to implement is an on-line reporting system. I showed the website (shootatazone.com) to some of you during the shoot and I can report that there seems to be strong support among the delegates for using this method next year to determine shoot-offs/winners. The speed and accuracy that the on-line system will bring should greatly enhance the overall Zone Shoot experience. I'd like to thank David Van Elgort for creating the website for us. I look forward to working with David and the Western Zone delegates to develop this new method.

There are a number of us who are planning on attending the Grand this year. Some, myself included, have attended the Grand at Sparta before and look forward to attending again. Others are going for the first time. I hope to have good things to report from Sparta in the next issue.

If you need to contact me, you may e-mail me at utahdelegate@comcast.net or post on my forum area at utahtrapshooters.com.

Scott Hoover, Delegate