

January 2022

New Year, New Optimism! 2022 is here and it is a new year for us in Michigan skeet. I hope that you all had a great Christmas with family and friends and, what a better way to start the year off, by writing my letter for all of you. All the events for 2021 have been completed and, as there are no events in January, what better time to plan out your 2022 season. I know that there are all the "favorite" events you always go to, but this year try and put a new destination on your calendars – you may be pleasantly surprised.

Last month I gave you a little insight into how on the state level we are continually trying to add to our sport. I know you are all familiar with your State Board of Directors, but how many of you know who your representatives are on the national level? First, we have Tom Pavlack who is the Secretary/Treasurer of the NSSA. What this means is Tom is in line to possibly become President one day. You all know Tom from his hard work at the state level and he is working just as hard at the national level. We also have four NSSA State Directors: Jason Johnson, Al Magyar, Trish Magyar and Bill Nielsen. There is an annual Board of Directors meeting during the World Shoot, and there may also issues the Board votes on during the year, such as rules changes. Their current term runs from January 1, 2021, until December 31, 2022. Details on the nominations and elections



process for the 2023-2024 term are in the NSSA Bylaws and on the NSSA website. So, if you have any ambitions to be a National Director, those are good places to start, and/or contact one of the current directors or me for help. The directors are elected by you the members, so, this is a responsibility that you should take seriously. Finally, we have the Executive Committee, where each Zone is represented. The directors from a Zone elect their representative. Al Magyar is the Zone 3 EC member. They meet several times a year via "in person" meetings, as well as phone conferences. Minutes from the BOD and EC meetings, as well as the phone conferences, are posted on the NSSA website. I highly recommend you look to see what your "parent" organization is doing. Since I previously outlined how your MSA target fees are spent, I spoke with Nathan Boyd, the NSSA Director for Skeet, how

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your 4¢ a target is spent. He explained that the first 1¢ goes towards marketing for the association, and the remaining 3¢ goes into the "general fund", to pay for maintenance of member's records, publication of Clay Target Nation magazine and Target Talk e-newsletters, and scholarships and club grants. There are many more items that are funded, but I think you get the gist. Basically, what the MSA does on a grander scale. Now that your civics lesson is completed, you will be tested and graded on a curve. LOL!

With the calendar posted, Club representatives should get flyers to Trish to post on the website, so our members will know about your events. Remember the immortal quote of Emil Faber from Faber College in Animal House, "Knowledge is Good". So, let us help you spread the word about your events!

Referee tests for 2022 will, again, be self-administered. If your three years are up, contact me or Chrissy Baning and we will get you what you need to renew your certification. There will also be a link on the MSA website, along with instructions.

Well, I think that is enough for this month, but if you want you can always reach out to me at ricktraw@gmail.com as I am always open to questions and comments.

- Rick Trawinski