

# Ram Slammer Gazette

**MSA ANNUAL MEETING  
SATURDAY  
DECEMBER 4, 2010  
AIR PISTOL  
LEAGUE  
SAVAGE, MN  
3:00 TROPHY  
CEREMONY FOR  
ALL 2010  
STATE MATCHES  
3: 30 MEETING TO BEGIN**

## MSA 2010 DUES

Payable 1/1/2010

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\$15.00 per year hard copy  
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Send dues to:

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## MSA DIRECTORS

State Director	John Richards
President	Steve Martens
Vice-President	Dan Harder
Secretary	Todd Martin
Treasurer	Ken LaCroix
Newsletter	Marcus McCleery
Legislative	Tom Acheson



**2010  
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP  
JULY 24-31  
Tusco, OH**

## IHMSA Web Sites

MSA <http://www.msa-ihmsa.com>  
IHMSA <http://www.ihmsa.org>  
Silhouette Site <http://www.ihmsa.net>

April 9, 2010



Volume 19, Issue 1

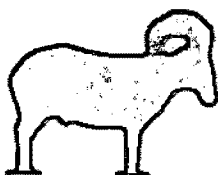
**PRESIDENT'S  
REPORT  
BY  
Steve Martens**

An early spring in Minnesota has us anxious to get outside and shoot some steel. The first match is April 24 at Oakdale. The annual new shooter clinic will be held in the morning. Invite any friends that might be interested in silhouette to attend. In June, we will have our Extravaganza match in Hibbing again. Last year it was our largest match with the most entries. It will again be a three day event with every silhouette event you can think of and a lot more. From 10 yard air pistol chickens to 500 meter big bore rams, maybe even a 600 meter target for fun, it's all there. Every event you want to shoot for one small entry fee. This is the one match you have to try and attend this summer. In July, the World Championships return to Tusco, Ohio. If you have never been to an International's or have not attended in a long time, try and make it to Tusco. It's a great range and there are a lot of things to do in the area. Marcus has (was) volunteered to be the new Ram Slammer newsletter editor. I'm sure he'll do a great job. He is an outstanding wordsmith and will entertain us with his wit. How that for a build up? Lastly, I hope to see all of you out at our local ranges supporting the sport of silhouette. We are fortunate to have some of the nicest ranges in the country. The match directors put a lot of effort into giving us a great place to shoot. Steve

**VICE-PRESIDENT'S  
REPORT  
BY  
Dan Harder**

It's looking like spring! All the snow is gone and nearly all of the ice is off the lakes around here. The first match at OGC will be April 24th. That will only be about a month after our last Air Gun match. It's nice to be able to shoot all winter, in doors in a controlled environment. Our last Air Gun match of the winter wasn't a sanctioned match because it was all 1/2 scale. But, it was a lot of fun. Ken LaCroix shot the first ever 60X60 Air Gun UAS 1/2 scale. Earlier this winter Steve Martens was the first to shoot an Air Gun Unlimited 1/2 scale 40X40. Just like the big guns, the 1/2 scale targets are like shooting a 40 or 60 round match on shoot-off targets. Now is a good time to be recruiting new shooters. We will be having our annual clinic for new shooters at Oakdale Gun Club on April 24th. So, if you know any shooters that may be interested in trying Silhouette shooting, this is a good place to start. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at the range!

DAN



**SECRETARY'S  
REPORT  
BY  
Todd Martin**

Hi everyone. Winter flew by and here we are real close to spring breaking out. We had a lot of fun with air pistol this winter and look forward to next season. We had 11 members at the annual meeting December 5th. It would have been great to see a few more people there but we had a good meeting with those in attendance. We had good discussion at the meeting a few things we discussed were weed control at the ranges and range work days. Next years annual meeting is December 4th 2010 at air pistol location after the match, try to make plans to attend. I have received dues from some of you and thank you for that. If you have not paid your dues for this year please send them to me at the address below. If you have any questions on dues or memberships please send me an email and I will get you an answer. As you send in your dues this year please include which option you would like for delivery of the newspaper. If electronic please send your email address so we can update the member list. Also as we go forward do not forget to let me know if your email address changes so we can be sure you keep getting the newspaper. Hope to see you all out at the matches this year!

Todd

**STATE DIRECTOR'S  
REPORT  
BY  
John Richards**

For those of you that didn't get a chance to shoot the Air league this past winter you missed a great season. Were shooting on Saturday mornings now if that works better for some.

We have a pretty full season again this summer, try and get a new shooter to Oakdale Gun Club for the Clinic on April 24 @ 8am. It will run for about 3 hours. Let's all help out @ our matches and make sure everyone has a chance to shoot. We will be doing Range clean up @ the 1st match @ all clubs for few hours in the morning. Bring gloves shovels and rakes. This makes a better and safer place for all of us shoot and is a big help to our Match directors. See you on the Range, JR

**TREASURER'S  
REPORT  
BY  
Ken LaCroix**

MSA ACCOUT BAL AS OF  
MARCH 31, 2010

CHECKING \$1,239.46  
SAVIMG \$1,305.99  
TOTAL \$2,545.45

All club's have paid they're match fees for 2009 except Harris

**NEWS LETTER  
EDITORS  
REPORT  
BY  
Marcus McCleery**

Greetings from the new editor who never ran for the office he was elected to! I will try to get the writing rust off soon and follow the natural flow of the newsletter.

Air league ended just in time for my new Steyr air gun to arrive (it only took a little over 6 months!). I love shooting air guns, it's the tedious re-loading I don't like!

In 2010 let's all put our thinking caps on extra tight and try to creatively generate some ways to recruit a few new members. The younger generation might be a good target market. It would be nice to see some shooters get involved that will carry our sport into the future.

In case you do not know Wyoming is hosting among other things a 1000 meter pistol match put on by MOA. They will have all kinds of events for our style pistols including a pistol sniper. After the match Steve Martens is coordinating a "dog" posse to wrangle up just the guilty prairie dogs. The event is the last weekend in June. Contact Steve for more specifics.

SEE YA ON THE RANGE! - Marcus

<http://www.leg.state.mn.us/>

House  
651-296-2146  
800-657-3550

Senate  
651-296-0504  
888-234-1112

**LEGISLATIVE  
REPORT  
BY  
Tom Acheson**

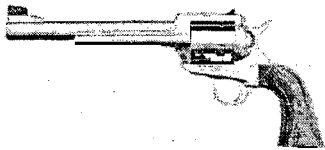
they dream of that they want to do to American gun owners. Found on the internet recently: In a statement released by Hilary Clinton, of the U.S. State Department, overturning the position of former President George W. Bush's administration, which had opposed such a treaty on the grounds that national controls were better, she said the United States would support the talks as long as the negotiating forum, the so-called Conference

on the Arms Trade Treaty, "operates under the rules of consensus decision-making." "Consensus is needed to ensure the widest possible support for the Treaty and to avoid loopholes in the Treaty that can be exploited by those wishing to export arms irresponsibly," Clinton said in a written statement.

*On the surface, the gun grabbers appear to be quiet. But we must never forget, they are like the committed envy driven socialists who presently control our Federal Government...incrementalism, never give up, keep working to steal our freedoms. In case you forgot, Barak Obama described the US Constitution as a list of negative rights. Since the Constitution does not have a never ending list of the rights of the government, it is a poor instrument for those who worship at the altar of big government. However, recent trends have given the gun grabbers cause to pause. According to the FBI applications for carry permits have exploded in the last 4-years. The attempts by petty local governments to curtail firearms ownership have been defeated in most situations around the USA. Ammunition and ammunition component sales have been growing steadily. Don't forget to look in the rear view mirror. The mainstream media isn't talking about it and even the so called conservative media outlets aren't giving it much attention but the god 'ol defender of freedom the UN, has out Second Amendment rights in its peace loving crosshairs. It has to do with getting all nations to sign onto a small arms and small arms ammunition regulation "treaty". With the recent election failures of the Democrats, the rising tide of the Tea Party coupled with the perversion of our country's health care programs and abysmal approval ratings of the President and Congress, the anti's in and out of govern-*

## LEGISLATIVE REPORT

ment are not talking about the attacks. While praising the Obama administration's decision to overturn the Bush-era policy and to proceed with negotiations to regulate conventional arms sales, some groups criticized the U.S. insistence that decisions on the treaty be unanimous. Amnesty International and Oxfam International said in a joint statement that decisions on the treaty be made by consensus "could fatally weaken a final deal." "Governments must resist US demands to give any single state the power to veto the treaty as this could hold the process hostage during the course of negotiations. We call on all governments to reject such a veto clause," said Oxfam International's policy adviser Debbie Hillier. The proposed legally binding treaty would tighten regulation of, and set international standards for, the import, export and transfer of conventional weapons. The main opponent of the treaty in the past was the U.S. Bush administration, which said national controls were better (the Mr. Bush that some gun owners hated for our involvement in Iraq). The proposed treaty is opposed by conservative U.S. think tanks like the Heritage Foundation, which said last month that it would not restrict the access of "dictators and terrorists" to arms but would be used to reduce the ability of democracies such as Israel to defend their people. The U.S. lobbying group the National Rifle Association has also opposed the treaty. A resolution before the



## LEGISLATIVE REPORT

General Assembly is sponsored by seven nations including major arms exporter Britain. It calls for preparatory meetings in 2010 and 2011 for a conference to negotiate a treaty in 2012. The first step requires the president's administration to review the treaty and make sure it is consistent with U.S. law and current foreign policy. Usually the State Department takes the lead during this process although other departments might participate if a treaty concerns their area of responsibility. Next, the State Department prepares all the documents for presentation to the Senate for the advice and consent process. The president and his staff review the documents and if they believe the treaty is in the best interest of the country, they present them to the Senate. In the United States the next step is to present the treaty to the U.S. Senate for advice and consent. The senate doesn't actually ratify the treaty, but puts in its two cents' worth and then votes whether or not to consent to the treaty's provisions. A two thirds majority is required for the Senate to give its consent. The U.S. House of Representatives does not vote on ratification at all. This is the same Senate that each member promises to protect and defend the U. S. Constitution from attacks within and without when he/she is sworn into office. Once in the Senate, the treaty goes first to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee for review. The chairman of the committee may set up hearings to determine if there are public concerns about the treaty or if there are changes in U.S. law needed to meet the terms of the agreement. The committee chair determines the course the treaty will take, if any. A powerful committee chair can lose a treaty for years in committee. Many unpopular treaties never reach the floor of the Senate for an up or down vote. If changes in U.S. law are required, the treaty may remain in committee until the new laws or rule changes are

## LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Until the new laws or rule changes are passed before it is submitted to the full Senate for a consent vote. Once the treaty receives the Senate's consent, it is returned to the president to be ratified. The Senate does not actually ratify a treaty; the president does. He signs an instrument of ratification which places the treaty in force and binds the U.S. government to the terms of the treaty. Once this process has taken place and the required numbers of signatories have ratified the treaty, it goes into effect. So our President can ratify a treaty to restrict our Constitutional rights and never take any flack for it because he wasn't seen out campaigning for it. If you think his Health Care takeover efforts and end result were a big gift to him, wait until he presides over the end of your right to own firearms. Oh and this has NOTHING to do with silhouette shooting.

Tom

