

# Amateur Trapshooting Association of America

## Minutes of the Continuing Executive Committee Meeting

EDIT: 05/31/2003

Commencing: April 09, 2003

On April 09, 2003, at 08:06 Hrs., Central Standard Time (CST), President Thomas E. Acklin of the Amateur Trapshooting Association of America, subsequent to roll call and confirmation of a quorum, called this Regular Continuing Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Amateur Trapshooting Association of America to order.

Answering the roll call of the Secretary, and seated in attendance, were:  
" President & Central Zone Vice President Thomas E. Acklin;  
" Western Zone Vice President & Alaska Delegate David R. Kaiser;  
" Southwestern Zone Vice President & New Mexico Delegate Dr. Thomas P. Arvas;  
" Southern Zone Vice President & North Carolina Delegate Kenneth P. Duncan;  
" Eastern Zone Vice President & Maryland Delegate D. Ray Greb;  
" Ex-Officio & New Hampshire Delegate Phillip C. Wright;  
" Treasurer Thomas G. Burkey;  
" Executive Director John R. Norris; and  
" Secretary G. Mike Seitz.

It was noted for the Record that proper Notice was given for this Regularly Scheduled Continuing Meeting, and that all meeting(s) are scheduled to be held in the Committee Meeting Room at the Corporate Headquarters of the National Shooting Complex, 5931 Roff Road, San Antonio, Texas 78253-9261, unless otherwise necessitated and/or determined at the convenience of the Executive Committee.

President Thomas E. Acklin advised that the Minutes of the Regularly Scheduled Continuing Meeting held on December 13 & 14, 2002, and subsequent Executive Committee Minutes and/or Memoranda including other Committee Meeting(s) (if any) held, have previously been distributed for review, comment and approval.

Subsequent to review and discussion and upon the Motion of Southern Zone Vice President Kenneth P. Duncan with second of Western Zone Vice President David R. Kaiser and following the President's call of the question, with no response, it was unanimously

**RESOLVED** That the Minutes of the Regular Continuing Executive Committee meeting held on December 13 & 14, 2002, are hereby ratified, adopted and/or approved this date and time.

President Thomas E. Acklin reviewed the proposed Meeting Agenda and advised, with the concurrence of the Executive Committee Members, that changes will be made (to the Agenda) only if they are determined to be more expedient and in furtherance of the interests of the ATA. It was his stated desire that we stay on schedule and proceed through the business in an orderly and expeditious manner. All Executive Committee Members were in agreement with the President's General Orders of Business, as previously distributed and reviewed hereby.

### AGENDA AS PROPOSED

- " **Call meeting to order**
  - Roll Call;
  - Minutes - Executive Committee (December 2002);
  - Minutes - Revisions (If Any);
  - Meetings/Policy & Procedures/Activities & Apparel.
- " **Treasurer's Reports**
  - Fiscal Year End (FYE) September 30, 2002;
  - Investment Schedule/Summary;
  - Miscellaneous Reports and Discussions.
- " **Secretary's Reports**
  - Disciplinary Actions
    - 1. 03-01, Dan Kirby (ATA # 97-01216)  
(as filed by Tanhan Eubanks, Co-Owner of Redlands Trap & Skeet);
  - Reports;
    - Correspondence
      - 1. Gerald Narigon Reinstatement
      - 2. Rosemary Kingery Correspondence
        - A. Colorado Delegate Allen Jones
- " **Special Reports**
  - Relocation Committee - Jim Bradford, Jr. & Ben Henson, Co-Chairs;
    - Sparta, Illinois (Representative Reitz, Illinois DNR (IDNR) Director Joel Brunsvold & Mike Hampton, Project Consultant).
    - Shelbyville, Indiana (ATA Engineering Consultant, John L. Maxwell, P.E.).
    - San Antonio, Texas (Matt Spahn, Esq., Executive Director).
  - **President's Reports**
  - **Rules**
    - Official Rule Book Revision - Committee Chair VP David R. Kaiser.
    - Sales & Promotions;

- AA Team Committee; 67
- Advisory Sub-Committees; 68
- 1. Rules Advisory - Vice President & Chair David R. Kaiser 69
- 2. Marketing Advisory - Vice President & Chair Dr. Thomas P. Arvas 70
- 3. Strategic Planning - President & Chair Thomas E. Acklin 71
- 4. Competition & Industry - Vice President & Chair D. Ray Greb 72
- 5. Grand & Satellite Grand(s) - Vice President & Chair Kenneth P. Duncan 73
- General and Administrative - Executive Director John R. Norris; 74
- Website. 75
- " **Unfinished Business** (including Old Business) 76
- ATA Corporate By-Law Amendment(s) - Vice Presidents David R. Kaiser & Kenneth P. Duncan. 77
- " **New Business** 78
- Grand American; 79
- 1. Program; 80
- 2. Budget; 81
- 3. Target Bids/Sponsorship. 82
- Registered Shoot Application Requirement/Pre-Approval - President Thomas E. Acklin & Eastern Zone Vice President D. Ray Greb 83
- Trap Field Layout Specifications - President Thomas E. Acklin 84
- Central Handicap Committee Appointment from the Western Zone 85
- Association Business - **For The Good of the Corporation** 86
- " **Adjournment.** 87

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**GENERAL ORDERS OF BUSINESS**

**PRESIDENT'S CALL TO ORDER (Committee Meeting Room) . . . . . April 09, 2003, at 08:06 Hrs.** 91

" **Roll Call** . . . . . **as previously noted.** 92

" Various **Orders of Business and Administrative Issues** were reviewed, discussed and resolved. 93

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**At 08:11 Hrs., IN RE: Treasurer's Report** 99

President Thomas E. Acklin requested that **Treasurer Thomas G. Burkey** present his **Treasurer's Report**. Treasurer Burkey informed the Executive Committee that the Preliminary Financial Audit performed by **PriceWaterhouseCoopers (PWC)** has been substantially confirmed. The audited financial presentations, dated for the years ended **September 30, 2002 and 2001**, resulted in the issuance and confirmation of an unqualified opinion from the independent auditors. Treasurer Burkey noted that his reports, as presented, are principally based on the audited reports and that he has a copy with him for review by any interested Executive Committee member. Treasurer Burkey and Executive Director John R. Norris advised that all Executive Committee members were mailed individual copies of the audited statements on or about February 04, 2003, for their personal review and retention. 100

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Treasurer Thomas G. Burkey summarized numerous items of interest from the audited statements with emphasis on the following financial topics: 108

- **Total Net Gain** (Net Assets) for fiscal year ended September 30, 2002, is **\$628,909.**, as contrasted to **\$554,374.**, in fiscal year ended September 30, 2001. 109
- The 2002 Grand American Tournament showed a **Profit** of **\$215,507.**, as contrasted to **\$143,921.**, in the 2001 Grand American Tournament. 110
- **Total Assets** at September 30, 2002, are **\$8,212,044.** 111
- **Investment Income** for fiscal year ended September 30, 2002, is **\$286,060.**, as contrasted to **\$288,951.**, for fiscal year ended September 30, 2001. 112

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Treasurer Thomas G. Burkey presented the Executive Committee a written summary of his prepared **Report(s)** (dated April 9, 2003) accompanied by various schedules and handouts as further detailed herein. 118

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**SCHEDULES & HANDOUTS:** 121

- Schedules and Lists; 122
- Dues & Fees Comparison; 123
- Grand Budget for 2003; and 124
- **PriceWaterhouseCoopers (PWC)** Fiscal Year End (FYE) Comparative Financial Reports for 2002 & 2001. 125

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Treasurer Thomas G. Burkey responded to numerous questions, from the Executive Committee, pertaining to the previously distributed copies of the Cash Disbursements Journal(s) detailing the monthly periods of: 127

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December 01, 2002 . . . .	December 31, 2002
January 01, 2003 . . . . .	January 31, 2003
February 01, 2003 . . . . .	February 28, 2003
March 01, 2003 . . . . .	March 31, 2003

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The Executive Committee thanked Treasurer Burkey for his responsive answers to their various inquiries. 136

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**INVESTMENT ACTIVITIES:**

Date	Average Rate	Average Yield
01/01/1999	6.71%	7.13%
01/01/2000	6.72%	7.10%
01/01/2001	6.54%	7.65%
01/01/2002	6.35%	7.12%
<b>01/01/2003</b>	<b>5.96%</b>	<b>6.81%</b>

Treasurer Thomas G. Burkey reiterated his comments from the December 2002, Executive Committee meeting that, due to the historically low economic interest rates, the bonds in the ATA's investment portfolio are still being called on a routine basis. He noted that the average yield is still in the approximate range of 6.81% but that downward pressure appears certain to continue for the foreseeable future. The Treasurer stated that he will continue his diligent efforts, but the ATA's budget forecasts must include this downward trend in investment income. Executive Director John R. Norris acknowledged the Treasurer's precautionary forecast and stated that he will plan for that eventuality and respond accordingly. The Executive Committee will be kept advised of the continuing effects to the ATA's financial position.

Treasurer Thomas G. Burkey's **Schedule of Investment Percentages** depicted the following investment spread of risk:

	01/2003	01/2002	01/2001
<b>Nontaxable Municipal</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>Certificates of Deposit</b>	<b>00%</b>	<b>00%</b>	<b>02%</b>
<b>Government Notes</b>	<b>04%</b>	<b>09%</b>	<b>09%</b>
<b>Corporate Notes</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>59%</b>
<b>Short Term</b>	<b>08%</b>	<b>00%</b>	<b>08%</b>
<b>Money Market</b>	<b>00%</b>	<b>00%</b>	<b>02%</b>
	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

Ex-Officio Phillip C. Wright, Treasurer Thomas G. Burkey and Executive Director John R. Norris presented and reviewed, in pertinent detail, the following prepared Reports:

- **Amateur Trapshooting Association Q1 2003 Budget vs. Actual;**
  - Total Revenues at \$512,829., were -2% (\$9,771.) of budget.
  - Total Expenses at \$316,601., were relatively flat and on budget.
  - Net Income at \$196,228., was -4% (\$8,619.) of budget.
- **Grand American Tournament 2003 Budget vs. 2002 Actual Comparison w/Explanations;**
  - Total Revenues at \$2,764,233., are projected to be in line with 2002 Actual.
  - Total Expenses at \$2,589,273., are projected at a +2% (\$47,517.) of 2002 Actual.
  - Net Income at \$174,960., is projected at a -19% (\$40,547.) of 2002 Actual.
- **Fees and Annual Dues - Fiscal Year 2003 vs. 2002.**
  - Fees recorded through February 2003, were down 8.67% (\$10,302.).
  - Dues recorded through February 2003, were down 2.30% (\$10,588.).

Treasurer Thomas G. Burkey stated that the Amateur Trapshooting Association's established **Investment Policy** has been adhered to at all times for the period(s) as reported and presented herein, with acknowledgment (including full financial disclosed) of the minimal impact of the accounting transactions due to the demutualization of the ATA's health insurer, Anthem Insurance Company.

Subsequent to further discussion and review and upon the Motion of **Eastern Zone Vice President D. Ray Greb** with second of **Southwestern Zone Vice President Dr. Thomas P. Arvas** and following the President's call of the question, with no response, it was unanimously

**RESOLVED That the Treasurer's Report(s) and the Official Act(s) of Treasurer Thomas G. Burkey are hereby ratified, adopted and/or approved this date and time.**  
**FURTHER RESOLVED That Treasurer Burkey be commended, in these financially turbulent times of our National economy, for his diligent and professional performance on behalf of the Amateur Trapshooting Association of America.**

..... President Thomas E. Acklin called a Recess as indicated  
 (April 09, 2003) ..... RECESS AT 09:15 HRS.  
 (April 09, 2003) ..... MEETING RESUMED AT 09:25 HRS.  
 All Executive Committee Members answered the Call at the resumption of the Meeting.

At 09:26 Hrs., IN RE: **Secretary's Report**

Secretary G. Mike Seitz, with the assistance of Executive Director John R. Norris, reviewed the following Complaint(s) and/or Inquiries:

**Disciplinary Actions, Suspensions and/or Pending Issues**

<b>COMPLAINT # 02-09</b> (Respondent)	<b>Dan Kirby, Jr.</b> <b>ATA # 97-01216</b> San Diego, CA 92109
<b>COMPLAINANT</b> (Petitioner)	<b>Tanhan K. Eubanks</b> <b>ATA # 99-14121</b> Redlands, CA 92375

**Reference Complaint # 03-01**

**ACTION:** By letter (undated) to ATA Executive Director John R. Norris with an original post mark date of January 18, 2003, Tanhan Eubanks, Co-Owner of Redlands Trap & Skeet made complaint against ATA Member & Vice President of CGSTA Dan Kirby, Jr.. The complaint was received, and recognized accordingly, at the ATA Office on January 21, 2003. Executive Director Norris reviewed the complaint and determined that it substantially complied with the requirements set forth in the published **ATA Official Rules**. The complaint was forwarded to California ATA Delegate Eileen Williamson for investigation and subsequent recommendation, in the circumstance. On January 29, 2003, California ATA Delegate Williamson sent a notice of recusal (from the investigatory process) to Executive Director Norris advising of her potential conflict due to her business association (cashier) with Redlands Trap & Skeet. Subsequent to receipt of the notification of recusal on the part of California ATA Delegate Williamson, Executive Director John R. Norris (according to Official process) resent the complaint and supplemental documentation to California ATA First Alternate Delegate Vickie Larkin, on February 03, 2003, for impartial investigation and findings of fact. Subsequent to her investigation, ATA First Alternate Delegate Vickie Larkin was advised to record and send her written recommendation(s) to ATA Western Zone Vice President David R. Kaiser.

The complaint is principally based on allegations that CGSTA Vice President Dan Kirby, Jr., used foul and abusive language towards the Complainant Tanhan K. Eubanks and further that Dan Kirby "acted in an ungentlemanly and disorderly manner ... and ... interfered with the management's procedures in conducting the shoot;" all in contravention of **ATA Official Rule(s), III, U (Disqualification), 1(e) & 1(f)**. It is alleged that the actions, complained of, occurred during the New Year's Shoot at Redlands Trap & Skeet on and/or during the days of December 28, 2002, through and including January 01, 2003.

**SUBSEQUENT EVENTS:** Dan Kirby, Jr., corresponded with Executive Director John R. Norris by sending a letter dated, on or about, **February 28, 2003**, and received at the ATA corporate headquarters on **March 03, 2003**. Among other information contained in the correspondence, Mr. Kirby indicated that it was his desire to file a cross complaint against Tanhan Eubanks. Executive Director Norris responded to Mr. Kirby on **March 04, 2003**, and advised him of the proper procedures relative to the filing of a complaint with a proviso that "the time frame under which a complaint can be considered is rapidly approaching."

**STATUS: PENDING**

Consideration of the above Complaint (**# 03-01**) has been deferred pending a complete investigation by the appropriate ATA Officials.

With the unanimous concurrence of the Executive Committee, President Thomas E. Acklin instructed Executive Director John R. Norris to notify California First Alternate Delegate Vickie Larkin, and all other interested Parties, that a time extension has been granted to **Official Complaint # 03-01**.

**The Executive Committee considers this matter stayed pending further investigation and/or proceedings that are consistent herewith.**

**[Note: Executive Director John R. Norris sent, and/or acknowledged, the Notices of Extension on March 06, 2003, as instructed]**

<b>IN THE MATTER OF:</b> <b>Gerald L. Narigon, Sr.</b>	<b>Gerald L. Narigon, Sr.</b> <b>ATA # 56-02327</b> Wellsburg, WV 26070
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Former ATA member, Gerald L. Narigon, Sr., has indicated his desire to seek reinstatement of his membership in the Amateur Trapshooting Association. Mr. Narigon permanently resigned from the ATA due to certain occurrences at the Mint Gun Club in 1984. The resignation was accepted directly by the Board of Directors and recognized by Corporate Resolution as follows:

**"RESOLVED that the resignations of Gerald L. Narigon, Sr., and [name protected], both dated September 6, 1984, be accepted and recognized as permanent resignations from the Amateur Trapshooting Association of America and that future applications by either of them for reinstatement and/or applications for membership by either of them be rejected by the Association."**

On at least three (3) prior occasions, Mr. Narigon has attempted to regain membership status in the ATA. All referenced attempts were rejected, by the Executive Committee accordingly, due to the permanency and special circumstances pertaining to his resignation.

Subsequent to the Board of Directors' approval of certain amendments to ATA By-Law provision pertaining to Suspension and Expulsion of Members, it is the studied opinion of the Executive Committee that Gerald L. Narigon, Sr., be advised that if he desires to, again, seek reinstatement of his ATA membership that he be required to follow the administrative frame work established by the Board of Directors of the Amateur Trapshooting Association of America. The salient provisions of the By-Law provisions are reduplicated as follows:

**Article III**

**Membership**

**Section 5: - Suspension and Expulsion of Members**

... a member failing to serve said notice shall irrevocably lose his right of appeal to the Board of Directors, subject to the following additional terms and conditions.

"In recognition of the principles of equity and redemption, any annual or life member currently, or subsequently, suspended from the Amateur Trapshooting Association may appeal for Clemency and Reinstatement of his or her membership in the A.T.A. after a minimum of one (½) half of the period of suspension has elapsed. For those member(s) suspended for life, a minimum period of seven (7) years, from the original date of suspension of all A.T.A. rights and privileges, must have elapsed before an appeal for Clemency and Reinstatement may be submitted for proper review and consideration, as is consistent with these By-Laws.

Clemency and Reinstatement appeals shall not be accepted or reviewed if the suspension and/or expulsion resulted from findings of fact in which the member, suspended for life, is convicted of, or subject to an adverse verdict for a felony conviction in any criminal justice system; any criminal or civil judgment and/or action involving aggravated assault or a substantially similar offense; or if the applicant for Clemency and Reinstatement is otherwise prohibited from possessing firearms by either state or Federal law.

In appellate cases involving suspensions of three (3) years or less, all appeals for Clemency and Reinstatement shall be resolved by the Executive Committee, in their sole discretion. In appellate cases involving suspensions of more than three (3) years, including life suspensions, the Executive Committee shall refer the appeal(s) for Clemency and Reinstatement to the Board of Directors along with their findings of fact and conclusions, resulting therefrom, accompanied by a written recommendation to either approve or disapprove the appeal. All appeals for Clemency and Reinstatement referred to the Board of Directors will be heard and properly adjudicated at a special meeting(s) of the Board of Directors, subject to the call of the President, during the Grand American Tournament. All referenced appeals taken hereunder shall be preconditioned upon said member serving written notice of said appeal upon the Executive Director of the Amateur Trapshooting Association at least sixty (60) days prior to the first official day of the Grand American Tournament, at which time the appeal will first be eligible for hearing and adjudication by the Board of Directors. Any such appeal must be accompanied by a letter of recommendation from the state or provincial association where the applicant currently resides.

All appeals taken hereunder shall be decided by majority vote of the Board of Directors. The appeal for reinstatement may be granted on a conditional basis, by the Board of Directors, as to the regnant and level of privileges. In the event the Board of Directors fail to reach a majority vote, the appeal for Clemency and Reinstatement shall be rejected and the suspension shall remain in full force and effect. All other applicable Rules or other governing procedures, for reinstatements shall also apply to these provisions. Only one (1) such appeal shall be considered, and acted upon, from any one (1) annual or life member currently under suspension or expulsion. The Executive Committee, in consultation with the Board of Directors, shall determine the practice, procedure and application of the appeal provisions hereunder and they shall interpret all of these appeal provisions in harmony with the best interests of the Amateur Trapshooting Association and the remaining provisions of the By-Laws."

The Executive Committee is fully aware that a situation, such as this, pertaining to a member's resignation is not directly on point with the By-Law provisions pertaining to "Suspension or Expulsion," but in order to provide for a more orderly hearing before the Board of Directors (should they ultimately decide to review the resignation); the Executive Committee feels that this modality is most appropriate in the circumstance. The Executive Committee has not reviewed the Record in sufficient detail and does not - at this time - offer any further recommendations for the Board of Directors to consider.

Secretary G. Mike Seitz noted that other controlling details have been presumably 'sealed' (rendered confidential) by judicial proceedings and will not be further disseminated until an appropriate release and hold harmless, in favor of the ATA and its Officers and Directors, has been secured from Gerald L. Narigon, Sr. Mr. Narigon has been provided with a copy of the current By-Law provisions and advised that if he wishes to proceed with an appeal for reinstatement; he should proceed according to the dictates contained therein.

Subsequent to further discussion and review and upon the Motion of **Western Zone Vice President David R. Kaiser** with second of **Southern Zone Vice President Kenneth P. Duncan** and following the President's call of the question, with no response, it was unanimously

**RESOLVED That the Course of Action as defined herein shall be followed in this particular circumstance and is hereby adopted and approved this date and time.**

**FURTHER RESOLVED That Secretary G. Mike Seitz is directed to prepare the necessary documents and procedural guidelines as consistent with the harmony of this Resolution.**

**BE IT NOTED FOR THE RECORD That, at the recommendation of Secretary G. Mike Seitz, Gerald L. Narigon, Sr., shall be required to notify the remaining 'unnamed party' of any subsequent appeal in order to give him/her the right to object due to the confidential nature of the sealed record. Subsequent revelations (during a Board of Director's hearing) could affect current and/or future employment of either party as well as other sensitive or protected pursuits.**

<b>IN THE MATTER OF: TRANSGENDER AND/OR GENDER DESIGNATION ISSUES</b>	<b>Linda Kay Eppinger (f/k/a Bill Eppinger)</b> ATA # 94-01746 . . . . . ATA # 94-01746 Platteville, CO 80651
<b>PROTEST</b> (Original Petitioner)	<b>Rosemarie Kingery</b> ATA # 79-05374 Alamosa, CO 81101

President Thomas E. Acklin requested that Secretary G. Mike Seitz introduce the next **Order of Business** that was tabled during the December 2002, Executive Committee meeting and rescheduled for further discussion during these meetings. Secretary Seitz advised that this Agenda Item is being reintroduced as **Unfinished Business** at the convenience of the Executive Committee.

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Secretary Seitz stated that he wanted to clarify the investigative processes that have taken place with regard to transgender/transsexual and/or gender designation issues as pertains to the interests of the Amateur Trapshooting Association and its membership. The Secretary's prior references (Minute Records) to the legal issues (including anticipated legal opinions) pertaining to gender designations were - perhaps - depicted and construed from a narrow perspective. For purposes of discussions and debate it is recognized that such issues cannot be approached solely from a legal perspective. The social and legal aspects are quite fluid and complex. Our modern society has evolved to the point that it has recognized that nature does not always create perfect human beings. Some individuals are chromosomally and/or psychologically 'mismatched' and it is now within their medical prerogative to correct some of nature's mistakes.

Secretary Seitz also wanted to speak for the Record in order to clarify that the original Protest of Rosemarie Kingery has been resolved according to the following recapitulation of the "Status" report from the December 2002, Executive Committee meeting. The Secretary also wanted to note that the continuing discussions and debate pertaining to this 'issue' should not continue to personalize the Policy discussions and subsequent resolution to the disinterests of Linda Kay Eppinger.

The Secretary presented the following for foundation purposes:

**REVIEW:** In summary, ATA Member Rosemarie Kingery originally filed a protest with Colorado ATA Delegate Allen Jones on June 08, 2002, regarding ATA Member Linda K. Eppinger. It was noted, by ATA Member Kingery, that "Linda Eppinger started shooting trap in 1994 as Bill Eppinger (ATA # 94-01746). She is now competing as Linda K. Eppinger under the same ATA number." ATA Member Kingery "assumes that Linda has undergone a sex change operation" and questions how the ATA can allow a person to start this sport as a man and then allow that same person to compete in ladies' events. ATA Member Kingery further states that it is her "understanding that the ATA made a determination a few years ago that the sex on your driver's license determined your status of being eligible for special category prizes and awards." Ms. Kingery continued by stating that she is "protesting this decision on the grounds that Linda K. Eppinger started the sport of trap shooting as a man, under the name of Bill Eppinger and, therefore, should not be eligible to compete in the Ladies category."

Secretary G. Mike Seitz addressed the issue of Gender Declaration, including transgender issues, with the Executive Committee. The Secretary advised that, whatever course of action is ultimately adopted by the Executive Committee, it must be based on an objective standard that is fair, equitable and non-discriminatory. The legal issues and considerations are quite diverse throughout the United States. The ATA is a Delaware domestic corporation but we have sufficient contacts throughout the United States and Canadian Provinces that we must remain cognizant of the legal environment in all jurisdictions. Federal and states rights issues are involved and we must remain legally and socially vigilant and be prepared to react accordingly.

The Executive Committee and the Secretary reviewed and discussed various legal ramifications and the options that are among the choices, around which a Policy Statement should reasonably be formulated. The issue resolutions discussed were as follows:

- Do nothing - maintain the present status quo (gender designation is a voluntary declaration that is certified by the applicant at which time the membership application is submitted);
- Gender as indicated on the applicant's driver's license;
- Gender at birth;
- Gender as determined by chromosome (genetic) testing.

The Executive Committee discussed the legal articles as previously provided by Secretary Seitz. It was noted that the Amateur Trapshooting Association, as a private Organization, has a degree of latitude in such considerations.

This protest of gender designation was originally stayed pending a legal review with corporate counsel, in order to develop an objective standard to guide the Executive Committee in the resolution of such issues. As of this date, former Secretary and General Counsel Robert E. Melton, has offered a 'letter opinion' with reference to these issues. This 'letter opinion' has been included in the substantive discussions of the Executive Committee.

Secretary Seitz has provided the Executive Committee with various legal and social articles pertaining to similar issues involving gender designation and transgender considerations. It is generally apparent to the Executive Committee, from reviewing and studying these articles and in recognition of the preliminary comments of outside legal counsel, that the legal issues from both a Federal and state (rights) perspective are quite divergent. It is also recognized that the social and humanistic issues must be acknowledged and respected on both sides of the spectrum.

**STATUS:** ..... Reprint from December 13, 2002, Executive Committee Meeting  
"Subsequent to review and discussion, it was the unanimous consensus of the Executive Committee that the complaint [protest] as filed does not state a claim for which relief can be granted under the current [Administrative Policy, or] ATA Official Rules, as published. The Executive Committee is committed to resolving such issues in a fair and equitable manner within the current legal environment. The Executive Committee also stated that upon receipt of the anticipated legal memorandum from outside legal counsel, they will address such issues on an objective basis and develop a Policy (Rule) Statement to guide the decision making process."

**SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF RELEVANT FACTORS:**

The social and legal aspects have been thoroughly investigated and relevant research materials (as noted) have been previously submitted [and currently supplemented] to the Executive Committee Members for their review and consideration.

- On prior occasions the Executive Committee has debated and resolved the competitive aspects of the gender and age issues inherent in our sport. The general consensus has been - and remains - that the sport of trapshooting is gender neutral: That there are no specific (physical) attributes that favor either gender and/or age group ... we have had ATA and Grand American Champions throughout all gender and age categories ... and as our Junior Shooting Programs continue to proliferate and succeed, we fully expect the gender issues (physical equality) to meld even further.
- Secretary G. Mike Seitz advised of the following civil action from the County Court, Adams County, State of Colorado:

**Civil Action No. 99C 2904, Dated: April 12, 1999**

**ORDER**

In the Matter of the Petition of:

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William H. Eppinger, for a change of name to:  
Linda Kay Eppinger  
This matter came before the Court for hearing on Petitioner's Verified Petition for Change of Name. Present for the hearing were the Petitioner, William H. Eppinger and his counsel, Barry E. Glasgow.

The Court having reviewed the Petition and having heard the testimony of the Petitioner and having reviewed certain documents submitted to the Court for review makes the following findings of fact and conclusions of law:

William H. Eppinger has undergone a complete and irreversible gender change from male to female. He has accordingly petitioned this Court for entry of an order recognizing his change of gender and changing his legal name to be consistent with his new gender.

It is hereby ordered, adjudged and decreed that based upon the finding that Petitioner's gender has been changed from male to female, the name of William H. Eppinger is hereby changed to Linda Kay Eppinger and that said change shall be made and entered herein as a record of this Court.

It is further ordered that public notice of such change shall be given at least three times in the Westminster Window a newspaper published in Adams County, Colorado, within twenty days of this Order.

Done and Dated this 12th day of April, 1999.

**By The Court:**  
/S/ County Court Judge

- With the prior written permission of Linda Kay Eppinger, Secretary G. Mike Seitz personally reviewed medical records provided by Ms. Eppinger's personal physician. Secretary Seitz confirmed that the psychological and medical procedures as referenced in the court order from Adams County, Colorado, are accurate as contained therein.
- It is instructive - although not recognized as controlling - that two (2) of our 'sister' organizations **National Skeet Shooting Association (NSSA)**, and **National Sporting Clays Association (NSCA)** 5931 Roff Road, San Antonio, Texas 78253, have thoroughly reviewed a substantially similar fact scenario, pertaining to Linda Kay Eppinger, and have concluded that she is eligible to shoot as a female in their respective registered and sanctioned tournaments.
- Secretary G. Mike Seitz reviewed separate legal opinions, including his own, with the Executive Committee pertaining to these issues.

President Thomas E. Acklin noted that, unless there was other information to be brought before the Executive Committee, it appeared that it was time to call the question. Executive Director John R. Norris advised the President and Executive Committee that Colorado Delegate Allen Jones requested time to appear before the Executive Committee to present his representative views on the gender issue and to deliver numerous petitions that have been gathered pertaining to same.

Subsequent to further discussion and review and upon the Motion of **Western Zone Vice President David R. Kaiser** with second of **Southwestern Zone Vice President Dr. Thomas P. Arvas** and following the President's call of the question, with no further response, it was unanimously

**RESOLVED That further consideration and Resolute Action pertaining to the issue of gender designation in the Amateur Trapshooting Association of America shall be laid on the table pending the appearance of Colorado Delegate Allen Jones before the Executive Committee.**

[**SECRETARY'S NOTE:** Due to the scheduling and extensive amount of information presented during these Meetings, the Secretary has elected to compile the developed information and present the Agenda item(s), together, wherever possible or expedient. The date and timing of the information will be inserted in the Agenda Record for the purpose of clarity. This approach is being utilized in an attempt to make the Minute Record easier to read and comprehend - Secretary G. Mike Seitz]

[**NOTE:** Official Record and Entry was made on April 11, 2003, at 08:23 Hrs. - Secretary G. Mike Seitz]

..... April 11, 2003, discussion Inserted at this point for clarifications purposes/Sec. G.M. Seitz  
On April 11, 2003, at 08:23 Hrs., President Thomas E. Acklin welcomed Colorado Delegate Allen Jones to the Executive Committee meeting. Following introductions, President Acklin requested that Delegate Jones present his views and information, pertaining to 'gender designation' to the Committee for their consideration.

Delegate Jones presented the Executive Committee with numerous petitions signed by female ATA members urging the Executive Committee to adopt a policy and/or amend the current ATA By-Laws to recognize "female at birth" as the appropriate modality of determining gender designation for participating in registered shoots governed by the Amateur Trapshooting Association of America. Delegate Jones also presented the Executive Committee with a letter written by Rosemarie Kingery (dated March 6, 2003), and addressed to Allen Jones as Colorado ATA Delegate. Excerpts from the letter indicated the research performed by Rosemarie Kingery involving: the Olympic "femininity testing" approach; LPGA (Ladies' Professional Golf Association), WTA (Women's Tennis Association), and the PWBA (Professional Women's Bowling Association).

Secretary G. Mike Seitz advised Delegate Jones that all of the athletic organizations mentioned in Rosemarie Kingery's letter including their gender designating procedures have been reviewed in pertinent detail on prior occasions by the Executive Committee. Delegate Jones was assured that the relative testing merits of these organizations have been thoroughly debated by the Executive Committee. Southwestern Zone Vice President Dr. Thomas P. Arvas stated he strongly supports the testing approach sought by Ms. Kingery. Subsequent to his presentations, ATA Delegate Jones responded to the numerous questions of the Executive Committee in a direct and courteous manner. The Executive Committee Members thanked Colorado Delegate Jones for his insight and his representative views. Delegate Jones was excused from the meeting at 08:59 Hrs.

Subsequent to the resumption of the meeting, President Thomas E. Acklin requested further discussion and/or debate to bring this issue to conclusion. There being none and upon the Motion of **President and Central Zone Vice**

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**President Thomas E. Acklin** with second of **Eastern Zone Vice President D. Ray Greb** and following the President's call of the question, Southwestern Zone Vice President Dr. Thomas P. Arvas renewed his appeal for the adoption of "gender at birth" for category designations at all ATA registered shoots. The Executive Committee thanked Southwestern Zone Vice President Arvas for his comments and acknowledged the lobbying pressure that had befallen him. Thereafter, President Thomas E. Acklin renewed his call of the question, with no further response, it was by majority vote

**RESOLVED** That, subsequent to thorough investigation and review and in the best interests of the Amateur Trapshooting Association of America and its Membership, it shall be the **Administrative Policy** of the Amateur Trapshooting Association of America that gender designation for any member of the Amateur Trapshooting Association is a voluntary declaration of that individual. Subsequent to challenge thereof, shoot management shall accept a member's special category (gender designation) declaration, as determined by the sex designation, indicated on the member(s) driver's license and/or governmental issued identification card.

**FURTHER RESOLVED** That it is recognized that a vast majority (if not all) of the states permit an applicant to make a voluntary declaration - as to gender designation - when applying for a driver's license or governmental identification card, subject to perjurious penalties applying. In cases of suspected fraud or alleged fraud, or by the filing of an official complaint, the Amateur Trapshooting Association of America, by and through its Executive Committee, specifically reserves the right to suspend and/or temporarily suspend any suspect member(s) until a competent investigation is initiated and completed.

**BE IT NOTED FOR THE RECORD** That Southwestern Zone Vice President Dr. Thomas P. Arvas requested that the Executive Committee Members be polled individually and that their votes be noted for the Record. President and Central Zone Vice President Thomas E. Acklin concurred with the polling request of the Southwestern Zone Vice President. The recorded vote of the Executive Committee pertaining to the Policy (gender designation) decision pertaining to the original Main Motion was recorded as follows:

**Voting in favor of the motion were:**

- Western Zone Vice President David R. Kaiser;
- Southern Zone Vice President Kenneth P. Duncan;
- Eastern Zone Vice President D. Ray Greb; and
- President & Central Zone Vice President Thomas E. Acklin  
(President Acklin stated that he wanted to affirm his Motion pertaining to this Policy decision in order to show his support for the majority opinion).

**Voting against the motion was:**

- Southwestern Zone Vice President Dr. Thomas P. Arvas.

**" Pending Correspondence**

Secretary G. Mike Seitz reported that there is no remaining Official Correspondence to present to the Executive Committee other than what has already been scheduled and appearing on the Agenda to be discussed during the normal course of business.

Subsequent to the Secretary's presentations, discussion and review and upon the Motion of **Eastern Zone Vice President D. Ray Greb** with second of **Southern Zone Vice President Kenneth P. Duncan**, and following the President's call of the question, with no response, it was unanimously

**RESOLVED** That the **Secretary's Report(s)** and the **Official Act(s)** of **Secretary G. Mike Seitz** are hereby ratified, adopted and/or approved this date and time.

..... President Thomas E. Acklin called a Recess as indicated  
(April 09, 2003) ..... RECESS AT 10:20 HRS.  
(April 09, 2003) ..... MEETING RESUMED AT 10:31 HRS.  
All Executive Committee Members answered the Call at the resumption of the Meeting.

**" Special Reports**

**At 10:31 Hrs. IN RE: Relocation Committee - Co-Chair James Bradford, Jr.**

President Thomas E. Acklin welcomed Co-Chair James Bradford, Jr., and Engineering Consultant John L. Maxwell to the meeting to review the latest information pertaining to the Relocation efforts of the Relocation Committee with the Executive Committee. President Acklin noted that Relocation Committee Co-Chair Ben L. Henson was unable to attend due to business conflicts. The remaining Relocation Committee Members consisting of Treasurer Thomas G. Burkey and Secretary G. Mike Seitz were recognized and in attendance. The President introduced Engineer Consultant John Maxwell to those Executive Committee Members who did not personally know him.

Following introductions, Co-Chair James Bradford and Engineering Consultant Maxwell presented a brief summary of all the relocation efforts and presented an overview of all sites that have been specifically investigated. Further pertinent details regarding the "Short List Candidates" are included at the conclusion of these reports.

Co-Chair James Bradford, Jr., presented a Relocation Report that was co-produced by himself and Co-Chair Ben L. Henson. The gist of the Report is as follows:

**Relocation Report**

**"As you recall from our December meeting, RFP's were sent many places and the idea of a Grand American contingency site was discussed.**

**Contingency sites mentioned were Pennsylvania, Michigan, Missouri, and San Antonio. Realistically, rather than holding a reduced attendance Grand American on one of the sites above with inadequate notice, we could possibly do as well utilizing our own Eastern fields!**

**CONTINGENCY PLANNING will not be formally addressed in this report.**

**It was discussed that partnering with an established facility may be highly cost**

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effective and an attractive option ... **PERHAPS OUR BEST OPTION!**

As perhaps you recall from our brief sit-down in Tucson on February 22, Tunica, Miss., Miami Co., Ohio, and Richmond, Ind., were eliminated by Relocation Committee recommendation.

Partnership opportunities were left open with Michigan, Missouri, San Antonio. Sparta, Illinois, has re-emerged in the partnership category. Shelbyville, IN, Las Vegas, South Dakota and West Virginia remain as freestanding sites.

West Virginia has essentially opted out and Las Vegas has never submitted a formal proposal after PROMISING to do so. John [Norris] will attend a Las Vegas meeting April 15. Las Vegas, of course, has the distinction of being a destination venue with cheap air rates on a myriad of flights. Las Vegas needs to be kept open until the last possible drop dead date.

South Dakota has a proposal which we will review while we're here. They are friendly folks from a gun friendly, outdoor sports, state. South Dakota shouldn't be dismissed out of hand!

Shelbyville [Indiana] does not appear financially viable to Ben [Henson] and me ... unless there have been SIGNIFICANT changes in their proposal ... Fuller Farms is very beautiful and Indianapolis is a sports city, indeed ... the financial model doesn't cut it, however!

Missouri officials were very pleasant at our meeting March 13. See enclosure .... There is potential here for a partnership, and certainly a strong willingness by MTA's officials to continue dialogue and develop a preliminary plan.

Matt Spahn will be presenting The National Shooting Complex's perspective on our holding the Grand American here (San Antonio). It would appear to be a tenant - landlord relationship; probably best utilized as a short-term, 10 - 15 year solution while we build cash reserves having purchased a site for future development.

Michigan has great potential, but an uninterested township board, etc., provides huge obstacles ... should be removed from consideration.

Sparta, Illinois, will be represented by Mr. Mike Hampton on Wednesday and a party led by Dan Reitz on Friday. It is our understanding that Peabody Recreational Lands, LLC, the Co., and the State are forging ahead in developing the site we have all visited ... we essentially will need to build 50 trap fields on each side of their fields, build a CEB, etc. Site development, camping, vendors, etc., will be developed by those folks. We will exclusively utilize the facility in August and in the time-frame of our proposed National Team Shoot ... this proposal appears to be the cleanest and most cost effective for our organization at this juncture.

Respectfully Submitted,

/S/ Jim Bradford, Jr.

/S/ Ben Henson

ATA Relocation Co-Chairmen"

Subsequent to reviewing the prepared report of the Co-Chairmen, Co-Chair Bradford and Engineering Consultant John L. Maxwell proceeded with their summary review as follows:

**SHELBYVILLE, INDIANA**

Shelby County has submitted a proposal that will be further detailed in a more comprehensive fashion in this presentation.

**LAS VEGAS, NEVADA**

Clark County, Nevada, is in the process of developing a multi-use shooting sports facility just north of the City of Las Vegas. The property is approximately 3 ½ miles long by 1½ miles deep and would obviously be suitable for a large trapshooting venue. This venue is to be a public facility assumed to be administered by a County Park Board. This particular administrative set-up is generally cumbersome in nature and the public meeting processes somewhat time consuming.

Executive Director John R. Norris and Engineering Consultant John L. Maxwell are slated to travel to Las Vegas during the week following the Southwestern Grand Satellite Tournament to further investigate the viability of this project and to report their findings to the Relocation Committee and the Executive Committee. The Board of Directors will be kept advised accordingly.

**SPARTA, ILLINOIS**

The City of Sparta, State of Illinois and Peabody (Coal) Energy Corporation have submitted a proposal that will be further detailed in a more comprehensive fashion later in this presentation.

**TUNICA, MISSISSIPPI**

Executive Director John R. Norris traveled to Tunica, Mississippi, to investigate this site presentation and to assist the interested authorities in their final package proposal. The Executive Director reported that he was enthusiastically received but, regretfully, the proposal from Tunica did not include sufficient financial assistance for the acquisition of property. Subsequent to further analysis, the authorities in Tunica were informed that their proposal would be significantly enhanced if acquisition funding was made available. In writing, they indicated that they were unable to purchase or otherwise provide "free ground" for ATA purposes.

**MIAMI COUNTY, OHIO (TROY)**

Miami County Planning Director Daniel L. Brandewie has been in continuing contact with various members of the Relocation Committee and Executive Director John R. Norris with regard to a parcel of land containing approximately eight hundred (800) acres of land adjacent to Tipp City, Ohio. This land has been identified and referred to as the "Mohr" property. This site is located approximately five (5) miles from the existing Vandalia property and is in close proximity to I-75 and S.R. 571.

As of February 26, 2003, in a letter addressed to the Relocation Committee, Planning Director Brandewie stated that "[A]t this point in time, our office is unable to provide you a definite proposal. However, I am still

recommending you consider the merits of the Wilma Mohr property located in the southern area of Miami County in Monroe Township.” The Relocation Committee, with the assistance of Executive Director John R. Norris, has evaluated the various acquisition possibilities and the available funding mechanisms and has determined that there are so many unknown variables that this site is moot.

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**SOUTH DAKOTA**

The State of South Dakota presented a very professional presentation that is further depicted herein. Regretfully, the financial assistance is such that it is determined not to be financially viable. Significant capital investment for construction costs would be required by the Amateur Trapshooting Association.

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**RICHMOND, INDIANA**

Richmond, Indiana, officials presented a final proposal that did not include any financial assistance for the purchase of property. Their proposal did offer some economic assistance in bringing utilities to the proposed site but the approximate Four Million (\$4,000,000.) Dollar land acquisition cost along with the majority of the construction cost left to be funded by the Amateur Trapshooting Association renders this site as not financially viable.

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**WEST VIRGINIA**

The State of West Virginia performed a great amount of research and asked many probing questions but in the end they declined to submit a proposal. They indicated in writing that they are unable to justify the amount of assistance required by the Amateur Trapshooting Association to make the project viable on the part of the State of West Virginia.

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**LINN CREEK, MISSOURI (MISSOURI TRAPSHOOTERS ASSOCIATION)**

Co-Chair James Bradford, Jr., and Executive Director John R. Norris have been in contact with various officials of the Missouri Trapshooters Association. Co-Chair Bradford and Executive Director Norris traveled to Kansas City, Missouri, to meet with MTA Officials, President Ron Blacksmith and Directors Lynn Gipson and Randall D. Crawford, Esq., to explore the possibility of the ATA and MTA partnering on a contingent and permanent basis. Director Crawford indicated that the MTA’s interest remains strong on continuing a dialogue for either venue.

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Director Crawford sent a letter of clarification to Messrs. Bradford and Norris dated March 18, 2003. In this writing, Director Crawford thanked Co-Chair Bradford and Executive Director Norris for taking the time to travel to Kansas City for these discussions as reported. Director Crawford, continuing with his points of clarification, stated the following:

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- Basic premise is that the ATA would want to run the Grand in its entirety. The ATA would pay all the costs of holding the Grand and the income would belong to the ATA.
- The MTA would prefer the Grand be held in early August in hopes that would lessen the impact on their Fall Handicap. Director Crawford stated “the impact upon our Fall Handicap is probably the most difficult issue to address in a permanent partnering arrangement.”
- “If the ATA wants to develop one or two more shoots, the windows of opportunity exist at the MTA.”
- “The MTA’s position on land ownership may be a concern to the ATA Board, but what I have proposed gives the ATA permanency of location at a price that is readily affordable. I envision an agreement that would allow the ATA and MTA to coexist on the same ground for so long as this sport can remain anywhere.”

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Co-Chair Bradford commented that there is sufficient land for expansion and room accommodations in the Osage Beach, Missouri, area should the Board ultimately approve any partnering aspect as referenced herein. Secretary G. Mike Seitz added that he generally attends the Missouri State Shoot (May) and the Missouri Fall Handicap (October) and will be prepared to assist in further contract negotiations should the need arise subsequent to the development of the other venues under consideration. Executive Director John R. Norris advised that he will attend the Missouri State Shoot so that he and Secretary Seitz can meet with the Missouri officials to address any of their concerns or questions.

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**SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS . . . . . April 11, 2003, at 15:04 Hrs. [The National Shooting Complex presentation was made on April 11, 2003, at 13:04 Hrs. The Secretary is presenting the information at this juncture to assist the reader in evaluating all of the proposals in one section]**

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Mr. Matt Spahn, Executive Director of the National Shooting Complex, San Antonio, Texas, appeared before the Executive Committee to present his proposal on behalf of the National Shooting Complex. Mr. Spahn opened his presentation by reviewing some of the recent marketing accomplishments of the NSSF & NSCA. He indicated that he was particularly proud of the marketing efforts that were accomplished with General Motors Corporation.

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Mr. Spahn continued his presentation by reviewing an aerial photo of the National Shooting Complex and the anticipated expansion plans (in order to accommodate one hundred (100) plus traps - and provide an estimated one thousand (1,000) RV spots). He asserted that they would be able to accommodate the Grand. Matt noted that he is an ATA member and supports all shooting sports in general. He stated that they would do anything to help the ATA in their relocation pursuits either on a permanent or temporary basis.

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How can the National Shooting Complex assist the ATA, asked Mr. Spahn? He wanted to know what the ATA wanted and indicated his desire to keep an on-going dialogue with the ATA in order that the National Shooting Complex would be in a position to respond to the emergent needs of the ATA. Mr. Spahn noted that he did not have a prepared (written) presentation to review with the Executive Committee. Rather, he wanted to “engage them in discussion in order to pursue similarities between the two (2) organizations.”

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Executive Director Spahn reviewed the time slots that were available to support the various shooting championships. In his opinion, the most optimum time to hold the Grand American (in San Antonio) would be late October. He added that this time “is not set in stone.” “If they are granted the Grand American Tournament, it would be imperative that it works for both parties.”

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President Thomas E. Acklin inquired about the cost of infrastructure improvements. Mr. Spahn advised that there are numerous avenues to be broached: leasing options; true partnership arrangements;

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lease with labor provisions. Southwestern Zone Vice President Dr. Thomas P. Arvas noted that we would have to have a more detailed presentation as to the impact to the ATA. Mr. Spahn stated that if the continuing dialogue dictated further action, he would be pleased to work up the various suggested scenarios for further review and consideration by the ATA Executive Committee.

Eastern Zone Vice President D. Ray Greb asked about encroachment of residential and/or business entities in the immediate area. Executive Director Spahn explained that it has "already begun and that he embraces it." "It is going to happen and you can't fight it." He noted that technological improvements will help with the noise issues. The country club setting - for future development - is crucial, stated Mr. Spahn. He reviewed the successful approach of the Silver Dollar Gun Club in Florida as a prime example. "You can't buy enough property to buffer yourself from the residential development" and if you could - "you can't afford the property tax." Mr. Spahn added that the Grand American venue in San Antonio would be an expensive proposition because the additional traps (installed for the Grand American) would "lay fallow" most of the year except for the Grand Tournament.

In his concluding remarks, Mr. Spahn stated that he has a meeting with his Executive Committee in the first part of May (Savannah, GA) and he would like a preliminary response from the ATA Executive Committee because he has some other opportunities that need to be considered. The Executive Committee thanked Executive Director Spahn for his presentations and the time that he took to visit with them.

..... At 15:43 Hrs. - Executive Director Matt Spahn recused himself from the meeting.

**SOUTH DAKOTA** ..... Submission Dated April 07, 2003

James Bradford, Jr., Co-Chair, of the Relocation Committee, presented a professionally prepared Bid Proposal from the State of South Dakota. The Proposal was a collaborative effort from:

**M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the State of South Dakota**

State Capitol, 500 East Capitol, Pierre, South Dakota 57501-5070, and

**Bruce W. Lyon, CEcD, Senior Project Manager - Governor's Office of Economic Development**

711 East Wells Avenue, Pierre, South Dakota 57501-3369.

The Governor's **Cover Letter** read in pertinent part:

**"In South Dakota, we're committed to the firearm industry and we've committed to helping the Amateur Trapshooting Association relocate its headquarters and range facility to South Dakota.**

**As you read the following proposal, I am confident that you will like what you see. South Dakota stands prepared to help you establish a new headquarters and range in a timely fashion.**

**As you know, South Dakota's business climate is second to none. In South Dakota, you will pay no corporate or personal income tax, no business inventory tax and no inheritance tax. Thank you for your consideration of South Dakota. I look forward to working with you and your group on this project."**

Sincerely,

/S/ M. Michael Rounds

South Dakota's **Bid Proposal** is summarized as follows:

P The land is located adjacent to the City of Vermillion [**Population Est. 11,967**], Clay County, SD [**Population Est. 13,637**], the site is comprised of approximately 766 acres, has paved access to both the east and the west, faces north, and is approximately 2 and 5/8's miles long (east to west).

P **Site Analysis:**

[The referenced 766 acres involves six individual landowners]

**Lot # 1** - This property is divided into two (2) individual sites. The owner's residence is located on ten (10) acres and will be subject to a life estate. In addition, a permanent one (1) acre plot will be reserved for a family burial ground.

**Lot # 2** - This owner has been given the right to continue to farm the unused portion of the site as it relates to the existing ownership.

**Lot # 3** - This owner has been given the right to continue to farm the unused portion of the site as it relates to the existing ownership.

**Lot # 4** - This owner has been given the right to continue to farm the unused portion of the site as it relates to the existing ownership.

**Lot # 5** - This owner has been given the right to continue to farm the unused portion of the site as it relates to the existing ownership.

**Lot # 6** - This owner has been given the right to continue to farm the unused portion of the site as it relates to the existing ownership. In addition, the State of South Dakota has agreed to remove from this site the land surrounding an existing home and shop area and allow the present occupant to remain. Fee simple for this portion of Lot # 6, will not transfer to either the State of South Dakota or the ATA.

P The State of South Dakota indicated that they are prepared to provide this property to the Amateur Trapshooting Association at no cost either through long-term lease or warrantee deed. In addition, [they] will ensure that all utilities extend to the property line including city water, sewer and electrical.

**Total Estimated Cash Value = \$3,000,000.**

P The City of Vermillion's Web site can be viewed at [www.cityofvermillion.com/](http://www.cityofvermillion.com/)

P **The City of Vermillion and Clay County stated that they will apply a real property tax abatement program to the improvements made on the site. The formula is as follows:**

Year 1	20%
Year 2	40%

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Year 3	60%
Year 4	80%
Year 5	Full Tax Load

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- P As real property tax is paid a year in arrears, the actual first year may be taxed as agricultural land depending on the assessment date.
- P To address the gap in construction financing identified in the RFP, the State of South Dakota and the City of Vermillion indicated that they will continue to research potential solutions. These may involve low interest loans made between the ATA and the state or bond financing through the South Dakota program. South Dakota indicated that “[A]t this point, the issue of gap financing is well within our capabilities.”

**INDIANA (SHELBYVILLE) . . . . . Submission Dated April 04, 2003**  
 John L. Maxwell, P.E., Engineering Consultant to the Amateur Trapshooting Association and the Relocation Committee, presented the salient features of the Bid Proposal from the City of Shelbyville, State of Indiana. The Proposal was a collaborative effort from the City of Shelbyville and the County of Shelby, State of Indiana. The proposal was prepared by:  
**Dan Theobald, Executive Director of Shelby County Development Corporation**  
 16 Public Square, Suite E, Shelbyville, Indiana 46176.

Mr. Theobald's **Cover Letter** read in pertinent part:  
**“Shelby County is located between I-70 and I-74 and just southeast of I-465 in central Indiana. Shelby County has 5 hotels just 5 miles from the site and the Indianapolis area has thousands of rooms within 30 minutes. Central Indiana has what your members expect during leisure hours:**  
 Major Shopping Malls  
 Major League Sports  
 Museums  
 Restaurants  
 Horse Racing (5 minutes away)  
 Meeting Facilities.  
**Without a doubt Shelby County, Indiana, can offer more amenities than any other prospective community. At this time, Shelby County, Indiana, to give an exact dollar incentive offer, we would need to know more about where utilities and roads would need to be, etc. ...”**

Indiana's **Bid Proposal** is summarized as follows:  
 (At this time, the following is an “example” of what Shelby County could offer subject to the time of the official drawings)

- P **SHELBY COUNTY**  
 \$1.5 million bond with Economic Development funds;  
 \$2.0 million approximate with TIF (tax increment financing) funds.
  - P **SHELBYVILLE**  
 \$1.5 million bond with Economic Development funds.  
 (The summary indicated that “under certain conditions this total of city and county incentives could be approximately \$5 million”).
  - P **TOWN OF MORRISTOWN**  
 The possibility exists that sanitary sewers could be extended from the Town of Morristown, Indiana, to the proposed site (Fuller, et al - property).
  - P **STATE OF INDIANA FUNDS**  
 \$100,000 / year.
  - P **INDIANA TRAPSHOOTERS ASSOCIATION, INC. (ITA)**  
 Indiana Gun Club contribution (pending successful negotiations).
- ..... **Mr. Theobald's concluding remarks continue as follows:**

**“ ... So the total incentive package could be considerably more than the \$3 million offered in the past. It is our hope that Shelby County will continue to be considered by your organization and that we could sit down with your developer to get a better understanding of your needs. I am certain we can provide the desired incentives Amateur Trapshooting Association needs to make this happen in Shelby County.”**  
 /S/  
**Dan Theobald, Executive Director, Shelby County Development Corporation.**

[The three (3) pieces of property, that are under option by the Indiana Relocation Committee and Rampart Properties, LLC, consist of 1,150 acres (approximately) but there is only 8,000 road feet available for trap line construction. The present 1 5/8's mile trap line at Vandalia provides approximately 8,500 straight line feet. At present, this would limit the Shelbyville, Indiana, site to approximately ninety (90) straight line traps, or less, depending on the configuration. Dual line capabilities are still a possibility as per the original presentations of the Indiana contingent from August 2001 presentations to the Board of Directors at Vandalia . . . . . Sec. G.M. Seitz]

**SPARTA (ILLINOIS) ..... Submission Dated April 09, 2003**

President Thomas E. Acklin noted that he was pleased to introduce Mr. Mike Hampton to the Executive Committee meeting to present the proposal of a Public/Private joint venture 'Consortium' bid on behalf of the State of Illinois (Illinois DNR), the City of Sparta and County of Randolph, and Peabody Recreational Lands/Peabody Energy. Mr. Hampton advised the Executive Committee that he has been retained by the State of Illinois to assist with the development of the Sparta property that has been under various aspects of discussion for over two (2) years. He stated that the State of Illinois and Peabody Recreational Lands have collaborated in order to spend some "seed" money and create tourism for the State of Illinois and to augment the full and part-time labor possibilities for the surrounding population.

Mr. Hampton advised that he was approached approximately six (6) months ago to become the project manager for the development of the "Sparta World Shooting Complex." Mr. Hampton further commented that the continuing impetus for this development was enhanced by the appointment of former State Representative Joel Brunsvold to the position of Executive Director of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR). Director Brunsvold and Illinois State Representative Dan Reitz have been and continue to be driving forces behind this endeavor. Mr. Hampton stated that he has found - by direct business involvement - that Representative Reitz is one of the most influential politicians in the State of Illinois and that he is totally committed to making this project a "happening and a success."

Mr. Hampton presented a letter dated April 09, 2003, that was addressed to Mr. Jim Bradford, Jr., as Co-Chair of the ATA Relocation Committee. The letter read in pertinent part as follows:

**"Dear Mr. Bradford:**

**On behalf of the State of Illinois and the Governor, I want to thank you and the Amateur Trapshooting Association (ATA) for extending the deadline for our response to Wednesday, April 9th.**

**The State of Illinois, through the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) proposes to create a Public/Private joint venture with the City of Sparta, Randolph County, and Peabody Energy to provide an opportunity for the ATA to relocate in southwestern Illinois.**

**The State of Illinois is committed to building a multi-use recreational facility on the Sparta site. The facility will include trap, skeet, sporting clays, rifle, pistol and archery ranges. We anticipate a year-round event driven facility which will include concessions, commercial areas, meeting areas, campgrounds and other uses.**

**The Public/Private cooperative venture anticipates acquiring adequate property from Peabody Energy, extending the utilities to the site and constructing the facilities necessary for a world-class shooting and recreational complex. Funding for the project will come from state and local resources and the private sector.**

**The State of Illinois invites the ATA to be centerpiece of the new complex. The ATA's costs and responsibilities are as follows:**

- \* Commit to a long-term agreement with negotiable terms;**
- \* Assist in obtaining sponsors for traps and facilities in the merchandising areas;**
- \* Conduct a pre-construction sales campaign for campground RV sites.**

**The site will also include a designated area for the necessary corporate offices and Hall of Fame. We believe with a strong cooperative venture from the state, county, and city governments coupled with the private sector presents an opportunity for the ATA to relocate without investing large amounts of capital up front. The principals of the cooperative venture are available to meet with the ATA to discuss the details of the proposal.**

**Thank you in advance for your consideration.**

**Sincerely,**

**/S/ Joel Brunsvold, Director"**

**[Copies: Julie Curry, Office of the Governor  
State Representative Dan Reitz  
Tom Acklin & John Norris]**

Mr. Hampton continued with his presentation by offering the following Position Statement from the Public/Private joint venture titled:

**ATA Proposal**

**"The Governor of the State of Illinois and the Director of the Department of Natural Resources are committed to building a multi-use recreational facility in the Sparta area. This facility will include trap, skeet, sporting clays, rifle, pistol and archery ranges. It will be an event-driven facility that will include concessions, meeting facilities and large RV campgrounds as well as fishing and other use opportunities. The ATA members are all aware of where this facility is located.**

**This Public/Private partnership, and its development, will depend on the needs of those partners. Peabody Coal has committed 1,200 acres to this project, as well as development dollars. The State of Illinois, the County of Randolph and the City of Sparta have made considerable financial commitments to this project, and dealers of sporting arms equipment are interested in developing the concession areas.**

**We have an advisory committee with members in place from the NSSF (National Shooting Sports Foundation), the NSCA (National Sporting Clays Association), the NSSA (National Skeet Shooting Association), and several Presidents/CEO's of industry along with top management personnel from large successful shooting facilities. We also have the interest of other organizations who, we think, will commit to this project. We believe that the ATA will be an integral part of this facility and we would like to accommodate the needs of the Grand American. This can best be accomplished by an early commitment from your organization."**

The last document presented to the Executive Committee, by Mr. Hampton, was a letter acknowledging the

retention of Mike Hampton to coordinate and take project lead on the Sparta World Shooting Complex. The letter was written on Illinois Department of Natural Resources' letterhead and addressed as follows:

Dated: March 21, 2003  
Addressed to: Mr. Mike Hampton  
San Antonio, Texas

"Dear Mike

Thank you for accepting our offer to coordinate and take project lead on the Sparta World Shooting Complex.

We feel very fortunate to have someone of your caliber and experience. If there is anything you need, please feel free to contact me at 217-782-1395

We look forward to working with you on this project.

Sincerely,

/S/ Jerry Beverlin

Director

Office of Land Management & Education

[Copies: Director Designee Joel Brunsvold

Acting Director Tom Flattery

Deputy Director Jim Reimer

Representative Dan Reitz]"

The Executive Committee was advised, by Mr. Hampton, that he will preliminarily control the initial bid and construction phases of the project in order to expedite the bidding processes and to control construction and development costs. The Public/Private joint venture is inviting "any national organization" to join in the utilization of the "Sparta World Shooting Complex."

Mr. Hampton summarized other proposal issues as follows:

- Mr. Hampton opened his remarks by stating that it was his primary purpose to appear before the Executive Committee to advise that an expanded group of Public and Private concerns have combined to build a World Class Shooting Complex and to offer the facility to the ATA on a lease basis with virtually no capital outlay on the part of the ATA. Mr. Hampton stated that it is his group's hope that "they will build it" and that they hope the "ATA will come and use the facility."

- The proposed site is to consist of approximately one thousand three hundred (1,300) acres. The joint venture group is also investigating the acquisition of an adjacent two thousand seven hundred (2,700) acres that is currently owned by the Illinois National Guard. Peabody Energy would have to "swap" an equal amount of acreage but the arrangement appears to be available (and viable).

- Current plans anticipate the installation of one thousand (1,000) RV spots (with electric, water and sewer). Currently, it is anticipated that 1,200 will be laid out with two hundred (200) held in reserve for future expansion. Plans will be drawn so as to accommodate a total of one thousand eight hundred (1,800) in the future.

Two (2) to three (3) RV areas are to be located on the property that will be consistent with the proposed usages of the site. Mr. Hampton emphasized that the facility is intended to be multi-purposed and used year-round.

- Sewer lines will be extended to the property in lieu of the on site package program that has been discussed on previous occasions. Mr. Hampton added that sufficient monies have been budgeted to accomplish the sewer extensions from Sparta and that Sparta's capacity can be enlarged in order to handle the inflow.

- Mr. Hampton reviewed some user fee scenarios with the Executive Committee. Executive Director John R. Norris added that the fee concepts, as proposed, were within normal or working parameters of the ATA.

- With respect to on and off site utilities, Mr. Hampton advised that the site is presently served by an eight (8") inch water line and that all other needed utilities will be provided to the site.

- Discussions ensued with respect to a multi-purposed "recreational building." Mr. Hampton stated that it is the present intention to construct a building that is approximately ~~three (3) to four (4) times~~ the present size of the ATA Central Entry Building (CEB which is 100' X 100'). The intention is to have separate designated meeting and service rooms for all intended occupants and service providers. Mr. Hampton also advised that some entity has expressed a desire to purchase and/or donate sufficient monies towards the cost of the project in order to secure naming rights to the **Recreational Building**. Upon inquiry, Mr. Hampton noted that the entity, expressing a desire to secure naming rights to the structure, wishes to remain confidential pending final negotiations.

- A Project Advisory Committee is being formed at the present time and Mr. Hampton advises that he would be pleased to include members of the ATA Executive Committee should they be so inclined. President Thomas E. Acklin interjected that he would be pleased to appoint such ATA representation to the Sparta World Shooting Complex Advisory Committee.

- The North Lake/Pit was mentioned by Mr. Hampton and he stated that plans are being developed to mitigate the 'hole.' Water could be drained and/or diverted to the back pit and partially fill the hole. Engineering consultant John L. Maxwell, P.E., and Mr. Hampton discussed the various ramifications pertaining to 'wet lands mitigation.' It was determined that there is sufficient land available to resolve the ratio requirements of the Federal mandate (one and one-half (1½) acres for every acre of wet lands that must be disturbed for the planned Complex).

- Mr. Hampton advised that the Sparta contingent that is planning on meeting with the Executive Committee on Friday (04/11/03) consists of: Illinois State Representative **Dan Reitz**; Illinois DNR Director **Joel Brunsvold**; **Jerry Beverlin** of Illinois DNR; **Wilbur Engelhardt** of Peabody Recreational Lands; **Terry Bethel** of Peabody Energy; **Randy Bertetto**, Mayor Elect of the City of Sparta; **Terry Moore**, Chairman of the Randolph County Board of Commissioners.

#### **SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSIONS** [with Mike Hampton present]

Following the presentations of Mr. Mike Hampton, the Executive Committee broached numerous issues with Mr. Hampton. These issues are summarized as follows:

**GUN LAWS:** Mr. Hampton, responding to several questions of the Executive Committee pertaining to perceived onerous gun legislation that is pending in the State of Illinois, stated that the "pending Bills appear to be dead or soon to be dead." Executive Director John R. Norris and Secretary G. Mike Seitz both stated that they are continuing to monitor the various legislative activity(ies) that could affect the relocation efforts of the ATA and ultimate

- viability of the Project in the State of Illinois. The current legislative activities under scrutiny are:
- **SB1195** (the '50 Caliber Bill' - Semi-Auto Ban, under certain circumstances) - affects Illinois Compiled Statutes (720 ILCS 5/24-1.7 new);
- **HB2532** (Total Registration of Gun Owners);
- **HB2356** (Seeks to make any gathering of sportsmen from a gun club meeting to a registered trap shoot subject to Illinois code treatment as a Gun Show).

Executive Director Norris and Secretary Seitz advised the Executive Committee that they will keep all members advised of the continuing status of these Bills and any others that come to their attention.

**TRAP FIELDS AND BUILDINGS:** Relocation Committee Co-Chair Jim Bradford, Jr., stated that the ATA had conceptually planned on building fifty (50) traps on either side of the center twenty four (24) fields that were to be used for skeet fields and trap shoot-offs. These fields were to be lighted and have accompanying viewing stands. Mr. Hampton added that [their] current trapfield configuration consists of one hundred twenty four (124) fields, with twenty four (24) of them being skeet overlays. "This is, of course, contingent upon the ATA agreeing to utilize the Sparta Complex," stated Mr. Hampton. Co-Chair Bradford also added that the larger Recreational Building could be very useful - not only to the ATA - but all of the Complex users. Mr. Hampton opined that the Recreational Building would negate the ATA having to build a separate CEB structure.

Responding to a question from the Executive Committee, Relocation Committee Co-Chair Bradford stated that the Trapshooting Hall of Fame Museum would accompany the shooting facility wherever the ATA relocates its shooting facilities. If, under whatever circumstance, the ATA administrative offices were to remain (temporarily or permanently) in Vandalia, the Hall of Fame Museum would relocate to the shooting facility. Secretary G. Mike Seitz inquired, of Mike Hampton, if it would be possible for the Trapshooting Hall of Fame, Inc., to purchase their property in fee simple from the Public/Private consortium. Mr. Hampton assured the Executive Committee that a fee simple purchase option would be made available to the Trapshooting Hall of Fame, Inc., and also to the ATA should they desire to move their corporate headquarters (including administrative functions) to the Sparta World Shooting Complex.

**FEE SIMPLE OWNERSHIP AND/OR LEASE TERMS AND CONDITIONS:**

Committee Co-Chair Jim Bradford, Jr., asked for a clarification of the referenced "long term lease" and the negotiability thereof. Mike Hampton advised that from the Sparta perspective - the longer the better. But, he stated that a minimum of ten (10) years would "probably be acceptable." Southwestern Zone Vice President Dr. Thomas P. Arvas requested a more definitive time period for the lease [term] option. Mr. Hampton stated that his preference would be for a twenty five (25) year lease but still thought that a ten (10) year lease would be minimally acceptable. Secretary G. Mike Seitz advised that, from the prior Minute Record from the August 2002 Executive Committee meetings with various Sparta officials, lease option years ranged from a low of ten (10) years to two hundred (200) years. The Secretary also noted that we have been given great latitude to ("prepare our own lease") determine our future at the Sparta site and that he will make certain that we proceed in a prudent and thoughtful manner within the dictates that the Board of Directors establishes for us in this regard.

Secretary G. Mike Seitz inquired as to the availability of fee ownership should the Directors determine that this is a requirement to gain their [BOD] acceptance and approval. Mr. Hampton advised that he did not see any reason that certain portions of the physical site could not be allocated for fee simple purchase should that be a requirement of the Executive Committee and/or the Board of Directors. Secretary Seitz also inquired as to the lease terms. Mr. Hampton stated that there would be zero restrictions and referred to the ATA's prior Minute Record from August 2002, in which Representative Dan Reitz stated that we could write our own lease.

**VENDORS:**

The Executive Committee expressed interest in learning more of the intended availability and options that would be extended to the present ATA vendor base. Mr. Hampton stated that "if there is interest on the part of the ATA - then the ATA's present vendors list, on a seniority basis, will be entertained" - but they will deal with Mr. Hampton directly, not the ATA. Several of the Executive Committee members (discussing among themselves), stated that this would be a contentious area that would require further negotiation on the part of the ATA.

**FINANCIALS:**

President Thomas E. Acklin requested further clarification of the intended (needed) payback to the State of Illinois (including all financially interested parties). Mr. Hampton noted that the State of Illinois has not identified a specific payback amount. It is thought that the present pricing structure that the ATA utilizes at the Grand American Tournament will be maintained and that the State of Illinois will be able to "cost justify" the project by servicing fees that will be built into the target fees but, yet, not increase the present fee structure used by the ATA.

Mike Hampton commented that, through some joint effort of all interested parties, the state ATA organizations, zones, members, etc., will be approached for donations to assist in the construction of the trap fields and associated buildings. The Executive Committee noted that specific details and all ramifications will have to be explored before they can assist in such endeavors. They indicated that they were not being negative ... just realistic in the circumstance.

Western Zone Vice President David R. Kaiser mentioned that, it appears, the ATA will derive income only from the targets thrown. Mr. Hampton interjected that the ATA might be able to negotiate part of the concession income. Executive Director John R. Norris added that it is probably more important that the ATA specifically reserve the final pricing (control) of the concessions to mirror that of the present ATA structure. The Executive Committee, in recognition of the current lack of available food amenities, stated that more food will probably be served on the Sparta site than is currently served in Vandalia. All of the Executive Committee members were in accord that this issue has to be carefully investigated and evaluated for proper presentation to the Board of Directors. Ex-Officio Phillip C. Wright contrasted a for profit vs. State of Illinois (non-profit) approach and its presumed impact on the specific return to retire a debt. Ex-Officio Wright mentioned that the State of Illinois could use this project as a "loss leader" in order to promote tourism in the State of Illinois, thereby increasing revenue in other aspects that we will not be able to calculate.

Mike Hampton commented that his preliminary estimates indicate that ten (10%) percent to twenty (20%) percent of the total anticipated participants/visitors to the completed Complex will be provided and/or generated by the Grand American Tournament. Mr. Hampton added that this is a significant number but they (Sparta Consortium) are still prepared to proceed without the ATA but that is not their desire, of course. Southwestern Zone Vice President Dr. Thomas P. Arvas requested a time frame from start to finish of the Complex. Mr. Hampton stated that he has been retained for twelve (12) to eighteen (18) months and he "figures that the construction will be completed within that time frame."

President Acklin requested clarification as to the RV sites and Mr. Hampton deferred further response until the advisory committee has a chance to consider the final layout options. Southern Zone Vice President Kenneth P. Duncan explained that the RV layout is very critical to the ATA membership that will be using the RV campgrounds

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and that their desires must be taken into consideration. Mr. Hampton, again, deferred to the advisory committee. Secretary Seitz asked what the Sparta Consortium was looking for from the ATA. Mr. Hampton answered the question with a question ... "how soon could we (ATA) tell him we were more than just interested?" The Executive Committee noted that they should be able to give a non-binding indication by the end of these meetings. Secretary Seitz added that any indications are still subject to Board of Director approval either by Special Meeting or at the next regularly scheduled Annual Meeting.

Southwestern Zone Vice President Dr. Thomas P. Arvas inquired "if anything has been settled with the airport [Mid-America] near Sparta?" Southern Zone Vice President Kenneth P. Duncan volunteered to check into the current status. He did note that it would definitely be a positive if a commercial airport of this size began full-time operations as it is located approximately twenty (20) miles from Sparta.

Secretary Seitz asked if there is any conflict with Mr. Hampton's present pursuits on behalf of the Sparta World Shooting Complex and his former employer. Mr. Hampton stated that they are fully aware of his pursuits and are mostly supportive thereof. He stated that he has no legal restrictions as to any of his present endeavors.

**Sparta Consortium**

**Compiled Separately (from original presentation date) . . . . . 04/11/2003, at 12:48 Hrs., IN RE:**

President Thomas E. Acklin welcomed the Sparta Consortium to the meeting. Illinois State Representative Dan Reitz stated that he was pleased that they were welcomed to meet with the Executive Committee and proceeded to introduce the members of his party. Subsequent to introductions, Representative Reitz (for the Record) noted those present were:

- Joel Brunsvold**, Director of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR);
- Jerry Beverlin** of Illinois Department of Natural Resources;
- Terry Bethel** of Peabody Energy;
- Wilbur Engelhardt** of Peabody Recreational Lands;
- Randy Bertetto**, Mayor Elect of the City of Sparta, Illinois; and
- Terry Moore**, Chairman of the Randolph County Board of Commissioners.

Representative Reitz presented a brief overview of the site selection process and detailed the original proposal that was made to the Board of Directors during the Annual Meeting in August 2001. The Representative emphatically stated that they are going to build this project and that they have fashioned a unique way to accomplish what they intend to create. A Public/Private joint venture (partnership) has been formed among:

- The State of Illinois (by and through the Illinois Department of Natural Resources);
- The City of Sparta, Illinois;
- The County of Randolph, Illinois; and
- Peabody Energy/Peabody Recreational Lands.

"We can make this project work for the benefit of all interested parties," stated Representative Reitz. The Illinois Sportsmen's Caucus is a very influential group within the legislative body of the State of Illinois; that is "ever vigilant to the wants and needs of the Illinois sportsmen and the sporting firearms industry." Representative Reitz noted that upon completion the "Sparta World Shooting Complex" will host ten (10) to twelve (12) major sporting events or other significant events. He assured the Executive Committee that "the ATA can have full run of the property for the month of August or any other time required or desired."

Representative Reitz made specific mention that we could choose our own venue with respect to the usage of the site. "We could use the trap line and related buildings for holding the Grand American Tournament each year and leave the present Administrative office and functions in Vandalia. If we desired, we could relocate the entire operation to the Sparta site. The choices and options are our's (ATA) to decide." Specific mention was made with reference to:

**Long Term Commitment**

The Sparta Consortium would prefer a long term commitment. Representative Reitz felt most comfortable in stating that once we occupied the "Sparta World Shooting Complex" that we would "shortly" come to call it our new home. The dates as previously discussed with Mike Hampton were reviewed - ten (10) years to two hundred (200) years. "The ATA can pick the time frame," stated Representative Reitz.

**Sponsorship of Traps and RV Spots**

Representative Reitz commented that - "if the ATA is willing to make a lease commitment to the Sparta World Shooting Complex" - they would expect or anticipate that the ATA Executive Committee and the Board of Directors would assist them in soliciting donations from our membership to fund the trap line and the RV recreational parking and camp grounds.

**Onerous Gun Laws**

"We get them (restrictive gun laws) every year and they get killed every year," noted Representative Reitz. "The Illinois Governor and a majority of the legislature views this development as a very positive happening for the State of Illinois. It is a tremendous chance to showcase the positive effects that Sportsmen, and their firearms, can have for the citizenry as a whole." Illinois DNR Director Joel Brunsvold interjected that "we want economic development for the State of Illinois and this project can stimulate the economy in the southern half of the State of Illinois. The interest and desire is there and we are going to create this Shooting Complex. The ATA is our centerpiece (for this project) and we will do everything, within reason, to create a situation that your Board of Directors will want to approve."

**SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSIONS [with Sparta Consortium present]**

Relocation Committee Co-Chair Jim Bradford, Jr., commented that we have to think conceptually and approach this opportunity on a **win/win basis**. Eastern Zone Vice President D. Ray Greb agreed and added that it appears that in order to succeed financially (including tourism) that they will have to develop a complete facility and use it year-round.

Secretary G. Mike Seitz directed numerous questions to Representative Dan Reitz. The Secretary explained that several of the questions were derived from recent conversations and discussions from the Executive Committee meetings and several of the questions were from prior conversations that Executive Director John R. Norris and the Secretary engaged in with Representative Reitz during previous meetings.

**Who specifically is the Public/Private development group (partnership)?**

Representative Reitz explained that the Public/Private group - at this time - consists of The State of Illinois (Illinois Department of Natural Resources); The City of Sparta (Illinois); Randolph County (Illinois); and Peabody

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Energy.

**Is Peabody Energy or Peabody Recreational Lands, Inc., the private party referenced?**

Representative Reitz deferred the question to Terry Bethel of Peabody Energy. Mr. Bethel stated that both Peabody entities were involved in the project at this time and their roles would be clarified at a later date. Mr. Bethel explained that Peabody Recreational Lands, Inc., is presently developing an eight hundred (800) acre private estate including golf courses just to the North of the proposed Sparta complex. He added that the projects would supplement each other quite well and serve the best interests of all parties.

**Prior negotiations with Sparta failed because the Financial Model could not support the burden placed on the ATA and its membership. We must have all financial dictates presented to us so that - in turn- they can be presented to the ATA Board of Directors.**

Representative Reitz stated that they will disclose all such matters. They know that the Board of Directors needs full disclosure in order to properly evaluate the "Sparta World Shooting Complex."

**Secretary Seitz reviewed Mike Hampton's prior presentations, to the Executive Committee, and requested that Representative Reitz confirm or correct the content thereof.**

Representative Reitz stated that the presentations appeared to be materially accurate.

**Secretary Seitz asked when the preliminary legal documents would be available for review. The Secretary also inquired as to who would be the lead legal representative for the Sparta Consortium?**

The legal departments from all of the represented partners would be engaged, informed Representative Reitz. He did not know if one (1) legal department or another would be lead in this endeavor. He was quite clear that the State of Illinois will play a major role in any decisions ultimately made pertaining to this project.

**During the August 2002 Executive Committee meeting, Representative Reitz advised the Executive Committee that they could write their own lease with whatever terms or conditions that they required. Secretary Seitz asked if that was still the current position of the Sparta Consortium?**

Representative Reitz responded that the ATA is slated to have full run - during the month of August - to conduct their Tournament. He did not see any reason why the lease could not be written to accommodate this or any other reasonable purposes.

**Secretary Seitz inquired if the ATA's lease was going to be with the State of Illinois or the referenced Public/Private group.**

Representative Reitz stated that the ATA's lease would be with the State of Illinois.

**The prior Intergovernmental Agreement [April 2002] only mentioned the Amateur Trapshooting Association as having a "consultant role" and - then - only if asked. This does not appear to be user friendly to the ATA.**

Representative Reitz stated that the Intergovernmental Agreement is still in effect. He defended the ATA's subordinate position to the degree that they have no (direct) financial exposure in the project. Secretary Seitz noted that, if we encourage and/or otherwise help the Sparta Consortium solicit or obtain donations from our members and vendors, this perspective would change dramatically. Further, if the ATA (through its Board of Directors and the Real Property Advisory Committee) should decide to purchase any portion of the proposed site in fee simple that, again, this perspective [regarding the Intergovernmental Agreement] changes in certain material aspects and that they will have to be legally addressed.

Representative Reitz agreed that we would revisit the Intergovernmental Agreement for further discussion.

**Perceived Onerous Gun Laws in the State of Illinois**

The Governor of Illinois has assured Representative Dan Reitz and Illinois Director of the Department of Natural Resources that he will not sign and that he will veto any gun laws that come across his desk that impede the shooting sports. Representative Reitz further stated that he will get a letter from the Governor certifying this official position.

**Restrictive Legislation and/or Forced Closing of the "Sparta World Shooting Complex"**

Representative Reitz stated that we are free to protect our interests in any lease arrangement that we determine is sufficient for our interests. Representative Reitz acknowledged the importance of the ATA by stating "we are a different animal." We are crucial to the success of the Shooting Complex and every accommodation will be made - within reason - to get us situated in Sparta.

**Who is going to manage the completed project?**

A final decision on management has not been made. Much depends on the final set-up of the various venues and the mix of participants.

**Definition of Free or No Cost - What charges do you see being collected from the participants and visitors?**

We are well aware of the pricing sensitivity that is involved with the ATA shooting venues, stated Representative Reitz. We will work within your parameters and/or constraints. Executive Director John R. Norris will send a comprehensive sampling of the cost structure that is presently used (or identified) at the Grand American in Vandalia, Ohio. Future discussions will use that scheme as a foundation - on a not to exceed basis - depending on the general state of the economy and other variables that would affect similar operations in Vandalia, Ohio. Executive Director Norris and Terry Bethel of Peabody Energy discussed various pricing/charge structures that satisfied those in attendance as being reasonable for the ATA and the Sparta Consortium.

**Availability of Labor**

Representative Reitz replied that labor would be of no concern. There is a surplus and the local school children are looking forward to the opportunity to work at the facility.

Due to their pending flight arrangements, the Sparta Contingent concluded their remarks and stated that they all remain available for further questions from any of the Executive Committee Members. President Thomas E. Acklin, on behalf of the entire Executive Committee thanked the Sparta Contingent for making the trip to San Antonio to present their fine proposal to the ATA.

**April 11, 2003, at 14:35 Hrs., the Sparta Contingent recused themselves from the meeting.**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DISCUSSIONS**

(with Relocation Co-Chair Jim Bradford, Jr., and Engineering Consultant J.L. Maxwell present)

President Thomas E. Acklin requested a "round table" discussion - "don't hold anything back," stated President Acklin - "now is the time to speak your mind."

Southern Zone Vice President Kenneth P. Duncan noted that he was impressed with Sparta's presentations

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and the validations that they seem to have in hand.

Western Zone Vice President David R. Kaiser commented that all of the proposers answered his questions but he is most impressed with Sparta's renewed offer as long as we can get all of their statements and commitments in writing. He was relieved that Sparta's proposed venue is not intended to cost our shooters any more - in relative terms - as to what they are accustomed to paying now. He added that at the present time we are in a superior bargaining position ... "we are the ones to make it work."

Eastern Zone Vice President D. Ray Greb was likewise impressed with the presentation of the Sparta Contingent and he - in particular - liked their direct answers to many direct questions raised by Secretary Seitz and other Executive Committee Members. He thinks that the "train is going in the same direction." Vice President Greb (presently) feels that we might have to make some financial commitment and purchase some of the land in Sparta but noted that the Board of Directors will make the final call on that issue after they have a chance to review the new proposals.

Southwestern Zone Vice President Dr. Thomas P. Arvas stated that he agrees in principle with Western Zone Vice President Kaiser in that we must get all of their presentations, commitments, etc., in writing in order to present a complete proposal to the Board of Directors.

Engineering Consultant John L. Maxwell, P.E., was impressed with the proposals - in general - and added that "we need to get knee-deep in the detail." Consultant Maxwell proposed the development of a "decision matrix" to assist the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors in their decision making processes. He will attempt to identify the engineering and financial aspects for a "line by line" comparison and to identify the discrepancies in each of the final proposals chosen for presentation to the Board of Directors.

Relocation Committee Co-Chair Jim Bradford, Jr., emphasized that the answer is financial. What can we afford? It appears to him that the only deal that is on the table that we can afford is Sparta.

Ex-Officio Phillip C. Wright noted that we don't appear to have another viable proposal at this time. He feels that our shooters are coming to the realization that our time in Vandalia is finite. The prior decision that had been made in favor of Sparta failed for the financial reasons ... but, now, the financial aspects appear to be resolved or more practicable. The Ex-Officio does not think that details are going to be a big concern. Lack of infrastructure, etc., will be of continuing concern with the shooters. Contractual documents could be paramount. He feels that a ten (10) year deal might be advisable at this juncture. Ex-Officio Wright also stated that "If it turns out to be a 'boondoggle,' we can leave." Ex-Officio Wright mused, "how dominant is Mike Hampton going to be in the design and what influence can he exert?" We need to determine our parameters and make them known to the Public/Private joint venture. The tenor of the meeting was most important and appeared to "stand us in good stead," stated the Ex-Officio. The Ex-Officio was also impressed with Peabody's approach to developing their assets (real estate). Recreational aspects "are a venture, at risk, and there are no guarantees." Ex-Officio Wright also noted that "our current degradation in participation needs to be factored in our development needs and the total equation."

Secretary G. Mike Seitz commented that we have to hit the ground running - with a positive attitude and answers to all of the questions that will be asked of the Relocation and Executive Committees. We need to leave this meeting of one mind and purpose. Contrary to the opinions of some, The Secretary is quite confident that the details of the project and legal documents will be "detail specific" and integral to obtaining a strong majority consensus of the Board of Directors. But, that is the "nature of the legal approach" to such matters. He agrees that we need to "look down the road and envision what we will have five (5) to ten (10) years from now. And, if it doesn't work - and we keep our financial exposures to a minimum; we will start all over again. But, at this point, we must approach all of the proposals on a **win/win** basis. We told the Board of Directors that we (the Relocation and Executive Committees) would present the two (2) or three (3) best proposals to them, in a factual manner, for them to consider and select. Sparta "appears" to be the best proposal but that is not for us to decide. We need to develop and present the entire fact scenarios, from the available proposals, to the Board of Directors.

Executive Director John R. Norris congratulated all of the Relocation and Executive Committee Members for their thoughtful and studied opinions. The Executive Director presented a pro-forma financial statement based on the Sparta presentation that indicated the present net income from a Grand American Tournament held in Sparta, under the basic guidelines discussed herein, would presumably be substantially similar to that as generated in Vandalia.

#### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DISCUSSIONS - with Relocation Committee Co-Chair Jim Bradford, Jr.**

President Thomas E. Acklin first broached the question pertaining to the Executive Committee's impression as to the anticipated tenure of the Grand American being held in Vandalia.

Western Zone Vice President David R. Kaiser was most adamant in his response that it is quite clear from listening to the presentations from Secretary Seitz and Executive Director Norris that the City of Dayton and the Dayton International Airport do not support the Grand American Tournament in its present configuration in Vandalia. Blair Conrad was very clear that the rental car lots are going to take approximately thirty (30) of our west end traps and that the Runway Safety Area (RSA) is going to impact the 'heart' of the present (remaining) shooting line sometime after 2005. If we do not plan accordingly, we are not doing our job for this Association. Western Zone Vice President Kaiser solicited a consensus opinion from the Executive Committee that we must use August 2005 as a target date for holding the last Grand American Tournament in Vandalia. If we have not been able to consummate an acceptable deal and present it to the Board of Directors for approval, prior to that date - and if we have not been forced to move - then, perhaps, we can stay in Vandalia a while longer. But, to plan at this juncture on staying is foolhardy and neglectful of our duty to the ATA and our Membership.

Southern Zone Vice President Kenneth P. Duncan and Eastern Zone Vice President D. Ray Greb think that we must plan on August 2005 being the last Grand held in Vandalia.

Ex-Officio Phillip C. Wright reflected on the prior financial dealings of the failed presentation(s) of the Sparta proposal during the August 2002 Grand American. He stated that there was much dissatisfaction with the Sparta site (financials) and if we can, now, establish that there is finite time left for us in Vandalia: opinions might be swayed in a positive manner (as pertains to the ultimate need to relocate). He further noted that "the financial viability (of Sparta) certainly has changed."

Executive Director John R. Norris does not favor the "hunker down strategy" (waiting to be impacted or having the lease terminated). We still have environmental issues that must be dealt with in a constructive manner.

President Thomas E. Acklin stated that we have one (1) "stand alone" proposal - that being, Indiana. And we have two (2) partnering sites of Sparta and Missouri. The general consensus appeared to be that Missouri (MTA) would not want to spend the money needed to expand their trap fields nor make a significant contribution to the other infrastructure necessary to hold the Grand American. Also, their Fall Handicap appears to be sacrosanct and they feel that they must have a commitment on the part of the ATA to financially protect their profits from that Tournament.

Executive Director Norris and Secretary Seitz will be revisiting the Missouri issue with the MTA officials to keep a dialogue ongoing. It was noted that Missouri remains a prime emergency site location.

Executive Director Norris advised that he and Engineering Consultant John L. Maxwell have scheduled a visit to Las Vegas to further explore their possibilities. Preliminarily, it is not anticipated that Las Vegas will be completed in time to be considered nor be a viable destination spot for a majority of our ATA Shooters.

Treasurer Thomas G. Burkey offered general comments with regards to the financial aspects of trying to stay in Vandalia and the needed infrastructure improvements that will be required in the near future.

Relocation Committee Co-Chair Jim Bradford, Jr., referred to a 1950 Article by Dick Baldwin that quoted travel time from Dayton to Vandalia took forty (40) minutes. Vandalia had only one (1) motel with twenty (20) rooms. People who took trains were always looking for transportation to the trap shoot. The market was there and the infrastructure developed to satisfy the demand. In his opinion, this same scenario can - and will most likely - occur in Sparta, if this site is chosen by the Board of Directors.

Southwestern Zone Vice President Dr. Thomas P. Arvas agreed with Secretary Seitz that it is incumbent on the Relocation Committee and Executive Committee to fully develop the most likely (to be chosen) proposals and present them - in total - to the Board of Directors for final selection/decision. The Southwestern Zone Vice President stated - "the best deal needs to be the only deal."

Relocation Co-Chair Bradford mentioned that he would like to see the decision matrix proposed by Consultant Maxwell reduced to a summary report and to send it out to the Board of Directors so that they can review same with their Delegates/Directors prior to the Annual Meeting. Co-Chair Bradford advised that he is recommending that Indiana, Sparta and either Las Vegas or Missouri be retained on the **short list** for continuing considerations. Leadership through this whole process has to come from the Executive Committee, advised Co-Chair Bradford. We do not have to own the property in order to succeed financially or to provide a new home for the Grand American Tournament. Co-Chair Bradford advised that "the paradigm has changed ... change is upon us." In his opinion. "the final answer is still FINANCIAL."

Executive Director Norris added that discussions are still underway as pertain to an Emergency Grand Site. It appears that the only viable venues are those of Pennsylvania, Missouri and San Antonio. Executive Director Norris advised that he and Secretary Seitz will continue to work on preliminary draft agreements for review with the Executive Committee. Mr. Norris further commented that if we do not have significantly more than thirty (30) days notice (Grand foreclosure), we might have to shift the Grand dates to September or October.

..... **President Thomas E. Acklin called a Recess as indicated**  
(April 09, 2003) ..... **ADJOURNED AT 18:30 HRS.**  
(April 10, 2003) ..... **MEETING RESUMED AT 08:00 HRS.**  
**All Executive Committee Members answered the Call at the resumption of the Meeting.**

**At 08:01 Hrs., IN RE: President's Reports**

Prior to presenting his President's Report, President Thomas E. Acklin led a proactive discussion pertaining to the Relocation RFP's and the Relocation Committee presentations including brief summaries thereof. The discussions revolved around the best - or most specific means that should be employed in order to present the recommended reports to the Delegates/Directors. Subsequent to these discussions, Secretary G. Mike Seitz reminded the Executive Committee Members that the agreed directive was for the Relocation Committee and the Executive Committee to present the two (2) or three (3) most viable options to the Directors for final selection. And, if the circumstances warranted, a straw poll would be conducted to ascertain whether the Directors should be called into a special meeting prior to the next Annual Meeting during the Grand American Tournament. The general consensus was that the Executive Committee would reach consensus on the "short list" candidates and continue to research and/or develop the specific details to be presented to the Board of Directors.

President Thomas E. Acklin summarized his ATA activities as of this date and acknowledged the positive comments and assistance that he has received from the Executive Committee and he continues to look forward to continuing working relationships for the remainder of his Presidential term. The President reviewed his travel schedule on behalf of the ATA and noted the numerous conversations that he has had with trapshooters throughout the Country. It is his belief that trapshooting is as popular as ever in spite of the terrorism and the detrimental effects that it has had on the national economy.

The President broached the proposition that the Executive Committee create an **Honorary Life Member** (of the ATA) category in order to acknowledge prominent persons that have been, or be capable of, supporting the various shotgun sports. President Acklin emphasized that any such awards would only be presented to those deserving of special recognition as determined by the Executive Committee as a whole. Eastern Zone Vice President D. Ray Greb stated that he would support such an endeavor but only under the proviso that the Executive Committee establish clear guidelines prior to instituting such a recognition category. The Executive Committee will take the issue under advisement and prepare preliminary guidelines for future discussion.

The President concluded his report by briefly summarizing his continuing activities with regard to relocation issues which are described in more pertinent detail throughout this Session.

**Rule Book Revisions - Western Zone Vice President David R. Kaiser**

Western Zone Vice President David R. Kaiser reviewed his final compilation of the ATA Official Rule Book revisions with the Executive Committee. Vice President Kaiser stated that he was grateful for the numerous and thoughtful collaborations and contributions of the entire Executive Committee but especially those of Executive Director John R. Norris and Secretary G. Mike Seitz who assisted with the early drafts prior to submission to the full Executive Committee. Thereafter, the Executive Committee reviewed the recommended format and recompilation efforts of Western Zone Vice President Kaiser. The summary review revealed that numerous redundancies were removed and that the entire compilation has been reorganized to assist the reader in searching or researching areas of interest or rules issues.

Upon completion of the Western Zone Vice President's presentations, he responded to numerous issues and addressed several clarifications to the satisfaction of the Executive Committee. President Thomas E. Acklin thanked the Western Zone Vice President for an exemplary effort on behalf of the ATA. The effort consumed a large amount of Vice President Kaiser's personal time and for that he deserves the gratitude and thanks of the entire Membership.

Executive Director John R. Norris also commented that he and Western Zone Vice President Kaiser had

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discussed adding a Glossary to the Official Rule Book. The intent is to further assist the reader in quickly identifying words or sets of words that are commonly used in the Rule Book. The Executive Committee was in unanimous agreement with the inclusion of a Glossary subject to time limitations of Western Zone Vice President Kaiser and Executive Director Norris. Following these discussions, Eastern Zone Vice President D. Ray Greb expressed concern over the cost of annual reprints of the Official Rule Book. Ensuing discussions revealed that the ATA spends approximately Four Thousand (\$4,000.00) Dollars on every new reprint of the Official Rule Book. Subsequent to these discussions and revelations, Eastern Zone Vice President Greb strongly recommended that we go to a two (2) year printing cycle (or longer) for normal printing issues subject to an exception for any safety or personal liability issues.

Subsequent to Western Zone Vice President David R. Kaiser's presentations, discussion and review and upon the Motion of **Southern Zone Vice President Kenneth P. Duncan** with second of **Eastern Zone Vice President D. Ray Greb**, and following the President's call of the question, with no response, it was unanimously

**RESOLVED** That the **Official Rules [Book]** as revised, reviewed and discussed herein shall be adopted as a "housekeeping" procedure and shall be effective at the start of the 2004 Target Year and shall be titled as the [2004] "Amateur Trapshooting Association Official Rules."

**FURTHER RESOLVED** That future printings of the **Official Rules [Book]** shall be commissioned on a bi-annual basis, or longer, subject to Web Site (and other appropriate and/or approved media) postings of **current changes**. All subsequent changes made by the Executive Committee and/or the Board of Directors shall be effective as if printed in the then current ATA Official Rules [Book]. Annual printings of the Official Rule Book may be commissioned and effected at any time the Executive Committee and/or the Board of Directors shall determine that a (or any) Rule Change(s) affect any material aspects of safety and/or liability pertaining to the Amateur Trapshooting Association and its Membership.

**Marketing Committee - Southwestern Zone Vice President Dr. Thomas P. Arvas & ATA Communications & Promotions Manager Stacey Hodkey**

**Marketing (Sales and Promotions) Report - April 2003**

President Thomas E. Acklin called for the first order of business for the day and requested that Ms. Stacey Hodkey, ATA Communications and Promotions Manager and Southwestern Zone Vice President Dr. Thomas P. Arvas present their various Reports for the Marketing Committee.

Southwestern Zone Vice President Dr. Thomas P. Arvas requested that ATA Communications and Promotions Manager Ms. Stacey Hodkey present a brief Summary of the current 2003 (confirmed) Sponsorships and planned activities. Ms. Hodkey reported as follows:

COMPANY	TYPE OF SPONSORSHIP
Browning	Signage
Claybusters	Signage
Dayton CVB	Signage
Harrah's	Shoot-Off Sponsor
Krieghoff	Event No. 4 Sponsor "Krieghoff 100"
NRA	Signage
Perazzi	Event No. 9 Sponsor "Perazzi Classic"
Remington	Event No. 18 Sponsor "Nitro 27 Handicap"
Shamrock Leathers	Signage
White Flyer	Official Target

**SPONSORSHIPS IN-PROGRESS:** Airstream; Beretta; Decatur Electronics - Commission Program; Dayton Daily News - Paper Give Away; E-Z GO / Sweepstakes Promotion; Federal / ATK; Massey Ferguson; Miller; Power Net Global - Commission Program; Winchester ...

**OTHER CONTACTS BEING PURSUED:** Golf Cart Companies (Columbia, Club Car, Taylor-Dunn, Red Hawk, Metro, Yamaha); RV Companies (Newmar, Gulf Stream, Winnebago, Fleetwood, Country Coach, Coachmen, Beaudry); Outback Steak Houses, American Tobacco.

**MERCHANT APPRECIATION HANDICAP**  
COMMITTED PARTICIPANTS (55 SIGNS SOLD as of April 2003)

Accurate Arms	AVIS (Huber Heights Location)
Decot Hy-Wyd Sport Glasses	Earmold Australia/Ray Mack
Gamaliel Shooting Supply	Joel Etchen Guns

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<b>Olde English Outfitters</b>	<b>Outback Steakhouse</b>
<b>Pro-Port</b>	<b>Remington</b>
<b>Shamrock Leathers</b>	<b>Shyda's Shoe &amp; Clothing Barn</b>
<b>Silver Seitz</b>	<b>Spolar Enterprises</b>
<b>Tilden Trophies</b>	<b>Trapshoot.com</b>
<b>Warwick Custom Cases</b>	<b>Wendell August Forge</b>
<b>White Flyer Targets</b>	<b>Wright's, Inc.</b>

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Southwestern Zone Vice President Dr. Thomas P. Arvas and Communications & Promotions Manager Hodkey continued their Report as follows:

- Local merchants have been sent **Merchant Appreciation Handicap (MAH)** information.
- Announcements regarding the event and details will appear in upcoming Trap & Field magazine publications.
- Currently pursuing and contacting other key Grand American vendors.

Vice President Arvas and Promotions Manager Hodkey stated that they have been very pleased with the acceptance and success of the Merchants Appreciation Handicap. Both individuals expressed their sincere appreciation to Dave Sickmeyer of the Marketing Advisory Committee. He has been a most valuable addition to the Committee. Dale Stockdale was also noted for his many contributions and his instant (and professional) responses for advice. Many of his ideas show that he has a great entrepreneurial spirit.

**2003 GRAND AMERICAN AND SPECIAL PROMOTIONS**

- Currently developing logo/theme for Grand American  
i **"Friends, Family, Freedom - A Grand Tradition"** i
- Boy Scout Corporate Trap Challenge (August 7th. - Wednesday);
- All American Reception;
- Muzzleloaders' Exhibition;
- John Satterwhite Exhibition (August 14th - Wednesday);
- USA Shooting Team (Planning on being present at Opening Ceremonies);
- AVIS (Announces a special discount to the Membership);
- STEP OUTSIDE / Media Day;
- Live Band - Cotton;
- Hollywood Celebrity Shoot;
- Satellite Grand Programs (All Satellite Grand Programs were printed in a timely manner and information was released efficiently on the ATA Web site;
- Scholastic Clay Target Program (**SCTP**)
  - Working with NSSF to send press releases for each state shoot;
  - Need to focus on states who do not have **SCTP** programs;
  - **WENDELL AUGUST FORGE** will be donating trophies for **SCTP**;
  - Ongoing negotiations with **WHITE FLYER** to award trophies for coaches and gun clubs;
  - Responding to a question from Secretary G. Mike Seitz, Communications & Promotions Manager Hodkey replied that approximately fifteen (15) states do not presently participate in the **SCTP** but she is working on additional contacts in those states and hopes to generate participation.
- **ATA Instructor's Course**
  - **NRA** will be conducting a course at the Grand American to train approximately twenty five (25) members to become **ATA** instructors (refer below);
  - The Instructors will be eligible to teach others to become **NRA** Trainers;
  - Trapshooting Hall of Fame, Inc., is also working with **NRA** to supply them with contacts;
  - Hopefully, this will result in a positive revision to the **ATA** certification process;
  - Many of these Instructors will be used to train **SCTP** coaches.
- New Employee at Corporate Headquarters
  - Please welcome, Nick Aycock as the ATA's most recent addition to the office staff. Nick will be assisting Communication & Promotions Manager Stacey Hodkey with the increasing activity in the Sales and Promotions Department.

**ATA EXHIBIT BOOTH / NRA MEETINGS**

Southwestern Zone Vice President Dr. Thomas P. Arvas and ATA Communications & Promotions Manager Stacey Hodkey were pleased to advise of an expanded symbiotic relationship among the ATA, NRA and Trap & Field Magazine. Various representatives of all of these organizations will be attending certain scheduled meetings and/or other events of the National Rifle Association to promote the sport of trapshooting and fellowship among shooters of all disciplines.

**NRA Instructor's Course** - Communications & Promotions Manager Stacey Hodkey and Executive Director John R. Norris reported that they attended, along with Terry Ewing of Trap & Field, a NRA Trainer Certification Course and Basic Shotgun Shooting Course in Indianapolis, Indiana. They reported that the classes included training in gun safety, gun and ammo mechanics, how to shoot and the appropriate instructing methods for teaching new shooters. They both stated that the training courses were comprehensive and that they learned new approaches to the basics of shotgun and shotgun sports.

**NSSF BOOTH / SPORTSMEN SHOWS**

Southwestern Zone Vice President Dr. Thomas P. Arvas and ATA Communications & Promotions Manager Stacey Hodkey also advised of recent activities involving the NSSF (National Shooting Sports Foundation), Trap & Field and the ATA. Ms. Hodkey noted that representatives of two (2) ATA gun clubs (Bucks County Fish & Game of Pennsylvania, and Sportsmen Gun & Reel Club, Ohio) devoted time to assist with various presentations pertaining

to shotgun sports. She reported that particular interest was shown with a laser target game that added some reality to shooting targets indoors ... a certificate of completion was awarded to those participants completing a round of the laser target competition. Ms. Hodkey reported that she and Southwestern Zone Vice President Arvas have received very favorable feedback to these joint venture efforts.

Ex-Officio Phillip C. Wright mentioned (in conjunction with the laser target shoot) that the local gun clubs should be contacted to see if they would be willing to donate a free round of targets and perhaps including a box of shells that could supplement the awarding of a certificate (reference prior paragraph) from completing the laser target event.

Ex-Officio Wright asked Communications & Promotions Manager Hodkey if she would be willing to offer the ATA's and her "skill sets" in order to produce brochures, etc. for the gun clubs. The Ex-Officio added that this could provide valuable service to the gun clubs and help them increase attendance (and daily fees to the ATA). Ms. Hodkey stated that she would be pleased to offer her services, and those of the ATA, in this regard. Ms. Hodkey also thanked Ex-Officio Wright for his words of support and the confidence that he showed in her by making the request.

#### — **PATCHES & PINS (ATA)**

Communications & Promotions Manager Stacey Hodkey reported that an initial supply of fifteen (15) 25 & 50 Straight Patches have been distributed to all ATA gun clubs. Subsequent orders will be available at the minimal cost of .75¢ each. This cost is intended to cover the cost and shipping of the Patches.

100 & 200 Straight Pins have been ordered and will be distributed to State Delegates at no cost. The Delegates will have the responsibility for distribution to the ATA membership. It is anticipated that 100 & 200 Straight Pins for each Satellite Grand will be developed and created beginning with the 2004 Spring Grand.

The Executive Committee thanked Southwestern Zone Vice President Dr. Thomas P. Arvas and Communications & Promotions Manager Stacey Hodkey for their diligent and competent efforts on the behalf of the Amateur Trapshooting Association and the shooting sports. The Committee members also added that the Patches and Pins were very attractive and had already received good reports. Ms. Hodkey mentioned that Henderson & Associates worked very well with the Marketing Committee in developing and producing the Patches and Pins and she wanted to thank them for a job well done - the Executive Committee, likewise, stated their appreciation to the Marketing Committee and Henderson & Associates.

Executive Director John R. Norris also added that **Target Attainment Pins** in increments of 100,000 are being commissioned at this time and will be available in the near future. ATA members that are eligible are encouraged to contact the ATA office for further information.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS REPORT**

Ex-Officio Phillip C. Wright and ATA Communications & Promotions Manager Stacey Hodkey presented numerous items of interest pertaining to Communications, Web-Site development and Computer related issues. Ex-Officio Wright and Web Site Manager Hodkey briefly summarized (as follows) their Reports and responded to numerous questions of the Executive Committee in a positive and professional manner.

#### " **MEDIA**

- ATA personnel are currently working with NSSF in order to send out releases regarding major shoots and SCTP.
- Coordinating the ATA activities with that of Trap & Field in order to distribute articles to local media sources.
- The Grand American and the SCTP Program will be prominently showcased and telecast on ESPN2 - North American Outdoors - on or about April 30 and May 03, 2003.
- Ms. Hodkey noted that she is trying to incorporate STEP OUTSIDE and MEDIA DAY at the 2003 Grand American Tournament.
- Western Zone Vice President David R. Kaiser commented that we (ATA) now have the foundation in place to offer and/or pursue a "**Club Level Instructor Certification Program.**" Southwestern Zone Vice President Dr. Thomas P. Arvas added that it would be nice if every gun club tried to have at least one (1) gun club instructor that would be available to meet and greet - especially - new shooters. It would have tremendous public relations impact for the shooting sports.

#### " **WEB SITE**

- Ex-Officio Phillip C. Wright and Communications Manager Stacey Hodkey advised that the anticipated Web Site transfer has been completed. The new web host is Tech Pro of Geneva, Illinois. Ex-Officio Wright, Executive Director Norris and Communications Manager Hodkey investigated numerous options and chose Tech Pro as the best available option to serve the needs of the ATA and its Membership. Secretary G. Mike Seitz prepared an appropriate contract that was effected by the ATA and Tech Pro, accordingly. There were no unexpected delays and the transfer was basically seamless and went quite well. Executive Director Norris asked Ms. Hodkey how long the dedicated PC uploads take for transmitting ATA information to the web host. Ms. Hodkey stated that it now takes approximately three (3) hours per week. Ex-Officio Wright inquired into several technical areas that were apparently answered to his satisfaction. The Executive Committee commended Ex-Officio Wright, Ms. Hodkey and Executive Director Norris for their diligent efforts in contracting with a more stable web host provider and for devoting numerous hours to a smooth transition so that the service provided to the ATA membership was not unduly disrupted.
- Ex-Officio Wright and Executive Director John R. Norris noted that the **All-American Site** has been updated and several new features have been incorporated. All interested parties were encouraged to visit the Web Site often to review the current standings of their favorite shooters.
- Ex-Officio Wright, Executive Director Norris and Web Site Manager Hodkey also noted that the **Shooter Information Center** has also been updated and new navigation features have been installed for easier use.
- Web Site Manager Stacey Hodkey stated that the **Major Shoot Calendar** (Web Site feature) has been modeled in an easy to read calendar and currently displays most - if not all - major shoots.
- Ex-Officio Wright and Web Site Manager Stacey Hodkey were pleased to advise that the Satellite Grand results (Spring & Southern) and Florida State Shoot results were posted promptly. Ex-Officio Wright stated that he continues in his attempts to encourage other states to post results and submit

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- presquadding forms and any other program information for the ATA Web Site.
- Ex-Officio Wright and Web Site Manager Hodkey advised that approximately three thousand (3,000) ATA members have submitted their email addresses acknowledging - among other things - their desire to receive email updates from the ATA. Ms. Hodkey noted that the first email notice (**POST ONE**) should be emailed on or about June 01, 2003. This publication will be known as the official **ATA E-Announcement**.
- Southern Zone Vice President Kenneth P. Duncan and Ex-Officio Wright inquired as to the present shooter information format and if a more condensed or easier to read presentation is available. Executive Director Norris answered that he felt that a single line code rewrite could address the situation. He will look into the matter and attempt a resolution thereof. Ex-Officio Wright also inquired as to the availability of a "statistics package" from the web host, Tech-Pro. Executive Director Norris also thought that this would be available from the web host and he will make the inquiry.

**NEW IDEAS FOR WEB SITE**

Ex-Officio Phillip C. Wright and Web Site Manager Stacey Hodkey presented numerous ideas and pursuits that are in various stages of investigation and/or development. The various items discussed included the following:

- **Shopping Cart**  
Members could purchase and pay for ATA items (pins, patches, decals, etc.) directly through a secured shopping cart on the Web Site.
- **Online Membership Application**  
New members could fill out a form online and pay ... current members could renew and pay online ... email confirmations would be sent in either case ... ATA would be able to collect more email addresses for special announcements and email Newsletter.
- **Gun Club Locator**  
Map of the USA (and Canada) would indicate all gun clubs in each state/province ... search would allow a person to enter Zip Code, City or State/Province and thereby provided with nearest gun club.  
Gun clubs would be able to access (with appropriate password protection) the Site and change their individual information ... the ATA would receive a corresponding email notification so that the ATA records would be updated.
- **Grand American Scores**  
Shoot scores would be directly posted from R.J. Stuart's program on the Web Site ... updates would occur several times each hour during daily activities.
- **Grand American Web Cam**  
Have a web cam in central location(s) - i.e., CEB and ATA Grandstands ... web cam would be recording 24/7 to capture all Grand activities.

..... **President Thomas E. Acklin called a Recess as indicated**  
 (April 10, 2003) ..... **ADJOURNED AT 18:15 HRS.**  
 (April 11, 2003) ..... **MEETING RESUMED AT 07:31 HRS.**  
**All Executive Committee Members answered the Call at the resumption of the Meeting.**

**At 07:31 Hrs., IN RE: All-American Selection Committee Report**

Ex-Officio and All-American Selection Committee Chair Phillip C. Wright advised of the following items and/or issues that are under consideration and review:

- ā Analyzing the establishment of setting a minimum competition factor of (two) 2 for all State Shoots. The indication is that this will help numerous smaller State Shoots that lose their competitors to larger shoots that are within reasonable driving distance.
- ā Investigating the possibility of limiting the HOA to the final four (4) days of all qualifying shoots.
- ā To allow points in the preliminary handicap at Zone shoots where Zone wide trophies are presented.
- ā Consider awarding points to category winners where trophies are not awarded ... Trophy points are awarded only where there are trophies available. This proposal would award trophy points to category shooters even though no club trophies are given.
- æ Adding Canadian Championship points for the All-American Team. ATA provides a few trophies for this event. It generally does not qualify as "other major tournaments" because it does not meet minimum attendance requirements. This proposal would alleviate the situation.

All-American Selection Committee Chair Wright and Executive Director Norris advised that a review of the ATA data base revealed that the preceding proposals present few problems should they be implemented. Sub-Junior and Junior age issues were discussed. The consensus was that the substantive issues pertaining to the Junior and Sub-Junior 'ages' shall be referred to the Rules Advisory Committee. The Executive Committee Members were tasked with the responsibility to "think on the subject" and further discussion and reconsideration of these issues will be broached during the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Executive Committee.

Ex-Officio Wright also noted that the Member Handbook and the Delegates Manual are still "works in progress." He solicited further input with regard to the Delegates Handbook and looks forward to hearing from the Executive Committee Members.

..... **President Thomas E. Acklin called a Recess as indicated**  
 (April 11, 2003) ..... **RECESS AT 09:30 HRS.**  
 (April 11, 2003) ..... **MEETING RESUMED AT 10:01 HRS.**  
**All Executive Committee Members answered the Call at the resumption of the Meeting.**

**At 10:01 Hrs., IN RE: ATA Membership Survey**

Executive Director John R. Norris reviewed the results of the recently completed and compiled ATA Membership Survey with the Executive Committee.

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## ATA Membership Survey

q Number of Respondents by Zone q			
Zone	No. of Surveys Returned	% of Active Shooters in Zone	% of Total Responses
Eastern	1,100	15%	23%
Southern	547	14%	12%
Central	2,094	17%	44%
Southwestern	503	12%	10%
Western	545	08%	11%
..... Totals	4,789	100%	100%

q Number of Active Shooters by Zone q		
Zone	Active Members	% of Total
Eastern	7,718	21%
Southern	3,833	11%
Central	12,331	36%
Southwestern	4,349	13%
Western	6,580	19%
..... Totals	34,271	100%

q Generally, How Often Do You Attend the Grand American Trapshoot? q QUESTION NO. 1, FROM SURVEY		
Time Frame	Attendees	%
Annually	2,435	51%
2 - 3 Years	706	15%
4 or More	684	14%
Don't Attend	961	20%
..... Totals	4,786	100%

q Generally, How Often Do You Attend the Grand American Trapshoot? q QUESTION NO. 1, FROM SURVEY (CONTINUED)				
Zone	Annually	2 - 3 yrs.	4 or More	Never
Eastern	527 / 22%	208 / 30%	180 / 26%	184 / 19%
Southern	299 / 12%	95 / 14%	66 / 10%	86 / 09%
Central	1,390 / 57%	247 / 35%	218 / 32%	236 / 24%
Southwestern	136 / 06%	78 / 11%	97 / 14%	189 / 20%
Western	81 / 03%	75 / 10%	122 / 18%	265 / 28%
..... Totals	2,433 / 100%	703 / 100%	683 / 100%	960 / 100%



Q How Far Do You Travel to Attend the Grand American Trapshoot? Q QUESTION NO. 2, FROM SURVEY		
Mileage/Distance	Respondents	%
100 Miles or Less	411	10%
101 - 500 Miles	1,917	50%
501 - 1,000	952	25%
More Than 1,000 Miles	584	15%
..... Totals	3,864	100%

Q Do You Stay in a Hotel or Camp on the ATA Grounds? Q QUESTION NO. 3, FROM SURVEY		
Lodging	Respondents	%
Hotel/Motel	2,862	82%
Camp	608	18%
..... Totals	3,470	100%

Q What Is the Commute Time from Hotel/Motel to ATA Grounds? Q QUESTION NO. 3A, FROM SURVEY		
Commute Time	Respondents	%
< Than 15 Minutes	1,232	40%
15 - 30 Minutes	1,448	47%
30 - 60 Minutes	283	09%
> Than One Hour	118	04%
..... Totals	3,081	100%

Q If the Grand Moves to a Location That Is Farther Away from You, How Would It Affect Your Attendance? Q QUESTION NO. 4, FROM SURVEY						
Zone	As Usual		Less Often		Won't Attend	
Eastern	152	14%	408	24%	346	35%
Southern	160	15%	222	13%	70	07%
Central	446	42%	874	51%	501	50%
Southwestern	160	15%	105	06%	45	04%
Western	144	14%	94	06%	40	04%
..... Totals	1,062	100%	1,703	100%	1,002	100%

Q Are You Willing to Contribute to Relocation Fund? Q QUESTION NO. 5, FROM SURVEY		
Answer	Respondents	%
Yes	1,459	33%
No	2,981	67%
..... Totals	4,440	100%

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q Please Indicate the Amount You Are Willing to Contribute q QUESTION NO. 5A, FROM SURVEY		
Answer	Respondents	%
\$ 100.00	705	66%
\$ 250.00	172	17%
\$ 500.00	85	08%
\$ 1,000.00	66	06%
\$ 5,000.00	15	01%
\$10,000.00	18	02%
..... Totals	1,061	100%

q If the Grand Moves to a Location Farther from You, How Would It Affect Your Contribution? q QUESTION NO. 5B, FROM SURVEY		
Answer	Respondents	%
No Effect	1098	59%
Decrease	422	23%
Decrease by 25%	27	02%
Decrease by 50%	90	05%
Decrease by 100%	212	11%
..... Totals	1,849	100%

q What Are the Most Important Factors in Selecting a Future Location? Ranked 1 to 6 (1 Being Most Important) q QUESTION NO. 6, FROM SURVEY (CONTINUED)						
Answer	1	2	3	4	5	6
Pro Gun State	1,701	776	774	537	444	275
Proximity to Current Location	1,354	380	341	297	503	1,586
Proximity to Amenities	1,043	1,279	1,089	721	323	63
Single Trap Line	712	803	916	869	722	410
Proximity to Major Airport	314	337	643	752	1,072	1,288
Land Ownership vs. Leasing	1,232	757	614	662	705	548
..... Totals	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000

q Why Do You Not Attend the Grand American? q QUESTION NO. 7, FROM SURVEY		
Answer	Respondents	%
Too Far from Home	461	47%
Financial	266	27%
Insufficient Time Off	164	17%
No Camp Space on Site	86	09%
..... Totals	977	100%

Subsequent to review and discussion, it was the general consensus of the Executive Committee that further

analysis and comparison is in order. The discussions revealed that the Executive Committee felt that the Survey was beneficial - not only to the Executive Committee - but the Membership at large. The results as compiled by Executive Director Norris will be published on the ATA Web Site at the earliest opportunity.

..... President Thomas E. Acklin called a Recess as indicated  
(April 11, 2003) ..... ADJOURNED AT 18:13 HRS.  
(April 12, 2003) ..... MEETING RESUMED AT 07:30 HRS.  
All Executive Committee Members answered the Call at the resumption of the Meeting.

1 At 07:35 Hrs., IN RE: **Advisory Sub-Committee Reports**  
**RULES ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
..... Committee Chair & Western Zone Vice President David R. Kaiser

Committee Chair David R. Kaiser advised of the continuing discussions and considerations pertaining to the following rules changes (**UNDER REVIEW**):

**EARNED YARDAGE:**

- o Automatic one (1) yard punch for winning, at least, Five Hundred (\$500.00) Dollars but less than One Thousand (\$1,000.00) Dollars, in any one (1) single handicap event. This earned yardage award will apply (when and if approved) in cases where the achieved score does not otherwise earn yardage by itself. If the achieved score earns yardage (under the applicable earned yardage table(s) in the Official Rule Book), the greater of the achieved score or the applicable yardage awarded for prize money won will predominate (**UNDER REVIEW**).
- o Automatic one and one-half (1½) yard punch for winning One Thousand (\$1,000.00) Dollars, or more, in any one (1) single handicap event. This earned yardage award will apply (when and if approved) in cases where the achieved score does not otherwise earn yardage by itself. If the achieved score earns yardage (under the applicable earned yardage table(s) in the Official Rule Book), the greater of the achieved score or the applicable yardage awarded for prize money won will predominate (**UNDER REVIEW**).

**AUTOMATIC PUNCHES FOR FIFTY (50) STRAIGHTS:**

- o At the present time, the Executive Committee does not favor automatic punches for fifty (50) straights in handicap events.

**YARDAGE STAKES vs. SPEED SETTINGS:**

- o Committee Chair David R. Kaiser firmly believes that speed settings for targets should be the universal standard. The Committee Chair stated that such a universal standard will level the 'playing field' throughout the Country. Until proper analysis and choice of speed guns can be determined, we (ATA) should vigorously enforce the fifty (50) yard stake requirement subject to the following variations (**UNDER REVIEW**).
- o Yardage stakes shall be set at fifty (50) yards and singles and handicap targets shall be thrown no less than forty nine (49) yards nor more than fifty one (51) yards. Doubles shall remain as currently published in the ATA Official Rule Book (**UNDER REVIEW**).

**TARGET HEIGHTS:**

- o The present variance in target heights of eight (8') feet to twelve (12') feet shall be changed to nine (9') feet to ten (10') feet (**UNDER REVIEW**).

**HANDICAP SCORE SHEET ENTRY(IES):**

- o Handicap participants shall be required to enter their assigned yardage on the first sheet of each handicap event (not sub-events).

**EFFECTIVE DATES OF RULES CHANGES:**

- o Committee Chair David R. Kaiser recommended that any subsequently approved Rules changes would not be effective until September 01, 2003, or concurrent with a subsequent change in the Target Year, if approved by the Board of Directors.

1 **MARKETING ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

..... Committee Chair & Southwestern Zone Vice President Dr. Thomas P. Arvas  
Committee Chair Dr. Thomas P. Arvas deferred any further comments by noting that he feels the Marketing Committee's prior presentations adequately addressed all the issues that he wished to convey and/or cover at this time. Committee Chair Arvas also wanted to thank all those that assisted him with his prior presentations.

1 **STRATEGIC PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

..... Committee Chair, President & Central Zone Vice President Thomas E. Acklin  
Committee Chair and President, Thomas E. Acklin, advised that he will defer his comments and recommendations until **NEW BUSINESS** is being discussed.

1 **COMPETITION & INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

..... Committee Chair & Eastern Zone Vice President D. Ray Greb  
Committee Chair and Eastern Zone Vice President D. Ray Greb advised that he appreciated the opportunity to travel to the Shot Show with President Acklin, Executive Director Norris and Communications and Promotions Manager Hodkey. Committee Chair Greb informed the Executive Committee that he made very valuable industry contacts that will assist him in developing his Committee's objectives. Numerous industry representatives expressed a desire to become more involved with the Competition & Industry Advisory Committee's endeavors. Committee Chair Greb will keep the Executive Committee advised accordingly. It is anticipated that the newly created Handicap Doubles will be scheduled at this year's Grand American Tournament and/or the various Satellite Grand Tournaments, time permitting. Committee Chair D. Ray Greb also expressed his thanks to Past President Lucky Nightingale and Grand American Champion Dennis Devaux for their consultations to him as Chair of the Competition & Industry Advisory Committee.

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1	<b>GRAND PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE</b>	1943
	..... <b>Committee Chair &amp; Southern Zone Vice President Kenneth P. Duncan</b>	1944
	Committee Chair and Southern Zone Vice President Kenneth P. Duncan was pleased to note that the Southern Satellite Grand American Tournament was well attended and conducted in an efficient and professional manner. He did note that several complaints were received due to the Lewis Class Option pricing. The complaints, as noted, revealed that a Lewis Class Option amount of <b>Ten (\$10.00) Dollars</b> is preferable to the <b>Twenty (\$20.00) Dollar</b> charge.	1945
	Western Zone Vice President David R. Kaiser disagreed with the Twenty (\$20.00) Dollar pricing and felt that the more "standard" level of Ten (\$10.00) Dollars should prevail. The Western Zone Vice President defended the Ten (\$10.00) pricing as "this is the average shooters' option." Eastern Zone Vice President D. Ray Greb noted that, "in Maryland and those Satellite Grands that he is able to attend, you have to establish a Twenty (\$20.00) Lewis Class Option or the shooters will not enter (play) the Option." Subsequent to these discussions, pertaining to option pricing, it was the general consensus of the Executive Committee that the pricing of the <b>Lewis Class Option should be promoted at the Ten (\$10.00) Dollar level</b> but ultimately left to the individual Satellite Grand American Committee's discretion. Southern Zone Vice President Kenneth P. Duncan stated that he will discuss the Lewis Class Option pricing with the various Satellite venues.	1946
	Based on his personal observations and the comments received, Committee Chair Duncan stated that all Satellite Grand American Tournaments should be required to rotate banks and to use a similar pre-squadding scheme to expedite the entry processes. Executive Director John R. Norris added that "some individual tweaking might be necessary for the individual venues but the basic concept is solid." The Executive Committee was in general agreement and concluded that they will address this issue during the Executive Committee meeting(s) as the Satellite Grand American Tournaments are presented for annual review and subsequent approval.	1947
	Southwestern Zone Vice President Dr. Thomas P. Arvas reviewed a letter that was critical of the lack of (and quality) of trophies at the Satellite Grand American Tournaments. The Executive Committee was in agreement with the basic comments, contained in the letter, and will refer the issue for further study, consideration and recommendation.	1948
	..... <b>President Thomas E. Acklin called a Recess as indicated</b>	1949
(April 12, 2003)	..... <b>RECESS AT 10:30 HRS.</b>	1950
(April 12, 2003)	..... <b>MEETING RESUMED AT 16:35 HRS.</b>	1951
	<b>All Executive Committee Members answered the Call at the resumption of the Meeting.</b>	1952
1	<b>FOREIGN DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE</b>	1953
	..... <b>Committee Chair &amp; Southern Zone Vice President Kenneth P. Duncan</b>	1954
	Committee Chair Kenneth P. Duncan advised that his efforts continue to promote the development of Foreign Shooters but there is nothing further or new to report at the present time.	1955
	<b>At 16:40 Hrs., IN RE: Report of Executive Director - Executive Director John R. Norris</b>	1956
	Executive Director John R. Norris thanked the Executive Committee for the opportunity to present his Executive Director Report(s). Executive Director Norris proceeded with:	1957
	<b>GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT</b>	1958
	— <b>Dues/Fees and Life</b>	1959
	Executive Director Norris advised that all Executive Committee Members should have received an email with attachment that depicted the current <b>Dues/Fees and Life Report</b> . Mr. Norris noted that "it appears that there is a turn-around from the less than stellar Winter months. Registered shoot date listings and less tangible items seem to indicate that we will be able to hold participation steady through a rather turbulent financial year."	1960
	— <b>"Gold" ATA Life Member Plastic Card</b>	1961
	As per prior Executive Committee Resolution, Gold ATA Life Member plastic cards have been ordered but not received as of this meeting date. It is anticipated that the replacement gold cards will be mailed to all Life Members at the beginning of the next Target Year.	1962
	— <b>Pins and Patches</b>	1963
	The ATA has been providing 25 and 50 Straight Patches to the gun clubs for approximately thirty (30) days. The Executive Director reported that the response has been most positive from the clubs and membership. The ATA 100 and 200 Straight Pins should be received in the ATA office in the near future and then readied for distribution.	1964
	<b>Executive Director Norris and Ex-Officio Phillip C. Wright both noted that the clubs and membership needed to be advised that the Patches and/or Pins are attainment awards and are to be awarded for a first time attainment and not for subsequent similar achievements.</b>	1965
	— <b>Senior Life Membership Analysis</b>	1966
	Executive Director John R. Norris noted that he has completed his analysis of the 'senior life membership' issue that was broached by Ex-Officio Phillip C. Wright during the December 2002 Executive Committee meeting. Secretary G. Mike Seitz advised the Executive Committee that the issue had been tabled for further discussion during this meeting. The original Motion to table was made by Western Zone Vice President David R. Kaiser and was seconded by Southern Zone Vice President Kenneth P. Duncan.	1967
	Subsequently, <b>Western Zone Vice President David R. Kaiser</b> with second of <b>Southern Zone Vice President Kenneth P. Duncan</b> Moved to take the issue from the table and to reconsider following the presentations of Executive Director Norris. The Executive Committee, by unanimous acclamation, agreed to the reintroduction of the tabled item.	1968
	Executive Director Norris presented and reviewed a detailed report pertaining to a financial analysis of the proposed Senior Life Membership (at a reduced rate). The financial analysis was conducted by using an assumed Membership cost of Two Hundred Fifty (\$250.00) Dollars, and further based on no near term increase in basic annual dues.	1969
	Subsequent to further discussion and review and upon the Motion of <b>Eastern Zone Vice President D. Ray Greb</b> with second of <b>Southern Zone Vice President Kenneth P. Duncan</b> , and following the President's call of the	1970

question, with no response, it was unanimously

**RESOLVED** That, effective this date and time, any ATA Member upon reaching his/her 65th birthday shall be eligible to apply for a Senior ATA Life Membership hereinafter to be referred to as Veteran ATA Life Membership.

**FURTHER RESOLVED** That the Executive Director shall develop an appropriate application and other related documentation in order to comply with this Resolution. The cost of the Veteran ATA Life Membership shall be established at one-half (1/2) the cost of a current Life Membership or Two Hundred Fifty (\$250.00) Dollars. The installment plan (as currently offered on a regular Life Membership) shall not be applicable to the Veteran ATA Life Membership.

**BE IT NOTED FOR THE RECORD** That this Action and Resolution was adopted to accommodate the numerous requests of the ATA Membership.

#### — MISCELLANEOUS

Executive Director John R. Norris advised that he is still working on a **new file format** (for reporting registered shoot reports). He is making progress but it is still not complete. Executive Director Norris stated that the envisioned file format will standardize the reporting process and make for more smoothly running operations.

The Executive Director also noted that he is working on a new format for **late penalty reporting**. He advised that this remains a persistent problem because the current penalty is not severe enough to prompt responsive reporting. Ex-Officio Wright added that the late reporters should be published in Trap & Field as an additional (negative) inducement to get their reports and payments in as per the prescribed time period.

Executive Director Norris presented a **lease/own financial analysis** that pertains to the present Ford truck that the ATA leases for corporate business. It is evident that it is more cost effective to purchase the truck rather than continue to lease. It was the unanimous consensus of the Executive Committee that Executive Director Norris is authorized to purchase the truck and effect all documents pertinent thereto.

President Thomas E. Acklin and Executive Director John R. Norris advised that they are currently working on the installation of a **PayPal system** to increase the effectiveness and convenience to the ATA membership. The Officers will advise the Executive Committee when the system is ready to go live. Western Zone Vice President David R. Kaiser was familiar with the workings of the system and advised that the credit card approach is the "only choice."

**PITA cross registration** - started fairly slow - but the most recent report (just received) contained one hundred (100) reporting on a cross registered basis. This news was most encouraging for both the PITA and the ATA.

#### Executive Director John R. Norris continued with the balance of his Report:

#### GRAND AMERICAN

Executive Director Norris stated that there are various items of interest regarding the 2003 Grand American Tournament. He noted that "there is ongoing effort to improve operational efficiency without degrading the level of service to the participants. All ATA office and tournament staff will continue to strive to make the Grand American experience as enjoyable as possible."

#### — Airport Security

The Executive Director advised that the process is underway to satisfy the Dayton International Airport and TSA/FAA concerns. The required documents were submitted in early January 2003, in order to expedite the formalities in securing approval for the Ohio State Championships (OSTA) and the Grand American Tournament. The "DIA officials are supportive of the 2003 Security Plan which is in large part a duplication of the 2002 Plan." The Executive Director revealed that, in order to lessen the pressure on the Primitive Area Camping, discussions are in progress in hopes of receiving approval to extend the security fence as far to the West as possible. If approval is received, these fence modifications will be made prior to the Ohio State shoot.

Southern Zone Vice President and Grand American Program Committee Chair Kenneth P. Duncan advised that it has been brought to his attention that people continue to drive on the line during shooting periods at the Grand American. All Executive Committee Members were advised to intervene (where prudent to do so) and/or take license plate numbers and submit them to Chuck Fritzges, Tournament Director, for appropriate administrative or legal action. This practice must be stopped in its entirety.

#### — Ammunition Pricing

Executive Director Norris related that ammunition pricing has been confirmed for the three (3) major manufacturers at levels consistent with the 2002 Grand Tournament. Subsequent to being advised that their ammunition for the 2003 Grand American Tournament would not be offered, Fiocchi has requested a resumption of negotiations. Fiocchi has been given the opportunity to significantly increase their level of sponsorship if they desire to remain as a shell vendor at the Grand American Tournament. Executive Director Norris is hopeful that Fiocchi desires to remain as a shell vendor and he is anticipating successful results.

[Fiocchi's prior Grand American shell distributions were noted in the December 2002 Minute Records]

#### — Pre-Squadding

Executive Director Norris announced that he is advocating only one significant change in the squadding procedures to be used at the 2003 Grand American Tournament. That is, "shooters may not draw more than one position per event. This would apply to both pre-squadding and on site activity. Currently shooter may draw up to one full squad per event." The Executive Director added that details will be printed in the Grand American Program and published on the ATA Web Site so that shooters will know and understand how they can still arrange their shooting activities with their squad mates.

The Executive Committee - in particular those that attended the Southern Satellite Grand American - discussed similar procedures that were utilized during this Tournament that were determined to be quite effective and made for a much more orderly and efficient Tournament. Executive Director Norris noted that "it will work well where preset or obvious maximum attendance is anticipated." Mr. Norris stated that he certainly does not want to advocate any action that will discourage attendance and is more than willing to continue this dialogue, if warranted. Further, The Executive Director is not advocating any changes to the current Grand procedures. Specific guidelines will be printed in the Grand American Program, accordingly.

#### — 2003 Revised Budget

A revised 2003 Budget versus 2002 Actual is included in your Report, advised Executive Director Norris. The ATA was recently advised of a billing error through the power company (DP&L). The billing statement indicated that

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the ATA was undercharged approximately \$12,000., for electric usage during the month of August 2002. ATA Controller Julie Smith corresponded with the DPL billing office in an attempt to verify the billing records. Subsequently, a physical reading (of the meters) by DP&L revealed that the increased charges sought by DP&L were accurate. An appropriate adjustment has been made to the 2003 Budget to accurately reflect this erroneous interpretation on the part of DP&L. The Executive Director also noted that "nearly seventy (70%) percent of the total increase in expenses consists of increased insurance costs, property tax and depreciation. Most other significant increases are off-set on the revenue side."

Southern Zone Vice President Kenneth P. Duncan and Executive Director Norris discussed the relative merits of replacing the August 'high rate electric meters' during the non-peak months. Executive Director Norris advised that they (high rate meters) are supposedly set up to avoid "bleed" charges. The Executive Director will confirm that to make certain that it is factually based.

Executive Director Norris also commented that the increase to the anticipated charge for workers' compensation insurance is unavoidable due to the loss of the 'credit' that was uniformly applied to all BWC accounts in the State of Ohio. Advice of the discontinued credit was received with an effective date of January 01, 2003. The Executive Director will continue to stress safe working habits for all employees not only for the employees' own protection but in an attempt to control the ever increasing costs of workers' compensation insurance premiums.

Repairs and maintenance items will be kept to a minimum in order to conserve on budget/actual expenditures in anticipation of a final decision on relocation matters, as related by the Executive Director. Mr. Norris also noted that he sees no need to spend money on major items of maintenance and/or repairs and then abandon the buildings or other structures as we relocate to a new site. The Executive Committee was in unanimous concurrence with the statements and present posture of the Executive Director and thanked him for his foresight and diligence in such matters.

Executive Director Norris also advised the Executive Committee that the current Budget (and as revised) also includes approximately thirty one (31) additional trophies that will be presented at the 2003 Grand American Tournament. Some of these trophies are due to additional sponsorships (that will be recognized accordingly) and others are to satisfy the increasing demands (from attendance) from the ever popular preliminary events of the Grand American Tournament.

Subsequent to further discussion and review and upon the Motion of **Southwestern Zone Vice President Dr. Thomas P. Arvas** with second of **Eastern Zone Vice President D. Ray Greb**, and following the President's call of the question, with no response, it was unanimously

**RESOLVED That the Revised 2003 Budget as compiled and presented by Executive Director John R. Norris is hereby adopted, ratified and/or approved this date and time.**

— **Trolley Wagons**

The Executive Director reminded the Committee that as a condition of our liability insurance carrier (T.H.E. Insurance Company), we are required to make changes in the manner in which the trolley wagons operate on the Grand grounds. Conditions include the following:

- Ingress and egress is to be limited to one opening, only. Executive Director Norris and Secretary G. Mike Seitz indicated that they will attempt to mollify the single entry requirement. It is believed that the congestion caused by such a system could hinder the safety aspects of what we are attempting to accomplish.

- An ATA employee is to ride on the trolley and manage some type of access gate and communicate with the tractor driver when it is safe to proceed.

The Executive Committee discussed the ramifications of instituting such a Policy (restrictions) and noted that it will undoubtedly cause some dissent among the trolley users. But, due to the accident history of the trolley system: these changes are unavoidable.

— **Target Bids**

Executive Director Norris presented the Grand American 2003 Target Bids and informed the Executive Committee that according to tradition, it is incumbent upon the Committee to review the Bids and accept one of them publicly. To that end, the Executive Director summarized and reviewed the 'Key Elements' and Bids of the following Sponsors (target vendors):

- **REMINGTON ARMS COMPANY**  
- **WHITE FLYER**

Subsequent to discussion and review and upon the Motion of **Western Zone Vice President David R. Kaiser** with second of **Southwestern Zone Vice President Dr. Thomas P. Arvas**, and following the President's call of the question, with no response, it was unanimously

**RESOLVED That the Target Bid of White Flyer shall be accepted for the 2003 Grand American Tournament on a one (1) year basis.**

**FURTHER RESOLVED AND ACKNOWLEDGED That both Target Companies presented professionally prepared and competitive bids. The Executive Committee extends their thanks to both Remington and White Flyer for their responsiveness and their continued support of the shooting sports.**

**Registered Shoot Application Requirement - Pre Approval -President Thomas E. Acklin and Eastern Zone Vice President D. Ray Greb**

President Thomas E. Acklin and Eastern Zone Vice President D. Ray Greb spoke against the "loosening practice" of permitting late registration of shoots. It appears that there are numerous instances of registered shoots taking place where proper notice has not been given to the appropriate personnel at the ATA office. Eastern Zone Vice President D. Ray Greb is aware of the occasional "slip-ups" but he is concerned about the continuing practice and the fairness to the ATA membership. The Executive Committee spoke at length on the issue and arrived at a consensus opinion that Executive Director John R. Norris is to further impress upon the state secretaries that they are to police the application and approval process of all registered shoots. If the practice is determined to be unfair - or suspect - stronger remedial action will be taken by the Executive Committee on the transgressors.

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“ **Unfinished Business (including Old Business, as defined)** 2176

**ATA Corporate By-Law Amendments** 2177

q **Article IV, Board of Directors, Section 1: - Election** 2178

Western Zone Vice President David R. Kaiser introduced the first proposed ATA By-Law Amendment and explained the rationale therefore. Vice President Kaiser noted, for the Record, that he has been in a continuing dialogue with the entire Executive Committee and that they - in turn - have been soliciting opinions from the Delegates/Directors with regard to the suspension provisions that apply to the eligibility of Delegates to stand for election. It appears from these numerous conversations that the Delegates/Directors of this Corporation desire more leniency to apply. **Article IV** reads in pertinent part as follows: 2179

**Article IV** 2180

**Board of Directors** 2181

**Section 1: - Election** 2182

“... at which meeting all members of this corporation residing in that state or province, who are present in person at the meeting and are also members of their State Association shall be entitled to vote for a state or provincial delegate and for not over two (2) alternate delegates, all of whom shall be Life Members as a prerequisite to standing for election. The criteria for election as a State Delegate or alternate shall be: actual physical residence within the boundaries of the State of representation; in receipt of life membership certificate for the Amateur Trapshooting Association; and member in good standing of the State Association of the State represented. FURTHER provided, a candidate standing for election must evidence A.T.A. membership in good standing for at least five (5) consecutive years and active registered shooting participation of at least 500 targets (Singles, Handicap and Doubles combined) in the current and previous four (4) years with at least 3000 total combined targets in the current and previous four (4) target years. Target participation may be waived, by the state or provincial association, for shooter(s) with an extensive target history who, because of documented physical disabilities, is or are not currently able to actively participate in recognized A.T.A. shooting events. In order to stand for election as an A.T.A. delegate, any candidate, otherwise qualified hereunder, shall not have been, or be, suspended, for any reason, from the A.T.A.” 2183

Western Zone Vice President proposes the following substantive changes to **Article IV, Board of Directors, Section 1: - Election**, as follows: 2184

... at which meeting all members of this corporation residing in that state or province, who are present in person at the meeting and are also members of their State Association shall be entitled to vote for a state or provincial delegate and for not over two (2) alternate delegates, all of whom shall be Life Members as a prerequisite to standing for election. The criteria for election as a State Delegate or alternate shall be: actual physical residence within the boundaries of the State of representation; in receipt of life membership certificate for the Amateur Trapshooting Association; and member in good standing of the State Association of the State represented. FURTHER provided, a candidate standing for election must evidence A.T.A. membership in good standing for at least five (5) consecutive years and active registered shooting participation of at least 500 targets (Singles, Handicap and Doubles combined) in the current and previous four (4) years with at least 3000 total combined targets in the current and previous four (4) target years. Target participation may be waived, by the state or provincial association, for shooter(s) with an extensive target history who, because of documented physical disabilities, is or are not currently able to actively participate in recognized A.T.A. shooting events. In order to stand for election as an A.T.A. delegate, any candidate, otherwise qualified hereunder, shall not have been, or be, suspended, for any reason, from the A.T.A., ***within the prior five (5) years or for a period of one (1) year or more.*** 2185

Subsequent to further discussion and review and upon the Motion of **Western Zone Vice President David R. Kaiser** with second of **Eastern Zone Vice President D. Ray Greb**, and following the President's call of the question, with no response, it was unanimously 2186

**RESOLVED** That **Article IV, Board of Directors, Section 1: - Election**, as revised herein, is hereby ratified and approved for presentation to the Board of Directors at the next regularly scheduled Annual Meeting to be held on August 14, 2003, with a pass recommendation from the Executive Committee. 2187

**FURTHER RESOLVED** That Secretary G. Mike Seitz is directed to prepare the necessary documentation in harmony with **ATA By-Law Article XIX, Amendments**, and to cause same to be mailed to the Delegates/Directors of the Corporation on or about July 01, 2003. 2188

q **Article XVI, Averages** 2189

**Change Target Year/Membership Year - Executive Committee** 2190

President Thomas E. Acklin advised that Executive Committee Members, including himself, have been canvassing their Delegates/Directors since the conclusion of last year's Annual Meeting to solicit their support in changing the 'Target Year' for the **Good of the Corporation**, from - **ending August 31**, of each year to **October 31**, of each year. It appears that a majority of Delegates/Directors favor this change for the following defined reasons: 2191

— **Membership Year** 2192

Each year a substantial number of new members are alienated because they sign up late in the target year. They, therefore, are required to renew their membership after a few months of shooting. The number of new members that join the ATA in May, June and July is approximately one third (1/3) of the total for the target year. **“Changing the membership date will give these members additional months of shooting in what are prime conditions in most parts of the Country.”** 2193

— **Average Card Mailing** 2194

There is a significant amount of shooting activity that takes place in September and October where annual members may not have proof of renewal even though the ATA office has received their payment. **“The change to the November date gets renewal cards to members after the majority of activity has ceased and prior to the start of the following year's major activity.”** 2195

— **Office Operations / Staffing** 2196

**“Moving the end of the target year further from the Grand American Tournament will allow the office to even out the workload for staffing purposes.”** As a practical matter the entire month of August 2197

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is devoted to the Grand American. This means that shoot reports that arrive just before or during the Grand American and annual renewal processing are not completed until well into the start of the new target year. **The extra staffing required for the month of September adds approximately Ten Thousand (\$10,000.) Dollars in payroll and related expense.**

**Grand American Relocation and Contingency Planning** - A significant consideration (for the near term) is the possibility that the Grand American Tournament will have to be held someplace other than Vandalia. The ability to hold the Grand American at another site is significantly impacted by the current target year, as established. There are a number of shoot venues that would not be suitable hosts due to the timing of the Tournament and site specific weather issues. **"The suggested change in the year would present the ATA with more options for a contingency site."**

The Executive Committee members feel that the supporting reasons - especially the expense reduction items to the ATA - justify the change of the target year as recommended. Subsequent to further discussion and review and upon the Motion of **Western Zone Vice President David R. Kaiser** with second of **Eastern Zone Vice President D. Ray Greb** and following the President's call of the question, with no response, it was unanimously

**RESOLVED** That the Executive Committee supports the recommended change of the Target Year by an appropriate Amendment to ATA By-Law Article XVI, Averages, as follows:

The shooting averages for each member of this corporation shall be based on the registered targets shot during the 12 month period ending ~~August 31~~ **October 31**, of each year; however, scores shot at any tournament that ends after ~~August 31~~ **October 31**, regardless of the starting date, will be included in the following year's averages.

**FURTHER RESOLVED** That Article XVI, Averages herein, is hereby ratified and approved for presentation to the Board of Directors at the next regularly scheduled Annual Meeting to be held on August 14, 2003, with a **pass recommendation** from the Executive Committee.

**FURTHER RESOLVED** That Secretary G. Mike Seitz is directed to prepare the necessary documentation in harmony with ATA By-Law Article XIX, Amendments, and to cause same to be mailed to the Delegates/Directors of the Corporation on or about July 01, 2003.

#### **Field Layout Specifications - President Thomas E. Acklin**

President Thomas E. Acklin presented a **Rationale For Establishing Point "B" And Throwing Arm Or Plate Height**. The President stated that over the years there has been an inconsistency in target presentation in all parts of the Country, including the Grand American Homegrounds. This inconsistency comes from two (2) major factors:

1. Improper position of the trap in the house (front to rear), and
2. The height of the trap machine and the throwing platform (arm and/or plate) in relationship to the level of position of Post # 3.

#### **Trap Position From Point "B"**

Point "B" is the base from which all trap field dimensions are established. At present, we do not definitively note that dimension in the current ATA Official Rule Book. The ATA office is asked for this dimension on a regular basis. This point was defined in the Winchester-Western Manual for the 1524 Trap and the Remington 4100 series Traps. Since the manuals established the location of the trap machine, it was not included in recent ATA Rule Books. Both Winchester and Remington noted that the location of Point "B" is two feet six inches (2' 6") plus (+) or minus (-) one (1") inch from the outside vertical wall and the intersection of the Center-Line of the traphouse (reference to Diagram A) [not attached to the Minute Record]. These locations are critical and any significant variance can significantly change the target presentation. A trap set farther back in the house or set deeper or higher, for that matter, will throw a target that will appear "fast" or "slow." A machine that is offset to the right or left can change where the target appears from the traphouse. If Point "B" is established, a more consistent target presentation will be accomplished.

The President continued that it might be argued that with the advent of the magazine loaded (automatic) trap machines that one single location cannot be determined. This postulation is not accurate. The President noted that he has obtained the drawings of all current trap machines, that are available in the marketplace today and several that will be coming to the market in the near future. The President's investigation revealed that each of these machines can easily meet 'base' dimensions that are described in the supplemental drawings and engineering schematics that were prepared by the President and presented during this meeting. They all have the capability to be located in the proper position. Each trap machine manufacturer has an offset dimension from the centerline of the trap in their manuals for reference.

With a properly constructed traphouse, or one with minor internal modifications, a consistent target presentation can be achieved, according to President Acklin. He recommends that the location of Point "B" should be established and required on any newly constructed traps after September 01, 2003. The President supported the further requirement that all traps should be modified by September 01, 2013, but, subsequent to further debate, it was the majority consensus of the Executive Committee that such a mandate to all traps (other than newly constructed ones after September 01, 2003) would be unduly burdensome on the trap clubs and not in the best interests of the ATA Membership.

#### **Trap Machine Height**

President Acklin continued with his report detailing Trap Machine Height. He noted that it has always been presumed that height of the trap should be approximately the same height as the level ground at Position # 3, and that of the ten (10) yard height pad. If we want to have consistent targets, from club to club and trap to trap, the height of the throwing surface, arm or plate, should be the same. As in all sports, there are basic dimensions that are basic to their rules and regulations.

The height of the trap is important. A trap set deeper (lower) or higher (above the mean height) will change target presentations. The President stated that it is his belief that we must have rules that determine the angles and distance (and in the future, speed). "It is imperative to have consistency from a target presentation aspect." Any club can establish the height of their traps without much difficulty: once provided with the proper height dimensions and how to implement them.

In conclusion, the President offered that the ATA could or should establish and provide adequate instructions and illustrations on how to obtain the proper trap height. It is his further recommendation that a tolerance of plus (+) or minus (-) two (2") inches. As previously stated, all current trap machines can meet the height specifications. By establishing the data and specifications, "all fields can then be reasonably the same from trap to trap." Then, as the President continued, "every competitor can be reasonably assured that they have the same advantage no matter



where they shoot.”

Subsequent to review and debate, it was by unanimous consensus of the Executive Committee **RESOLVED That the Executive Committee is in general agreement with the postulations and recommendations of President Thomas E. Acklin pertaining to the various aspects of Point “B” and Traphouse construction and that the entire issue should be referred to the Rules Advisory Committee for their review and suggestions prior to formal resolution of the Executive Committee.**

“ **Central Handicap Committee (CHC) / Western Zone Appointment**

Western Zone Vice President David R. Kaiser advised the Executive Committee that he has appointed **Mr. Edward P. TenBroeck (ATA # 0915185)**, 1810 North Okehampton Court, Farmington, Utah 84025, to fill the Western Zone vacancy on the Central Handicap Committee. This vacancy existed due to the recent election of Richard Marascola as permanent Chairman of the CHC. CHC Member TenBroeck’s appointment is effective **January 01, 2003**, and shall be subject to annual reappointment and/or confirmation in the normal course of business during the **Reorganization Meeting** subsequent to the Annual Board of Director’s meeting, each year.

The Executive Committee was in unanimous agreement that Western Zone Vice President Kaiser had made an excellent choice to fill the Western Zone vacancy and they warmly welcomed CHC Member TenBroeck to the service of the Amateur Trapshooting Association of America.

“ **FOR THE GOOD OF THE CORPORATION**

Ex-Officio Phillip C. Wright noted that due to the various conversations and positions taken by the Executive Committee Members, he strongly recommends that the Committee establish a policy that mandates that all trap fields used during any of the Satellite Grand American Championship Tournaments be required to accurately measure and install singles and handicap stakes at fifty (50) yards.

Subsequent to the recommendation and advice of Ex-Officio Phillip C. Wright, it was unanimously **AGREED That all Satellite Grand American Championship Tournaments are hereby required to accurately measure and install singles and handicap stakes at fifty (50) yards.**

..... **President Thomas E. Acklin called for a Recess as indicated**  
(April 12, 2003) ..... **ADJOURNED AT 18:35 HRS.**  
(April 13, 2003) ..... **MEETING RESUMED AT 08:30 HRS.**  
**A Majority of the Executive Committee Members answered the Call at the resumption of the Meeting.**

**At 08:50 Hrs., IN RE: Southwestern Satellite Grand American - Shooting Schedule**

Texas Delegate Gary Sherrod appeared before the Executive Committee to address his representative concerns pertaining to the scheduling of the last day’s events of the Southwestern Satellite Grand American Tournament. Delegate Sherrod stated that many of the ATA members attending the Southwestern Grand have to work on Monday following the Tournament and scheduling two (2) events on Sunday (the last day) forces the shooters to make a choice of cutting one of Sunday’s events or risk being late for work on the following day. Delegate Sherrod respectfully suggests that the Executive Committee consider scheduling the Doubles Championship on Friday and conducting only the Handicap Championship on Sunday (the last day of the Shoot). Delegate Sherrod suggested that this would serve to increase attendance at the shoot and enable a majority of the shooters to start their travel home earlier in the day.

The Executive Committee thanked Texas Delegate Sherrod for his comments and insights and told him that they would take his recommendations under advisement when making their decisions on next year’s Southwestern Satellite Grand American Tournament.

**At 09:05 Hrs., IN RE: Remington Arms Company**

Mr. Randy Moeller, Sales Manager for Gun Club Products, of Remington Arms Company presented a brief report on Remington’s involvement with the Grand American Tournament and trapshooting, in general. Mr. Moeller commented that he maintains a productive working relationship with the ATA and has continued his efforts by putting together a good sponsorship for the 2003 Grand American Tournament. He also reported that Remington is involved in and moving forward with a sponsorship of SCTP, Satellite Grands and various State Shoots.

Mr. Moeller reminded the Executive Committee Members that Remington Arms sponsored the Clay Target Championship event at last year’s Grand American. He noted that after the Clay Target Championship shoot-offs had extended into the second night that they were moved to the end fields. It was his observation that the available viewing was limited by this positioning. Mr. Moeller respectfully suggested that these Championship shoot-offs should be conducted on or near the main viewing grandstands, if at all possible. In this manner, the competitors and sponsors could get more recognition. He also added a further suggestion that a formal presentation be made by delivering the added money checks to the winners on the following night just before the shoot-offs begin.

The Executive Committee stated that they would take Mr. Moeller’s suggestions and recommendation under advisement and discuss them with Executive Director Norris and ATA shoot-off personnel. The Executive Committee also extended their sincere thanks to Remington Arms Company and Randy Moeller for their continuing support of the ATA and the shooting sports.

**At 09:30 Hrs, IN RE: Southwestern Grand Attendance**

The Executive Committee reviewed the attendance/participation numbers for 2003 as compared with 2002. The total entries from Preliminary Tuesday through the end of the Tournament were 5,989. This was registered as a decrease of 293 entries from Tournament year 2002 (- 4.73%). Excluding Tuesday’s adverse weather, the Tournament would have registered positive numbers ... considering the current economy; these results were gratifying.

“ **CORPORATE MEETING CONFIRMATION**

Subsequent to review and discussion, it was unanimously **AGREED That the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Executive Committee of the Amateur Trapshooting Association of America shall be at the ATA Corporate Headquarters,**

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during the Grand American World Trapshooting Championship Tournament located at Vandalia, Ohio, commencing on or about August 06, 2003.

President Thomas E. Acklin thanked all of the Executive Committee and Relocation Committee members for their diligent efforts. He felt that we had a good meeting that furthered the business and interests of the ATA in a positive and productive manner. The President further directed that all of the Committee Members are to have an enjoyable and safe trip home.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**FOR THE GOOD OF THE AMATEUR TRAPSHOOTING ASSOCIATION, President Thomas E. Acklin** called for the presentation of further business, with no response, and subsequent to reviewing the Meeting Agenda and polling the Executive Committee Members; it was determined that there was no further business to properly come before the Executive Committee at this Regular Continuing Meeting, and on unanimous concurrence of all Executive Committee Members present, this Regular Continuing Meeting was recessed at 09:45 Hrs., Central Standard Time on April 13, 2003, and will stand adjourned at the conclusion of the Southwestern Grand American Satellite Championship Tournament.

Respectfully submitted:

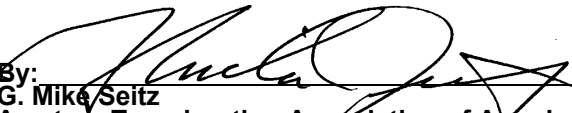
**Certification:**

I, G. Mike Seitz, Corporate Secretary, of the Amateur Trapshooting Association of America and recording for the Executive Committee, hereby certify that the foregoing Minute Record is substantially accurate and complete, subject to edification of the Executive Committee as a whole.

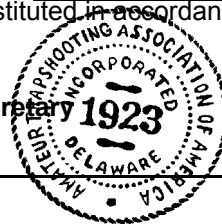
The undersigned, duly appointed Secretary of the Amateur Trapshooting Association of America, further certifies:

" Notice of this Regular Continuing Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Amateur Trapshooting Association of America, commencing April 09, 2003, at San Antonio, Texas, was properly given.

" At this Regular Continuing Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Amateur Trapshooting Association of America, a quorum was constituted in accordance with said Notice.

By:   
G. Mike Seitz  
Amateur Trapshooting Association of America

Secretary



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