

NEWSLETTER: Upper Peninsula Muzzle Loading Assn, Inc.

September 28, 2021

Fall Issue

2021 Annual Fall Shoot – October 2

The UPMLA's Open Invitational and Fall Memorial Shoot is scheduled for Saturday, October 2, at the Ottawa Sportsmen's Club near Baraga. Registration starts at 10:30 am Eastern time and the events begin at 11:00. The registration fee is \$3.

There will be a **Pot Luck Lunch** immediately after the four events. Please bring a dish to share. Contact UPMLA President Lyle Hebert with questions about the pot luck lunch.

The Fall Shoot is a decades-old UPMLA tradition. Four years ago the knife and hawk throwing and longbow events were added, with a decrease in the time spent rifle shooting. The events this year will be similar to those of recent years. Jon and Kate Henkel are organizing this year's competitions.

Event #1: Muzzleloading Rifle Match - Each participant takes six shots at a paper target, with the score based on the total of the five best shots.

Event #2: Team ML Rifle Match – Two-person teams will be assembled semi-randomly on site. Each partner will shoot twice at a target. The team score will be based on a combination of the four shots.

Event #3: Hawk & Knife Match – This is an individual event. Each participant will make three throws at a paper bullseye target with a hawk and three throws with a knife. Score is sum of best five of six throws.

Event #4: Longbow Match - Each participant will take six shots at targets. The best five hits will be counted for score.

The first place winners of each event will receive a prize of a choice cut of meat. Nice edible prizes will also be given to the second, third and possibly lower place finishers.

The traveling Sandra Lee Henkel Memorial trophy will be presented to the individual having the highest aggregate score for Events 1, 3, and 4.

UPMLA Officers for 2021-22

Michigan's medical advisories in the summer of 2020 resulted in cancellation of the UPMLA Rendezvous and of the annual business meeting. So, elections did not take place in 2020. The individuals elected in 2019 continued in office until this year's annual meeting, held at the conclusion of the rendezvous. Members who attended elected the following officers for the 2021-22 year:

- President – Lyle Hebert
- Vice-President – Andy Schumer
- Treasurer – Kate Henkel
- Secretary – Bob Keen

The UPMLA Board of Directors is composed of three members who serve three year terms in a staggered sequence. John Elmer was elected to begin a 3-year term. John Maki and Sandy Mead will continue as Board Members, with 2- and 1-years respectively remaining in their terms.

A sincere thank-you goes to the out-going officers, Jim Mead (BoD) and Karen Keen (Treasurer) for their efforts on behalf of the UPMLA., including an extra year in office due to the cancelled 2020 elections.

2022 Rendezvous & Event Volunteers

As part of the annual business meeting, the members selected the dates and the location for next year's Rendezvous. In separate votes, the 45th Annual UPMLA Rendezvous was set for the usual Thursday, Friday, and Saturday of the third weekend in July, the 14th, 15th, and 16th of 2022. The location selected was again the Ottawa Sportsmen's Club on M-38 just west of Baraga.

So, please mark your paper calendars or set your phones to remember and to plan for the event.

The 45th Annual UPMLA Rendezvous, 2022

Thurs, Fri, and Sat, July 14, 15, and 16
Ottawa Sportsmen's Club, Baraga, Michigan
Mark your calendars!

A call for volunteers to coordinate various activities at the 2022 Rendezvous produced this listing of helpful persons:

- Trade-Gun Woods Walk: John Maki, Marc Phipps, Mike Phipps
- Long Bow: Bob Lukes, John Pera, Gabriel Pecaut
- Clout Shoot: Bob Lukes, John Pera, Gabriel Pecaut
- Long Distance Rifle: Bob Keen, Lyle Hebert, Tom Snyder
- Smooth Bore Shoot: Lyle Hebert, Tom Caylor
- Knife & Hawk Throw: Scott Henkel, Kate Henkel, Sandy Mead
- Pan Throw: Andy Schumer, Gabriel Pecaut, Dick Yanke
- Rolling Pin Toss: Sandy Mead
- Rifle Fun Shoot: Lyle Hebert, Scott Henkel
- Rifle Target Shoot: Lyle Hebert, Scott Henkel
- Pistol Target Shoot: Bob Lukes
- Youth Rifle Shoot: Elton Kalm, Sandy Mead
- Campfire Cook-off: Dick Yanke
- Camp Wood Supply: Andy Schumer
- Rifle Target Shoot: Lyle Hebert, Scott Henkel

There were numerous suggestions and positive support from the membership for development and supervision of games for kids to play during the rendezvous. Calls for volunteers for other activities are likely in near future.

Description and Discussion of a Special Muzzleloader

On Friday evening of the Rendezvous, UPMLA member Tom Snyder described to a fascinated group of members how he constructed a replica of a rifle built in 1776 by his multiple-greats-grandfather. The original is now in Philadelphia at the Museum of the American Revolution.

The museum curators gave permission for Tom to handle, and to photograph and make measurements and drawings of the piece. Based on these, Tom closely re-created the original, including making the lock himself rather than using a modern commercial lock. Tom's rifle was amazingly light in weight.

The participants spent a couple of hours handling Tom's rifle and asking questions about how it was conceived and about details of construction and ornamentation.

Award of Appreciation

At the close of the annual business meeting, President Lyle Hebert announced that Jim Mead was the recipient of the 2021 Award of Appreciation for his years of help with a broad range of activities. The photo below shows John Pera admiring the awarded plaque. Jim appears a bit fuzzy in the picture. This is likely because the award was completely unexpected and Jim was, really and truly, "all shook up."



Jim Mead (left) shows John Pera the plaque that was awarded to Jim at the 2021 Rendezvous. (W. Thoune, photo)

Winter and Spring Monthly UPMLA Shoots - 2022

For the coming calendar year, UPMLA monthly shoots will be held as usual on the first Saturday of the month except for the date in January. The dates of the shoots for 2020 are:

- January 8
- February 5
- March 5
- April 2
- May 7
- June 4

In January the first Saturday is January 1, New Years Day. Those who schedule the shoots were pretty wary, and assumed that attendance would probably be low on the holiday. So, the shoot was moved to January 8. The shoots will take place at the Ottawa Sportsmen's Club near Baraga. The format will probably follow that of monthly shoots occurring during the past several years. Changes may be made due to circumstances or from sheer contrariness of shoot organizers. Registration begins at 10:30 AM Eastern time. Shooting starts at 11:00. The Ottawa club will be co-sponsor of the shoots of January, March, April, and June as part of long-standing arrangements between that club and the UPMLA.

Membership Requirements at Rendezvous

Some members have expressed confusion about membership and UPMLA activities. Here's some clarification (we hope). For shoots in January-June and October, membership is not required to participate. However, at the Rendezvous only members may participate in shooting, throwing, and some other activities. Youth events are an exception. Accompanying non-member persons are welcome to join in other activities. (Think pot luck – Yummy!)

Results of Competitive Events at the 2021 Rendezvous

A printed summary of the various shooting, throwing, and other events that take place at Rendezvous is usually included with the mailing of the Fall Newsletter. Postal recipients of this newsletter will notice that such a summary is notably absent from their envelopes. The gremlins that are responsible for lost keys, eyeglasses, pocket knives, homework papers, and similar items have been working overtime in the Office of Newsletter Production, and a couple of hand-written lists from the rendezvous have entered a local black hole. These will be reconstructed and the summary will be sent with the next issue.

In the meantime, a partial summary of results that are probably correct will be posted on the web site, in the "News & Notes" section for 2021. Corrections and additions to that summary will be made to that summary as they become available.

More Notes about the Rendezvous

At least 62 individuals, including members and accompanying persons, attended the rendezvous. This is a slight increase compared to 2019. Ten new members joined, and it was good to see Rose Sutton returning after a several-year absence. Several of the new members went home with first and second place trophies and medals.

In particular, the efforts of Lyle Hebert and Clint Collick in designing Fun Shoot events should be noted. The golf ball shoot for distance showed golf balls taking healthy hits with little damage. Taking shots at toy military tanks with muzzle loading rifles gave shooters an anachronistic thrill when a turret was sent flying. The cannon-fuse timed event requires too much space for a written description, so ask Lyle about it. Thanks to Clint and Lyle for planning and running the event.

UPMLA Information and Contacts

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