

UPPER PENINSULA MUZZLE LOADING ASSOCIATION

Winter 2025/26 Newsletter

Well, winter is certainly here in the U.P., with some places already buried under a couple of feet of snow. Our lake is completely frozen over and temperatures are falling. Days are short, and the Holidays are approaching. It's why we live here, folks!

The 2025 Fall Memorial Shoot took place on October 4th. The weather cooperated, and all the events took place with no problems. The lunch, as usual, was delicious. The rifle shoot came down to a three-way tie for first through third – decided by a tie breaker, and in the long bow shoot only three points separated first through third. Full results are included with this letter. Hopefully, everyone had a good time, and thanks to everyone who showed up to make the event a success.

It's time to look ahead to the Monthly Shoots for 2026. dates for this year are: 1/3, 2/7, 3/7, 4/4, 5/2, and 6/6. Lunch volunteers are: Jan. – Tom Snyder, Feb. – Lyle Hebert; March – Andy Schumer; April – John, Gary, & Phil; May – Taylors; June – Sandy Mead and John Flaugher. If for some reason you can't fulfill this obligation contact Andy Schumer or me. For those of you who haven't taken part in these shoots, full information is on the website, but in general you can expect to be taking eighteen shots total. Six shots are on paper; count best five. Six shots are on novelty targets for the outdoor partner shoot. Five shots on indoor partner target, and one shot indoors at the "best x". Generally, we draw for partners. At the Fall Shoot we decided that \$5.00 per person for lunch wasn't enough, so we raised it to \$7.00. Shooting still costs \$3.00. These events are a lot of fun! You do not need to be a member to shoot, so bring a friend if you want to.

If you have not already done so, it's not too late to renew your membership for 2025 – 26. If you did not register at the Rendezvous you should have gotten a renewal form with your last newsletter. If you lost the form you can contact me at tcaylor2@gmail.com, and we'll take care of it.

It's also not too late to get in on the postal shoots. If you want to get involved in this event just drop \$20.00 into an envelope with your name and address and send it to:

Andy Schumer
36750 Klingville Rd.
Chassell, MI 49916
Andy will be glad to send you targets every month.

If you subscribe to *Muzzleloader* Magazine you probably saw that the November/December issue has a feature by UPMLA member Mark Silver. In it he details the life and work of John Bivens, one of our sport's most well-known figures. Mark has included great illustrations of Mr. Bivens' gun work along with a description of his other accomplishments in preserving history. Congratulations, Mark, on a job well done!

One other note; the Echoes of the Past Trade Fair will be held on the weekend of 21st /22nd of February, 2026 at the Sunnyview Expo Center in Oshkosh. It is now under the sponsorship of the Fox Valley Muzzleloaders.

As usual, if I've forgotten anything or made any mistakes please let me know. I hope to see a lot of you at the January Shoot. In the meantime, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!