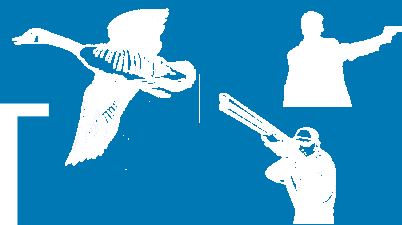




# The OUTDOOR CREST



December 2009

*The Official Newsletter of the Toronto Sportsmen's Association*

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*"The move from Mill Street to Dufferin Street was a big change as we had been at the old location for many years; it was made more difficult because it was forced on us."*

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## President's Message

*By Robert L Haynes, President*

As we look back on the year 2009 we will be able to state that it has been one where our Association has undergone many changes within this 12 month period, and has weathered them well.

Typically most people and associations do not react well to changes in our daily routines; TSA appears to have been able to handle the changes that we went through. The move from Mill Street to Dufferin Street was a big change as we had been at the old location for many years; it was made more difficult because it was forced on us. We survived it well and in fact are a better Association because of it; better organized, certainly more efficient, and now using more modern teaching tools to deliver our courses and conduct our daily business in a more modern and nicer environment.

We have come to the end of our first year's lease arrangement on the use of the Latvian outdoor range facility and, while member attendance could have been better, it was nonetheless good enough to encourage us to enter into negotiations on the range usage for 2010. Hopefully more of you will make use of the range and get to enjoy it as many of us have this past year.

In closing, I would wish all of you a joyful and restful holiday period. Treasure the company of family and friends; that is what this time of the year is all about.

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## Caster's Hold a Successful Championship!

*By Peter Edwards, Executive Director*

Thanks to THE CITY OF MISSISSAUGA, our host city, and The CANADIAN NATIONAL SPORTSMEN'S SHOWS, our lead sponsor, for making the 2009 ACA Championships one of the most successful on record!

The Volunteers of the TSA and the West Hill Casting Groups organized and ran the tournament from start to finish. It took 2 years of planning and hard work for the members. There are so many to thank: Mayor Hazel McCallion and her Staff, Chairman Walter Oster of the CNSS, ACA President Patrick McFadden, Harvey Beck, Chuck Phillips, Ron Bolton, Kevin Carriero, Bill Wattie, Bill DeWilde, Wendy DeWilde and the kids, as well as all the Members of the 2 casting clubs combined to do a great job of hosting. It was especially nice to have everyone at the Closing Banquet.

In addition to Hosting, our TSA Team of Chuck Phillips, Harvey Beck, Brenda Newhouse, Kevin Carriero, and Bill Wattie, won the Team Gold Medal! Many medals were won by our Members. Two highlights included the Women's All Around by Brenda Newhouse, and the Junior All Accuracy by William Beck. Congratulations to all who won medals, and to those who took part!

Next Year we head to Lexington, Kentucky, the first week in August.



# The Canadian National Sportsmen’s Show has a New Home!

## Come see us there March 17-21, 2010

By Peter Edwards, Executive Director

After 63 years of holding the Sportsmen’s Show at the CNE, the show is on the move to the **METRO CONVENTION CENTRE!** The centre is located at 255 Front Street West, 2 blocks west of York Street.

The TSA will be on hand in full force as usual with our Main Booth, Crosman Air Gun Range, and Archery.

Our booth numbers are 2000 and 2010, located in Hall D - South Building. You can enter off of Bremner Blvd. for indoor parking. *(Note: The center has easy access from Union Station for those taking Public Transit).*

This year’s show will have a new, clean look, with many new features and exhibits. Go to [www.sportsshow.ca](http://www.sportsshow.ca) and browse all the features and interesting things.

We need your volunteer help this year to make our part in the show a success. The CNSS supports us every year, and we will do the same in return. We have attached a Volunteer Form for your convenience. Mail, Fax (416 487-4478), or Phone Yvonne with the times you have available so that we may make up a schedule. If you are not sure of your times but are coming to help, please let us know so we may prepare tickets, etc.

It is a lot of work for the office at this time, and your cooperation is appreciated. *(Note: If you are coming by car, parking is Indoors, so you can leave your coat in the car).*

**Have a Great Holiday Season  
From All of Us at the  
TSA and CNSS!  
Look Forward to Seeing You at the Show!**

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## A Fantastic Turnout to our First Open House!

By Yvonne Gissane, (Office)

We held our first Open House at our new location this past October 17<sup>th</sup>, and had a great turn out! We thank all those members who took time out on their busy Saturday schedules to come and say hello and to share some refreshments with us.

Members, old and new, exchanged some great stories and memories while enjoying some light snacks, sandwiches, and a visual slide show.

If you haven't seen our new location yet, please drop in and say “Hi” the next time you are in the area!

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## Membership Renewals

Invoices have been sent out and for those who have not renewed their Memberships yet, would you please do so as soon as possible. We want to avoid the extra postage and time involved in reminders.

We need your Membership dues in a timely manner in order to enable us to continue to offer the different activities we have committed to weekly, as well as the costs associated with maintaining an expertly-run office. Please also remember, if your TSA membership is not current, your ATT (*Authorization to Transport*) will be cancelled by the Chief Firearms Office.



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*“Members, old and new,  
exchanged some great  
stories and memories!”*

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## Attention Handgun Members!

Your new club “ATT” Permit (*Authorization to Transport*) is in and as always, it is only given out once your membership dues have been received. For those who do not renew your membership on time, your “ATT” will be returned to the Chief Firearms Office in Orillia for cancellation. This is not our choice, but a requirement by the CFO that a person holding an “ATT” must be a member in good standing (*current paid-up member*) of a recognized club.

While we are on the subject of permits and licences, please take a moment and check the expiry date on your “PAL” (*Possession and Acquisition*) licence. Although the CFO should send you a reminder 3 months before it expires, do not wait for their application. Download one, ask the CFO for one, or phone our office for one. Do not let your licence expire!

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## Metro Pistol League

We have the opportunity again of hosting the Metro Pistol League on certain days throughout this coming year. Our “At Home” dates are held at the Royal York Range and some of our members are participants in our own league.

*The Toronto Sportsmen’s League Home Match Days are:*  
Wednesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010  
Wednesday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010  
Wednesday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010

The Royal York Range will not be available for normal shooting activities on these evenings, but if you are there, you are more than welcomed to join in with the league and shoot with us! This is a great opportunity for all members. It doesn’t matter how good or bad a shooter you think you are, it’s all for fun! Call Yvonne at the office to see how you can participate.



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## In Memory

The TSA recently lost some of its’ favourite people. They all volunteered for many years to make our projects very successful.

### Eino Sahlman

Eino, husband of Leila, our TSA Secretary for many years, passed suddenly. He was a dedicated volunteer for the TSA, working on decoys, the Sports Demonstration Area, Trout Pond, and our Air Gun Range, not to mention setting up and tearing down. He talked about the new location of this years show and was looking forward to it. Our deepest sympathy to you, Leila and the family, we will all miss him.

### Paul Burdette

Paul was the person who started decoys and the carving exhibits at our shows. A master carver with many World Ribbons, he never forgot his roots, and always spent time teaching new carvers. He setup rules, organized Judges, and worked very hard to make our carving show at the CNSS the best in Canada. We will miss Paul for his humour, his talents, and his appreciation of wildlife.

### Norm Bell

Norm Bell was also a volunteer at the shows, as well as a Safety Range Officer for many years.

### Doug Newlove

Doug Newlove was a member for many years. Doug also participated in the Metro Pistol League for many years.

All of these people will be missed dearly, and remembered in our hearts for all their friendliness, warmth, and help that they have given to the TSA and its’ members throughout the years.



## Hunter Education and Non-Restricted Firearms Safety Courses Update

*By Werner Menzel, Director of Non-Restricted Firearms Safety and Hunter Education Courses*

We finished our last Combo Course on Nov. 24. The current economic situation affected the attendance, but we can be happy with the turn out. The Courses for the 2010 spring schedule are set and booked for Jan., Feb., April and May. We heard no complaint from students regarding our new location. I think having a Tim Horton's nearby is a benefit! Our new class, or better called "lecture room" is a tremendous improvement over what we used previous and thanks to Blaise's hard work and knowledge we finally left the FLINTSTONE age behind! The computer enhanced presentation is less time consuming (*No fiddling with overhead slides*) and allows for a more professional presentation.

Bill Jenkins is interested in becoming a Firearms Safety Instructor. To prepare himself, he will attend our courses and has already started with the last one. Unfortunately, Bill can't become a Hunter Education Instructor yet, as a 5 Year hunting experience is required and I will then be 80. Our Association has to think about secession planning. I am 75, and I hope to continue Teaching. But if any thing was to happen to me, our organization will only have Bob Haynes available presently to teach this course. Bob is a businessman and does not always have the time available as I have. So if there is no one else to take over, let's say it simply - the courses and income for the association may be gone.

Just to lighten up our stuffy Newsletter - A couple of questions and answers:

**Q** - Is it common for 60-plus year olds to have problems with short term memory storage?

**A** - No, storing memory is not a problem. Retrieving it is the problem.

**Q** - As people age, do they sleep more soundly?

**A** - Yes, but usually in the afternoon.

*P.S. If you can relate to this, you're not new Instructor material.*

**Please Note:** We have some new Hunter Education and Non-Restricted Firearms Safety Courses scheduled for January, February, April and May of this coming New Year. If you or someone you know, would like to participate in these courses, please check our website or phone Yvonne at the office for the exact dates and times available.

## A Great First Year Outdoors!

*By Blaise Iannaci, Director and Webmaster*

We had a great time at the Latvian Club Range in Mount Albert for our Handgun and Rifle shooters this first year!

After not being able to renew our lease with Target Sports last year, we were faced with trying to find a new replacement handgun and rifle range quickly for our members. We were able to find the Latvian Club Range, whose executive board was kind enough to open up their previously 'members only' range to our members. We were able to negotiate a lease that was beneficial to both parties.

Because the Latvian Club had never been open to 'outsiders' before, we knew this would be sort of a trial experiment for the first year. There were a few hiccups along the way, but after a bit of refining, this has turned out to be a great outdoor range for our members to use. Our sincere thanks goes out to Dainis Marsons of the Latvian Club for helping make this happen, as well as having a storage shed built for us and getting us a deal for our backing cardboard for the targets, among other things! Dainis and his crew have been very accommodating to our Club and our needs, and in turn we must respect their generosity by keeping the grounds clean and abiding by their rules, as well as our own.

We had our first day of shooting on May 9<sup>th</sup>, and after a slow start, the attendance started to pick up gradually throughout the season. Being a very wet summer this past last year, there were quite a few Saturday's of rain at the range. But in classic TSA style, our members made the most of a not-so-great situation, and sat under the roofed-in shooting area exchanging stories with other members until the rain slowed up enough to walk down range to change targets!

Many of our members had never done any shooting outdoors before, so this was a bit of a change, as well as a lot of fun. Not only could you shoot at 25 meters, but you could really challenge yourself by putting your targets on the 50 meter target stands!

We also had new members and guests visit the Latvian Club Range. We would like to thank our existing members and Safety Range Officers for sharing their friendliness and expertise (*as well as their guns on some occasions*), with our new members and guests.

We have just finished our season at the Latvian Club on November 28<sup>th</sup>, and had a great turnout of almost 20 members considering the low single-digit temperatures on the last day! There was some end-of-season chores to be done like emptying the storage shed, and burning old targets and cardboard in the large drum. The fire in the drum sure did warm the fingers! This brought to mind that perhaps we should have a Bar-B-Q next season, hmmm....

Remember, none of the great times this year would have been possible without all of our volunteer Range Safety Officers, generously donating their time and experience for us to safely enjoy the sport we love. They all deserve our thanks and support! Please, if you feel you would like to help and volunteer to be a Safety Range Officer this coming year, we sure could use your help. Just contact Yvonne at the office for more information. It's our volunteers that make the Toronto Sportsmen's Association what it is!



# Another Good Year at the Royal York Range!

By Blaise Iannaci, Director and Webmaster

A great time was had by all our Handgun and Rifle shooters who attended the Royal York Range in Toronto again this year!

After not being able to renew our lease with Target Sports last year, some of our members who frequented that range now visited us at the Royal York Range - some for the very first time!

Those members who did not want to travel to the Latvian Club Range, nor could not shoot on Saturday's, made good use of the Royal York range on Wednesday evenings and Sunday afternoons throughout the year. Turnout was very good, and at times, some shooters had to wait a short period for a position to become available! This gave some of our members the opportunity to sit, relax, meet new members, and exchange stories in the adjacent lounge area.

We also had the opportunity again of hosting the Metro Pistol League on certain days throughout the year, where some of our members were participants in our own league. This is a great opportunity for old and new members alike - no matter how good or bad a shooter you think you are, this is all for the fun of it. Call Yvonne at the office to see how you can participate!

We also had new members and guests visit the Royal York Range. We would like to thank our existing members and Safety Range Officers for sharing their friendliness and expertise (*as well as their guns on some occasions*), with our new members and guests. Sometimes, these first impressions to new visitors are very important, and welcomed to new or prospective members. The future of our Club will hopefully be carried forward by these new members!

We are coming to the close of another successful and safe year at the Royal York Range, and despite some of the political problems we have faced throughout the year - we are still here. Because of the political climate, and other factors, we are always looking for other range locations as a backup measure.

Remember, as with the Latvian Club Range and other things we do throughout the year, none of these great times would have been possible without all of our volunteer Range Safety Officers, generously donating their time and experience for us to safely enjoy the sport we love. They all deserve our thanks and support! Please, if you feel you would like to help and volunteer to be a Safety Range Officer this coming year, we sure could use your help. Just contact Yvonne at the office for more information. It's our volunteers that make the Toronto Sportsmen's Association what it is!

## Our Office Hi-Tech Advancements!

By Blaise Iannaci, Director and Webmaster

Along with the move of our office to a great new location, we had our new telephone system and office equipment moved over without incident, as well as taking the opportunity to upgrade our security system. We have also taken the opportunity to upgrade the Office computer, as well as our Classroom computer.

The classroom laptop computer which was graciously donated to us a while ago has served us well until just recently. With the addition of our new LCD Projector system, and the need to put videos on the computer instead of wheeling out the Television/VCR combination, we have found the graphics, and capacity of the old laptop computer was lacking. So, we took the opportunity of upgrading to a new Dell laptop which should serve us well for now, and well into the future.

This new classroom computer is used for the courses TSA offers, such as Hunter's Education Course, FAC Course, and Handgun Safety Course. It provides a pleasant, cleaner on-screen viewing experience for the students, as well as an enjoyable, easier to use platform for the Instructors. This will also allow us to convert some of the videos, and transfer them to the computer, thus eliminating the need for the television and VCR. The new system will make all the present and future courses appear more seamless, and without interruptions. In addition to this, the classroom computer is now connected wirelessly to the Internet which would allow classroom instructors to show items live from the Internet, as well as updating software online.



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In addition to the Classroom computer needs, we have just upgraded Yvonne's office computer to a new Dell system. After shopping around, we found one of their particular models would suit the club's needs just fine for now, and into the future. It also includes wireless Internet connectivity for our Club's Database, Internet and Email needs. This particular unit also included an Energy Efficient LCD monitor which is much easier on the eyes, as well as more efficient to operate. Because of these new computers having wireless networking technology, a Wireless Router was also added. This will allow us in the future to add additional computers if needed, and move any of them around without being tied down with cables. For both of these computers, we were able to take advantage of the recent low prices, as well as a special online Dell sale.

Our future plans are to re-format and cleanup the older computers, reinstall necessary software, and make them available for use as additional office computers, or student terminals if needed.