

# Traditional Muzzleloading Association Newsletter



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"BigSmoke"

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## *President's Message*

Message from the President

Greetings Fellow TMA Members...Looks like Big Smoke has another News Letter out on the street. As I write this little blurb, Thanksgiving has just passed and Christmas is running at me just as hard and fast as it can....this year is almost history. Seems like the only thing that goes fast as you get older is time. I would like to grab a fleeting moment here to thank each and every one of you for supporting the T.M.A. over this past year, and to ask that you continue to be a proud member. Please take a minute (after you finish reading the News Letter!) to look at your membership card and check the expiration date. If it's past ...or getting close, drop Talking Hands (Lynn) a short note along with your dues. This will keep our numbers strong.

I know that many of you have already filled your tags with the use of your muzzleloader. That's great, and it would also be great if you could share your experience with all of us. A short story and maybe a

few pictures would bring a lot of smiles to our members.

Before I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and go back to my corner and leave you alone, Big Smoke asked me to tell ya about the Great TMA Raffle. Since we'll have a Finance Report elsewhere, I won't get into the numbers here...but, we just about doubled the number of tickets sold for last years raffle. Thanks to all who bought tickets and to those of you who used your skills to make an item for the raffle. Somewhere else in the News Letter you'll find the list of who got what from whom. What a great raffle!!

I wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Hope ya only get coal in your stocking if you're a blacksmith or it's charcoal in the form of black powder.

*Al Bateman*  
"Two Steps"  
TMA President

## *Postal Shoots*

Well here's the scoop on the postal shoots. We had a major setback in the 2007 shoots and have had to cancel the Monthly Shoots from July through December. (I know it's a little late to be stating the obvious) and the 2007 National Postal Shoots. I could not be sorrier for all the confusion and more for the lack of information on just what was going on with them. I give you all my personal word that this is not going to happen again.

On that note the records I have are vague at best and I need to hear from everyone that had prepaid for

targets and the NPS. Please PM me with details of any payments you made for July and after. We will make good on all we owe.

On a brighter note we have a new Postal Shoot Director and will be starting fresh with the February MPS. R.M. has tossed in his hat to take this on and I'm sure will do a fine job. We will be working together over the next few weeks to create the shoot schedule. I think it will look very much like this years but since we didn't finish it this year it will still be all new!

## *The Great TMA Raffle – 2007*

The 2007 TMA raffle has come and gone...and the winners are STILL smiling. We had some really great prizes donated to the raffle, and we almost doubled the number of tickets sold from last year. Big Smoke asked me to let you know a little more about the raffle winners and their prizes, so here's a breakdown listed in whatever order I happen to pick them up....

“Sneak On” claimed the fine .50cal Kentucky Longrifle built by “Captchee”  
“sse” is the owner of the Fire Iron/Tripod and Trammel forged by “LightSeeker”  
“No Powder” was sharp enough to get the beautiful TMA knife handmade by “Tall Bear”  
“Jon in MI” now has the leather ball bags & flint wallets from “Beaverman”  
“Two Steps” has the hand made shooting pouch & patch knife made by “Eric Campbell”  
“Sneak On” is also the winner of a fine hand sewn custom made frock from “Halfdan”

“Charles the Wagonmaker” is buying powder to fill up his new Powder Horn from “Griz”  
“Gates County Free Trapper” has a new Spotting Scope now, thanks to “Gobbler”  
“Degener” is happy with his new hand forged Spoon & Flesh Fork made by “Rick Evens”  
“Jon in MI” hit another bull's eye with a Custom Made Hickory Bow from “Fletcher”

Great prizes and happy winners all!! I hope that all of ya are ready for the 2008 Raffle. If you would like to donate a prize, please contact any member of the BoD...we'll sure help ya out.

One More Time...A **HUGE** Thank You to everyone who supported the TMA , either by purchasing tickets...donating a prize.... OR BOTH!!

Two Steps



*Treasurer's Report*

Traditional Muzzleloading Association  
(A Non Profit Organization)  
Comparative Statement of Fund Balances  
For the Ten Months Ended  
October 31, 2007 and 2006

	<b>10 Months ended</b> 10/31/07	<b>10 Months ended</b> 10/31/06
<b>Revenues</b>		
Membership Dues	\$ 2,190.00	\$ 2,010.00
Contributions	90.00	142.00
Postal Shoots	127.50	400.00
Bumper Sticker Sales	0.00	45.00
Great TMA Raffle	1,490.00	749.00
Kentucky Rendezvous	0.00	75.00
Medallions	21.00	0.00
 Total Revenues	 3,918.50	 3,421.00
 <i>Expenditures</i>		
Advertising	\$ 421.20	421.20
Other Expense	723.84	149.70
Office Supplies	81.51	0.00
Patches	0.00	331.00
Postage	240.25	385.58
Printing	57.77	518.54
Web Site/Forum Expense	207.11	210.70
 Total Expenditures	 1,731.68	 2,016.72
 <i>Fund Balance</i>		
Prior Year Surplus	\$ 1,519.92	3,525.46
Unappropriated Surplus	1,689.32	1,901.78
 <b>Total Fund Balance</b>	 \$ 3,209.24	 5,427.24
 <b>General Operating Funds</b>	 \$ 3,209.24	 <b>5,427.24</b>



## *Meet the Officers and Directors of the Traditional Muzzleloading Association*

Jim Smith – Beaverman

Greetings my fellow TMA brothers and sisters, I've been asked by Bigsmoke to do a short autobiography as 2steps did last issue so you have a better idea of who and what the BOD members are, so here goes nothing!

I was born and raised in Chicago Ill. Where I grew up in a blue collar family, was a Cub Scout, Boy Scout and Sea Explorer, Brotherhood OA member and earned my Eagle Award and in 1971, and Quartermaster Sea Explore in 1972, enlisted in the USMC in Nov 1973 to Nov 1977 where I left as a Corporal. Married the first time in 1977, 3 children, 2 daughters and a son, lived in So. Cal for 20 years, where I was in both the commercial construction and service industries, I was also heavily involved in Scouting during this time, after a divorce I married Ladysmith, and have 3 step sons to add to the fold, we have 3 grand children.

We relocated to the Puget Sound area of Washington State in 1997 and have lived in Auburn since, where I'm a general contractor and Laura works in the retail industry.

I became involved in Muzzleloading in 1995 while working an advanced Boy Scout junior leader training that was Mountain Man oriented, until that time I was dancing at Pow Wows as a traditional dancer. I have been doing all forms of craft work since my early years in Scouting, specializing in leather work, since becoming involved in BP, I have especially enjoyed branching out and learning new crafts and challenging myself to try new things such as, building horns, knives and am currently finishing my first longrifle build.

After attending several rondys here in WA, and looking at the leather work some of the vendors had for I sale; my beautiful bride and I decided that we could jump in the mix and craft quality items for sale to help support our rondo habit, what was started as a way to pay for our trips to rondys is starting to become more and more of a business, which we hope to expand on with a web site and become semi-retired and move to the house we are building on the Hood Canal located on the Olympic Peninsula of the evergreen state.

I am currently the President of the Green River Mountain Men in Ravensdale Washington, a member of the Washington State Muzzleloader Association and most important of all; a member of the TMA and currently serve as your VP, it is my hope a goal to expand our organizations membership with more quality folks such as yourselves and, to help keep our tradition alive and to further the publics education of our rich history. I would also like to see us expand and help to influence both gun and hunting regulations in each of our own states, these things can be achieved with your help and dedication, as Red Green says; "we're all in this together". I guess that's about enough of tooting my horn for now, if I can be of service to any of you with any questions or concerns that you may have about our great organization; please to hesitate to drop me a PM on the forum, or you can contact me by email at the info below.

*Jim Smith*  
Beaverman  
Ladysmithtrading@yahoo.com



*The following people are the current Officers, Board of Directors, and Advisors of the Traditional Muzzleloading Association:*

President: Two Steps ( Al Bateman - NC )  
Vice President: Beaverman ( James Smith-WA )  
Secretary/Treasurer: Talking Hands ( Lynn Poss - GA )  
Board Member: Hota ( Darren Welch - PA )  
Board Member: Jon In MI ( Jon Bertolet - MI )  
Board Member: Captchee ( Charles Starks - ID )  
Board Member: Hawkeye ( David Ely - MI )  
Board Member: Bigsmoke ( John Shorb - CA )  
Board Member: StaticXD00d ( John Cundiff - NC )  
TMA Legal Advisor: SSE  
TMA Advisor: RollingB  
TMA Advisor: RussB  
TMA Advisor: Griz  
TMA Advisor: Ohio Joe

## *Upcoming in the TMA Journal*

Well so far this is what I have -

Squire Boone Artricle from Mike Rumping

"So You Want to be a Pistolero" from Fire Walker

How to make farmer half-boots

The War in the South book review

Snake eyes and the lawn boy - by Snale Eyes

A cooking article by Mario

A visit to Track of the Wolf with photos

A visit with John Donnelson, gunsmith and blacksmith



## *Name this Rag Contest*

It has been observed that this newsletter has no formal name. It should. Soooooooo...we are going to have a contest to name it. If you have a name for it that you would like to suggest, either PM me on the forum, or drop me a line at TMA Newsletter Name, P O Box 1922, Morro Bay, CA 93443 and let me know what it is. All the suggestions will be brought up before the Board of Directors for a vote on March 1, 2008. In the case of duplicate names, the first one submitted will be the one we vote on. Date determined by time stamp on the PM or postmark on the letter or postcard. Please include your screen name, your given name and an address – because, there is a prize for the name that is selected. Powderhorns and More has donated a Cureton Scrimshaw Grade Powder Horn for this contest. I will post a photo on the forum.