

## ORPA President's Message

Hello fellow ORPA members:

Once again it's time to update you about what is going on in your state association. By now, the outdoor competition season is beginning and Highpower, Pistol, Cowboy and Smallbore shooters will be getting ready for their upcoming Championships as well as preparing for National Championships during the summer. Indoor Championships and Sectionals have almost been completed. While the good weather is here, I urge you to take a young person out and teach them how to shoot. Shooting can open up a wide range opportunities for our youth, not the least of which are the numbers of educational scholarships available, including those from the Ohio Rifle and Pistol Association. The ORPA is actively looking for new members for the Junior Highpower and Junior Pistol teams. Contact information can be found on our website at <http://www.orpa.net> or on the back page of the GUNSMOKE. Match information can be found in the Schedule of Events in the GUNSMOKE.

In the area of Legislation, things are somewhat quiet on the home front, in Ohio. Since the passage of HB184 last September, not much of consequence has been introduced. There are bills before the Legislature regarding restaurant carry for CHL holders; Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson's Firearm Ban which died in committee last year has been reintroduced; a bill to allow CHL instructors to receive CHL permits without paying a fee and a bill for Alaska-style concealed carry in Ohio. If you wish more information on any of these check the Legislative Guide at <http://buckeyefirearms.com> With regard to national legislation the biggest thing going on currently is the McDonald vs. Chicago case which went before the Supreme Court in March. See the article in this issue for more information.

Just a reminder for ORPA members that on Sunday May 30, the ORPA Highpower Division will host its annual Shooter Appreciation Cookout following the team match. This usually starts around 3:30 PM and while donations are accepted to support the Junior Highpower team, there is no charge. Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, pop and all the fixings are available on Petrarca Range. If you have no other definite plans, come and join us.

I want to give a big round of applause and thank you to the Alliance Rifle Club for their initiative and work on a 1000 yard range and their support of ORPA Junior Highpower teams. In addition to the project they have undertaken on their range, they have again offered range time to the ORPA Juniors, not only for practice but for Ohio/Penn League matches as well. See inside for more details about the Alliance Rifle Club.

In closing I want to say that the ORPA is always looking for a few good volunteers to serve as Trustees and help guide our state association from year to year. We have four meetings per year and our variety of programs give virtually anyone some part of the shooting sports to assist.

Until next time.

Gwen Bailey, President, ORPA

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