

**HELLO FELLOW MEMBERS OF THE IOWA BLACK POWDER FEDERATION (IBPF) AND READERS OF THE POWDER HORN NEWS (PHN).**

As I author this in the middle of winter (if you can call 25 degrees and no snow winter) I so sincerely look forward to spring (about the time you're reading this), summer and the great times that come along with the seasons. Now I like mid-western fall and winter as much as you do (you must like it or you wouldn't live here!) but you can't beat campin' and shootin' season in my book.

Again the IBPF and the associated black powder shooting events have kept my calendar full. Starting with the annual meeting of the Federation we put together "Super Raffle 2012". Thanks to the generous donations from Mr. Duane Klocke and Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Holcomb we are offering two fine prizes, a Lyman muzzle loading rifle and a beautiful Whitney trade blanket. The drawing of the two prizes will be held on June 2, 2012 at the IBPF annual chunk gun shoot held at the Bever Creek Plainsmen's home range near Collins, Iowa. Good luck to each and every ticket holder but more importantly "Thank You" for supporting this avenue of funding for the IBPF scholarship program. All IBPF members have had tickets made available to them. Selling these tickets to family, friends or business associates gives them an opportunity to literally make a donation to the IBPF scholarship fund. I must note a number of members I have spoken to just don't enjoy offering these tickets. Well, that's O.K. too...put your name on all 15 tickets and return them to Norma with ten bucks and maybe you'll walk away with one of these nice prizes.

Winter is also the season to get caught up on round ball casting, tuning up your equipment, sewing that new shooting pouch or maybe putting together a new rifle...whatever your interests are the sport of muzzle loading pretty much provides year around entertainment. However, this winter has been so unusually mild I see some of you are taking advantage of it by getting outdoors and doing some shooting. I know that because some of that shooting has been at the IBPF postal target. Yup, the IBPF has another postal match going this year with entry being open until September 1, 2012. Honestly, the IBPF has sold and received for scoring more targets to date in 2012 than all of 2011. That's great news, however, there are still some of the seven (7) available classes (percussion rifle, flint rifle, musket, in-line, smoothbore, sighted smoothbore and handgun) that have no entries. Turn in those targets...there just may be an IBPF award waiting for you. I also want to note this year's target is a little more competitor friendly (read;

“bigger”). The single raccoon is both fun and challenging. Talk about a challenge, here’s one: This week I received a large envelope from Mr. Larry Hickenbottom of the Southeastern Sportsman Society, Inc. (SISSI) with a batch of fired IBPF postal targets accompanied by the following information and challenge. “At the February monthly SISSI shoot the IBPF postal target was used as a shoot ‘tie breaker’. This month it was fired with percussion rifle and plan is to use it at each monthly shoot until September (pistol next time!). How about mentioning this in the PHN, hopefully some other clubs will follow suit. PS, It did take out the need for any shoot-offs too. Signed, ‘Best Wishes from the SISSI’”. The IBPF and I really appreciate the promotion and hope the challenge gets accepted. No matter how big or how small your group...pitch in.

With shooting season right around the corner I want to mention the new medal (shooting award) program for 2012. Seldom can it be said you can get more for less but I do believe the IBPF Board of Directors have found a way. While managing to keep all fees (membership, shoot registration, target charges and etc.) the same we’ll have a new award recognition program starting with the State Chunk Gun Shoot on June 2, 2012. For the past several years the Federation did not distinguish match winners from aggregate winners. With some considerable effort, mostly from our most capable Secretary, Ms. Norma Holcomb, we will be offering new 1½” diameter gold, silver and bronze medals to match winners and 2” gold, silver and bronze medals to aggregate winners at a reduced expense to the IBPF from previous years. I wish each of you good luck in your efforts to sport one of these new awards on your lapel.

Now my final plea. As many of you know I not only serve on the board of the IBPF, I am also a State Field Representative of the Nation Muzzle Loading Rifle Association (NMLRA). It is no secret that the NMLRA is in crisis. During the last four (4) presidential terms of the NMLRA, membership has slipped from 28,5900 to 16,000 (approximately a 44% decline). The reasons are many. From the economy to gas prices...but it probably boils down to a “what’s in it for me?” relationship between the Association and it’s members. I am proud to say the IBPF has not experienced such shrinkage. I believe because the IBPF keeps its focus on “What’s in it for our members!” We offer five (5) events...the State Chunk Gun Shoot June 2, 2012; the State Muzzle Loading Shoot August 10, 11, 12, 2012; the State Black Powder Cartridge Shoot August 17, 18, 19, 2012; the State Hawk and Knife throw September 1, 2012; and the

State Shot gun Shoot September 21, 22, 23, 2012. These events are some of the best events offered in the mid west. Friendly, and well organized and professionally conducted under the rules of the NMLRA. Additional events include a subscription to this very publication, the Powder Horn News; a world wide web (www.) presence to communicate, learn and provide recognition; access to the IBPF trailer for associated and appropriate events; a scholarship for members and their families; access to NMLRA '1 of 1,000' events as the IBPF is now an endowment member and lastly full access to the full Board of Directors via mail, phone or email to answer questions, accept suggestions, coordinate events, welcome 'new members' to the sport and they all give willingly of their time. What do we ask in return? Help us grow! The IBPF makes available a very fine brochure that outlines our history, our primary reasons for existence, black powder safety rules, a comprehensive list of board members AND an IBPF application form. If you need some brochures contact us at [ibpf@gmail.com](mailto:ibpf@gmail.com) (or call 515-262-4712 for scty-treas Holcomb). But whatever you do...please ACT. Approach an interested muzzle loader and earn a new member. The IBPF will appreciate it, the new member will appreciate it and you will be rewarded with a strong Iowa Black Powder Federation for at least a generation or two to come. I could write more but I've got to go find a new member for the Federation. Maybe I'll take in a trade fair or a gun show with a few brochures in my pocket. If you read this and are not a member, please consider join now...if you are a member you've got some work to do. There is an IBPF application on the page with this article.

In the second paragraph of this article I mentioned other associated black powder events that keep my calendar full and one of these events will be Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, Beaver Creek Plainsmen's Flintlock Challenge, Beaver Creek Range, Collins, Iowa. When you want to shoot and have no where to go check out our website [www.iowablackpowderfederation.net](http://www.iowablackpowderfederation.net) You will be surprised at all that the black powder events in and around Iowa.

Thank you and see ya' on the 'firing line', Pevine

Jim (Pevine) Jaskoviak  
606 S 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
Forest City, Iowa 50436  
641-1081

[pevine@gmail.com](mailto:pevine@gmail.com)

[www.iowablackpowderfederation.net](http://www.iowablackpowderfederation.net)