

Louis Hoyt

1996

Louis has a fairly lengthy shooting career. He first shot trap at Julius Petty’s Gun Club in England, AR in 1945. Toward the late 1950’s, trapshooting in Arkansas began to wane. Louis took a personal interest in trying to keep trapshooting alive, helping to organize a trap club on the Old Benton Highway in 1961. Of note, that particular club had two traps, one electric and one pull.

In 1964, Louis organized the Pulaski Skeet and Trap Club, located on the Jacksonville Highway. This trap club grew into a 5 trap, 2 skeet, and 2 pigeon ring club. By building such a facility and heavily subsidizing it financially, Louis kept many older shooters in the game and introduced a whole generation of people to the sport of trapshooting. Many notable folks shot at this club, such as H.L. “Bob” Andrews Sr., Charlie Hulen, Tommy Oldridge, Gaylon Boshears, Dr. Moses Smith, Justice Jim Johnson, Basil Butler, Moman Wilson, Ben Hogan, Dr. Bill Humphries, Garland Patton, C.H. Young, Andy Waldo, and Dr. Doyne Williams. Many shooters would not be shooting today had it not been for Louis Hoyt. During the 1960’s and early 70’s, Louis’ clubs were the only Arkansas sites where one could register targets.

Louis shot a Model 12, an 1100, and was one of the first Arkansans to own a Krieghoff shotgun. He also is the only shooter in Arkansas history (and one of only a few in the history of the sport) to have completed a “Grand Slam” winning the Arkansas State Singles, Handicap, Doubles and High All-Around Championships all at one time, in 1964. Louis was a past ATF president, a fierce competitor, a great shot, a top gun club manager, and was well liked and respected by his fellow trapshooters.