

Former lawman still crack shot at 78 and awards keep coming

Earl Marvin

By MARG HAYLOCK
Staff Reporter

WELLINGTON - Retired lawman Earl Marvin will take his guns to town this month when he travels to Vancouver, to compete in events sponsored by the Canadian Trap Shooting Association.

A crack shot, he sees nothing remarkable in the silver trophies he wins regularly! in provincial and national competition. He is 78 years of age.

In early June, Marvin competed in the Ontario Provincial Trap Shoot Association annual shoot at Hamilton,

winning the veterans doubles trophy for man or woman over 60. He also received the high, overall class C, runner up award in competition with men and women in all age groups. This was a trophy he had won previously) in 1978.

Last year, Marvin won the Canadian Trap Shooting Association high, overall veterans trophy, beating out approximately 40 competitors. Although there are numerous trap shooters 60 years of age, there are perhaps only a dozen over 75 who remain in competition.

Marvin, who was chief constable of Wellington from 1938 until 1968, when provincial

police began to patrol the village said he was almost born with a gun in his hand.

"I hunted with my dad and he would say that I'd never have any money because I would shoot it all away," the trap shooter recalled.

Born in Hancock, Minn. Marvin came to Prince Edward County with his parents, as a young boy. His father was a county native and upon his return to this area worked a farm on Gilead Road.

Earl Marvin was educated in Wellington and has been a village resident since 1936. Before becoming chief constable, he sailed the Great Lakes for 11 years and earned his engineer's papers.

He said his career in police work did not require him to use a gun, except on one occasion when he fired in the air to halt a fleeing suspect.

"But he went right on running," said Marvin.

In competition, he uses a Winchester Super X One and a model 12 Winchester rifle, won during a trap shooting event.

Marvin has been a trap shooter since 1957 but did not follow his sport in "a big way" until he entered major competitions in 1967. In Canada's centennial year he won nine trophies in national competition and received a medal from the Dominion of Canada for shooting 100 out of 100 at the Prince Edward Rod and Gun Club.

He has won as a veteran shooter, the singles in Ontario in 1964, 1965, 1966, 1968, 1971, 1976 and 1978. Marvin has shot in Quebec, as a non-resident, and won the veterans singles there in 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1976 and 1977.

His most prized award is an achievement certificate in recognition of distinguished performance in amateur sport, signed in 1976, by premier William Davis. Also, in 1976, he received a provincial certificate for winning a provincial championship in shooting.

His son, Allan, a former member of the Picton Police Department, has hunted with him on many occasions and did some trapshooting while in Prince Edward. He is now a detective sergeant with the Niagara Regional Police.



On target

Earl Marvin, 78, of Wellington, a trap shooter for more than 20 years, this month will enter national competitions in Vancouver, British Columbia. The

retired chief constable of the village is a crack shot and has won a roomful of trophies and awards for his skill.

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