

# MSA and CSA members:

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My name is Robby Moudy. I am the President of the New Mississippi Mounted Shooters of America. I also own Southern States Mounted Shooting and I am very honored to be the new President of the MSA. I am writing about a situation that has been going on since Rick and Ann Pihl bought the MSA back in 2012. After initially being successful, they have watched their association get hurt badly by a smear campaign that has been used to convince people Rick Pihl is a bad and dangerous man and they should stay away from the MSA. While Rick first ignored this behavior, he eventually started to speak against it and ask people not to believe the lies that were being spread about him. Some people have been understanding, but others have actually enjoyed seeing Rick and his wife suffer and have wanted to see them quit. I can tell you that Rick is not a quitter, even though no one could blame him for giving up on people who have not been kind to him no matter what he has done to help this sport.

As an MSA club owner I can tell you all that I have seen first hand the mean people who have tried their best to hurt Rick and destroy the MSA. I have been threatened not to help the MSA by people who I thought were friends and I have seen the spies that have come to my shoots to report back to the CMSA what goes on at our shoots. I have gotten to know Rick and Ann and can say without a doubt that they are good and caring people and I have seen how hard they have worked to help everyone in the sport, never telling anyone they should not shoot with CMSA, while their members were told not to go to MSA shoots. There seems to be no end to the lies that people will make up to make Rick look bad, so that the CMSA does not have to worry about having any competition. Rick has carried a huge target on his back as people have never had the guts say to his face what they will tell anyone else who will listen, hoping they will pass it on.

Rick recently came to me after going to the trouble of having lawyers put together a legal case to try and get people to stop attacking him and hurting his business. He told me that he was looking at a long and expensive fight that would mean everyone in mounted shooting would make him the bad guy for sticking up for himself. He knew that win or lose, he would lose the support of the shooters. He said he would rather walk away from the sport than keep hearing the things that were being said about him and being attacked just because he wanted to help the sport, but that he really didn't want to give the bad guys what they wanted.

I asked him not to walk away and to trust me to fix his problem. I promised him I would work hard to get the people in the sport to stop bullying and start respecting what he had done for them. I told him I could convince people to go back to shooting and stop acting like children. Since he has recently caught some of the people spreading lies red handed, I told him to make an example of them and I would let MSA members know that if they said anything negative about the leaders of the MSA, they would not be members anymore. We can't control what other associations say, but we can stop people who have slipped into our ranks to make trouble from being members. Anyone who has heard or does hear the rumors about Rick might want to ask themselves what kind of person would judge another based on rumors. They might ask themselves what kinds of people get their kicks from trying to make people look bad. They might want to ask why these people are spreading rumors if not to try and get rid of competition to the CMSA.

Rick told me his heart was no longer in it and that if the MSA was going to survive, it would have to be with someone else in charge. He felt that the smear campaign had worked and that standing up to attacks only made him look worse. I told him that I could be that person, but that we still needed him to make sure the members knew we were financially strong. I have to say that it takes a lot of heart to step aside and let someone else lead something you have worked your tail off to build and still be the one taking all the financial risk. I am a business owner myself and not many people understand what it takes to keep a business going.

Unless you have owned a business you have no idea what risk is. Rick and Ann have done a lot of good for this association and this sport and it is time to put a stop to all the hate that has been thrown their way and get back to shooting and showing the horse world that mounted shooters are good and kind people. Help me help you and go out and support your local clubs and be proud to belong to an association that cares about its members and wants everyone to succeed and get along. Exciting changes for next season will be announced soon. Show Rick and Ann that their hard work and dedication has been appreciated.

Robby Moudy  
President, MSA