

# IT'S A WRAP FOR THE SECOND ANNUAL FRANK MONTONDO MEMORIAL APPLE BLOSSOM SHOOT

And it was a good one.

So far we have raised just over \$4,000, will have the final count when a few last donations come in. Last year we raised enough money to send about 6 vets on the amazing Honor Flight Trip to Washington DC. This year, even though things cost more, we should have enough for 7.

We had 34 shooters this year, and the weather, considering what it could have been, was pretty great.

There were dozens of people who helped leading up to and at the shoot. From donations to registration to setting up the tent, to helping new shooters to cooking and cleaning, it was a ton of work done by a great group of wonderful people. Was really special to have some friends we hadn't seen in a long time show up just to help because they had seen it somewhere. Thanks Brant and Mel.

Thank you to Mary and Joe from Honor Flight Rochester for being there to answer questions and take pictures. Honor Flight is staffed entirely by volunteers, and everyone of them I have been fortunate enough to meet, has been great.

Thank you, the Williamson Conservation and Sporting Club, for not only letting us take over their facility for the day, but for diving right in to help. They were already sharing ideas this morning about new things to try next year.

Thank you to all of the businesses, organizations and individuals who helped us with donations. From door prizes, to services, to the meal, to just money that will go straight to helping vets make the flight, our sponsors made a crazy idea into a great event. Please check out the list below and be sure to give your business to these folks.

Thank you to my brothers Jon and Dan, and sisters Kathy and Alice, along with my daughter Rachel and nephew Jonah. They all worked so hard on this because they know how much Honor Flight meant to our dad/papa. Had a member of WCSC and a vet who went on Honor flight tell me today that those Montondo kids sure do work hard to put on a good show.

Thanks for that, it's how we were raised.

Speaking of how we were raised, my last thank you is for my dad, who we had the shoot in memory of. He was a skeet shooter and loved the sport. He never tried Sporting Clays, but I know he would have loved it too. He would have been proud of the

little gun club on Pound Road and what it has become. He would have been proud of seeing families enjoying time together.

And, even though he wouldn't have wanted all the fuss, he would have been proud of the shoot we put on.

That's good enough for me.

I went out to shoot the course this morning with a few of the top shootings at the club.

I just kept thinking about my dad. I kept telling myself to "Buckle Down", something dad said when he was teaching me to shoot skeet. The birds seemed to break pretty well. At the end of the round, I hadn't shot good enough to beat the best shooters, but I had shot my best round ever.

I think that would have been good enough for dad.

So, mark your calendars, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in May, 2026, for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Frank Montondo Memorial Apple Blossom Shoot. Rain or shine, those Montondo kids, and a bunch of their friends, will put on another good show.

Thanks again,

Tim

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