

# The St. Joseph County Conservation & Sportsman Club, Inc.



23640 Featherstone Rd, PO Box 339, Sturgis, MI 49091  
 Clubhouse Telephone (269) 467-7128  
 Home Page: <http://www.conservationclub.net>



Volume Seventy-six Issue 2

February 2023

## Upcoming Meetings

- Member Meeting 7 PM  
**Monday, March 13**
- Board Meeting 7 PM  
Monday, February 27

**Happy Valentines Day!**

Inside this issue:

**Safety Spot** ●  
-Message from Brazo

**Youth Trap Team Sign Up** 2/26, 2PM

**Winter Into Spring Activities Resume**

**Possible Range Closures for Tree Work**

**Financial News**

**New Members**

**Officers & Director Contacts**

## End O' Winter ATA Trap Shoot 3/19

Our first Amateur Trapshooting Association (ATA) trap shoot for this 2023 calendar year is set for Sunday, March 19, the "End O' Winter" ATA Shoot. We will have the standard three events, 100 singles, 100 handicaps, and 100 doubles targets. There will be trophies for the winners in place and categories for all 3 events, including youth and women! This year's shoots have a new start time, 10:00 am with registration opening at 8:30am.

A breakfast and lunch will be available for donations. All donations above reimbursement of costs benefit our youth club trap team, the "Straight Shooters". Youth are welcome to come and shoot these events as well as club members and the general public, but must be ATA members. If you are currently not an ATA member, you can join ATA at any ATA shoot or online at the ATA's website [www.shootata.com](http://www.shootata.com). Annual ATA memberships cost only \$20 adult and \$12 youth.

This year our club is holding a total of four registered shoots. The three other ATA shoots open to the public are April 16 the new "April Open Shoot", August 27 our "Last Chance 500-Doubles and 100-Singles" event, and October 8, the "National Trapshooting Day" Shamrock Leather trophy shoot.

The Club is also holding 4 ATA Big 50 "mini-ATA" shoots this Summer (May 14, June 18, July 16, and August 13), plus several more that will run concurrently with our scheduled annual Fall Trap League to be held on Sundays September 24 through November 19.

The Big 50 shoots allow for registered ATA participants to shoot alongside non-registered trapshooters, so you do not have to be an ATA member to shoot in these events. We just don't turn your score into the ATA. These shoots run concurrently with open trap on Sunday mornings on the dates stated above.

Hopefully, ammo availability and fuel prices will stabilize this Spring and Summer and allow us all to participate and enjoy the sport that we all love.

Hope to see ya on the trap range soon!

## Annual Dues are Due March 1

Invoices for annual dues have been mailed. If you haven't received yours, or if you have questions, please contact **Kathy Crandall** at **269-341-5930**. Reminder, previous pre-paid dues are not affected until those pre-pays run their course. Remember, any club member who has not paid their dues by **March 1<sup>st</sup>** will have their electronic key cards deactivated. If this happens, DO NOT THROW YOUR CARD AWAY! Your card will be re-activated when you pay your dues. There is a \$5 replacement charge for lost cards.

## Safety Spot

### A STRONG MESSAGE FROM CLUB PRESIDENT BRAZO!

There are a few new bullet holes in the pistol roof outside area, and in the enclosed rifle range area above the middle overhead door. This is unacceptable.

**WHOEVER HAD THESE ACCIDENTAL DISCHARGES KNOW THEY DID THIS!** (*How could you possibly not know this happened?*)

If you ever have an issue like this, pick up the phone and make a call, send an email or text, admitting you had the accidental event, and asking how you can make this right with the Club! Do the right thing and contact Club leadership to discuss how and why this happened, and how YOU can prevent future incidents like this.

### REMEMBER THESE 2 THINGS:

- **KEEP YOUR MUZZLE BELOW THE RANGE BERMS AND POINTED IN A "SAFE" DIRECTION!**
- **KEEP YOUR FINGER OFF THE TRIGGER UNTIL YOU ARE ON TARGET AND READY TO FIRE THE GUN!**

BE RESPONSIBLE AND DO THE RIGHT THING!

*Let's keep it safe for everyone.*

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### TRAP & SKEET WILL BE CLOSED ON TUE EVENINGS UNTIL MARCH 7

Trap and skeet will be open 9am on Sundays

Feb 11: CPL Class (IDPA Range)

Feb 26: Youth Trap Team Sign-up 2pm

Feb 27: Board Meeting 7pm

Mar 13: **Annual Member Meeting** 7pm

Mar 19: End O' Winter ATA Trap Shoot

## Youth SCTP Trap & Skeet Team Sign-Up 2/26

This year's Scholastic Clay Target Program (SCTP) Shotgun Team Sign up meeting for the shotgun shooting sports of Trap, Skeet, and Sporting Clays will occur on Sunday **February 26 AT 2:00 pm SHARP**. Again, the initial **SIGN-UPS MUST BE DONE BY PARENTS ON-LINE!** Contact Coach York at 269-483-6803 to review this process or ask questions.

As a reminder, coaches can no longer sign up your student athlete. On Feb 26 we will go over the programs, the process of signing up and, hopefully, allow you to sign up your student athletes at this time. New participants are very welcome and encouraged. So bring along your friends and schoolmates. The more participants, the greater the fun!

Our practice and planned competition schedule will be handed out at that meeting. Additional information for concurrent youth ATA AIM and 4-H shotgun programs will be discussed for those interested.

Both boys and girls in school grades up to and including grade 12 are eligible to participate. You can be from any school including home schooled students. You do not need to live in St. Joseph County to participate. Equipment is available for the student athletes to use (under direct supervision by our certified coaches) if they do not currently own their own. Our coaches are all certified by one or more certification entities.

If your youth would like to join but cannot make this date, call or text Coach York at **269-483-6803** for more information.

*Team Motto: "Safety First -Fun Second!"*

## Winter Into Spring Activities Resume

Some of the highlights of returning Club activities starting back up in March and April include the following. Make sure you always check the on-line calendar for the most up to date information on these and all other Club activities.

- ◆ Tuesday Evening Skeet returns March 7 (6pm) and runs through November
- ◆ IDPA Shoots start up March 18 on the IDPA Range
- ◆ Combat Carbine returns March 19
- ◆ ATA Trap Shoots return March 19 with the second shoot on April 16
- ◆ 22 PRS Rifle Shoots resume March 25 on the Rifle Range
- ◆ Cowboy Action shooting starts back up April 16 runs through October

## Firearm/Personal Defense Training 2023

See this month's special insert for upcoming classes offered at the Club by local and visiting instructors, including Fortress Defense Consultants and Defense Training International.

**REMEMBER: EYE AND EAR PROTECTION IS REQUIRED ON ALL RANGES**  
 ALSO: THE FRONT GATE IS TO BE LOCKED BEHIND YOU WHEN ENTERING OR LEAVING, EXCEPT FOR ORGANIZED ACTIVITY TIMES

**Financial News: December 2022**

Checking Account \$ 98,934.68 Transfer Acct \$ 444.04  
 Pre-paid Dues CD \$ 10,446.75 Emergency CD \$ 59,462.38

**Membership Status: As of last Board Meeting**

Total paid member households **936**

*If there is a change in your address or you know someone who is not getting their newsletter, call 269-341-5930 and leave a message and corrected information. Thank you.*

**New Members (2) — December**

Steven Barkby Sturgis, MI  
 Michael G Sarhatt Knoxville, TN

Notice: At the December Member Meeting there were no new nominations presented for the Board of Directors, including Officers or District Directors, therefore, the slate of officers and directors of the current board will be unopposed during the Annual March Meeting elections. This meeting is March 13 and includes the Annual Wild Game Chili Cook-off!

**Watch for Short-term Range Closures**

The Rifle range, and possibly other ranges including archery, continue to have some tree work clean-up from the major storm the club experienced in August 2021. This work will result in sporadic and short duration range closures while the heavy machinery and persons operating them will be downrange to complete the much needed work. **THIS WILL RESULT IN RANGE CLOSURES ON VERY SHORT NOTICE.** It may not be possible to notify members of these sudden closures. No work is expected to occur on weekends.

***MUCC Conservation Pledge***



**I give my pledge as an American to save and faithfully defend from waste, the natural resources of my country - its air, soil, and minerals, its forests, waters, and wildlife.**

**Quarterly Member Meetings: Mar, Jun, Sept, Dec**

**CLUB OFFICERS**

President Jeff Brazo 651-9076\*  
 Vice President Paul Hassenger 625-4668  
 Executive Secretary Kathy Crandall 341-5930  
 Treasurer Tom McLaughlin 651-9951  
 Recording Secretary Leslie York 483-6803

**DISTRICT DIRECTORS**

District #1 Kathy Book 659-4056  
 Denny Parker 535-4739  
 District #2 Mark Speicher (574) 361-5847  
 Roy Rawlinson 341-1726  
 District #3 Benson Baumeister 221-0288  
 Randy Crandall 808-6730  
 District #4 Nancy Lawrence 651-1700  
 Pete Davis 651-1388  
 Dir. At Large Tom Whitford 432-4070

**Dist #1:** Flowerfield, Park, Fabius & Lockport Townships  
**Dist #2:** Mendon, Leonidas, Nottawa & Colon Townships  
**Dist #3:** Constantine, Florence, Mottville & White Pigeon TWP's  
**Dist #4:** Sherman, Burr Oak, Sturgis & Fawn River Townships  
**At Large:** All areas outside of St Joseph County

**COMMITTEES AND CHAIRMEN**

**Membership and Administrative Activities**

Newsletter/& Website Leslie York 483-6803  
 Advertising (Newsletter) Leslie York 483-6803  
 Public Relations Jim Perlberg (313) 310-4897  
 NRA Recruiter Leslie York 483-6803  
 MUCC Region 7 Allen Kasdorf 651-7086  
 Finance Tom McLaughlin 506-3361  
 Nominating Chair Kathy Crandall 341-5930  
 Calendar of Events Leslie York 483-6803  
 Hunter Education Fred Shank 625-3749  
 CPL Instruction Jeff Brazo 651-9076  
 Fair Sign-up Jim Perlberg (313) 310-4897

**Weekly / League Activities**

Trap & Skeet Larry & Leslie York 483-6803  
 Trap - Tues Bill Thompson 290-5798  
 5 Stand Sporting Clays Larry & Leslie York 483-6803  
 Archery Mike Grandstaff 625-0565  
 Cowboy Action John Daniels (574) 349-3764  
 IDPA Defensive Pistol Mike Philley (574) 202-0641  
 Combat Carbine, High Power Jay Baker 532-4445  
 Lower Range Andy Rockwell (260) 668-9317  
 Youth SCTP Shotgun Leslie York 483-6803  
 Youth SASP Pistol Rifle Shawn Scott 251-8126  
 Youth 4-H Nelson Schug (248) 379-8654

**Executive Secretary:**

**Kathy Crandall  
 PO Box 339  
 Sturgis, MI 49091  
 269-341-5930**

*\*All area codes 269 unless noted*

**Officers, Directors, E-mail Listings**

Jay Baker (High Power, Combat Carbine) keplerdog@outlook.com  
 Benson Baumeister (Dist 3 Director) bbaumeister92@gmail.com  
 Kathy Crandall (Exec. Sec) kmcrandall952@gmail.com  
 Randy Crandall (Dist 3 Director) kmc52ran@aol.com  
 John Daniels (Cowboy Action) johndaniels@imcaa.com  
 Pete Davis (Dist 4 Director) peted02@yahoo.com  
 Mike Grandstaff mike\_grandstaff@yahoo.com  
 Paul Hassenger (Vice President) phassenger@yahoo.com  
 Allen Kasdorf (MUCC) allenkasdorf@gmail.com  
 Gary Kondek (.22 Shoots) gary.kondek@yahoo.com  
 Nancy Lawrence (Dist 4 Director) jlawarence1700@charter.net  
 Tom McLaughlin (Treasurer) trmclaughlin@frontier.com  
 Denny Parker (Dist 1) stormrider.dp@icloud.com  
 Jim Perlberg (Pub Relations) gunslinger6@me.com  
 Mike Philley (IDPA) mphilley60@gmail.com  
 Roy Rawlinson (Dist 2 Director) leroyrawlinson@gmail.com  
 Andy Rockwell (Lower Range Dir) zrock4365@hotmail.com  
 Fred Shank (Hunter Education Director) rsnurse@hotmail.com  
 Mark Speicher (Dist 2 Director) markspeicher26@aol.com  
 Larry York (Trap, Skeet, 5 Stand) larry.york54@gmail.com  
 Leslie York (Rec. Sec, ATA, Calen/Web) trapgeek2010@gmail.com  
 Newsletter Editor (Leslie York) conservationclubeditor@gmail.com

**St. Joseph Co. Conservation  
& Sportsman Club, Inc.**  
PO Box 339  
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*The Second Amendment*

*A well regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.*

**PLEASE NOTICE**

The St Joseph County Conservation & Sportsman Club, Inc., has a 501(c)(4) tax-exempt organization status. Under this rule, donations to the club are *not* deductible on your individual taxes as charitable contributions.

**APPLICATION FOR NRA MEMBERSHIP**

Membership in the NRA obtained through our club benefits us in that the NRA returns part of your fee to us, and benefits you because you pay a reduced membership fee because of belonging to a member club.

- Renew** my NRA membership: NRA member # \_\_\_\_\_
- New Member**, please sign me up as a new NRA member:  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_

Club Rate: **\$35** per year. **Make check payable to NRA:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Magazine Choice: (circle one):

America's 1st Freedom   American Hunter   American Rifleman   Shooting Illustrated

Mail to: Leslie J York, club NRA recruiter  
17101 Tomahawk Trail  
White Pigeon, MI 49099

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

**ST JOSEPH COUNTY CONSERVATION AND SPORTSMAN CLUB Inc.**

\*\*\*\*\*

I respectfully apply for membership in the St. Joseph County Conservation and Sportsman Club, Inc. I certify that by signing this application I am a person 18 Years of age or older, who accepts the Purposes and Objectives of the Corporation and agrees to promote the same, and has complied with the requisites of membership as provided in these Bylaws. I further give my pledge as an American to save and faithfully to defend from waste the natural resources of my country; its air, soil, minerals, forest, water and its wildlife. I understand that to become eligible to join, I must be recommended by a club member in good standing, or personally inform the Board of Directors why I wish to be a member. (please, print clearly)

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Check if spouse desires a membership Card (**Add \$5 for this second gate card**)

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address (Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Recommended By \_\_\_\_\_

New member application: \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal application: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Fee: **\$105** for family membership (new and renewal)

Application Fee: **\$25** (new members only, add to membership fee)

Total Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail application and Check to:**

**St. Joseph County Conservation  
& Sportsman Club  
C/O Kathy Crandall  
P.O. Box 339  
Sturgis MI 49091**

Membership subject to the approval of the Board of Directors at the next Board meeting. **After Board Approval New Member Information Packages are handed out at the mandatory New Member Orientation**, to be scheduled within 30-days. Club Newsletters should start within 60 days.