

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-nine Issue 6

June 2026

Upcoming Meetings

- Member Meeting 7 PM
Monday, **June 8**
- Board Meeting 7 PM
Monday, **May 18**

Membership Meeting June 8

Our next Quarterly Member Meeting is set for **June 8** at 7pm. On the agenda is an election to fill the IDPA Activity Director. **Scott Sayer** has volunteered to fill this position and was approved by the Board at the April Board Meeting. This action has to be approved by the membership at the next membership meeting, which is this one.

Benson has graciously agreed to cook us some hot dogs again this year! So bring your appetite and maybe a dish or dessert to share as well.

Please plan on attending this member meeting as the board will have current club business information, as well as an updated status of our potential Sporting Clays course, and its your opportunity to provide input on any ideas you may have on any Club Activity or Board action. All member's input is welcomed at this and all quarterly member meetings.

AMERICA 250! Summer Trap & Skeet Leagues

Celebrating our nation's **250th Birthday**, we are holding both a Trap & a Skeet Summer League starting appropriately on **Flag Day June 14** and running 10 weeks long ending on **August 16**. It will be 50 targets (2 rounds of 25) each week that you shoot (*either trap or skeet depending on which league you join*), but we will be counting only 5 of the weeks for a total of **250 Targets**. Since only 5 of the weeks will count, you only need to shoot 5 weeks out of the available 10 weeks. These can be shot on either Sunday mornings or Tuesday evenings. This way it allows for vacations, or other time-off interferences, so there is no pressure to shoot all 10 weeks.

This is a fun way to join a friendly competition in the warmer weather instead of fighting the snow or ice as in our cold weather leagues. Cost will be \$25 to join either league, plus the standard weekly shoot costs for the clay targets. 5-Stand will be open concurrently, but is not part of the leagues. If you are interested in a 5-Stand league, contact 269-788-4946.

We will have trophies to the League Winners and Runner Up placement. Youth may also participate and we plan to have separate trophies for the youth participants. Some of the proceeds from this event will benefit our Sporting Clays project. To sign up or to get more information, please contact **269-483-6803** or email trapgeek2010@gmail.com. **"PULL!"**

Scan for Club Website



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Sporting Clays Committee Update

This will be a quick status update on the Committee's progress towards the creation of adding a "walk-through-the-woods" Sporting Clays range at our Club. This type of range would be similar to the archery range in so far as there would be a path to walk on with 10 or 12 "Stations" to shoot at a variety of clay target set-ups that can be changed up as we choose.

The Committee had **Pat Leiski**, a well renowned expert in the field of Sporting Clays, visit our Club grounds in April and tour our proposed location to set this range up in. He was very impressed with our Club and facilities and stated this would be a great location for such a range. He indicated that there is a need for Sporting Clays ranges in Southwest Michigan. Another expert in the field, **Matt Gay**, is planned to tour the club grounds on May 17.

The next steps for the committee is to prepare a report for the BOD with the committee's recommendations for location, layout, number of machines required, costs, grant proposal plans, and fund raising efforts.

The Sporting Clays Committee

UPCOMING EVENTS

- June 1: Clubhouse Orientation (6 - 7 pm)
- June 1: Lower Range Closed (6 - 8 pm)*
- June 8: Member Meeting 7pm
- June 13: CPL Class (Clubhouse & IDPA)
- June 13-14: Fortress Def Class (IDPA)
- June 17: IDPA Practice (IDPA Range)
- June 19: Night Vision Dusk Shoot (Rifle)
- June 20: Clubhouse Orientation (6 - 7 pm)
- June 20: Lower Range Closed (6 - 8 pm)*
- June 20: IDPA Shoot (IDPA)
- June 21: Cowboy Action (Cowboy Range)
- June 21: Long Gong 22 (Rifle Range)
- June 21: Combat Carbine (IDPA)
- June 25-28: SASP Match (IDPA)
- June 27: PRS22 Rifle Shoot (Rifle Range)
- June 29 Board Meeting 7pm

***Contact Kathy Crandall 269-341-5930 to register for this safety orientation.**

Notice: Required Range Safety Briefings

There are still many existing club members who have not taken this required, **mandatory** Range Safety training that must be done before renewing your membership after Dec 2026 for the 2027 club year. ALL CURRENT MEMBERS, regardless of your activity of choice, need to take this one-time safety training review. These sessions are held on the **1st Monday evening** and **3rd Saturday morning** of the 3 months listed below. Dates beyond August may vary due to other club activities (such as Saturday Hunter Ed Field days, etc.). Stay tuned to future newsletter editions for updated dates.

The next 3 months of scheduled dates are **listed below**. They are also listed in the club monthly calendar; found on-line in the club website and in the monthly newsletters. **Sign up now!** Call **Kathy Crandall** at **(269) 341-5930** to schedule your date and time. *The session is quite painless!*

• June:	Monday	June	1	6 pm
	Saturday	June	20	9 am
• July :	Monday	July	6	6 pm
	Saturday	July	18	9 am
• Aug:	Monday	Aug	3	6 pm
	Saturday	Aug	15	9 am

MUCC Organization Dissolving After 90-Years*

The Michigan United Conservation Clubs (MUCC) this week announced that the organization, which lobbies on behalf of sportsmen and women in the state, is dissolving after almost 90 years because of ongoing financial struggles. Board of Directors began formal discussions about dissolution in April and voted unanimously to dissolve on May 1, the Lansing-based group said in a Monday, May 4, press release.

"It was an emotional and difficult decision. Many of us have dedicated years, some even decades, of our lives to MUCC, its mission, and the conservation community it represented. This was not a decision made lightly," MUCC President Steve Dey said via email. The MUCC said that after "careful evaluation of the organization's financial condition and available options, the board determined that an orderly dissolution represents the most responsible course of action."

"For nearly 90 years, MUCC has served as a unified voice for conservation in Michigan, championing hunters, anglers, and outdoor enthusiasts through advocacy, education, and partnerships with state agencies and the broader conservation community," the release said. "Despite the deep commitment of its members, partners, and supporters, MUCC has faced sustained financial challenges that have impacted its long-term sustainability." The dissolution process is expected to be completed by mid-June 2026.

**Article taken from the Detroit News, online*

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: April BOD Meeting 2026

Checking Account \$ 97,974.37 Trans Acct \$ 12,480.89
 Emergency CD \$ 61,488.40 Excess CD \$ 21,103.40
 Storm CD Rec'd \$ 132,522.71 Third CD \$ 24,500.00

Membership Status: As of last Board Meeting

Total paid member households 761

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 Member - April (1)

Davis J Michaels Sturgis, MI

4-H Round Up



4-H Shotgun (Trap & Skeet) is on Tuesday evenings from 6 pm to 8 pm.



4-H Archery is held on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm



4-H Riflery, BB Gun is on Thursday evenings from 5 pm to 7pm
Rifle Range is Closed during those times.

Straight Shooters SCTP Team



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	689-0200*
Vice President	Paul Hassenger	625-4668
Executive Secretary	Kathy Crandall	341-5930
Treasurer	Tom McLaughlin	506-3361
Recording Secretary	Leslie York	483-6803

DISTRICT DIRECTORS

District #1	Jammie Mosser	823-3564
	Butch Rieck (574)	903-7041
District #2	Mark Speicher (574)	361-5847
	Joel Weeks	788-4946
District #3	Benson Baumeister	221-0288
	Randy Crandall	808-6730
District #4	Sean Neely (260)	350-1901
	Tom Featherstone	718-8392
Dir. At Large	Valo Christensen	369-3603

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 & Fair Sign-up	Jim Perlberg (313)	310-4897
NRA Recruiter	Leslie York	483-6803
MUCC Region 7	Allen Kasdorf	651-7086
Finance Chair	Tom McLaughlin	506-3361
Nominating Chair	Kathy Crandall	341-5930
Calendar of Events	Leslie York	483-6803
Hunter Education	Mark Quirin	503-0191
CPL Instruction	Jeff Brazo	689-0200

Weekly / League Activities

Trap & Skeet	Larry & Leslie York	464-6895
Trap - Tues	Bill Thompson	290-5798
5 Stand Sporting Clays	Joel Weeks	788-4946
Archery	Larry Murray	832-2816
Cowboy Action	John Daniels (574)	349-3764
IDPA Defensive Pistol	Open	689-0200
Combat Carbine, High Power	Jay Baker	532-4445
PRS22, NRL22 Rifle Leagues	Gary Kondek (574)	274-3694
Lower Range	Andy Rockwell (260)	668-9317
Youth SCTP Shotgun	Leslie York	483-6803
Youth SASP Pistol & Rifle	Mike Ortman	625-1918
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)	kmcrandall1952@gmail.com
Randy Crandall (Dist 3 Director)	kmc52ran@aol.com
John Daniels (Cowboy Action)	johndaniels@imcaa.com
Tom Featherstone (Dist 4 Director)	tommytwofingers1894@gmail.com
Kevin Frye (IDPA)	kevinfrye15@gmail.com
Paul Hassenger (Vice President)	phassenger@yahoo.com
Allen Kasdorf (MUCC)	allenkasdorf@gmail.com
Gary Kondek (.22 Shoots)	gary.kondek@yahoo.com
Tom McLaughlin (Treasurer)	tom.mclaughlin.retired@gmail.com
Larry Murray (Archery)	sturgis_larry@frontier.com
Sean Neely (Dist 4 Director)	sneely17@gmail.com
Mike Ortman (SASP)	mdortmann@yahoo.com
Jim Perlberg (Pub Relations)	gunslinger6@me.com
Mark Quirin (Hunter Ed Coordinator)	canman11@gmail.com
Andy Rockwell (Lower Range Dir)	zrock4365@hotmail.com
Mark Speicher (Dist 2 Director)	markspeicher26@aol.com
Joel Weeks (Dist 2 Director)	weeksgsp@hotmail.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
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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):

American Rifleman or American Hunter

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 _____

Area (s) of Interest: Range Work Parties _____; Committees _____; Club Board _____; Maintenance _____

New member application fee: **\$130***
**subject to change*

Renewal Dues (after 1st full year): **\$105***
**subject to change*

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 start within 60 days.