

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-seven Issue 2

February 2024

Upcoming Meetings

- Member Meeting 7 PM
Monday, March 11
- Board Meeting 7 PM
Monday, February 26



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in Feb and March

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NEO MFG

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St. Patrick's Day ATA Trap Shoot 3/17

Our first Amateur Trapshooting Association (ATA) trap shoot for the 2024 calendar year is set for **Sunday, March 17**. Due to the date, this year it's the "**St. Patrick's Day**" 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 start time is again 10:00 am with registration and practice opening at 8:30am.

Breakfast food and lunch will be available for donations. All donations above reimbursement of costs benefit our youth club trap team, the "**Straight Shooters**". We plan to have some festive food, as well as, trophies fitting to the theme of the shoot!

Youth are very welcome to come and shoot in these events as well as club members and the general public, but all must be ATA members. But, if you are currently not an ATA member (or need to renew) you can join/renew ATA at any ATA shoot, including our shoots. Alternatively, you may join/renew online at the ATA's website www.shootata.com on their membership page. Annual ATA memberships cost only \$20 for adults and \$12 youth 17 and under.

This year our club is holding a total of four registered trap shoots. The three other ATA shoots open to the public are April 21 our "April Open Shoot", August 25 our "Last Chance 500-Doubles and 100-Singles" event, and October 13, the "National Trapshooting Day" Shamrock Leather trophy shoot.

As a reminder, Skeet and 5-Stand will be closed on these ATA dates.

In other shotgun news, the 5-Stand guys are planning on holding some fun monthly **Sporting Clay Shoots** utilizing the 5-Stand equipment, some trap houses, and even the skeet houses could be in the mix. Watch the newsletter and calendar for details and event scheduling.

Hope to see ya' all on the shotgun ranges 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 1st** 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

READ THESE SAFETY RULES:

1. **NEVER handle your firearm when ANYONE is downrange on our rifle and pistol ranges!**
We have seen this type of safety infraction on the ranges this year!
2. **ALWAYS keep the gun pointed in a safe direction!** This is a vital and primary gun safety rule.
3. **ALWAYS keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot.**
When holding a gun, rest your finger on the trigger guard or out along the side of the gun.
4. **ALWAYS keep the gun unloaded and action open until ready to actually use.** ...and
5. **ALWAYS know your target and what's beyond.** You must always verify the shot is safe to take and that **no one is downrange** before pulling that trigger.

Remember, You can't take that shot back! Safety Always Comes First!

UPCOMING EVENTS

TUES EVENING TRAP & SKEET IS CLOSED, RESUMING ON MARCH 5

Trap and skeet will be open on Sundays 9am to about Noon (unless severe weather)

Feb 4: Long Range Planning Committee
 Feb 10: CPL Class
 Feb 14: St. Valentine's Day!
 Feb 18: Long Range Planning Committee
 Feb 24: Pheasant's Forever Banquet
Feb 25: Youth Trap Team Sign Up 2pm
 Feb 26: Board Meeting 7pm
 Mar 5: Tuesday Trap and Skeet resumes
 Mar 9: CPL Class
 Mar 17: ATA Trap Shoot

Youth Trap and Skeet Team Sign Up - Feb 25

Youth interested in learning about and joining (or rejoining) our **Straight Shooters** Club trap, skeet, and sporting clays team will have an opportunity to meet with our coaches on **Sunday February 25 at 2:00pm** in the clubhouse to learn about and sign up. We will talk about our 3 programs; 4-H Shooting Sports, Scholastic Clay Target Program (SCTP), and AIM (The youth program offered by the Amateur Trapshooting Association). These programs are not limited to club members and their families, but is open to all youth interested in the shotgun shooting sports, so bring along your friends to join the team for more fun. **A parent or guardian must be present for those under 18 for the sign-up meeting as there are forms to sign.**

If interested in joining or learning more about our youth shooting sports programs, but cannot make this meeting, contact Head Coach Leslie York at 269-483-6803 for more information or to learn when the next meeting is scheduled. Our coaches go through background checks and are certified to teach these disciplines. Our team motto is "**Safety First - Fun Second**".

The Club has a companion youth program for Rifle and Pistol, Scholastic Action Shooting Program (SASP). Contact Shawn Scott at 269-251-8126.

Upcoming Club Activities Set to Resume

Some of the major 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 5 (6pm) and runs through November
- ◆ 5-Stand Sporting Clays will resume activity in early March (*weather permitting*)
- ◆ March 11: Annual Membership Meeting and Wild Game Chili Cook-off
- ◆ IDPA Shoots start up March 16 on the IDPA Range
- ◆ Combat Carbine returns March 17
- ◆ ATA Trap Shoots return March 17 with the second shoot on April 21
- ◆ 22 PRS Rifle Shoots resume March 23 on the Rifle Range
- ◆ Cowboy Action shooting starts back up April 21 runs through October

Firearm/Personal Defense Training 2024

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: Dec Member Meeting 2023

Checking Account \$ 23,000.07 Transfer Acct \$ 687.80
 Pre-paid Dues CD \$ 5,307.94 Emergency CD \$ 60,119.18

Membership Status: As of last Board Meeting

Total paid member households **939**

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 - Nov & Dec

November:

Dennis Allen	Centreville, MI
Randall Chupp	Sturgis, MI
Mark Anthony Coburn Jr	Three Rivers, MI
Robert Paul Costanzo	Scotts, MI
Steven Frohriep	Sturgis, MI
Justin Michael Holbrook	Three Rivers, MI
Mark Steven Michelini	Sturgis, MI
Terry Wayne Moyer	Mendon, MI
James Patterson	Colon, MI
Rory Rak	Frankfort, IL
Greg J Wilson	Elkhart, IN

December:

Ricky Devone Arnold	Cassopolis, MI
Heidi Blesch	Sturgis, MI
Jeffery L Case	Sturgis, MI
William Eugene Nesvig Jr	Sturgis, MI
James E Tomaszewski	Sturgis, MI
Jeremy Wooster	White Pigeon, MI

New Advertiser for our Newsletter!



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	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	689-0200
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	Larry Murray	659-6005
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)	kmcrandall1952@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)	jlawrence1700@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
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**St. Joseph Co. Conservation
& Sportsman Club, Inc.**
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Sturgis, MI 49091

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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) *Subject to change
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.