

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 5

May 2023

Upcoming Meetings

- Member Meeting 7 PM
Monday, June 12
- Board Meeting 7 PM
Monday, May 22 (*due to Memorial Day on last Monday*)



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Tuesday Night Rifle League Start Up May 16

Our Tuesday Night rifle league begins **May 16 runs through July 11**. The league is sanctioned by NRA for the following rifles:

- **Service Rifle** – basically any rifle used in the service, present or in the past, such as AR, Springfields, Garand It generally is fired using a sling and shooting coat.
- **Match Rifle** – Any rifle designed to shoot long range. It is also fired using a sling and shooting coat.
- **F-class** – Any rifle using a bipod or rifle rest and rear rest. These rifles are also designed to shoot long range.
- **Tactical AR** – AR platform rifle with a bipod and rear rest.
- **Sporting rifle** – Any centerfire hunting rifle (not NRA sanctioned)

The course of fire, known as Reduced Mid-Range, is 2 strings of 20 shots for record at 300 yds from the prone position. Course of fire can be reduced to 2 strings of 10 if you choose. Mid-Range is normally fired at 600 yds, but we use the short course targets that are reduced to simulate the 600 yd target at 300 yds. Scores will be submitted to the NRA for classification. Our electronic targets (ShotMarkers) are used, however, official scoring will be on paper score sheets.

So, all you need is a rifle, ammo and a 300 yard zero. Cost is \$8.00 every Tuesday evening. This is very good practice to perfect your shooting fundamentals and learn your rifle. There will be several NRA classified shooters shooting, who can help you with the fundamentals. Eye and ear protection are mandatory. Empty chamber indicators (ECI) will be required. [Shooting is on the Rifle Range.]

If you have questions, call or text Charlie Reynolds at 269.251.3946

Archery is Back and in Full Swing

The 3D archery season at the club officially opened on Tue, April 4th with eight intrepid archers braving the ominous skies to match their skills to the targets on the challenging course. No scores were turned in but none of the archers complained of lost arrows so it was considered a success. Unfortunately, the weather had one small victory in that target number 5 was too muddy to shoot (TMTS)!

The 3D course consists of 30 foam animal targets spread out along a ¾ mile woods walk from the archery shed next to the club entrance and leading to the 4H archery field near the Fair Road entrance then back. The course includes three elevated stands, meant to simulate tree stand hunting, and a wide variety of targets, such as African game like the lion and hyena, as well as game animals found in north America. Each target station has a set of three shooting stakes marking where shooters should stand to shoot. (***continued on page 3***)

Cowboy Corner

Hidden Valley Cowboys April 16 Report

The rain held off long enough for us to get our first match of the season finished. We welcomed several visitors that showed up to watch the action. We had 1 new shooter to the Valley this month Welcome American Venom! He shot very well for his first ever Cowboy match and from the smile on his face he will be back. Congratulations to our 6 Clean shooters this month, Joe Quick, Justice D Spencer, Ranger Mike, Johnny Rebel, Triple Threat and Sauk Valley Stubby. Our Cool Clean Match Coaster's are made by Ka Adik Krista.

I would like to thank all that helped out with posse duties we have a great bunch of Cowboy and Cowgirls that are always willing to help out when needed. Krista and Tommy did a fantastic job as always with Coffee and Donuts, and our lunch. I have a great posse that helps set up on the Sunday before our shoot thank you, Mike, Triple Threat, Stubby, Ya Big Tree, Tommy Two Fingers, and Ka Adik Krista.

Our next shoot will be May 21, 2023. Registration opens at 8:15 AM, side shoots start at 8:30 AM, and the mandatory safety meeting starts at 9:45 AM, preceding the main match.

Johnny Rebel
574-349-3764



UPCOMING EVENTS

May 4: 4-H Riflery & BB Gun starts
May 6: HE Field Day Lower range closed
May 6 & 7: FD L1 Rifle (IDPA)
May 13: CPL Class
May 14: Trap BIG 50
May 16: Rifle League Starts (Rifle Range)
May 21: Cowboy Action
May 22: Board Meeting
May 27: IDPA
May 27: Clubhouse Rented
May 28: Combat Carbine

April "Showers" Open ATA Shoot Results



Our first inaugural "April Open" ATA Trap Shoot on April 16 has concluded and was sparsely attended due to the weather predictions of high wind and rain. However, we did have 17 brave shooters from MI, IN, and OH that came and shot trap with us. The rain actually held out for the most part until the last event, the doubles. Then the shooters got a little wet!

Our **High Over All (HOA)** winner was **Matt Davis** (*above far left*), the Singles Winner was **Glen Rhyner** (*above left*) after a shoot off with **Davis**, the Handicap Winner was also **Davis** shooting a 98 out of 100 to earn a 1 -yard punch, **Rhyner** was HDC Runner-Up. **Caden Fritts** (*above right*) was the Sub-Junior Category Singles winner and the combined SJ/JR Handicap and Doubles winners. **Emmett Carpenter** was the Junior Category Singles winner (*above far right*). The Doubles winner was **Victor Dumbra** from Ohio (*not pictured*). There were many other trophy winners. See the club website's ATA Trap page for a complete list. As always we had food available for donations that benefit our youth SCTP Club trap team. Another big thank you to all the volunteer workers that helped out.

Club Held SCTP Youth Trap Shoot



The club held a youth Scholastic Clay Target Program (SCTP) trap competition for the SW MI SCTP "Schools" Division on Sat April 15. There were 101 youth student shotgun athletes from 4 High Schools in southwest Michigan competing for medals. A total of 10,100 clay targets were thrown with a single day income to the club of \$3,000. The participants had a staggered start throughout the day from 10am – to 4pm, which kept the shoot flowing and made the parking easier. The parking was extended into the grassy field by Archery and one team with 40+ shotgunners staked out their team at the Club's pavilion. Our wonderful volunteer club shotgun helpers loaded houses and scored the trap rounds, plus manned (or shall I say "womaned") the kitchen. It was a good day for shooting, for the athletes, and for the club. They plan to come back again next year!

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

Archery News (continued from page 1)

Yellow stakes are for youth and beginners, blue stakes are for traditional archers, and the orange stakes are for compound bow shooters.

Club members can take advantage of the course any day of the week, thanks to a pair of self-serve mailboxes on the archery shed. One box contains scorecards and the other is for depositing \$5 to cover wear and tear on the targets. Because the course was out of commission for over a year, there were no new targets purchased this year. Income from shoots will allow us to replace targets as they get worn.

Open shoots are scheduled for every Tuesday, April – September. Anyone can come shoot on these Tuesdays, member or non-members. The gate opens at 5:30 and shooters need to show up with at least 1.5 hours before dark.

The course is open to all compound and traditional archers. The bag target range is also open to crossbow shooters but the 3D range is not recommended for crossbows, especially due to the smaller targets that will not stop a crossbow bolt. Compound shooters will find the course challenging and great practice for bowhunting.

There is room for more archery volunteers. The course will be changed often throughout the season and people are needed to move targets, and to clean up branches and trees that just will not stop growing up in the way of the targets.

Call the Archery activity director, **Larry Murray at 269-832-2816** if you would like to help out with range maintenance, or for any archery related questions!

Financial News: March 2023

Checking Account \$ 38,140.72 Transfer Acct \$ 11,444.04
Pre-paid Dues CD \$ 10,458.60 Emergency CD \$ 59,467.25

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*

Membership Status: As of last Board Meeting

Total paid member households **813**

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 (10) — March

Matthew D Huff	Sturgis, MI
Jeffery Jacobs	White Pigeon, MI
Michael Douglas Maynard	White Pigeon, MI
Frank Palmer	Sturgis, MI
Neal E Schwachtgen	Colon, MI
Ethan Warren	Marcellus, MI
Edward A Wolgemuth	Centreville, MI
Thadius Reeder	Vicksburg, MI
Vincent Warth	Granger, IN
Nicholas Warth	Granger, IN

**St. Joseph Co. Conservation
& Sportsman Club, Inc.**
PO Box 339
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)

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.