

# 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 4

April 2023

## Upcoming Meetings

- Member Meeting 7 PM  
**Monday, June 12**
- Board Meeting 7 PM  
Monday, April 24

**Happy  
Easter!**

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## “End O’ Winter” ATA Shoot Results



Our first ATA Trap Shoot of the year has concluded and it was pretty good, especially considering the projected weather! We had 28 shooters from MI and IN and threw a total of 6500 clay targets over the course of the day. The **High Over All (HOA)** winner was **Jason Marzette** (pictured L) who also took home the **Class A Singles** trophy and was the **Doubles Champion** as well! Jason drove in from the Detroit area and attends *a lot* of our shoots! *Congrats Jason!*

**Glen Rhyner** (middle-L photo) was **Handicap Champion** after a shoot-off with **Caden Fritts**, who finished as **Handicap Runner-Up**. **Henry Bahr** (middle-R photo) was **Singles Champion** shooting a 98/100. After several rounds of shoot-offs, **Caden Fritts** (left in the R photo) took the **Doubles Runner-Up**, as well as **Sub-Jr Singles** and the Handicap Runner-up spot. **Matt Davis** took **Third Place Handicap** and **Third Place Doubles** after the shoot-off for the Doubles (pictured right in the R photo). There were many other trophy winners that you can look up on the Club Website under the ATA Trapshooting Shotgun page.

A **HUGE THANK YOU** goes out to all the helpers on the field scoring and loading trap houses, to the registration and data entry insiders, plus the kitchen helpers and the folks who made all the food. *You all make these shoots possible!*

## “April Open” ATA Trap Shoot - April 16

Our second Amateur Trapshooting Association (ATA) trap shoot for this season is set for Sunday, April 16, the new “**April Open**” Shoot. This shoot is composed of the standard 100 Singles targets, followed by 100 Handicaps then 50-pair of Doubles (100 targets). We have a total of 18 trophies for this shoot over the 3 events, plus a High Overall Winner.

A breakfast and lunch will be available for donations. All donations above reimbursement of costs benefit our youth club trap team, “Straight Shooters”. **You can join ATA at any ATA shoot, including ours! Annual ATA memberships cost \$20 adult and \$12 youth.**

The remaining ATA shoots scheduled at our club this year include the “**Last Chance Doubles and Singles**” on August 27 and the “**National Trapshooting Day**” Shamrock Leather trophy shoot on October 8. There are also several ATA registered mini-shoots called **Big 50’s** scheduled for May-Aug and during our Fall Trap League, Sept-Nov. Check the club calendar or contact 269-483-6803 for dates and details or to pre-register.

## 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. ***You can't take that shot back!***

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- Apr 1: **Fortress Def** Women's Intro (IDPA)
- Apr 4: **SCTP Youth Practice Starts 6pm**
- Apr 4: **Archery** 5:30-dark every Tues
- Apr 5: Constantine Trap Starts (Trap)
- Apr 8: CPL Class
- Apr 12: CPL Practice (IDPA)
- Apr 15: SCTP Youth Trap (*closed event*)
- Apr 15: IDPA Shoot
- Apr 16: **ATA Shoot** (*skeet closed*)
- Apr 16: **Cowboy Action Shoot**
- Apr 16: Combat Carbine 9am (rifle range)
- Apr 22: 22 PRS (rifle range)
- Apr 22: **Fortress Def** Handgun Intro (IDPA)
- Apr 23: **Fortress Def** Rifle Intro (IDPA)
- Apr 24: Board Meeting 7pm
- Apr 29: IDPA RSO Training (clubhouse)
- May 6: Hunter Ed Field Day
- May 27: Clubhouse Rented

## Rhyner Wins Winter Trap League



Our 2023 Winter Trap League winner is **Glen Rhyner** who bested the field hitting 381/400 targets for a 95.3% score. Glen shot trap for the Vicksburg High School trap team. Now graduated, he works, is engaged, and shoots registered trap for fun! **Dennis Doehring** finished in second place with a score of 94.0% (376/400). Rounding out in Third Place was **Sean Neely** scoring 93.5% (374/400), just 2 targets behind Dennis. Our Lewis Class second group winners were **Joel Weeks**, **Jim Perlberg**, and **Roy Rawlinson** (*first through third place respectively*).

This year we had 12 hardy souls out shooting this league in the cold and sometimes snow. We finished the league with a food pot luck to warm up as we waited for final results. Next up... Fall Trap League in September.

## Club Looking to Sponsor 2 Kids for Camp

There is still time to register! Summer is fast approaching and now is the time to get your child or grandchild into the great Michigan out of doors for a week. Again, this year the club will be sponsoring two youth to the **Michigan Out-of-Doors Youth Camp** near Chelsea, MI. Registration begins March 1, and is expected to fill up quick. There will only be two "over-night camps" this year so don't delay. *First come— first served.* To sign up, please contact **Allen Kasdorf** at [allenkasdorf@gmail.com](mailto:allenkasdorf@gmail.com)

## Annual Membership Meeting Roundup



The 2023-2024 Club elected officers are: President Jeff Brazo, VP Paul Hassenger, Executive Sec Kathy Crandall, Rec Sec Leslie York, and Treasurer Tom McLaughlin. The elected District Directors were Dennis Parker (D1), Mark Speicher (D2), Ben Baumeister (D3), Nancy Lawrence (D4), and Tom Whitford (At Large).

The other District Directors not elected this year with terms ending Feb 2024 include: Kathy Book (D1), Roy Rawlinson (D2), Randy Crandall (D3), and Pete Davis (D4). The one By-law proposal for expanded payment types allowed by the board to extend payment types to electronic transfers, changing the word "checks" to "disbursements", passed.

The club may be looking for a possible new treasurer next year as our current treasurer may decide to step aside after this year. If anyone is interested in learning the role of not just the treasurer, but any board position, please contact our President **Jeff Brazo** (269-689-0200) to discuss. **We as a club need to find others to take on these roles for continuity if one or more officers can no longer serve in their current role.**

The winner of this year's **Wild Game Chili Cook-off** was **Monte Bordner** (pictured right) receiving the "new" travelling trophy from President Jeff Brazo. The wild game was venison. *Congratulations Monte!*

**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: February 2023**

Checking Account \$ 30,854.50 Transfer Acct \$ 11,444.04  
 Pre-paid Dues CD \$ 10,458.60 Emergency CD \$ 59,467.25

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

Total paid member households **956** (2021-22 year end count)

*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 (11) — February**

Paul A Bourdon	Bristol, IN
Valo Simon Christiansen*	Three Rivers, MI
Austin Cooper	Portage, MI
Jack Robert Denton	Sturgis, MI
Cody Featherstone	Burr Oak, MI
George Garl	Colon, MI
Steven K Kaylor	Schoolcraft, MI
Fred Luster	Wakarusa, IN
Max McKelvey	Sturgis, MI
Mickey Powell	Colon, MI
Scott Roth	Goshen, IN

**Interesting Member Tidbits and Notes:**

**\*New club member Valo Simon Christiansen is a third-generation club member! His dad, Ned Christiansen is a current member and his grandfather joined the club around the early 60's. The old steel pipe gate that the electronic gate replaced was made by the Grandfather! We truly are a multi-generational, family oriented Club! Welcome Valo!**

**Archery Director Change**

**Larry Murray has once again taken the coveted spot as Archery Director. We thank Mike Grandstaff for his time in that role, but as he has work and other commitments that are keeping him very busy, he has relinquished his role for now, but will help out as he can. Larry was approved by the members at the last meeting. Welcome back Larry! Archery will start back up on April 4.**

***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**

<b>Membership and Administrative Activities</b>		
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

<b>Weekly / League Activities</b>		
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)	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)	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
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.