

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



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 Clubhouse Telephone (269) 467-7128
 Home Page: <http://www.conservationclub.net>



Volume Seventy-seven Issue 1

January 2024

Upcoming Meetings

- Member Meeting 7 PM
Monday, March 11
- Board Meeting 7 PM
Monday, January 29



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Winter Trap League - Jan 7-Mar 10

This year's annual **Winter Trap League** will run from **1/7/24 to 3/10/24**. It will be **SINGLES ONLY**. The league is set up to be a 10-week money league with 8 of the weeks scores to count, *unless the participants collectively choose less due to weather, etc.* Each week will be 50 targets (2 rounds of trap). Shoot can be modified if agreed upon by participants. If enough youth trapshooters come out, we will hold a separate prize category for the youth participants. The cost will be \$20 for the league pot of money, plus each week's shoot target fees (members \$10, non-members \$12 for the 2 league rounds). And, we'll have our weekly optional "**Buck Can**" drawing; alternatively called the "**Doe (Dough) Can**", if you'd prefer!

As a reminder, open Trap and Skeet will continue concurrently on Sunday mornings starting at 9:00 am (*unless a blizzard or severe snow storm or warning*). Open trap/skeet will run concurrently with the league. However, there will be **no** ATA Big 50's this winter. Please note, Tuesday evening trap and skeet is now closed and will re-open in March 2024. 5-Stand is also closed until spring.

Winter Skeet League - Jan 7-Mar 10

In January we will have the brand new **2024 Winter Skeet League**. This will be a 10 week league (*concurrent with the Winter Trap league*) counting only 8 of the 10 weeks for final scores. The skeet league will run on Sunday mornings from **January 7** through **March 10**. The skeet league fees are \$10.00 league registration fee, plus shoot fees of \$10.00 club members (\$12.00 non-members) for two rounds of skeet each week. Awards are planned for winners. Open skeet shooting will also be available for non-league shooting.

Will shoot 2 rounds of skeet each week; 1-round of regulation Skeet, 1-round of non-regulation (FUN) skeet. Note, these will not be "NSSA registered" skeet targets. Both scores will be recorded weekly. The 2 lowest scoring rounds of each type of round will be thrown out. (2 regulation, 2 non-regulation) for 4 total.

Skeet League will shoot as 1 group, or maybe more depending on the number of competitors. If you skip a week, that counts towards your throw-away rounds. You will be allowed to make up rounds only if you miss 2 weeks.

If you will also be shooting on the concurrent **Winter Trap League**, please **arrive early to get your two trap rounds completed first**. We will start shooting the skeet league once everyone is ready. (10:30-ish).

Any shotgun gauge, but no allowances. Max shot size 7 1/2. Examples of some of the non-regulation, fun rounds include: Shooting from a chair, 0-3 second delay, Low gun, All true pairs, Finnish skeet, Report singles. *Submitted by, Joel Weeks*

LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE UPDATE

Major items discussed at the ongoing **Long Range Planning and Financial Committee** (LRP24) by-monthly meetings include the following:

- Regarding financial fundraising, suggestions included estate planning to benefit the club, possible corporate memberships (would require a by-laws change), weekly Bingo, lottery Pull Tabs, Wild Game dinner with/without an auction or raffle, flea market/yard sales, outdoor cooking classes (or similar), and food truck safari.
- Regarding range improvements, we will be reaching out to the club activity directors for input on their needs and wants for their areas. This information may also be taken from any capital planning requests as well. A general facility assessment for capital expenses may be pursued. The previous long-range plan is under review to see what has not yet been accomplished and prioritize what's left.
- It was felt that the club needs stronger advertising and public relations. Perhaps a small PR committee is needed. Member input is sought and a member survey is planned. Details to come.

The next 2 meetings are on Sundays, **Jan 7** and **21** at **2pm** at the club.

Recorded by Leslie York

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)

Jan 7: Trap & Skeet Winter Leagues Start

Jan 7: Long Range Planning Committee

Jan 13: CPL Class

Jan 21: Long Range Planning Committee

Jan 29: Board Meeting 7pm

Feb 4: Long Range Planning Committee

Feb 10: CPL Class

Feb 18: Long Range Planning Committee

Feb 25: Youth Trap Team Sign Up 2pm

5-Stand Sporting Clays "Night" Dec Shoot



We had 10 shooters shooting a total of 30 rounds of 5-Stand on Friday night December 8. (*Joel was taking the photo.*) There were 2 participants that this was their first time shooting 5-Stand. The December weather held out and everyone enjoyed themselves. The 5-Stand crew plan on holding more of these evening fun 5-Stand shoots come springtime next year. Watch the newsletter for upcoming 5-Stand and possible new "sporting clays" events in 2024. More pics on page 3. *From Joel Weeks*

Youth Trap and Skeet Shooting Sign Up

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.

Feb 25 Youth Trap Team Sign Up 2pm

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: Nov Member Meeting 2023

Checking Account \$ 18,597.10 Transfer Acct \$ 3,187.80
 Pre-paid Dues CD \$ 5,294.59 Emergency CD \$ 59,952.95

Membership Status: As of last Board Meeting

Total paid member households **914**

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 (Pending) - Dec

Name Sturgis, MI

As the December Board Meeting was rescheduled due to weather, this section is pending the revised BOD meeting.

More pics from the Dec 5-Stand Shoot



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)	kcrandall1952@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)	trmlaughlin@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

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

**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) *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.