

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 12

December 2023

Upcoming Meetings

- Member Meeting 7 PM
Monday, December 11
- Board Meeting 7 PM
Monday, December 18

***Note: No
Trap or
Skeet
Sun Dec 24***

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December Member Meeting

Monday, **December 11 at 7:00 pm** is our next Quarterly Membership Meeting. This is an important meeting as it is ***our last chance*** to propose any suggested amendments to our club by-laws. **Suggested by-law changes *must be submitted in writing*** to any board member. They will then be reviewed by the by-law committee to ensure they don't affect or conflict with other sections of the by-laws before presenting them for full review.

You can also propose, submit recommendations, or volunteer for any Club Officers or District Director positions at this meeting for the 2024-25 membership year. Elections for these positions occur at the next quarterly member meeting, which is also the **Annual Membership Meeting** to be held on **March 11, 2024** along with our wild game chili cook-off, and voting on any submitted by-law changes.

Refreshments are planned for this December member meeting. This is a great time to learn about the new long range planning and financial committee. Hope to see you all there!

New Skeet Winter League! Jan 7-Mar 10

This January we plan on holding the brand new **2024 Winter Skeet League**. This will be a 10 week league (*same as 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 fees are \$10.00 league registration fee plus shoot fees of \$5.00/round of skeet each week. Awards are planned for winners.

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 skeet once everyone is ready. (10:30-ish).

Any shotgun gauge, but no allowances. Max shot size 7 ½. 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

Items discussed at the first official new **Long Range Planning and Financial Committee** (LRP24) held 11/13/23 include the following:

- It was suggested to have 2 sub-committees: one focused on range/club long-range plan items, and a second focused on fundraising and financial planning.
- Regarding range improvements, it was suggested we do as we did before by getting together with the specific club areas/activities to see what the members want and what each activity needs. This would be done after we review the previous long-range plan to see what has already been accomplished and revise the list from that as a starting point.
- It was agreed upon to initially start by holding 2 meetings a month on Sunday afternoons at 2pm on the first and third Sundays starting **November 19, 2023** running to **March 3, 2024**.
- A chair for each sub-committee may be chosen to keep the sub-committee organized and take the notes.

The next meeting is set for Sunday, **December 3 at 2pm** at the club. If anyone is still interested in joining this committee, **please come to this meeting**. Recorded by Leslie York

UPCOMING EVENTS

TUES TRAP & SKEET WILL CLOSE AFTER DEC 5 REOPENING MAR 5

Trap and skeet will be open 9am on Sundays (unless severe winter weather or holiday)

- Dec 3: Long Range Planning Committee
- Dec 8: 5-Stand Night Fun Shoot (Shotgun)
- Dec 9: CPL Class
- Dec 11: Quarterly Member Meeting 7pm
- Dec 17: Long Range Planning Committee
- Dec 18: Board Meeting 7pm
- Dec 24: NO TRAP OR SKEET (CLOSED)**
- Dec 31: Trap New Year's Eve Party (9am)
- Jan 7: Trap & Skeet Winter Leagues Start

Ambrosen Wins 2023 Fall Trap League



The top spot of this year's Fall Trap League was **Hunter Ambrosen**, who hit 378 out of 400 total targets for a score of 94.5%. Hunter is on the Constantine High School Trap Team and is a senior this year. Runner Up was **Leslie York**, a close second, with 93.0% (372/400). Hunter and Leslie were neck-in-neck for the top spot throughout this fall league with Hunter finishing strong with a straight 50. This was the only weekly 50 out of 50 hit during the entire league. Our Third Place winner was **Mike Mirras** with a score of 91.0% (364/400). There was only one Lewis Class as there were not enough competitors this fall to warrant a second class. Congratulations to all the winners! This year had a less-than-normal turnout with a total of only 6 participating. We would love to see many more people participate in these fun leagues, because then there are more "Lewis Class" groups and therefore more winners.

We will start up the **Winter League** in **January** (*see article below*). We will also have a skeet winter league this year! See front page for details, Hopefully, we'll have better shooter turnout and get more than one Lewis class (*which means more winners plus a bigger pot of money!*).

5-Stand Sporting Clays "Night" Shoot Dec 8

There will be an evening **5-Stand Sporting Clays "shoot under the lights"** fun shoot set for Friday evening, Dec 8 at 5:30pm-9:00pm (weather pending). Shoot as much as you want. Cost is \$6 per round for members, \$7 per round for non-members (*Youth 18 and under \$5*). For more details or to pre-register, call **Joel Weeks** at **269-788-4946**.

Winter Trap League Jan 7 to March 10

This year's annual **Winter Trap League** will run from 1/7/24 to 3/10/24. It will be **SINGLES ONLY**. It is planned 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). Shoot can be modified if agreed upon by participants. The cost will be \$20 for the league pot of money, plus each week's shoot fees (for targets). Plus, we will have our weekly **"Buck Can"** drawing.

As a reminder, open Trap/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 (due to lack of participation in the winter). Please note, Tuesday evening trap and skeet will close after Dec 5 and will re-open in March 2024.

No Trap or Skeet Dec 24

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 (12) - Nov

Thomas Adams	Sturgis, MI
Dan Bagwell	Three Rivers, MI
Gerald Barkley	Sturgis, MI
Dale W Dunlap	Mendon, MI
Todd William Gordon	Colon, MI
Joshua David Griffin	Three Rivers, MI
Joshua Arthur Pant	White Pigeon, MI
Rudolph C Quarin	Sturgis, MI
Brad C Quarin	Sturgis, MI
Kevin Reinbold	Sturgis, MI
Rylee Rice	Three Rivers, MI
Chad Anderson	Sturgis, MI

**Looking Ahead...
 Winter Shotgun Shooting**



December 31: New Year's Eve Day Come on out and shoot trap or skeet from **9:00 am to noon** (weather permitting). We'll plan on having some warm food to eat and go shoot some clay targets! Standard shoot fees will apply.

Have Any Suggestions for Member Meeting Programs?
 Call either Leslie Y. 269-483-6803, Jim P. 313-310-4897

There's always something going on at "The Club"!

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
Newsletter Editor (Leslie York)	conservationclubeditor@gmail.com

**St. Joseph Co. Conservation
& Sportsman Club, Inc.**
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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.