

# 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 3

March 2023

## Upcoming Meetings

- Member Meeting 7 PM  
**Monday, March 13**
- Board Meeting 7 PM  
Monday, March 27

**Wild Game  
Chili Cook-Off  
March 13**

Inside this issue:

- Safety Spot** ● 2  
- New Gun Laws
- MUCC Camp for Kids Sign-up** 2
- End O' Winter ATA Trap Shoot Mar 19** 2
- Dues Are Due!** 3  
- March 1st
- Financial News** 3
- New Members** 3
- Officers & Director Contacts** 3

## Annual Member Meeting Notice

This month is our Annual Member Meeting and “**Wild Game Chili Cook-off**” set for **March 13** at 7:00 pm. We will be electing the 2023-2024 Club Officers and Directors. All Officers and Directors are currently unopposed, There is one new procedural by-laws change that will need to be voted on this year.

The agenda for the annual meeting is as follows:

- Conservation Pledge
- Introductions
- Reading of the Minutes of Previous Annual Meeting
- Annual Executive Secretary’s Report
- Annual Treasurer’s Report
- Annual Reports from Committees / Activities
- By-Laws Proposal
- Election of Officers and Directors
- Good of the Corporation
- Adjournment

Don’t forget to bring your **wild game chili entry**, and bring your appetite! You will be voting on the best chili, as well as Club Officers and Directors.

**Don’t forget to renew your dues in order to vote in the Club’s election.**

## Archery Returns!

Archery is BACK! Or at least it will be by April. The 3D archery range and practice stations were virtually wiped out by the storm in August of 2021 and until the recent cleanup of the club grounds, it was not practical to reset the targets. Now that the downed trees have been moved out of the way, the 3D range and practice area will be setup again in time for the April – September season.

The plans this year are to pick back up with the weekly Tuesday shoots starting April 4<sup>th</sup>, and to add a monthly Sunday shoot (see *the calendar for dates*); all open to the public and including a mixture of targets at multiple challenge levels. As in the past, a self-serve mailbox will be there for members who want to shoot at their leisure for a modest fee that helps with target repair and replacement.

Archery has a need for volunteers to help out with several tasks. (It takes three people to place the big moose target!) Targets must be put in place on an upcoming workday in March, and there is always a need for someone to sign in shooters at the open events. Contact **Mike Gradstaff** (269-625-0565) or **Larry Murray** (269-832-2816) if you have any questions about archery or to volunteer. **Oh, Larry’s back too!**

**Archery Workdays:** **March 11<sup>th</sup>** and **March 25<sup>th</sup>**, 8am – noon, weather permitting. Looking forward to a great comeback!!

## Safety Spot

### New Gun Reform Law Proposals in the Works in Michigan

Due to the most recent, *and very tragic*, mass shooting that occurred in February on the campus of Michigan State University, *by a mentally unstable felon*, the Michigan legislature is introducing a variety of new gun control law proposals (last count was up to 11 new proposals) that currently include the following topics:

- Require people to safely store guns in their homes
- Get rid of taxes for safety equipment, like gun locks
- Expand background checks for all gun purchases - not just pistols
- Red flag laws, which allow a judge to temporarily take guns from people who could be dangerous to themselves or the community

This action was predicable. These laws sound great on the surface, but still do not address the route "cause" of violence in our society. Enforcement of some of these new proposals (e.g. gun storage) may be difficult to enforce. Other proposals, depending on just how they are written, could be problematic in practice (e.g. Red Flag laws). The all inclusive background checks for ALL firearms would include gifting your family member your old hunting rifle or shotgun. I do like the no taxes one (if that goes through). Unfortunately, mental health issues are not addressed. The reality is people with criminal intent will not follow the laws. Strongly enforcing the current laws may still be our best option.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- Mar 5: Youth Trap Team Practice 2pm
- Mar 7: *Evening Skeet Resumes* 6pm
- Mar 11: CPL Class (IDPA Range)
- Mar 11 & 25: Archery Workdays 8-noon
- Mar 13: **Annual Member Meeting** 7pm
- Mar 18: IDPA Shoot
- Mar 19: ATA Trap Shoot (*skeet closed*)
- Mar 19: Vicksburg Youth Trap begins 4pm
- Mar 25: 22PRS (rifle range)
- Mar 27: Board Meeting 7pm

## Club to Sponsor 2 Kids for MUCC Camp

Summer is fast approaching and now is the time to be thinking about getting 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 fast. There will only be two "over-night camps" this year so don't delay. Unfortunately, the camp has now set a limit of two campers per MUCC affiliated club. *First come— first served.*

*The MUCC Michigan Out-of-Doors Youth Camp is held during multiple weeks during the summer from late June through mid-August at the Cedar Lake Outdoor Center near Chelsea, MI. MUCC camp offers a variety of different experiences through environmental education and outdoor recreation. Campers will have the opportunity to kayak, explore our forests, build shelters and fires, make lifelong friends and so much more! As always, the camp continues to focus on the importance of fishing, hunting and trapping. All campers can partake in a Michigan Hunter Safety course and get out on our .22 rifle and archery ranges. If your child is already hunter-safety certified, they can learn about **Leave No Trace** ethics or invasive species that threaten our area. Every child that comes to the Michigan Out-of-Doors Youth Camp this summer will gain a deeper connection to the outdoors and a passion for conservation.*

To sign up, please contact **Allen Kasdorf** at [allenkasdorf@gmail.com](mailto:allenkasdorf@gmail.com)

## “End O’ Winter” ATA Shoot Set for Mar 19

Our first Amateur Trapshooting Association (ATA) trap shoot for this 2023 season is set for Sunday, March 19, the “**End O’ Winter**” Shoot. We will have the usual three events, 100 singles, 100 handicaps, and 100 doubles targets. We have really nice trophies for the winners in place and categories for all 3 events, including youth and women!

A breakfast and lunch will be available for donations. All donations above reimbursement of food and supply costs benefit our youth club trap team, the “*Straight Shooters*”.

Youth are welcome to shoot as well as club members and the general public, but must be ATA members. However, **you can join ATA at any ATA shoot.** Annual ATA memberships cost \$20 for adults and \$12 youth. Annual memberships run September through the end of August.

This year our club is holding a total of four registered shoots. The other ATA shoots are April 16 the new “**April Open**”, Aug 27 our “**Last Chance Doubles & Singles**”, and Oct 8, the “**National Trapshooting Day**” Shamrock Leather trophy shoot. There are also 4 Big 50 Mini-ATA shoots planned one per month May through Aug (*see club calendar for specific dates*) and several more Big 50's that will run concurrent with our Fall Trap Money League, on Sunday mornings September 24 - November 19.

***Hope to see ya’ soon out on the trap range!***

**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: January 2023**

Checking Account \$ 47,070.91 Transfer Acct \$ 444.04  
 Pre-paid Dues CD \$ 10,446.75 Emergency CD \$ 59,462.38

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

Total paid member households **945**

*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 (8) — January**

Leendert Bamberg Jr	Mendon, MI
Jacob R Bergh	Constantine, MI
Andrew Eidson	Three Rivers, MI
Kenneth Duane Hunley	Athens, MI
James G Kotsiviras	Sturgis, MI
Kenneth Allen McClish	Leonidas, MI
James Ed Rangler	Centreville, MI
Thomas Selvage	Sturgis, MI

**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**

**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	651-9076
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	Mike Grandstaff	625-0565
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

**Annual Dues Are Due 3/1/23**

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 1<sup>st</sup>** 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.

**CLUB MERCHANDISE FOR SALE**

**We still have some very nice Club Hats (\$20), Club Patches (\$3), and License Plates (\$5) for sale, while supplies last. The sale of these will benefit our Hunter Ed program!**

***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

**Non Profit  
US Postage  
PAID  
STURGIS, MI  
PERMIT #52**

*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.