

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-nine Issue 3

March 2026

Upcoming Meetings

- Member Meeting 7 PM
Monday, **March 9**
- Board Meeting 7 PM
Monday, **March 30**



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Annual Member Meeting March 9

This month is our Annual Member Meeting and “**Wild Game Chili Cook-off**” set for **March 9** at 7:00 pm. We will be electing the 2026-2027 Club Officers and Directors. All Officers are unopposed. There are two open positions for District Directors. **Joel Weeks** was nominated for District 2 and **Tommy Featherstone** was nominated for District 4 at the December Membership meeting by the members present. The remaining District Directors are unopposed. There are no new procedural by-law changes 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 Year’s Annual Meeting
- Annual Executive Secretary’s Report
- Annual Treasurer’s Report
- Annual Reports from Committees / Activities
- Election of Officers and Directors
- Program (*to be determined*)
- Good of the Corporation
- Adjournment

Don’t forget to bring your **wild game chili entry**, and this year, any pot-luck dish you would like to bring as well to share. So make sure you also bring your appetite! **Remember to renew your dues in order to vote in the Club’s election.**

20th Annual End O’ Winter ATA Trap

Our first Amateur Trapshooting Association (ATA) trap shoot for the year is set for **Sunday, March 22**, the “**End O’ Winter**” Shoot. Our Club returned to ATA registered trapshooting in March 2007, after decades of the Club “not holding” ATA registered trap shoots. This year marks **20 years of continuously holding** ATA registered trap shoots since then. We will have the standard three events, 100 singles, 100 handicaps, and 100 doubles targets; all with trophies for the winners in place and categories including youth and women! The shoot starts at 10:00 am with registration and practice opening at 8:30am. Breakfast and lunch will be available for donations. All donations above reimbursement of costs benefit our youth club trap team, the “**Straight Shooters**”.

Our other 3 ATA trap shoots for 2026 are **April 12** our “20th April ATA Shoot”, **August 30** our “Last Chance 500-Doubles and 100-Singles” event, and **October 11**, the “National Trapshooting Day” Shamrock Leather trophy shoot. As a reminder, Skeet and 5-Stand will be closed on these ATA dates. *Shotgun Directors*

Traditional Hunter Ed Class

Our Club is offering an in-person Hunter Ed class in March. This in-person 3-day Class will be held on March 19, 20, and 21. The Thurs and Fri dates are in the evening, and Sat is from 8am to 1:30 - 2 pm.

You **MUST** attend all 3 dates to satisfy the DNR class requirement. Also, you **CANNOT register with our Club**, but instead, **MUST register on the DNR Website** to get in the class.

To register, see the Club's **QR Code below and follow the DNR HE links**, or type in your completer search bar the following: <https://michigan.storefront.kalkomey.com/em/programs> and search for our class. If it isn't there, the class is filled.



Reminder: Required Range Safety Briefing!

Reminder for the **mandatory** Range Safety training for ALL CURRENT MEMBERS, regardless of your activity of choice. All members/member households will need to attend one of these sessions to renew their membership after **Dec 2026**. These sessions are held on the **1st Monday evening** and **3rd Saturday morning** (except March). The remaining scheduled dates are **listed below**. They are also listed in the club monthly calendar; available both in the on-line monthly activity calendar on our club website, and in the monthly newsletters. Dates beyond July may be approved by the BOD as needed. **Sign up now!** Call **Kathy Crandall** at **(269) 341-5930** to schedule your date and time.

Range Safety Briefing Dates

• Mar:	Monday	March	2	6 pm
		<i>(no Mar Saturday morning)</i>		
• Apr:	Monday	April	6	6 pm
	Saturday	April	18	9 am
• May:	Monday	May	4	6 pm
	Saturday	May	16	9 am
• June:	Monday	June	1	6 pm
	Saturday	June	20	9 am
• July :	Monday	July	6	6 pm
	Saturday	July	18	9 am

Call **Kathy Crandall** at **(269) 341-5930** to schedule your class briefing date and time. Any dates beyond July need to be approved by the BOD.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Trap and skeet opens 9am on Sundays (unless severe winter weather)

Tues evening trap/skeet is Now Open!

Mar 2: Clubhouse Orientation (6 - 7 pm)*

Mar 2: Lower Range Closed (6 - 8 pm)

Mar 9: **Annual Member Meeting** 7pm

Mar 14: CPL Class (Clubhouse & IDPA)

Mar 15: Long Gong 22 (Rifle Range)

Mar 19-21: **Hunter Ed** (DNR Website)

Mar 20: Night Vision Shoot (Rifle 25-100)

Mar 22: **End O' Winter ATA Trap Shoot**

Mar 28: PRS22 Rifle Shoot (Rifle Range)

Mar 30 **Board Meeting** 7pm

Apr 6: Clubhouse Orientation (6 - 7 pm)*

Apr 6: Lower Range Closed (6 - 8 pm)

Apr 11: CPL Class (Clubhouse & IDPA)

Apr 12: **April ATA Trap Shoot**

Apr 18: Clubhouse Orientation (6 - 7 pm)*

Apr 18: Lower Range Closed (6 - 8 pm)

***Contact Kathy Crandall 269-341-5930 to reserve your range safety training.**

Yoder Wins 2026 Shotgun Olympic Man



In honor of the 2026 Winter Olympics, we decided to do our own "shotgun" take on the concept. We competed in standard 16 -yrd trap, skeet, a 30-target Trap Doubles, and Wobble Trap. Our Gold Winner was **Mel Yoder** hitting a 94 out of 105 possible targets. Silver winner was **Sean Neely**, and Bronze was **James Miller**. Proceeds of this shoot were donated to the Sporting Clays Range project.

DUES are DUE March 1

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**. Remember, any club member who has not paid their dues by **March 1st** 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.

***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: Jan BOD Meeting 2026

Checking Account	\$ 21,980.02	Trans Acct	\$ 980.89
Emergency CD	\$ 61,333.81	Excess CD	\$ 21,038.56
Storm CD Rec'd	\$ 132,522.71	Third CD	\$ 24,500.00

Membership Status: As of last Board Meeting

Total paid member households **874**

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 - December & January (11)

Steven Todd Eary	Middlebury, IN
Adam Harrison	Three Rivers, MI
David Lei Kaine	Sturgis, MI
Darek Joseph Kovach	Three Rivers, MI
Derek Maystead	Burr Oak, MI
Taylor John Meyer	Schoolcraft, MI
Jordon Morris	White Pigeon, MI
Ian Mundy	Union, MI
Michael Speelman	Three Rivers, MI
James C Worthington	Vicksburg, MI
Tom Yost	Three Rivers, MI

THE BACK PAGE... RANGE & CLUB NOTES

♦ Looking for Volunteers for supporting various Shooting Activities, Committees, and Fund Raising activities. If interested, please contact 269-483-6803 or send email to:

conservationclubeditor@gmail.com

Many Club Activities are awakening from the winter and will be starting up this month or very soon thereafter. There are many opportunities to get active in your Club; whether it is shooting on the open rifle and pistol ranges, or taking part in one of the many activities the Club has to offer. Such as 22 Long Gong or PRS 22 fun shoots on the rifle range, or trap, skeet or 5-Stand on the Shotgun ranges. Plus, Archery and Cowboy Action shooting will be opening up in April.

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	506-3361
Recording Secretary	Leslie York	483-6803

DISTRICT DIRECTORS

District #1	Jammie Mosser	823-3564
	Butch Rieck (574)	903-7041
District #2	Mark Speicher (574)	361-5847
	Roy Rawlinson	243-0913
District #3	Benson Baumeister	221-0288
	Randy Crandall	808-6730
District #4	Sean Neely (260)	350-1901
	Pete Davis	651-1388
Dir. At Large	Valo Christensen	369-3603

Dist #1: Flowerfield, Park, Fabius & Lockport Townships
Dist #2: Mendon, Leonidas, Nottawa & Colon Townships
Dist #3: Constantine, Florence, Mottville & White Pigeon TWPs
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 & Fair Sign-up	Jim Perlberg (313)	310-4897
NRA Recruiter	Leslie York	483-6803
MUCC Region 7	Allen Kasdorf	651-7086
Finance Chair	Tom McLaughlin	506-3361
Nominating Chair	Kathy Crandall	341-5930
Calendar of Events	Leslie York	483-6803
Hunter Education	Mark Quirin	503-0191
CPL Instruction	Jeff Brazo	689-0200

Weekly / League Activities		
Trap & Skeet	Larry & Leslie York	464-6895
Trap - Tues	Bill Thompson	290-5798
5 Stand Sporting Clays	Joel Weeks	788-4946
Archery	Larry Murray	832-2816
Cowboy Action	John Daniels (574)	349-3764
IDPA Defensive Pistol	Kevin Frye (574)	274-1524
Combat Carbine, High Power	Jay Baker	532-4445
PRS22, NRL22 Rifle Leagues	Gary Kondek (574)	274-3694
Lower Range	Andy Rockwell (260)	668-9317
Youth SCTP Shotgun	Leslie York	483-6803
Youth SASP Pistol & Rifle	Mike Ortman	625-1918
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
Kevin Frye (IDPA)	kevinfrye15@gmail.com
Paul Hassenger (Vice President)	phassenger@yahoo.com
Allen Kasdorf (MUCC)	allenkasdorf@gmail.com
Gary Kondek (.22 Shoots)	gary.kondek@yahoo.com
Tom McLaughlin (Treasurer)	tom.mclaughlin.retired@gmail.com
Larry Murray (Archery)	sturgis_larry@frontier.com
Sean Neely (Dist 4 Director)	sneely17@gmail.com
Mike Ortman (SASP)	mdortmann@yahoo.com
Jim Perlberg (Pub Relations)	gunslinger6@me.com
Mark Quirin (Hunter Ed Coordinator)	canman11@gmail.com
Roy Rawlinson (Dist 2 Director)	leroyrawlinson@gmail.com
Andy Rockwell (Lower Range Dir)	zrock4365@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):

American Rifleman or American Hunter

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 _____

Area (s) of Interest: Range Work Parties _____; Committees _____; Club Board _____; Maintenance _____

New member application fee: **\$130***
**subject to change*

Renewal Dues (after 1st full year): **\$105***
**subject to change*

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 start within 60 days.