

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-seven Issue 3

March 2024

Upcoming Meetings

- Member Meeting 7 PM
Monday, March 11
- Board Meeting 7 PM
Monday, **March 25**

**Wild Game
Chili Cook-Off
March 11**

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Annual March 11 Member Meeting Notice

This month is our Annual Member Meeting and “**Wild Game Chili Cook-off**” set for **March 11** at 7:00 pm. We will be electing the 2024-2025 Club Officers and Directors. All Officers and Directors are currently unopposed. There are no new procedural by-laws change that will need to be voted on this year. There is a program planned from our MUCC Representative.

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
- Election of Officers and Directors
- Program by MUCC Representative
- 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 BOD election.**

St. Patrick’s Day ATA Trap Shoot 3/17

Our first Amateur Trapshooting Association (ATA) trap shoot for the 2024 calendar year is set for **Sunday, March 17**. Due to the date, this year it’s the “**St. Patrick’s Day**” ATA Shoot. We will have the standard three events, 100 singles, 100 handicaps, and 100 doubles targets. There will be trophies for the winners in place and categories for all 3 events, including youth and women! This year’s shoots start time is again 10:00 am with registration and practice opening at 8:30am. Breakfast food and lunch will be available for donations. All donations above reimbursement of costs benefit our youth club trap team, the “**Straight Shooters**”. We plan to have some festive food, as well as, trophies fitting to the theme of the shoot!

This year our club is holding a total of four registered trap shoots. The three other ATA shoots open to the public are April 21 our “April Open Shoot”, August 25 our “Last Chance 500-Doubles and 100-Singles” event, and October 13, the “National Trapshooting Day” Shamrock Leather trophy shoot.

As a reminder, Skeet and 5-Stand will be closed on these ATA dates.

LONG RANGE PLANNING **COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Items discussed at the ongoing by-monthly meetings include the following:

Regarding financial fundraising, Many suggestions have been discussed for ways the club “could” raise needed funds for ongoing and requested new upgrades to the club and it’s facilities. However it takes people to make that happen. If we want this project to be successful, we need people; we need members to volunteer some of their time to make this happen. So a proposal will be to survey the membership to find out what people can do, and who do our members know that maybe can do things our members can’t do. ***Please we need your help!***

Regarding range improvements, Like in all things big and grand, we have lots of projects that need to be done. Some are more urgent than the other “nice things to do but maybe aren’t needed right now” kind of things. We are prioritizing these and developing a time-line of possible projects.

A presentation to the BOD with the committee’s findings is planned by, or before, the May board meeting.

Recorded by Leslie York

UPCOMING EVENTS

TUES EVENING TRAP & SKEET **RESUMES MARCH 5**

Mar 3: Long Range Planning Meeting
Mar 5: Tuesday Trap and Skeet resumes
Mar 7: Hunter Ed Instructor’s Meeting
Mar 9: CPL Class
Mar 10: Youth Trap Teams Practice
Mar 11: Annual Member Meeting
Mar 16: IDPA
Mar 16; Clubhouse Rented (Noon-3pm)
Mar 17: ATA Trap Shoot
Mar 17: Combat Carbine
Mar 23: PRS 22
Mar 25: Board Meeting 7pm
Mar 29-30: Project Appleseed (Rifle Range)
Mar 30: IDPA RSO Training (Clubhouse)

2024 MUCC Youth Camp Season

This year, the MUCC **Michigan Out-of-Doors Youth Camp*** will run seven (7) weeks of camping sessions this summer. Five of them will be residential programs and two of them will be day camp programs. Each week focuses on a different conservation based theme, allowing youth campers to sign up for a program that will best suit their interests. No matter what week your camper chooses, they will get to participate in our daily activities such as archery, kayaking, fishing, hiking, and so much more!

Again, this year, the club is sponsoring two campers. Talk to your kids and/or grandkids. Pump them up! For more details, contact Allen Kasdorf @ allen-kasdorf@gmail.com.

**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. 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.*

Project Appleseed Mar 29-30 (or Project Appleseed???)

Our club is holding a **Project Appleseed American History and Rifle program** on **March 29-30** on the rifle range. Project Appleseed™ isn’t a gun club or a militia, nor is it a historical society. Instead, they are a non-partisan group of men and women (known as the Revolutionary War Veterans Association) who are committed to upholding the values and principles of America’s founding fathers. They use rifle marksmanship instruction as a gateway to help bring our nation’s history to life and to show that many of the values that our forefathers relied on to win our independence are still very much in demand today. Here is their website link to learn about and sign up for our March program:

[Project Appleseed | Project Appleseed \(appleseedinfo.org\)](http://ProjectAppleseed.com)

However, if you search on-line today, *as I did*, to get information on this American History rifle-related program, what you get is a totally different “Project Appleseed”. This other Project Appleseed is an advocate for public school families in America, working to empower parents and communities to take an active role in their children’s education and advocate for policies that support student success. Okay. But, there was no mention or suggested link in the Microsoft search engine of the Appleseed Program I’m looking for. ***This is an example of how AI and the internet is placing bias in our lives without even knowing.***

Clarification on a Few Fortress Defense Safety Class Dates

- * **Level I Rifle with Night Shoot** : Should be **April 27-28** (NOT May 27-28)
- * **Introduction to Handgun**: May 18
- * **Introduction to Defensive Carbine**: May 19

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: Jen BOD Meeting 2024

Checking Account \$ 3,013.09 CC Trans Acct \$ 687.80
 Pre-paid Dues CD \$ 5,307.94 Emergency CD \$ 60,119.18

Membership Status: As of last Board Meeting

Total paid member households **944**

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 - Jan

William C Beavers	White Pigeon, MI
Jeffery David Decuypere	Vicksburg, MI
Paul R Kohler	White Pigeon, MI
Rick Moyer	Mendon, MI
Daniel L Penn	Sturgis, MI
Andrew Rodabaugh	White Pigeon, MI

Annual 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**. 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 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.

New Advertiser for our Newsletter!



Fire Sprinkler | Fire Alarm
 Fire Pump | Inspections & Testing

harrounfire.com

Kyle W. Gansel
 Branch Manager / National
 Director of Service & Inspections
 kgansel@shambaugh.com

1018 Staples Avenue
 Kalamazoo, MI 49007

C 630.514.8434

24 Hour Service 888.217.7055

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 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	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	Mark Quirin	503-0191
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
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**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 _____

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.