

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 11

November 2024

Upcoming Meetings

- Member Meeting 7 PM
Monday, **Dec 9**
- Board Meeting 7 PM
Monday, **Nov 25**



Range Safety Training for Existing Members

Due to recent and ongoing property damage on the Rifle and Pistol ranges, the Board of Directors has implemented a new safety training for ALL MEMBERS, regardless of your activity of choice. Every member will need to take this training by December 2026. (*Safety is a good thing for everyone to know!*)

Currently the training is being offered in conjunction with our new member orientation on the first Monday of each month. The classroom portion of the orientation begins at 6pm in the clubhouse, and at 6:50 we head down to the Pistol Range for the Pistol/Rifle Safety training. Any existing member is welcome to join us in the clubhouse for a refresher course on our club rules and general safety rules. Or you may join us on the Pistol Range (be there by 6:50pm) for the Safety Training. Everyone who attends will sign in so I have a record of your being there.

If other members of your family enjoy the ranges, I would strongly suggest they attend also so EVERYONE gets the safety training.

If you want to attend, please call **Kathy Crandall (269) 341-5930** and let me know you'll be there. We are trying to limit each session to 25 people, with new members getting the first slots.

National Trapshooting Day ATA Results



Our **National Trapshooting Day "Leather Trophy"** ATA trapshoot was held Sunday, October 13 and was a success

with 34 shooters from Michigan, Indiana, and Illinois in attendance. This was a 3-Event shoot with Singles, Handicap, and Doubles target events. We threw a total of 7600 clay targets during this shoot. The **High Over All** winner for the best combined score of these 3 events was our own member, **Ava Larson** (left) shooting a total of **282/300** targets. She won the nice Shamrock Leather Shooting Bag. Ava also took the **Lady Singles (95/100)** and **Lady Handicap (92/100)** top spot, plus was the **Doubles Champion (95/100)**. *Great shooting Ava!* The **Singles Champion** was **Jarred Bennett** from IN hitting a perfect 100. **Handicap Champion** was **Matt Castle** from MI hitting **96/100** and he earned a 1/2 yard punch. There were many other winners, including Club and youth team members. **Bradyn LaRoy** and **Hunter Ambrosen** (L-mid) won Singles Class A and B respectively (each had 97/100), after shoot-offs with other people. **Caden Fritts** (center) swept the Junior top spot in all 3 events. **Keaton Westfall** (R-mid) took Singles Sub-Junior. **Jeff Bailey** (right) won Singles Class C. See Club website (www.conservationclub.net) for more scores and pics.

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Cowboy Round-Up

Hidden Valley Cowboys

Oct Report

The weather was perfect for our last shoot of the season at the Valley. It's been an exciting year bringing new scenarios and targets to our Cowboy town along with some new faces. Congratulations to Knuckle Buster and Marti Draw for having the fastest times on the shotgun stage enjoy the Mason Jar of M&M'S. We had 9 Clean shooters this month, Johnny Rebel, Juste Bad Shot, Justice D Spencer, Lighting Bill Carson, Mez Cal, Saulk Valley Stubby, Spoon River Sam, Toby Dirt and Woody Tinker. Our cool clean match Coasters are made by Ka Adik Krista. I would like to thank all that helped out with posse duties we have a great bunch of Cowboy and Cowgirls that are always willing to help out when needed and to Krista and Tommy for another fantastic lunch. I have a great posse that helps set up on the Sunday before our shoot thank you, Stubby, Ya Big Tree, Toby Dirt, Tommy Two Fingers, and Ka Adik Krista. Our next shoot will be April 20, 2025. Registration opens at 8:15 AM, side shoots start at 8:30 AM, and the mandatory safety meeting starts at 9:45 AM, preceding the main match.

Looking forward to next season, hope to see ya there! (... a few cool pics below)



Johnny Rebel
574-349-3764



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Nov 2: IDPA Practice 9am (IDPA)
- Nov 9: CPL Class
- Nov 4: New Member Orientation (by invite)
- Nov 25: **Board Meeting** 7pm
- Dec 6: "5-Stand Under The Lights" 6pm
- Dec 9: **Quarterly Member Meeting** 7pm

Annual October Shotgun Ironman Results



On Sunday, October 6, we held the 7th Annual "Shotgun Ironman" competition following a hot dog lunch. This event was composed of 1 round each of trap, skeet, 5-Stand Sporting Clays, and wobble trap for a total of 100 targets. The best total combined score won the Titles of 2024 Shotgun Ironman and Junior Shotgun Ironman. A total of 28 contestants came out and competed for the title.

The weather cooperated this year as it was nice and sunny, even if there was a little wind. This year's adult Champion was **Matt Thompson** who hit a great score of 85/100 targets and won a shoot-off by skeet with our Runner-Up **Mel Yoder** (85/100) to take the Champion spot. This year's Junior Ironman was **Madison Smith** who hit an amazing 88/100! Madison shoots on the Mattawan Trap Team and actually beat the field of contestants! *Congratulations to all the winners.*

Mark your calendars for 2025 for the 8th Annual Shotgun Ironman planned for October 5. We may also hold another Summer Ironman competition in 2025 so watch for that announcement in upcoming newsletters.

Volunteer Range Safety Officers on Range For Sighting In

Due to expected volume of people using the rifle range to sight in their rifles for deer season, the Club is planning on having some Range Safety Officers (RSO's) present at the rifle range at specific dates and times during this busy period of range use in November. These people are volunteering their time to be of assistance on the range for any concerns or issues, plus are tasked with keeping things safe for all.

The last few years we have seen some practices that a few people were doing that were deemed not safe. We don't want to see anyone get hurt, as I'm sure none of you want to see that happen either. Therefore, please be respectful of our RSO volunteers and know they are only there to help keep things safe for all. Most are board members as well, so this is a perfect opportunity to ask any questions, or if you have any good ideas please share; we'll be there to take notes too.



Looking Ahead... Winter Shotgun Shooting

December 6: There is a **5-Stand Sporting Clays "Under the Lights"** night shoot being planned for Friday evening, Dec 6 (start time and weather pending). Watch December newsletter for all the details or call Joel at 269-788-4946.

Tuesday Evening Trap & Skeet is closed during the months of December through February due to lack of interest. Call 269-290-5798 if interested on a Tues. **Sunday morning Trap and Skeet** continues throughout winter (except for blizzards).

January 5 thru March 9, 2025: "WINTER SHOTGUN LEAGUES!" The plan is to have our usual **Winter Trap League** and possibly another **Winter Skeet League** if enough interest starting in January on Sundays, call 269-788-4946.

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: Sept BOD Meeting 2024

Checking Account \$ 22,949.80 CC Trans Acct \$ 423.80
 Pre-paid Dues CD \$ 1,767.38 Emergency CD \$ 60,571.61
 Storm CD Rec'd \$128,720.21 Excess CD \$ 20,499.07

Membership Status: As of last Board Meeting

Total paid member households **871**

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 - Sept (15)

James R Alderson II	Three Rivers, MI
Harold Baird	Coldwater, MI
Douglas L Bell	Constantine, MI
Anna Bogen	Three Rivers, MI
Jessica Bohm	Three Rivers, MI
Michael J Carey	Shipshewana, IN
DeWaine Thomas Harley	Three Rivers, MI
Hannah Hastings	Three Rivers, MI
Allen L Jogerst Jr	Three Rivers, MI
Michael Ku	Kalamazoo, MI
Kevin Masaki	Three Rivers, MI
Ben Oman	Sturgis, MI
James Phillips	Sturgis, MI
Davis Shields	Three Rivers, MI
Tod Dechnik	Three Rivers, MI

THE BACK PAGE... RANGE & CLUB NOTES

- ◆ If you have any suggestions for possible changes to the Club bylaws, please submit them in writing to trapgeek2010@gmail.com before the December membership meeting
- ◆ Looking for Volunteers for various Activities, Committees, and Fund Raising activities; also Board Positions. If interested, please send email to: conservationclubeditor@gmail.com
- ◆ Free Basic Firearm Safety: Jeff Brazo is offering training to new gun owners. Contact Jeff at 269-689-0200 to schedule a free firearm safety class.

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	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	Joel Weeks	788-4946
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	Pending	689-0200
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
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
Larry Murray (Archery)	sturgis_larry@frontier.com
Denny Parker (Dist 1)	stormrider.dp@icloud.com
Jim Perlberg (Pub Relations)	gunslinger6@me.com
Mike Philley (IDPA)	mphilley60@gmail.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
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**St. Joseph Co. Conservation
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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.