

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 5

May 2024

Upcoming Meetings

- Member Meeting 7 PM
Monday, **June 10**
- Board Meeting 7 PM
Monday, **May 20**



Inside this issue:

Cowboy Round Up	2
April Open ATA Trap Results	2
Ambrosen Wins SCTP Trap Event	2
Upcoming Events	2
“The Back Page”...	3
Financial News and New Members	3
Officers & Director Contacts	3

Tuesday Night Rifle League Starts Up

Our Tuesday Night rifle league begins **May 14**, at 5:30 PM, and runs through **July 9**. The league is sanctioned by NRA for the following rifles:

- Service Rifle – basically any rifle used in the service, present or in the past, such as AR, Springfields, Garand It generally is fired using a sling and shooting coat.
- Match Rifle – **Any rifle designed to shoot at long range. It is also fired using a sling and shooting coat. Any sights, generally scopes.**
- F-Class – Any rifle using a bipod or rifle rest and rear rest. These rifles are also designed to shoot at long range.
- Tactical AR – AR platform rifle with a bipod and rear rest.
- Fullbore Rifle - Any rifle designed to shoot at long range. It is also fired using a sling and shooting coat. Iron sights.
- Sporting Rifle – Any centerfire hunting rifle (*not NRA sanctioned*)

The course of fire, known as Reduced Mid-Range, is 2 strings of 20 shots for record at 300 yds from the prone position. The course of fire can be reduced to 2 strings of 10 if you choose. Mid-Range is normally fired at 600 yds, but we use the short course targets that are reduced to simulate the 600 yd target at 300 yds. Scores will be submitted to the NRA for classification. Our electronic targets (ShotMarkers) are used; however, official scoring will be on paper score sheets.

So, all you need is a rifle, ammo, a 300 yard zero and \$8 (to cover range & NRA fees). This is very good practice to perfect your shooting fundamentals and learn your rifle. There will be several NRA classified shooters shooting, who can help you with the fundamentals.

If you have questions, call, or text me on 269.251.3946. **Charlie Reynolds**

Speaker for June Member Meeting

Our guest speaker for our next Quarterly Member Meeting on June 10, will be attorney **Matthew Cooper** from the VA Disability Law Center in Decatur Michigan. Matt will be discussing Compensation and Benefits for our Veterans. He will also speak about his Landmark Case and Book "A Soldier's Home".

From the Michigan **VA Disability Law Center's** webpage, their purpose is to advocate on veterans' behalf during the appellate process. They state .." *while we represent you, we will communicate with you to ensure you understand where your case stands. Most importantly, our veterans' benefit attorneys will ensure you develop the proper evidence to strengthen your veterans' benefit case and persuasively present that evidence.*"

Matt will answer your questions about The Camp Lejeune Claims too. To learn more about this center and what Mr. Cooper can do to help our veterans, go to:

[VA Disability Law Center – VA Disability Law Center \(veteransdisabilitylawcenter.com\)](http://veteransdisabilitylawcenter.com)

Cowboy Round-Up

Hidden Valley Cowboys April Report

We had 2 new shooters to the Valley this month. Welcome Tin Cup and Little Ray, looking forward to shooting with them again.

Congratulations to our 7 Clean shooters this month, Joe Quick, Justice D Spencer, Rover, Shakey Shot Sharon, Spoon River Sam, Three Gun Cole, and Sauk Valley Stubby. Our Cool Clean Match Coaster's are made by Ka Adik Krista.

I would like to thank all that helped out with posse duties we have a great bunch of Cowboys and Cowgirls that are always willing to help out when needed. Krista and Tommy did a fantastic job as always with Coffee, donuts, and our lunch.

I have a great posse that helps set up on the Sunday before our shoot thank you, Stubby, Ya Big Tree, Tommy Two Fingers, and Ka Adik Krista.

Our next shoot will be May 19, 2024. 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.

Johnny Rebel
574-349-3764



UPCOMING EVENTS

- May 2: 4-H BB Gun and Rifle Starts Up
- May 4: IDPA Practice 9am (IDPA)
- May 7: SASP Youth Practice 6:30p (IDPA)
- May 8: CPL Practice 5:30pm (IDPA)
- May 11: CPL Class
- May 13: HE Instructor Meeting (Clubhouse)
- May 18: FD Intro Def Handgun (IDPA)
- May 19: FD Intro Def Carbine (IDPA)
- May 19: Cowboy Action
- May 20: **Board Meeting** 7pm
- May 25: IDPA Shoot
- May 26: Combat Carbine (IDPA)
- June 1-2: FD Level 2 Carbine/Rifle (IDPA)
- June 8-9: DTI Class (IDPA)
- June 8: Board First Aid Make-Up Class 1pm
- June 10: **Member Meeting** 7pm

April Open ATA Shoot Results



Our April ATA Trap Shoot has concluded. It was a mostly sunny day with a little wind and just a little bit nippy, but generally nice. We had 14 shooters from Michigan and Indiana.

There were several other ATA shoots running on this date so our attendance was a little low for such a nice day, but those who attended had a great time. Plus their odds of winning a trophy was greatly improved!

The **High Over All** (HOA) winner was **Jared Bennett** (pictured L) with a combined event score of 273/300 targets hit. Jared also took Champion in both the Handicap (92/100) and the Doubles (86/100) events. Our Singles Champion was **Curtis Held** scoring a 97/100. Curtis also took the Doubles Third Place.

On the home front, **Keaton Westfall** (pictured middle L) took the Sub-Junior top spot in the Singles trap event. This was his first ATA shoot and he won a trophy! Keaton shoots on the *Schoolcraft Eagles HS Clay Target League Trap Team* and on our Conservation Club *Straight Shooters SCTP Team* too. Our 2 teams do not compete against each other and are in different shotgun shooting sports programs. *Betcha didn't know, that trap shooting is one of the fastest growing sports among high school sports programs!*

Other home club winners were **Glen Rhyner** (Middle R) Singles Class B; **Mike Mirras III** took Singles Class C; **Mike Trepanier** (photo R), a Vicksburg HS Team Coach, was Handicap Runner-Up; and **Roger Cook**, who took the Veteran Handicap trophy. *(Roger and Mike M. left before I could get their pictures.)*

Debbie Stueck took Ladies in Singles and Handicap, plus was the Doubles Runner-Up. **Thomas Rutkoskie** was the Junior winner in Singles, Handicap, and the Doubles events. A Sweep of the Junior Category. Thomas shoots for Schoolcraft HS team and is currently also a part of Mattawan's SCTP Team. For more photos go to the Trap Page on our club website.

Again, a **HUGE THANK YOU** goes out to all the helpers on the field scoring to the registration and data entry insiders, plus the awesome kitchen staff who all make these shoots possible. Our next ATA shoot is Aug 25, followed by the National Trap Day Leather Trophy Shoot Oct 13.

Ambrosen with Top Score in Club SCTP Shoot



The club again held a Scholastic Clay Target Program (SCTP) competition; this time for the SW MI SCTP "Club" Division on Sat April 6. There were 90+ youth student shotgun athletes from 6 Club teams in southwest Michigan competing for medals. Our Club team "Straight Shooters" also fielded a squad. Team member **Hunter Ambrosen** took High Junior Varsity medal with a 98/100 and that score was high over all shooters. Hunter also shoots on the Constantine HS Team. Approx. 10,000 clay targets were thrown that day. The parking was extended into the grassy field by Archery and one team with 40+ shotgunners staked out their team at the Club's pavilion with their own food truck. Our wonderful volunteer club shotgun helpers loaded houses and scored the trap rounds, plus staffed our kitchen. It was a great day for shooting!

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: March BOD Meeting 2024

Checking Account \$ 37,362.83 CC Trans Acct \$ 11,687.80
 Pre-paid Dues CD \$ 1,755.00 Emergency CD \$ 60,270.71

Membership Status: As of last Board Meeting

Total paid member households **781**

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 - March (11)

Blake Franklin Adams	Three Rivers, MI
Randall Roy Appleton Jr	Three Rivers, MI
Robert G Baker	Elkhart, IN
David Lee Buckhold	Three Rivers, MI
Daniel Richard Dykstra	Sturgis, MI
Craig Gary Garvey	Three Rivers, MI
Tad Hite	Shipshewana, IN
Robert Kilburn	Sturgis, MI
Jammie Mosser	Vicksburg, MI
Michael Nottoli	Constantine, MI
Dan Torrans	Three Rivers, MI

THE BACK PAGE... RANGE NOTES

- ♦ **REMINDER LOWER RANGE CLOSED THURS EVE:** 4-H Riflery and BB Gun runs on Thurs eve 5:30-8pm, May into Sept. Therefore the Rifle and Pistol ranges are closed during these times.
- ♦ **IDPA Practice:** IDPA Practices are set for the first Saturday each month starting in May at 9:00 am on the Special Use IDPA Range.
- ♦ **Summer Shotgun Ironman:** Planned for Sun. Aug 11 at 1pm. 16-yd & 23-yd trap, Skeet, and 5-Stand. One round of each (100 targets total).
- ♦ Range Rules were sent out to all members.

Looking for Volunteers for various Committees and Fund Raising activities; also Board Positions.
 Contact: conservationclubeditor@gmail.com

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	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
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Allen Kasdorf (MUCC)	allenkasdorf@gmail.com
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Nancy Lawrence (Dist 4 Director)	jlawrence1700@charter.net
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Mark Speicher (Dist 2 Director)	markspeicher26@aol.com
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**St. Joseph Co. Conservation
& Sportsman Club, Inc.**
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Sturgis, MI 49091

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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.