

Sparta Hunting & Fishing

Dates to Remember

NEWS LETTER

April 2005

Please Mark These Dates on Your Calendar

April 21 & 24 Hunters Safety Sign up. (See below).

April 23 Archery Work Bee. (See archery Below).

April 25, 27, 29, & 30. Hunters Safety. (See below)

May 3, General Meeting 7:00 P.M.

May 7, Youth Archery Day. (See archery Below).

May 11, Start of archery league. (See archery Below).

May 14, Turkey shoot clean-up day 9-1.

May 15, Spring Turkey Shoot.

May 16. Archery Work Bee. (See archery Below).

June 7, General Meeting 7:00 P.M.

May 21. Hunt of a Lifetime Recurve/Longbow Event. (See archery Below).

May 29 Memorial Day. The will be Closed.

Welcome new members: Terry Fales, Brian Price, Frank Nagy, Scott Vanderplow, Mike Mchenry, Tom Vanderplow, Eric Bryant, Jason Mollien, Mike Johnson, Scott Brown, Charles Brown, Mike Gates, Tyler Ring, Miles Ring, Paul W. Rigney, Paul J. Rigney John Herod, Troy Blackall, Bob Eluskie, John Schmoltd, and Richard Franklin
NEW TOTAL. (171). Some of you have not picked up their Membership Packets. They are at the Clubhouse. Come by on a Sunday and pick them up.

The Sportsman's Against Hunger Challenge. This is a competition between SHFC, Madison Sq and Rockford Sportsmen Club. We try to see what club can bring the most wild game or other food donations. Michigan Sportsmen against Hunger is running low on funds to pay for processing of donated deer. Anyone wishing to make a tax deductible donation can still mail it to Michigan Sportsmen Against Hunger at 2101 Wood St., Lansing, MI 48912. Learn more about MSAH at www.sportsmenagainsthunger.org

You can make a difference by dropping something off, or a cash donation at Barb Shoemaker. Contact Jeff DeRegnacourt at 866-4721. (jeffde@ameritech.net)

We need your help with a few projects around the club. May 8. Jim Andrie, volunteered to power wash the buildings. We would also like to Paint the inside of the cook shack and put up a fascia around the BBQ pit. Contact Sue Blackall 887-8771 (archery110@aol.com). We also need your help cleaning up your club grounds. May 14, has always been Turkey shoot clean-up day from 9-1. If you could come out and give us a hand it would be greatly appreciated Bring rakes shovels or what you think you would need. Thank-you.

Thank you to everyone who came, helped, and donated to the Benefit Shoot for Dave and Donna Chittenden. We were able to give them \$5, 820 to support Donna's cancer treatments. From the raffle, Karen and Ron Atwood won \$600 from the 50/50 (then donated it to Donna), J Rybski won the rifle from Bernie Fisk, Mike Bruda won the wolf print from Gander Mountain, and Joy Grzeszak won the quilt from Marilyn Knight and Pam Stout. Tom Knight bought the 2 person guided pheasant hunt donated by Kim Meuser of Eaglewood Kennels for \$500. We deeply appreciate items donated for the Chinese Raffle from these businesses: Momber's Pharmacy, Gander Mountain, Little Sack Grocery, Sparta Cleaners, Tom's Hometown Bakery, Baker Catering, Sparta Sports Shop, Roger's Hardware, Sparta Lanes-Sports Arena-Garden Patch Restaurant, Topp Stop, Independent Bank, Meijer of Algoma Township, Ostman's Floral, Aries Business Connection-LLC, Trini's Restaurant, Print Metro, Hula Excavating, and Avon (Marilyn Knight) Dave and Donna have surely been uplifted by the care and prayers of everyone involved! Sue Blackall.

We will be giving a **Hunters Safety** course this month. Sign up will be April 21 from 6 to 9 pm & the 24th. From 11am to 3pm. Classes will be April 25, 27, 29, from 7 to 9:30 pm & the 30th. From 9am to 1pm.

Remember Shooting Hours are between 10:00 A.M. and 10:00 P.M or Dusk. Which ever comes first? We do shoot trap under the lights Thursday nights

Shooting News

Winter Trap & Clay's league. Winners were, (Sporting clays) Joe VanDyke with a 317. (5 Stand Tower) Joe VanDyke.

(Trap) was won by Tom Maxsom with a 277. Nice job.

We just want to remind people who practice drawing from a holster to be careful. For safety's sake, we as a club cannot condone this practice. So be careful. Also **Do Not Put Live Ammo in the Trash Can's.**

Remember we are open trap for the general public Sundays between 10am & 4pm and Thursdays 2pm to 10pm.

Sporting Clays and five stands are open Sundays 12pm to 4pm.

Scholastic Shooting started full force in January. ANYONE in grades 12 and under is invited to join us. We practice 2 Thursdays and 2 Sundays a month. Our Thursday practices start at 6:00pm and Sunday practices start at noon. We have a lot of new shooters coming out this year and welcome all shooting skill levels. Linda Kruger 231-834-7504. (backwoods@pngusa.net)

Archery News

We would like to see more members and friends join the 3-D archery league this year. We will be open to members and the public on Wednesdays starting in May. Being a club member's means you can shoot anytime of the week.

May 1, Start of archery Honor System for club members. Last September we were having a serious problem with relatives of club members shooting the course without paying. Some believe that they don't have to pay because they are not part of the Wed. night league. The fee covers the cost of the targets. There is no cost to the league. Everyone has to pay every time.

May 7, Bring a youth ages 5-17 for our Youth Appreciation Day. We have some youth bows to share if you need. Registration and an archery lesson before it starts at 11:00.

May 11, 5:30-6:30 Archery Kick-off. Open to the public. Door prizes! Shoot this first night, than next Wednesday is free!

May 21 "Hunt of a Lifetime Recurve/Longbow Event". Proceeds go to Make-a-Wish-type hunts for terminally ill children. Bows are available to use.

Archery Work Bees are Sat., April 23 at 9:00, and Mon., May 16 at 6:00pm. Sue Blackall 887-8771 (archery110@aol.com)

We are asking businesses or families to donate \$50 or \$100 for targets and express our gratitude with a thank you in a shadow box located on the target. Contact Sue Blackall 887-8771 (archery110@aol.com)

MUCC News:

MDNR is requesting public comments on a new draft for guidelines for Mandatory Quality Deer Management. It will be revised this fall. See the draft at:

www.michigandnr.com/publications/pdfs/huntingwildlifehabitat/deer_new_qdm_procedures_draft.pdf

Email comments to DNR_QDM_Guidelines@michigan.gov

A hunter in Alcona County was field dressing a deer that had TB, and he cut his finger. The hunter caught TB and is on 12 months of antibiotics. TB is a bacterial disease in the lungs or digestive tract. People normally get it from unpasteurized milk or through the air in close contact

These are the big issues MUCC is working on:

(a) The Army Corp of Engineers has the right to make decisions about wetlands under

their jurisdiction. Those wetlands are adjacent to federally navigable waters, such as the Great Lakes. They are changing their guidelines from "...replace similar wetlands very near the the wetlands which are being disturbed" to "...replace wetlands with any kind of wetlands, possibly in a different location." The U.S. EPA, Army Corps of Eng., and other agencies have rewritten some of the federal guidelines in the "Clean Water Act" to make these changes.

(b) Dow Chemical Company and DEQ are coming up with a plan to clean-up dioxin contamination in Midland, along the Tittabawassee River, the Saginaw River, and Saginaw Bay, which was caused by the March 2004 flood.

(c) Recently, copper and zinc have been found in sulfide ore in the U.P. When the ore is exposed to air or water, it causes sulfuric acid and heavy metals into ground and surface water. The Governor signed a law that requires mining companies to restore natural resources to their original condition. This needs to be monitored to make sure the clean-up happens.

(d) Tightening licensing regulations for captive deer and elk herds.

(e) Michigan is behind other states in groundwater protection regulations.

(f) A bottle bill to include wine bottles and noncarbonated drinks.

(g) License money earmarked for wildlife is being used to balance the state's general fund instead.

(h) MUCC is waiting for a grant to be approved to help pay for shooting club participation in a Shooting Range Stewardship Plans.

During October 1,700 deer were tested for chronic waste disease in Michigan, and none were positive.

DNR biologist, Nick Kalejs, from Muskegon investigated a rash of calls about odd "swimming" behavior or drowned fox squirrels in the area. There were no physical or chemical reasons found from samples taken. He concluded that a migration has been caused by the acorn crop shortage in northern Newaygo County. Rivers don't stop squirrels.

A gray wolf was found in northern Lower Peninsula. The female was accidentally trapped and killed by a trapper who mistook it for a coyote. She was wearing a DNR radio-tracking collar. The last wolf in the Lower Peninsula was seen in 1910. They started returning naturally in the U.P. in the 1980's. Now, there are 360 of them.

MUCC has given research based in-put to the new Great Lakes Basin Water Resources Compact. The Compact is made of 8 governors and 2 Canadian provinces bordering the Great Lakes. It takes a unanimous vote to divert fresh water, and a majority vote to approve consuming 5 million gallons over 120 days. Currently, there are no standards in place to stop diversions or evaluate programs for it. Sue

CCW RENEWAL / TRAINING

Since Michigan's CCW law went into effect July 1, 2001, thousands of Michigan residents took advantage, and obtained a license. Now, over three years later, license renewal is a concern. It's important that you start the application process six months before yours expires. For renewals you will be required to sign a statement that says: "*I certify that I have completed at least 3 hours of review of the required training and have had at least 1 hour of firing range time in the last 6 months preceding this application.*"

Many of the laws changed last year (July 1, 2003). Michigan DOES NOT require that you attend a renewal class, however, I have had numerous people attending my renewal classes since July. This certificate class adds credibility to your application. The Kent County Gun Board has reviewed my class and although they cannot require the class, they will acknowledge my training certificate. The updated laws are discussed (2 hours), review of the training material, and the required range time are all covered. Passport photos are also available within the class! Questions? Interested in a class? Contact me at: Barry Anderson / NRA Training Counselor / Instructor
PO Box 141362, Grand Rapids, MI 49514 or Barry45ACP@aol.com

If you didn't know it as a club member we get a discount at Gander Mountain, 10% off Classic Tire and Auto in Sparta. Call is 887-0350, and 5 % at Gordon Foods.

If you have any thing that you would like to see or put in the newsletter E-Mail me at jrybski@hotmail.com. I need things to put in these Newsletters. **Help Me**. Please tell your friends about the web sight. www.spartahuntingandfishingclub.com. We will be adding the newsletters. Announcements and other things as time go on.

And remember to **spin the gate lock** when you come and go.

We are trying to get an E-Mail list of all club members together, so we can notify them about special events. We would also like to know if you would like your newsletter E-Mailed instead of a hard copy. It would save on postage also. Mail your address to jrybski@hotmail.com.

We need your help running your club. If you can take the time and come out to help, it would be very much appreciated. As of April 5th. We had 171 members. But only about 30 come to any given meeting. For all the members who have been helping out and coming to the meetings **thank you**.

Committee Heads

Club House:	887-8982 www.spartahuntingandfishingclub.com
Sporting Clays: Morrie Seites	678-4523 (mdseites@triton.net)
Trap: Gary Auterson	887-0709 (autersonlr@msn.com)
Archery: Sue Blackall	887-8771 (archery110@aol.com)
MUCC Rep. Sue Blackall	887-8771 (archery110@aol.com)
Hunters against Hunger Director	
Jeff DeRegnacourt	866-4721 (jeffde@ameritech.net)
Silhouette-Handgun: Bob Thomas	678-4173 (bobber01@wmis.net)
General Maintenance: Tom Knight	866-2536
Newsletter: J Rybski	678-4397 (jrybski@hotmail.com)
Hunters Safety	678-4397 (jrybski@hotmail.com)
Road Cleanup: Sue Blackall	887-8771
CCW & NRA Instructor Barry Anderson	791-9378 (barry45acp@aol.com)
Scholastic Shooting Program: Linda Kruger	231-834-7504. (backwoods@pngusa.net)

