

Dates to Remember  
Please Mark These Dates on Your Calendar

NEWS LETTER

January 2007

January 20, Big Gun Banquet. 7:00. Don't forget your ticket.

January 23, Sportsmen Against Hunger Challenge Banquet (See Below)

February 6, General Meeting 7:00 P.M.

February 26, Archery committee planning meeting. 7:00P.M.

March 6 General Meeting 7:00 P.M.

You can also see a calendar at the web sight [www.spartahuntingandfishingclub.com](http://www.spartahuntingandfishingclub.com).

**Welcome all new members:** Scott Abbatoy, Chris Anderson, Leo Andrus, John Blaauw, Joel Bos, Jerry Copeland, Clark Causley, Kevin Dines, Robert Gibbs, Mike Gates, Andy Hussey, Michael Johnson, Dan Kerska, Chris McIntire, Mark Ritz, Steve Ramsay, Steve Szirovecz, Mike Stanton Sr., Terry Strain, Robert Stefans, Michael Spencer, Sean Sullivan, Michael Smith, Dan Smithgall, Dan Smithgall II, Mark Taber, Charles Twichell Jr., Berk Tanal, Michael Tanis, Robert Woodhouse, Robert Willis, Jeff Westphal, and Jon Walker

NEW TOTAL... We have new total of (227) Members. Some of you have not picked up their Membership Packets. They are at the Clubhouse. Come by on a Sunday at noon for orientation and pick them up.

We have changed the by-laws to help get full members. We are going to change the dues for associates to \$75.00 from \$50.00, Raise the \$25.00 refund on dues to a minimum of 3 meetings and 20 hours of work. With zero meetings you will have to put in 25 hours. Also members will not be required to work at the turkey shoot.

The banquet for the **Michigan Sportsmen against Hunger Challenge** will be at Rockford Sportsmen's Club, January 23 (Tuesday) 2007. Time is from 6:30 to 8. Sparta members to bring desert, Rockford will do salad, rolls and beverage and Madison Square will do the hog roast. Please come on out and show your support.

We will be having a **food drive for Sportsmen against Hunger** again In mid March. We will need volunteers at the Sport and R.V. show. You can get in if you brought a bag of groceries to donate. We have had a good response by the public. Last year we collected 14,190 Lbs. of food for hunters for hunger. Hanson Balk donates the use of their truck to put all of the food into. We will have a signup sheet at the club after the February meeting.

Sadly, the funeral of Ron Thome was Dec. 20, and Dave Rusch was Dec. 23. Their families appreciated being supported by so many SHFC members during visitations and the funerals. These honorable men have made our Club a better place!

Carol Thome has asked that donations in Ron's memory would go towards the new trap field and a plaque. There is still time to mail them to: SHFC, P.O. Box 264, Sparta, MI, 49345. (Those sent to the street address would be returned to sender, because there is no mailbox on the property.)

SHFC supports our community and the Sparta Chamber of Commerce by giving children the opportunity to shoot bows and arrows at the Sparta fire barn during the annual week long event Santa Days, held the 2<sup>nd</sup> week in December. Dozens of kids came through.

This was our second year of doing this. And great time was had by all. Thank you to all the volunteers who showed up to help. THANK YOU! By Jill Curry.

We are looking for a couple of full member's kids, Grandkids between the ages of 12 to 14 to send to **MUCC's Camp for Kids**. These are one-week camps. All you need to do is get them there and back. Please stop by or e-mail me at [jrybski@hotmail.com](mailto:jrybski@hotmail.com). Deadline is end of May.

**Election Results:** President Morrie Seites, Vice President Mike Bennett, Secretary J. Rybski, Treasurer Linda Kruger. 2007/2008 board members are, Dave Chittenden, Jim Brown, Randy Baker, Bruce Kruger, and Dan O'Brian. The 2007 board Members are Norm McIntosh, Sue Blackall, Barry Anderson, John Sullivan, Selma Ryan, Tom Hula, Dale Graybill, Loren Ambrose, Marilyn Knight and Jeff DeJager. Alternate will be Don Reed.

A plan is in the works to restore our park area behind the shooting ranges. Archery shooters took apart the old picnic tables, so they can be painted and used there. Morrie is going to put in a fire pit. Please call Sue (887-8771) if you can help paint or rake. We need lots of help!

We raffled off the canoe. This is the canoe that was going to be raffled off at the turkey shoot, but it had a blemish. The drawing was held December 5<sup>th</sup>. And the winner was Mark Whitehouse.

We have next year's **Sportsmen monthly raffle tickets** available at the clubhouse for \$100.00. We have changed the raffle a little because we have sold fewer than 200 tickets for the last two years. You have a choice of winning \$500. Cash, a Remington mod.700, a Remington 11-87 or a Mathews Switchback XT Bow. Only 300 tickets will be sold, and these tickets are good all year and at the banquet. If we don't sell 100 it reverts to 50/50 drawing.

We are looking for a couple of volunteers to help teach our hunters safety classes. We have two a year, one around April and one in the fall. If you are interested call J. Rybski at 678-4397 or e-mail at [jrybski@hotmail.com](mailto:jrybski@hotmail.com).

Michigan State University is coming down the home stretch for funding for a first of its kind Olympic Shooting Sports Complex right on campus. The website to get more information is [www.fw.msu.edu/shootingsports](http://www.fw.msu.edu/shootingsports). The facility cost is \$3,000,000. There will also be a \$3,000,000 scholarship fund. To date they have raised all but \$700,000.

The complex will house ranges for air rifle, rim fire rifle and archery. There will even be a year around 90 meter outdoor archery range where the athletes will shoot from a infra red heated porch and the university maintenance crew will keep a foot path plowed to the target butts when there is snow. As time goes on there are also plans for trap and skeet fields as there is enough land for that also.

In addition to being available for MSU shooting athletes, the facility will also be open to the public, groups, the National Archery Association indoor Nationals and the State Championship for the National Archery in Schools Program. The project is a 501-C3 nonprofit and all donations are tax deductible.

There will be no giving a non-member the combination to the gate. When you come to the gate you have to get out and open the gate your self. No giving a non member the combination to open

the gate. A member can give his or her other half the combination. And remember to **Lock and spin the gate lock** when you come and go.

### **Shooting News**

REVOLVER & SEMI-AUTO SHOOTERS: I AM IN THE PROCESS OF DETERMINING THE LOCAL INTEREST IN A SHOOTING / COMPETITION DISCIPLINE CALLED: PPC / COMPETITION (POLICE PISTOL COMBAT).

Originally reserved for Police Officers by the NRA, a non-NRA division for “civilians” is now available. These matches are shot with revolvers and semi-autos (.32 caliber or larger) at ranges of 7 yards to 50 yards. **One** of the matches is called the “1500”, which is a 150 round course, shot two handed standing, kneeling, behind barricades and prone. All shooting is one or two handed, and from the draw; reloading is a mandatory element of the competition. This is a type of target shooting where sight alignment, trigger control and accuracy are the name of the game. All events are timed.

Matches can be for bragging rights; trophy’s or cash prizes (Lewis system).

Each of the four different matches would have a proposed fee of \$10 each to cover targets and range fees. Two matches a year are proposed, and have been approved by the SHFC Board.

Teams can be developed to participate in the many matches held in eastern Michigan, although individual participation is available.

The Michigan Police Combat Pistol Association ([www.mpcpa.org](http://www.mpcpa.org)) is the State Association where membership is encouraged. **Interested? Contact me for complete details:** Barry Anderson NRA Senior Training Counselor. PO Box 141362 Grand Rapids, MI 49514 Or Barry45ACP@aol.com

Is there any body who wants to shoot muzzle loaders? I am looking for ideas for having a muzzle loader shoot.

Call J. Rybski at 678-4397 or e-mail me at [jrybski@hotmail.com](mailto:jrybski@hotmail.com).

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

If we get enough interest Sporting Clays and five stands are open Sundays 12pm to 4pm.

Did you know, as a club member you get a discount of 10% off Classic Tire and Auto in Sparta. Call is 887-0350, and a 5 % discount at Gordon Foods.

### **Archery News**

Everyone is welcome to attend a meeting for Archery 2007 on Monday, February 26 at 7:00. It is a great way to meet other archers, have a snack, and be part of the planning! Call Sue for questions: 887-8771

### **Scholastic Shooting**

Congratulations to members of SHFC Scholastic Program that made the 2006 All-American Team and the Michigan State Team - Leslie Kruger, Mike Brooks and Mikey Bredin. Nice shooting all of you!!

The 2007 Scholastic Program will be starting on March 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm. We will be practicing every Tuesday night. Anyone who would like to join us is welcome. If Tuesday night is a conflict for anyone please let me know.

There are a couple of changes to this year's program. 1. Parent/Guardian **must** be a member of SHFC.  
2. A \$25.00 fee will be charged to anyone joining the SCTP Program. This money will be used to pay the entry fee at the state shoot.

Any questions about the Scholastic Program please call Linda Kruger at 231-834-7504. (backwoods@pngusa.net)

### **MUCC News:**

HB 6245 would provide proper Chronic Wasting Disease regulations. It is even approved by the captive cervid facilities. Currently, it is being read for the second time at the House of Representatives.

The DNR and Mich. Sportsmen against Hunger have set a goal for 50,000 lbs. of venison to feed one million people: 44% children, 8% elderly, and 70% those with incomes below the poverty level. Dollars donated while getting your license pays for processing the meat.

Feral swine (wild pigs) are ranging freely in 23 counties. Counties nearest to us are Newaygo, Mecosta, and Montcalm. Hunters with any type of license can shoot them, because they cause crop damage, endanger humans and domestic pigs, and impact the environment and wildlife. (Owners of swine have been contacted.) Aim for the shoulder, since their vital area is more forward than deer. Wear gloves when field dressing them. Contact the DNR to test for diseases, such as TB

A new fish virus, viral hemorrhagic septicemiovits, (Say that 3 times fast!) in the Great Lakes kill's fish, not humans. It causes internal bleeding, previously only found in salt water fish. It spread here through ships that discharge ballast water. The U.S. Dept. of Agriculture has restricted the 8 states surrounding the Great Lakes from transporting fish, but it isn't helping. We need an amendment that allows: (a) Fish to be slaughtered for humans, if remains are correctly disposed of. (b) Those certified states to transport to other states if common requirements are met. (c) Ban the uptake of ballast water in the area where the disease is found. (d) Require treatment of ballast water, residue, and sludge - even on ships classified as, "No Ballast on Board".

Our region spends billions of dollars treating exotic species. Actually, it could be taken care of if Congress would pass the provisions already in The National Aquatic Invasive Species Act.

### **CCW /CPL License Holders**

The original requirement to obtain a Michigan CCW license was to obtain training with the NRA course of: ***Personal Protection in the Home***. This was a basic introduction course. In January, the NRA will be releasing a new course (five years in development) entitled: ***Personal Protection Outside the Home*** This course is a two part process for completion.

**Part One:** This is a intermediate level shooting course (9 hours). It is designed to offer the essential knowledge and skills that must be mastered in order to carry, store and use a firearm safely and effectively for personal protection **outside** the home. A certificate for completion will be issued.

**Part Two:** Prerequisite to attend - completion of Part One. This is a five hour intensive advanced course covering special shooting and concealment techniques. Extensive dry fire and live fire exercises will be conducted. Only those students who have a taken the Personal Protection in the Home & Basic Pistol (Michigan's CCW/CPL) will be eligible to attend. The demand for this course will be high.

As a NRA Senior Training Counselor (the only one in W. Michigan), I will be teaching / certifying current Training Counselors and Instructors so they will be authorized to teach this class. **I will be training Limited size classes for individual CCW/CPL holders by mid-January.**

Interested? Need more information? Contact: Barry Anderson NRA Senior Training Counselor [Barry45ACP@aol.com](mailto:Barry45ACP@aol.com)

If you have any thing that you would like to see or put in the newsletter E-Mail me at ([jrybski@hotmail.com](mailto:jrybski@hotmail.com).) I need things to put in these Newsletters. **Help Me.**

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](mailto:jrybski@hotmail.com).)

Please tell your friends about the web sight. ([www.spartahuntingandfishingclub.com](http://www.spartahuntingandfishingclub.com).) We will be adding the newsletters. Announcements and other things as time go on.

**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

#### Committee Heads

Club House:	887-8982
<a href="http://www.spartahuntingandfishingclub.com">www.spartahuntingandfishingclub.com</a>	
Sporting Clays: Jim Brown	696-8405
Trap: Loren Ambrose	667-3606 ( <a href="mailto:longjohn49435@yahoo.com">longjohn49435@yahoo.com</a> )
Archery: Sue Blackall	887-8771 ( <a href="mailto:archery110@aol.com">archery110@aol.com</a> )
MUCC Rep. Sue Blackall	887-8771 ( <a href="mailto:archery110@aol.com">archery110@aol.com</a> )
Hunters against Hunger Director	
Jeff DeRegnacourt	866-4721 ( <a href="mailto:jeffde@ameritech.net">jeffde@ameritech.net</a> )
Silhouette-Handgun: Bob Thomas	678-4173 ( <a href="mailto:bobber01@wmis.net">bobber01@wmis.net</a> )
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)

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

**Safety on the Gun Range-- "Safety Is No Accident"**

Users must obey Club rules and regulations AND conduct themselves in a responsible manner.