



Newsletter

Lapeer County Sportsmen's Club

April / May 2009



Lapeer County Sportsmen's Club

1213 Lake George Road

Attica, Michigan 48412

First Class Mail

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All of the food was delicious! The dessert table held terrific treats!



John Hatfield awarded life membership by Ray

The sheriff supports us!



Wall Man was one of many cowboys



Cathy Hodgson awards LCSC scholarship

LCSC Phone: 810-724-6579 Website: lapeersportsmens.org

Wild Game Dinner



This Henry .22 lever action (#1 of 100) was the centerpiece of the live auction. Rodney Jones (far right) hand made the beautiful presentation case.



A sellout!



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Ray Giacobone



Pride

It is with a great amount of pride that I bring to you the results of our recent Wild Game Dinner. Income wise this was the best dinner we have ever had. The food was great, as always, and the company of fellow members was much fun. The most important part of the story, however, is the job Dick Schalau and his staff did to make it so successful! Just to name a few, Cathy Hodgson, Dave Clemens, Van Starkey and Carol Deneen took strong leadership roles. When they got to the club their feet hit the ground running and they got the job done that needed to be done. They operated like a well oiled machine. Dick had to give very few directives and these people took the bull by the horns and whipped everything into its proper order and in its right place. Even though we were somewhat hampered by our reluctant sound system, we got through the night without a hitch. Within a short time of the end of the festivities we turned around and the place looked just as it did when we first came in. Wow, that was amazing! What a pleasure to watch the great camaraderie of a good club in action!

THE COVER

Wild Thing!

Dick Schalau, who coordinated our very successful *Wild Game Dinner*, holds a miniature replica of an early tractor, hand made by LCSC member Rodney Jones. It is about to be auctioned off, and is one of several items donated by Rodney that contributed to the success of the evening. There were many, many other fine donations by members and benefactors alike. We owe a debt of gratitude to all who provided door prizes and items to be auctioned. Thanks also to all who contributed the excellent food, including the really scrumptious desserts! And to all who worked so hard, you are *very* appreciated as this night was only possible because of you! There are more pictures of the fun filled event on pages 10 and 11.

* NEWS CLIPS *

APRIL MENU: Chicken on biscuit with gravy and corn, fruit cocktail

MAY MENU: Sloppy Joes, spaghetti, salad, fruit, chips
Dinner - \$6; Desserts - \$1

LCSC WEBSITE

The new *LCSC* website is finally done!!! It's taken about a month to sort through the wants and needs of the club and get it up on the Internet. The new site is a work in progress and needs members' input to keep it fresh and new. In order to get more members involved in the website, I have purchased a new digital camera for everyone to use while out on event days. I am hoping that this camera will allow everyone to capture those moments of sporting fun that we want to convey to the general public. Feel free to use the camera to take photos of your shooting fun. After you are done with it, just leave it (for now) behind the kitchen counter. I will download the images to my computer so that they can be included on the website.

The new site was created with both non-members and members in mind. Some of the "regular" club terminology has been rewritten to make it more understandable to a person interested in joining the club, but who is not familiar with the specific terms that members use.

Another feature added to the website is a message board. This board costs nothing to join, but because it is a free board has certain limitations. Pictures will not have the ability to be posted directly in messages. If you want to post pictures, you will have to upload them to a free hosting site (like *Photo Bucket*) and post a link to the pictures. This board was set up with the intention of keeping members and non-members informed of events going on at the *LCSC* and to answer questions about joining the club. In order to post to the message board, you first will need to register for an account. This costs absolutely nothing, but allows me to maintain some semblance of control over who is allowed to post. By requiring people to register for accounts, it allows me to weed out attempts to "hijack" our message board for purposes that are not in our club's best interest.

I am especially interested in getting some help on both the website and message board from the chair people who run the different venues for *LCSC*. There is no one better qualified to espouse the glories of an event than someone who participates and truly enjoys the event. So if you are a chair for one of the venues, contact me and I will set you up with moderator privileges on the message board. Let's talk about your venue's section on the website.

As this website belongs to the members of the *LCSC*, I am always willing to listen to everyone's ideas on how to make it better. Keep in mind that certain limitations do exist because of the coding, layout, etc., required of the site, but this does not restrict suggestions for changing something. All I ask is that the individual presents ways of making it better. Incidentally, our newsletters will all be displayed in color! So, visit our new website: www.lapeersportsmens.org.

Website Coordinator, Chris DeVriendt
sakeret@live.com (810) 796-3351

SHOTGUN REPORT

It has been a good winter for Shotgun. Our leagues have been well attended. There has been shooting in all kinds of weather. When it is snowing, and the lights are on, shooting at a clay target is just a little more challenging. When it is snowing the targets appear to resemble a comet. The target seems to make a trail behind it as it travels through the falling snow. And all you have to do to hit the target is to shoot in front of the tail. So simple, unless you're doing the shooting! It can't be all that hard, as the shooters have turned in eight perfect scores in skeet so far during the winter leagues. Now that the weather is a little nicer, I expect there will be a few more perfect scores shot.

There has been one shotgun clean up day so far. There will be several more in the weeks ahead, as the Sporting Clays course needs a good cleaning to get ready for our April 4 *Side x Side* shoot. By the time you receive this newsletter, most likely the Side x Side shoot will be history. With any shooting event that is held at *LCSC* all we can do is throw the party and watch who shows up. If, by chance, you do receive this memo before the shoot, please come out and shoot a round of clays with us.

Some time in April we will have our league banquet and those shooters who have learned the ins and outs of shooting in a handicapped league will receive their awards. It's not nice to say, in print, that some shooters are better sandbaggers than others, but I tend to live on the wild side. Most everyone has their own idea on how a league should be run and most us like to use some kind of handicap to level the playing field. When the shooters were reminded of this, you should have heard the whining that went on. This year we did shoot one league without a handicap (small bore .410 and 28 gauge). It sure is a fun way to pass the winter, even if to do so means you come in as the first loser (or, as others would say, second place).

Check your calendar in this news letter for times when shotgun is open. The Sporting Clays course is up and running, so stop by and shoot a few rounds to keep your skills tuned up for this fall's bird season. Just like anything else in life, you either use it or lose it. So, do keep yourself in shape to receive the most from your time in the fields this fall.

Murray Hable

For Sale:

**Ithica pump shotgun
10 gauge
Ported
Forcing cones lengthened**

\$375.00

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Color Printing. Color Copies. And everything in between.



DAVE & SARA WOOLFENDEN

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COWBOY ACTION

After being snowed out of our January match, the *LCSC Wranglers* rounded up a posse for both shooting and non-shooting events. The February Winter League Match had 24 shooters, and better than half of them stayed for the *Wild Bunch* side match. Four fun and fast cowboy action stages were shot, along with two *Wild Bunch* stages. Switching from single actions to the 1911s proved troublesome for some cowboys, but all of the competitors made it through safely and had enough fun to want to try it again.

Ten of the LCSC Wranglers attended the *North Oakland County Sportsmen's Club Wild Game Dinner*, held in Oxford. Bob "Horsekeeper" Becker even was lucky enough to come home with one of the main raffle prizes... Oh Baby!

The LCSC Wranglers also made a strong showing at the *LCSC Wild Game Dinner*. Decker out in their Saturday best, the *Wranglers* made an impression on guests and those members who may have never known what Cowboy Action Shooting is about.

The following day a group of cowboys made their way to the *Lapeer Firelocks Muzzleloaders* show. The cowboys set up a display and worked on recruiting additional cowboy shooters and informed show-goers about the benefits of the *Lapeer County Sportsmen's Club*. The *LCSC Wranglers* would like to thank the *Lapeer Firelocks* for the opportunity to participate in their show.

Upcoming events for the *Wranglers* are:

- Saturday, April 11 – Fun Shoot, Cowboy Action Practice in Cowboy Town and 22 Reduced Silhouette on the rifle range. Both events are open to members and guests. The fee is \$5 for all scheduled events. Donations for lunch are accepted. Start is 10am
- Saturday, April 18 – Cowboy Long Range on the Rifle Range, shoot the steel buffalo at 200 yards. Pre-1900 rifle calibers, in lever actions or single shots. Pistol caliber levers, will shoot a 100 yard target. Black Powder or Smokeless rounds allowed, no duplex loads, all lead bullets only. Open to members and guests. Range fee is \$5; start is High Noon.
- Sunday, April 19 – Cowboy Regular Match in Cowboy Town. Five cowboy stages, with a possible sixth shotgun stage. Mandatory shooters meeting at 8:30am at the Pistol Building; shooting starts at 9am. Fees: \$8 for LCSC members, \$15 for Wolverine Rangers, \$18 for non-Wolverine Rangers, Juniors shoot FREE. Lunch is included in the fee. Open to members and guests.
- Saturday, May 9 – Fun Shoot, see the details above.
- Saturday and Sunday, May 23-24 – The 12th Annual Great Lakes Match. Two days of cowboy action shooting, side matches and fun.

John Rose

* NEWS CLIPS *

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome eight new members, accepted at our February and March Membership Meetings: Michael Daniels, Robert Pemberton, George Gladysz, Greg McQueen, Derrek Moralee, Rita Rex, Jason and Heather Stone (family members) and David Villeme.

MARCH ELECTIONS

Four of our Board seats were up for election at the March Membership Meeting. Included were the positions of Vice President, Recording Secretary and two Directors. Nominated were: VP - George Ziegenmeyer, Joe Landry; Rec. Secretary - Jack Briggs; Directors - Cathy Hodgson and Steve Adamczyk. Jack, Cathy and Steve were unopposed. In the election for VP, Joe Landry won out over George Ziegenmeyer. Congratulations to all, and a very special thanks to George for his roll as VP and for all the service he has provided to our club.

OLD GATE KEYS

The Board requests that *all* old gate keys be returned to Jim Teets. There are quite a few outstanding. Please remember that the gate keys are rented, and should be returned as new keys are issued each year.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Speaker calendar:

April.....Speaker from *Canadea* dog foods

May.....Beer tasting. Three dollars to participate

HUNTERS' EDUCATION CLASSES

April: 6, 13, 20, 27

May: 4, 11, 18, 20

CPL CLASSES

(CONCEALED PISTOL LICENSE)

April 6, 7, 9

May None

June 8, 9, 11

MICHIGAN GUN OWNERS

LCSC has an affiliation with *Michigan Gun Owners* (MGO). There have been numerous questions regarding the MGO website. Chris DeVriendt is our MGO liaison, and what follows are Chris' suggestions on how LCSC members can best take advantage of what MGO has to offer, particularly their website, www.migunowners.org.

The MGO site has a wealth of information available to anyone who takes time to register for an account. The account is **TOTALLY FREE** and obligates the person to no financial commitment what-so-ever. The MGO boards have categories devoted to such subjects as buying and selling firearms, concealed carry questions, and even a place to just vent your frustration.

Certain benefits of the MGO forums are reserved for those that have either posted a set number of messages or the user is a paying member of the MGO boards. Until you have posted 10 messages (replying to posts also counts), you will not be able to post an URL (website address) in your messages.

The only (obvious) benefits of *joining* the MGO are:

- You will be able to have an avatar assigned to your profile. This means that a small picture will be placed under your name when you post in the message board.
- You can include pictures in your posts. If you are not a paying member and you want to include pictures in your posts, you must use a second party site like *Photo Bucket* to host them.
- An increased number of Private Messages (PM's) that your account can receive. A PM is just that, a private message stored for you on the site and sent by another MGO person.

I am sure there are more benefits to joining, but thus far those are the only visible reasons that someone might want to pay \$25 a year to join. If you are thinking of joining the MGO, **BE CAREFUL**, as there are two different options for sending money to MGO. The first is to actually *join* the MGO; the second is to *contribute* to MGO. By contributing to MGO you **ARE NOT** buying a membership, you are merely donating money to the group. If you want to join MGO, please be sure you are using the Join MGO link and not the Donate link.

To NOT JOIN, but to use the MGO website, do the following:

- On the top of the page find the link titled "**Register**", second from the left after "**Forums**".
- Click on **Register**.
- Enter your birth date.
- Read the forum rules and click in the box titled "I have read, and agree to abide by the MGO Community Forum rules." And then click the Register button.
- Choose a user name. This is what will be displayed on your posts in the forums and usually the name by which others in the forums will come to know you by. Choosing a name that is descriptive to people that already know you will help greatly with recognizing posts by fellow *LCSC* members.
- The NoSpam! verification question should be answered in the following format... 1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc. No other words are required other than that.
- Fill in the remainder of the information as you see fit.
- Under "Referrer," fill in the person's screen name that referred you to MGO or use my screen name, which is Sakeret.
- An e-mail will then be sent to the address that you listed earlier in the sign-up process. This e-mail message will have a link that you must click on to activate your account. Clicking on this link will (usually) open another browser window confirming that your sign-up to MGO is now complete.

From this point you can either fill out your profile or just start using the forums.

ARCHERY REPORT

Well, the 2009 *Chili-Tri Fecta* is history. This year the *Tri-Fecta* started here at *Lapeer County Sportsmen's Club* on January 25. Despite the 14 degree weather and deep snow, the sun shown on all 98 shooters. These hearty souls came out and braved our lovely Michigan winter and 31 archery targets. With several warming fires around the 3-D course and plenty of *free chili*, everyone had a fantastic time. It's just plain amazing how the offer of a *free* bowl of chili will bring so many people out in that kind of weather!

The second round of the *Chili Tri-Fecta* was held at *Royal Oak Archers* in Lake Orion on February 15. We were served a fantastic breakfast made by their members. 140 bowyers took to the trails on a very nice February day with more free chili to round out the day.

The 3rd and final round was shot at *Gilbert's Sportsmen's Club* in Lenox Twp. on March 1. Quoting Jay Carlson, "March didn't come in like a lamb. It was just plain cold out." But we Michiganders are a hearty bunch and 88 of us showed up for our free bowl of chili and a little shooting to round out another great day in Michigan's winter wonderland. Of the 88 archers, 64 of us shot all three events and qualified for some fantastic prizes to round out this year's event.

In the end, ***the Lapeer Bowmen were victorious in all three events!*** The Big Chili Bowl Tri-Fecta Trophy remains proudly on display in the Archery Hall at our *Lapeer County Sportsmen's Club* for a second year! Now the big question is, will *LCSC* be able to accomplish the first real Tri-Fecta by winning the trophy three years in a row?

There has been an increase in shooter participation in our winter shooting. It's great to see more people coming out and enjoying themselves. In Youth Archery it should be noted that that we had 39 young people enrolled. It sure was fun watching the kids enjoying themselves. If you have the time and want to get in on the last few weeks of indoor shooting, don't delay. Spring is just around the corner.

Please pass the word around. Starting May 7, 2009, archery will be shooting outside. That's right! Spring should be in full swing. Oh, wait, this is still Michigan. We could still have a snow storm. It's not likely, but stranger things have happened. The outside course will be through the woods, shooting at our 3D targets. Also, watch for the announcement regarding our spring course cleanup. Date and time will be forth coming. Note: Archery will be on Thursdays only and we will be outside, in the woods.

You will want to note that on April 26, then again on May 31, we will be having our next 3-D archery public shoots. These will be good times to get your buddies together and come out for a great day in the woods, doing what we enjoy most. Remember, your yard work will still be there next weekend. A good time with friends only comes around every so often. So mark these dates on your calendar so that you don't forget and don't worry about something else that can wait.

Murray Hable