



ON TARGET

TRI-COUNTY SPORTSMEN'S LEAGUE
8640 Moon Road • Saline, Michigan 48176

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<http://tcsl.org>

June 2016



President's Column

On May 20, 2016, I was at the Annual NRA Meeting in Louisville Kentucky when I received a call informing me that Mike Brown had died earlier in the day. As the news spread throughout the TCSL Family, the responses were similar. People stopped and sadly reflected upon the fact that we all lost a good friend, a devoted and dedicated TCSL member, a husband, a father, a son, a retired GM worker, a NRA member, etc. Mike participated in too many activities in life and at TCSL to name all of them. Each of us has our own memories of Mike. I think all of us would agree that Mike had a big heart and that he enjoyed helping others. It was not uncommon for Mike to just tackle a task, help someone, and never tell anyone that he was the one that completed the work or provided the assistance.

Earlier this year I asked Mike what he liked the best about TCSL. I was waiting for Mike to identify a shooting activity or a range. Instead, after taking a few moments to compose himself he reached out, patted me on my knee and with tears in his eyes he said the "fellowship that we have at TCSL social events". After sharing with me some of the activities he was referring to, such as Steak Fry, High School Reunions, Friends of the NRA Fundraising Dinner, Hamburger Night, etc., he then said in terms of shooting, he enjoyed pistol shooting the most. These last few months, as Mike continued to fight with all of his energy against the cancer that was slowly consuming his body, he still attended the April 15, 2016 Friends of the NRA Dinner and the April 23, 2016 MUCC Fundraising Dinner. When the April 30, 2016 TCSL Spring Clean-up approached, he talked to TCSL members to do anything he could to make it go as smoothly as possible. None of us should be surprised that in Mike's last few weeks of life he continued to worry about TCSL and continued to try and help TCSL even when none of us really expected anything from him.

At last year's June 2016 Women on Target, Mike and I walked around the TCSL ranges and property. He wanted to get away from his family and friends to talk. Mike told me that he was going to be strong for his family and was going to fight as hard as he could against the cancer. I pressed him to see how he was doing and he responded, "It is what it is" a phrase that we would all hear countless times throughout the upcoming year. His family knows better than anyone... *Continued* ↑

President's Column (Cont.)

that he honored his commitment and he was "strong for his family" and that he "did fight as hard as he could." He loved all of his family and as much as possible he wanted to shield and shelter them from pain and hurt.

I am confident the TCSL family will reach out to all of Mike's family to be supportive and to help as much as possible. For his family and friends, Mike left a big hole that will be difficult to fill. He also left a big hole at TCSL. As time moves forward there will be example after example of chores that now someone else has to do since Mike is no longer with us. As we each help tackle these tasks, I am sure that Mike will be smiling down knowing that TCSL is continuing to move forward. While we try to process Mike's death, I do take some solace knowing that heaven just received one heck of a volunteer to help keep all of the sportsmen's clubs looking good and functioning. It won't surprise me at all if there is now a Steak Fry the fourth Friday of each month in Heaven.

On another note, we are half-way through the year. TCSL has already accomplished a lot at the club so far this year. Examples of our 2016 accomplishments include, but are not limited to, a new storage shed at the trap range, new roofs and repairs at the pistol house, repairs on backstops, rifle range repairs/improvements, a repaved driveway, and a repainted women's bathroom. Still to come in 2016 is the launching of our new web page. Your dues and range fees have helped pay for these projects, as well as money earned at club rentals, IDPA matches, military rifle matches, steak fry Fridays, bowling pin shoots, classes, breakfasts, turkey shoots, etc. A lot of volunteer hours have allowed us to avoid/minimize labor expenses so that we could tackle as many projects as possible. Keep spreading the word about TCSL being a terrific sportsmen's club so we can continue to get new members, more dues, more volunteer hours and more range fees to tackle even more projects.

It became clear at the NRA Annual Meeting that the NRA is not sitting still as it tries to protect our Second Amendment Rights and to expand the shooting sports. The Education Department is continuing to implement some significant changes to keep improving their programs. The blended training approach to classes will move into other disciplines. A new shotgun class is close to being released. There will be changes in Women on Target. Implementation of UTM... *Continued* ↑

President's Column (Cont.)

Target Shooting Rounds (TSR) in NRA classes is in progress. Lots of new products were on display that gave us a glimpse into what is coming in the future.

Take care and I will see you at TCSL.

~Steve Reed

Safety News

Recently there was some maintenance done on the pistol ranges. The work included replacing the overhead board in the pistol house labeled "Do Not Shoot". That board is intended to limit the sight picture to help ensure that all rounds hit the backstop. The board was replaced and painted white. Within 4 hours of the range being re-opened, there were holes in the board.

This situation was a topic of discussion at the last Safety Committee meeting. We are reasonably sure that the new holes are the result of improper target placement, relative to the position of the shooter. With that in mind, I'd like to restate much of what I wrote in the April newsletter regarding target placement on the Pistol and Action ranges.

Target placement:

Target placement is very important in helping to assure bullets stay contained within the TCSL property. All targets must be placed in front of the proper backstop. On the Rifle, Pistol, and Action ranges, this means the earth berms.

On the Pistol and Rifle ranges, the firing line is at the fixed location. Shooters may not shoot from any other position other than the firing line. On the Pistol range and 50-yard rifle range, target distance may be varied by moving the target closer or farther from the firing line. On the Action range, the target should be placed as near to the berm as possible. The shooter may vary the distance by moving their firing position closer or farther from the target. However, in no case should the shooter's firing position be beyond the wooden walls.

Another consideration in target placement is vertical positioning. On the Action range and Pistol range, targets should be placed NO HIGHER than eye level of the shooter. Remember that "eye level" is determined by the shooter height AND shoot position. For example, if targets are set for being shot from a standing position, and then the shooter decides to shoot seated, the target MUST be lowered to reflect this lower shooting position. This target placement is important in assuring that bullets...

Continued on Pg. 2 (Safety)

Military Rifle Match Held

A Military Rifle Match using standard regiment (prone-sitting-standing) was held on Saturday-May 21, 2016. Rifles represented at this month's match included AR-15's, AK-47, M1 Garand, and an Austrian Mod 95. The winner of the match was Ed Benko who had a score of 344, in 2nd place was Chris Leite with a score of 340 and in 3rd place was Gerry Marken with a score of 330. Congratulations and thanks to all the participants for competing.



(Standing) Bob Webb, Ed Benko, Jeff Gage, Paul Siska (Kneeling) Chris Leite, Gerry Marken, Dave Vandermark



Steyr-Mannlicher M1895 (Steyr M95) Rifle

An Austrian Steyr M95 was used in this month's match. The Mannlicher M1895 is a bolt-action rifle, and is unusual in that it employs a straight-pull action bolt as opposed to a more common rotating bolt-handle of other rifles. Almost all have been rechambered to accept a spritzer 8x56mmR cartridge. Originally designed to use an en block clip which is inserted into the box magazine from the top, and automatically ejected through the opening at the bottom of the magazine as the last round was chambered. The drawback being single rounds could not be fed without the clip. It eventually was replaced by a Mauser-type stripper clip.

It was the primary battle rifle of the Austro-Hungarian and Bulgarian Army during World War I. During World War II, the M95 was issued to German police forces, and also saw action with many partisans in Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, and Italy.

Our next **Military Rifle Match** will be held on Saturday, June-18, 2016. Registration begins at 9:00am and the match starts at 10:00am. The match is open to members \$10 and guests \$15. To compete all you need is a military style rifle (non-automatic), domestic or foreign, vintage or modern, sporterized or customized, scoped or iron sights. You will need 45 rounds of safe ammunition, a shooting mat or something to lie on, safety or shooting glasses and ear protection. Spotting scopes and sling are helpful.

The course of fire for the event shall be: (5) rounds of slow fire in the prone position for sight-in within 5 minutes. *Continued* ↑

Military Match (Cont.)

For score: (10) rounds slow fire in the prone position, (10) rounds of rapid fire in the prone position, (10) rounds rapid fire in the sitting position and (10) rounds of slow fire in the standing un-supported position. For the slow fire portion, single fed rounds are fired within 10 minutes, while Rapid fire is within 80 seconds with a magazine or stripper clip change. There will be a short safety briefing prior to the match.

Please Note: You need not be a military member to compete, as they are surely welcome, you only need to own a military style rifle.

For more information contact Mark Smokowicz, marks@comcast.net or (734) 276-2514.

Memorial/Wellbeing



Mike Brown

As detailed in the President's Column, TCSL First Vice President Mike Brown passed away on May 20 after an extended battle with cancer. Past member Harold F. Jedele passed away May 1. Please keep the families in your thoughts and prayers. Notify us of illness, loss, or good news by email at newsletter@tcsl.org. Send military updates to newsletter@tcsl.org; and photos for the website to webmaster@tcsl.org

Safety (Cont. from Pg. 1)

impact the berm and not the ground, the shoot-house structure (cross beams) OR go over the berm.

The paragraph above is how we believe the holes occurred in the new overhead wood beam. We believe that targets were placed at adult eye level while standing. Then the targets were shot either by a shorter shooter or from a sitting position.

Another option is moving over to the Action range. This will allow the target to be placed right next to the backstop. It also allows the shooter to be closer to their target and help align the target to the shooter's position.

If anyone is unsure of what is the proper target placement, please ask a RSO.

I'd like to remind everyone that even with proper target placement, please be aware of what may be down-range. Sometimes target stands are left down-range and they are impacted by bullets shot at properly placed targets that may be up-range. Remember the gun safety rule—BE SURE OF YOUR TARGET AND WHAT IS BEYOND.

Please remember these rules apply to all TCSL members and their guest. In fact, when you have a guest, YOU are responsible for making them aware and ensuring they abide by all TCSL rules.

Thanks for taking the time to read these reminders. Hopefully with a little more awareness and effort, we can maintain a safe shooting environment for all club members and guests. If there are any questions you would like to pose to the Safety Committee, please feel free to contact me. I can be reached via email at safety@tcsl.org.

~Tom Lewandowski, Chairman
Safety Committee

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- ◆ Weight Loss
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- ◆ Focus & Attention Issues
- ◆ Overall Health & Immune System



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Other News

- **York Twp. Meetings**—Planning Commission, June 13; Board of Trustees, June 14; Zoning Board of Appeals, no meeting. The meetings all start at 7:30pm at the York Township Hall, 11560 Stony Creek Rd., Milan. Members attending can receive work hours credit.
- **Clubhouse Volunteers Needed**—Help is needed to oversee the sign-in sheet, payment of range fees, answering phone, etc. on Sundays Noon–6pm as well as Monday and Tuesday 10am–6pm. Contact Steve Reed at steve@reedlawgroup.com if you can help.

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Clubhouse and Range Hours

Rifle and Pistol Ranges: Sunday through Tuesday Noon-Dusk,
Wednesday through Saturday 10am-Dusk
Clubhouse: Sunday through Tuesday Noon-6pm,
Wednesday thru Saturday 10am-6pm

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Coach AJ Berning-Matell is a TCSL member.

June 2016 TCSL Event Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	1 Wednesday	2 Thursday	3 Friday	4 Saturday
Contact Jerry Chie for hall rental information at sgchie@comcast.net or 734-483-8435, or call the club at 734-429-9561			3-Gun Competition Practice 4-7:30pm IDPA Practice 5-8pm			NRA Basic Pistol 10am-5pm Moore Rental 3-8pm
5 Trap Noon-Done <i>Mother's Day</i>	6	7	8 3-Gun Competition Practice 4-7:30pm IDPA Practice 5-8pm	9 Education Committee Meeting 6:30pm	10 Women On Target All Ranges CLOSED 4-9pm	11 Gard Party—Upstairs Women On Target All Ranges CLOSED All Day
12 CCW/CPL 8am-6pm Trap Noon-Done	13	14 Kids On The Range Day Meeting 6pm Euchre 5-9pm <i>Flag Day</i>	15 3-Gun Competition Practice 4-7:30pm New Member Orientation 6-9pm IDPA Practice 5-8pm	16 Board and Member Meetings 6:30pm	17	18 NRA PPOH 8am-5pm Military Shoot 9am~1pm (100yd Range Closed)
19 NRA PPOH 8am-5pm Bowling Pin/Steel Plate Shoot Noon-5pm Trap Noon-Done <i>Father's Day</i>	20 Safety Committee 6:30pm	21	22 3-Gun Competition Practice 4-7:30pm IDPA Practice 5-8pm	23	24 IDPA Setup 4-9pm Pistol Ranges Closed	25 Basic Shotgun 8am-5pm IDPA Match 8am-9pm Pistol Ranges Closed
26 Monhan Rental Basement 11am-5pm Trap Noon-Done	27	28 Euchre 5-9pm	29 3-Gun Competition Practice 4-7:30pm IDPA Practice 5-8pm	30		

July 2016 TCSL Event Calendar

31 Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	1 Friday	2 Saturday
Johnson Basement Rental Noon-8pm Trap Noon-Done	Flint Water Crisis <i>TCSL is a collection point for donating water. Water contributions should be dropped off at the bar.</i>					
3 NO Trap	4 <i>Independence Day</i>	5 Kids On The Range Day Meeting 6pm	6 3-Gun Competition Practice 4-7:30pm IDPA Practice 5-8pm	7	8	9 Kids on the Range Day 10am-5pm All Ranges Closed 9am-5pm Milan HS Reunion 3pm-Midnight
10 Bowling Pin/Steel Plate Shoot Noon-5pm	11	12 Euchre 5-9pm	13 3-Gun Competition Practice 5-8:30pm New Member Orientation 6-9pm IDPA Practice 5-8pm	14 Education Committee Meeting 6:30pm	15	16 CCW/CPL 8am-5pm Pistol House Closed Noon-3pm Military Shoot 9am~1pm (100yd Range Closed)
17 Trap Noon-Done	18 Safety Committee 6:30pm	19	20 3-Gun Competition Practice 5-8:30pm IDPA Practice 5-8pm	21 Board and Member Meetings 6:30pm	22 IDPA Setup 4-9pm Pistol Ranges Closed	23 IDPA Match 8am-9pm Pistol Ranges Closed
24 Trap Noon-Done	25	26 Euchre 5-9pm	27 3-Gun Competition Practice 5-8:30pm IDPA Practice 5-8pm	28	29	30 Basic Shotgun 8am-5pm Hunter Safety Signup 1-3pm Fletcher Reception 5-11pm

See the club's Google Calendar at <http://tcsl.org> for the latest updates. Add it to your Google Calendar and never miss a TCSL event!