



ON TARGET

TRI-COUNTY SPORTSMEN'S LEAGUE
8640 Moon Road • Saline, Michigan 48176
Telephone (734) 429-9561
<http://tcsl.org>
August 2016



President's Column

What do "immortality" and gunpowder have in common? The answer may surprise you. In China around 850 AD, experimenters were looking for a substance that would result in the user living forever. However, instead of finding immortality they discovered gunpowder. While the name of the individual that created gunpowder appears to be lost, the ingredients used in the mixture have survived. The alchemists were mixing saltpeter (potassium nitrate) with sulfur and charcoal. When the mixture was exposed to an open flame, it exploded. Notes from around the time it was discovered indicate that the hands and faces of the testers were burnt and a house was even burnt down.

The Chinese used the mixture to power arrows and they were able to keep the ingredients secret for years. Once trading with China increased as a result of the growth "silk trade", it wasn't long before the recipe became public knowledge. Initially the Mongols were the recipient of the Chinese weapons that used gunpowder. In an effort to prevent the spread of gunpowder to other countries, Chinese trade restrictions on the sale of saltpeter to foreigners were put in place. However, once the "secret" of the ingredients was out, the restrictions did not prevent the spread of gunpowder.

By 1350 AD, basic gunpowder cannons were being used in combat. Handguns using gunpowder appeared on the scenes by the mid-15th century. Gunpowder was used in firearms, flamethrowers, grenades, land mines and firecrackers. Instead of discovering the ingredients for immortality, the discovery was of a mixture that has resulted in the death and injury of thousands over the years.

At the July 2016 Board meeting the Beta version of the new TCSL webpage was displayed and demonstrated by Laura Jolliffe from LT Design Studio. Based on input from members at the meeting, Laura is now able to get our webpage closer to launching. The goal is to have the new webpage up by early Fall so keep checking our site (www.tcsl.org) or the newsletter to see when it is officially in place.

I would like to thank all of the TCSL volunteers that have stepped up this year so that a lot of projects could be completed. Take a minute and walk around the ranges and the clubhouse so you can see the results of the efforts of TCSL members. It is always nice to see the 'regulars' showing up to help but this year I have seen a lot of new faces or different TCSL members rolling up their sleeves to lend a hand. Different groups... *Continued* ↓

President's Column (Cont.)

of TCSL members have been seen on different projects. So, thanks to everyone for a "job well done".

Summer is quickly coming to an end, take some time to come out and use the ranges before winter is upon us. Enjoy your Labor Day weekend. ~Steve Reed



THE INTERNATIONAL DEFENSIVE PISTOL ASSOCIATION

TCSL/IDPA News

By S. Graf, Member, July 24 2016

More About IDPA

TCSL is one of five clubs within a 60-mile radius that offer IDPA practice and matches: Brooklyn Sportsmen's Club, Wayne County Raccoon Hunters in Romulus, Livingston Conservation & Sports Association in Brighton, and Linden Sportsmen's Club. Most offer practice sessions once a week, and an IDPA match each month. The match schedules are coordinated so they are not conflicting and that there is a match each Saturday to consider attending. Many of the more enthusiastic IDPA shooters from these clubs will make the rounds and can be found shooting at various club's matches each week.

An IDPA Match features a variety of stages or shooting scenarios designed to provide shooters with a variety of potential real life self-defense shooting situations. It is difficult to imagine having to use deadly force to defend your life or those of loved ones but, if this unfortunate situation were ever to manifest itself, being prepared could make the difference that really counts. So, IDPA scenarios help a person develop the mental preparedness, muscle memory, shooting speed and accuracy for the best potential outcome. Standing in a pistol stall, in one position helps improve accuracy but this most likely will not be the case in real life. You will want to learn how to: use cover properly, move and shoot accurately, assess conditions in a stressful situation, reload quickly and manage a hostage crisis. These are all skills that are developed in IDPA shooting. Then, practicing these weekly or monthly will help build confidence and competence should the worst ever happen. Now with that said, the other aspect of this is the sport of shooting IDPA! It is fun and competitive. Some compete against other shooters for the better score in each stage. Others like me compete against 'my' score in my last match, taking note to see if I have moved up the ladder a bit in my classification.

Continued ↓

IDPA (Cont.)

Making mistakes during a match to me is part of the learning curve. I just try not to make them again (but alas, I usually do).

IDPA and TCSL

In last month's article, I mentioned a short history of how IDPA got started at our club. What is really to be noted is the physical preparation that was required to build out the area needed to shoot action sports safely. The action bays were a tremendous effort by club members building walls, earth berms, shaded prep tables, electrical distribution, and the large cantilevered eyebrows at the top. NRA safety guidelines were used to guide the design. Prior to construction of the bays, IDPA practice was run on the rifle range and outside the pistol hut which limited the number of stages and shooting scenarios. Members knew that to promote and expand the sport, better facilities were required. Mike Cowhy was involved in the construction from the start and has data I will provide in future articles.

People

Each month we will introduce you to some of the folks shooting at our matches. The match this month had 73 participants and 16 volunteers to run the match and ...it was HOT. Weather usually does not deter passionate shooters!

Here is a photo of Steve and Shawn from Ottawa Lake MI. It was their first time coming to TCSL for our match. A friend from their local conservation club suggested Tri-County and Shawn said everyone was 'welcoming and very friendly'. They started the sport in April of this year and now they participate as often as they can! Shawn noted 'each experience is different from the last and very challenging'. We hope to see you both again!



Military Rifle Match Held

A Military Rifle Match using standard regiment (prone-sitting-standing) was held on Saturday-July 16th, 2016. Rifles represented at this month's match included AR-15's, M14, M1903 Springfield, and a 1909 Argentine Mauser. Rob Ashley and Gerry Marken tied for 1st place with a score of 322, 2nd place went to Paul Siska with a score of 276, and 3rd place to Mark Smokowicz with a score of 244. Congratulations and thanks to all the participants for competing.



(L-R) Dave Vandermark, Paul Siska, Rob Ashley, Mark Smokowicz, Gerry Marken.

Our next Military Rifle Match will be held on Saturday, August 20, 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. 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 unsupported 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

Ethel Schultz, life member and mother of Past President Dennis Schultz, passed away on July 5. Please keep the family 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.

Huron Valley Friends of the NRA Gun Raffle
9/23/16 at Tri County 7 PM *Two Winners- First Prize Choice*
1 for \$10, 3 for \$20, 10 for \$50
Tickets available at Tri County
Ruger American Pistol 9mm

Savage Axis XP .308

Steak Fry
Friday, Aug. 26, 5-7pm
Open to Public
Meal includes salad, roll, potatoes, vegetable, baked beans, and dessert

Steak - \$14
Salmon - \$13
Chicken - \$9

Now offering kids meals—
hamburger or hot dog
Children (5-12) - \$6
Children (under 5) - Free

Trap House Gets New Roof

Volunteers (L-R) Dick Timmons, Ed Murphey, Murl Babcock, John Mason, Roger Sacks, Steve Sartori, Paul Scowley (not pictured: Jim Hill, Steve Jolliffe) installed the roof on July 16. Thanks men!



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



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Other News

- **York Twp. Meetings**—Planning Commission, August 8; Board of Trustees, August 9; 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.
- **Steak Fry**—Fourth Friday in August, September, and October.
- **Gun Raffle**—Winning ticket drawn at July Board meeting was: Doug Goerlitz for the Henry Golden Boy Rifle.
- **Antlerless Deer License Applications**—The Michigan DNR reminds hunters that the application period for antlerless deer licenses is now open and runs through Aug. 15. Hunters may choose to apply for either one private-land or one public-land license online at [E-License](#) or at any authorized [license agent](#) or [DNR Customer Service Center](#).

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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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Follow AJ Archery on Facebook and "like" us.
Coach AJ Berning-Matell is a TCSL member.

August 2016 TCSL Event Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		August Primary Election 7am-8pm	3-Gun Competition Practice 5-8:30pm Trap 5-7pm IDPA Practice 5-8pm			Hunter Safety Class 9am-5pm
7 Hunter Safety Class 9am-5pm Trap Noon-Done	8	9 Euchre 5-9pm	10 3-Gun Competition Practice 4-7:30pm Trap 5-7pm IDPA Practice 5-8pm	11 Education Committee Meeting 6:30pm	12 Towler Rehearsal Dinner 4-8pm	13 WCR Reservation for Lower Level Noon-6pm
14 CCW/CPL 8am-5pm Bowling Pin/Steel Plate Shoot Noon-5pm Trap Noon-Done	15 Safety Committee 6:30pm	16	17 3-Gun Competition Practice 5-8:30pm Trap 5-7pm New Member Orientation 6-9pm IDPA Practice 5-8pm	18 Board Meeting 6:30pm No Member Mtg. <i>Raffle Drawing!</i>	19	20 Military Shoot 9am-1pm (100yd Range Closed) YHS Reunion 7-11pm
21 Trap Noon-Done	22	23 Euchre 5-9pm	24 3-Gun Competition Practice 5-8:30pm Trap 5-7pm IDPA Practice 5-8pm	25	26 Steak Fry 5-7pm IDPA Setup 4-9pm Pistol Ranges Closed	27 Basic Shotgun 8am-5pm IDPA Match 10am-6pm Pistol Ranges Closed
28 Trap Noon-Done	29	30 Towler Shower 1-5pm	31 3-Gun Competition Practice 5-8:30pm Trap 5-7pm IDPA Practice 5-8pm	Contact Jerry Chie for hall rental information at sgchie@comcast.net or 734-483-8435, or call the club at 734-429-9561		

September 2016 TCSL Event Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Club raffles are back! August 18 drawing: 50/50 raffle up to max prize of \$450 Tickets available at the bar now—only 100 sold per raffle				1	2	3
4 Trap Noon-Done	5	6	7 3-Gun Competition Practice 4-7:30pm Trap 5-7pm IDPA Practice 5-8pm	8 Education Committee Meeting 6:30pm	9	10 CCW/CPL 8am-5pm
11 CCW/CPL 8am-5pm Bowling Pin/Steel Plate Shoot Noon-5pm Trap Noon-Done	12	13 Euchre 5-9pm	14 3-Gun Competition Practice 5-8:30pm Trap 5-7pm IDPA Practice 5-8pm	15 Board & Member Meetings 6:30pm	16 Ypsi-AA Chamber Shoot 8am-3pm	17 Basic Rifle 8am-5pm; Military Shoot 9am-1pm (100yd Range Closed); New Member Orientation 9am-Noon; Stumkat Wedding 3-11:30pm
18 Basic Rifle (Day 2) 8am-5pm Kanitz Reunion Noon-5pm Trap Noon-Done	19 Safety Committee 6:30pm	20	21 Trap 5-7pm IDPA Practice 5-8pm	22	23 Steak Fry 5-7pm IDPA Setup 4-9pm Pistol Ranges Closed	24 Basic Shotgun 8am-5pm IDPA Match 10am-6pm Pistol Ranges Closed
25 Trap Noon-Done	26	27 Euchre 5-9pm	28 Trap 5-7pm IDPA Practice 5-8pm	29	30	

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!