



ON TARGET

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

Telephone (734) 429-9561

<http://tcsl.org>

October 2016

The club's new website is up and running. Check it out [here](#).

President's Column

Do you know how TCSL has been able to keep its annual dues so low? Do you know why TCSL has not needed to raise its annual dues? The answers are pretty simple and it is the same answer for each question. TCSL has a terrific group of members who have volunteered year-in and year-out. Volunteers have helped at special events and on special projects (e.g., Milan Chamber of Commerce dinner, Women on Target, Spring/Fall cleanup, drafting/editing the newsletter, building a long range rifle range, building a new shed on the trap range, repairing roofs on the pistol ranges, breakfasts, entering volunteer hours, stuffing envelopes, taking water samples to pass health codes, etc.). There isn't enough space in this article to list all of the projects or events members have helped on over the past 77 years. Each of you is aware of other examples of work done by TCSL volunteers, all of which have been appreciated.

When you think about it, we are fortunate to have members who are so willing to roll up their sleeves, step forward and volunteer. Lance Monroe, our club manager, does a great job for us and he is the only TCSL employee. Volunteers over the years have been able to tackle projects / events so we have been able to avoid hiring additional employees or outside contractors. Actually, each year the number of volunteer hours worked by TCSL members has been increasing. In 2012, there were 14,344 volunteer hours. In 2013, there were 15,796 volunteer hours. In 2014, there were 19,522 volunteer hours. In 2015, there was a decline in volunteer hours and we had 18,480 volunteer hours. The decline in 2015 is easy to explain when you remember there were several weeks when the club had no water (e.g., well went out, pressure tank failed, water heater and water softener replaced and then delays in getting the water passed by the health department). As a result of the water problems at the club, it was not possible to hold events at TCSL for several weeks.

Jerry Chie does an outstanding job of renting out the club for special events. Each year TCSL brings in thousands of dollars from club rental and club events. The money allows TCSL to hold down dues and also helps maintain the club. TCSL is extremely fortunate to have the facilities, grounds, and ranges that provide us with the ability to generate money. Other clubs are forced to have higher annual dues or unable to have similar facilities/grounds/ranges. Volunteers helping maintain the ranges... *Continued* ↓

President's Column (Cont.)

and grounds keeps TCSL an attractive, appealing Sportsmen's Club both for potential members and for existing members.

Currently 12,975 volunteer hours been worked this year. It is the number of hours you have worked on or before November 30, 2016 that determines whether you meet the hours required by the TCSL Bylaws. It is also the number of hours you have worked on or before November 30, 2016 that determines whether or not you will get a discount on your 2017 – 2018 range pass. Don't forget if you have 25 – 49 volunteer hours, you will get a \$25 discount on an annual range pass. If you have 50 – 74 volunteer hours there is a \$50 discount on an annual range pass and 75 or more volunteer hours earns you a free annual range pass. Please go to the new web page (www.tcsl.org) and in the Members Only section you can check the number of hours you have worked so far this year. If you believe your hours are too low then contact the TCSL member that chaired the event/project you worked on and make sure your hours have been turned in.

As November 30, 2016 approaches, if you need volunteer hours either to meet your annual requirement or to get a discounted / free range pass, there are plenty of opportunities. TCSL has breakfasts, steak fry Fridays, weddings, reunions, Chamber of Commerce dinners, fall cleanup, etc. all scheduled for the next 6 – 8 weeks. You can sign up in the notebook at the club, contact the chair of the event, ask Lance, or ask any of the TCSL officers. However, please don't volunteer at all if you have any health conditions that would restrict you from having a great time with a great group of people because I guarantee you will enjoy yourself. Volunteering is also a way to keep up to date on what is happening at TCSL.

If you expected to see an article criticizing you or the membership for not helping out at these events or not volunteering enough, you will be disappointed. When help has been needed and I have asked for volunteers, each and every time members have stepped up. It is this attitude of the entire TCSL membership to volunteer that makes it such a privilege to be TCSL president. I sincerely thank you for all you have done to help the club and to insure a bright future for TCSL.

If you are interested in getting volunteer hours for helping to line up crews for events, please get in touch with me. As I said, Jerry does a great job of getting... *Continued* ↓

President's Column (Cont.)

events scheduled at TCSL. His responsibility is to rent the facilities. It would help him a lot if someone would take charge of lining up the right number of volunteers to show up at the right time at these events. When the summer projects were being tackled at the club, it would have been extremely helpful for the chair of the events (e.g., rifle range repairs, pistol range repairs, trap shed construction, etc.) to be able to contact one person who could coordinate getting the volunteers. If you are interested in being in charge of coordinating volunteers, let me know. This is a great way to earn volunteer hours without having to be at the club so those of you with a busy work/family schedule, health issues, or long commutes; this may be the perfect spot for you.

To the TCSL family, give yourself a pat on the back for a job well done and once again I say "Thank You" for all of the work each and every one of you does at the club.

See you at the club.

~Steve Reed

Memorial and Well-being

Venetia Lathers passed away September 22nd. She was a Tri-County Life member and joined the club in 1966 (50-year member). Her husband, Edwin Lathers, was also a TCSL member and he predeceased her. She created the Tri-County Lathers' Youth Fund/Scholarship and for years generously made donations to that fund. As her health declined and she was unable to travel she still closely followed the events at TCSL by reading each monthly newsletter. Please keep the family in your thoughts and prayers. Notify us of illness, loss, or good news by email at newsletter@tcsl.org.

November 2016 is Membership Drive Month

For each new member a TCSL member gets to join between November 1 and 30, 2016, the sponsoring member and the new member will each receive one ticket to be dropped into a bucket. On December 1, 2016 one ticket will be drawn from the bucket and the winner will receive a gift certificate for a free, four-hour 2017 charter fishing trip for four out of South Haven, Michigan (or another city close to South Haven). Tickets cannot be purchased, only earned by bringing in a new TCSL member.

Military Rifle Match Held

A **Military Rifle Match** using standard regiment (prone-sitting-standing) was held on Saturday, Sep-17th, 2016. Rifles represented at this month's match included **AR-15's, FN SCAR, HK 93, M1903 Springfield,** and a **Brazilian Model 1908 Mauser.** The winner of the match was Vic Thomas with a score of 324, 2nd place went to Chris Leite with a score of 321 and a tie for third place with a score of 319 went to Jacob Leite and Jeff Gage. Congratulations and thanks to all the participants for competing.



(Back Row) Paul Siska, Jacob Leite, Vic Thomas, Chris Leite, Gerry Marken (Front Row) Mark Smokowicz, Jeff Gage, Dave Vandermark.

Our last **Military Rifle Match** for 2016 using prone-sitting-standing regiment, will be held on Saturday, Oct-15, 2016. We will break for Thanksgiving and Christmas and resume with a winter benchrest match in Jan-Feb-Mar. Registration begins at 9:00 am and the match starts at 10:00am. The match is open to members \$10 and guests \$15. To compete bring a military style rifle (non-automatic), domestic or foreign, vintage or modern, 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. Winter matches will be bench rest.

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

Member Recognized by NRA

Member Gary Knechtel was recently honored with the Jay M. Littlefield

Memorial NRA-ILA Volunteer of the Year Award. Congrats Gary! More [here](#).



IDPA News

First, an important message: On Friday evening before the September match there were 7 volunteers helping to get the primary elements of the 5 stages set up. Steve Nesmith did a great job again designing the scenarios! So, I am leading with this story because I think it is very important for folks to understand an important aspect about IDPA shooting.

A Club member, Jeff, stopped by with his wife. Jeff was one of the team instrumental in helping build the berm 'eyebrows' and was describing to his wife all that went in to it. He said to me, "I like pistol shooting but I have not tried IDPA due to the competitive nature of the sport." OMG... I have written about this in previous articles but I really need to emphasize this again! I explained to Jeff... IDPA shooting for most attendees is about practicing moving and shooting in staged, real life scenarios. I am guessing on this based on my experience but, I would say 70% of us shoot for the practice. About 30% are shooting local matches, like we have at TCSL, to prepare for regional and State Matches. The thing about the more competitive shooters, is they all (except maybe 1%) love helping people improve their technique by offering kind, professional advice. It is about everyone helping each other become more skilled with the use of handguns. I also told Jeff, when I first started, I only shot at IDPA practice for about a year. When someone asked, "why don't you come shoot a match?" I replied, "I am not a competitive person really..." It was explained to me that the local matches are like practice night, the difference is that there are up to 5 or 6 different stages to shoot. The spirit and collaboration of all the people who come is the same as local practice. I finally shot a local match and then realized I should have started much sooner! So, if you are a non-competitive type like Jeff and me, don't let that hold you back from shooting IDPA! The only real problem with this sport is that once you try it, it becomes highly addictive!

About IDPA Scenarios: There are a wide variety of scenarios that are designed into the IDPA stages that are important and, that unless you shoot IDPA, you may not learn or practice! Some of them include: Drawing from a concealed holster—practicing removing your firearm quickly and safely from under a garment. Reloading—quickly changing pistol mags or revolver rounds during the course of fire. Proper use of cover—shooting around or over walls, barricades or through window ports. Weak or strong hand shooting—shooting with the left or right hand only. Sometimes while carrying a briefcase or while moving. Shooting from retention—removing your firearm and firing at a target from 'retention' at close range. Moving and Shooting—developing accuracy while moving and shooting at targets while walking from left to right or, forward or walking backwards. Long distance accuracy—some targets are up close but some, up to 20 yards max. Prone shooting—shooting under low cover at targets down range like, shooting under a vehicle. Moving and disappearing targets—hidden targets that come into view for a short time. The most important aspect... SAFETY! Check out YouTube videos to see the action.

People: Finally, having these matches requires the dedication of the shooters to help with the setup, take down, cooking, administration, coordination. IT help. A lot of man (people) hours go into this sport! Here is a photo of some of the folks helping this last match. Thanks to you all! (And to the many who were not able to make the photo op.) ~S. Graf



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Fall Club Cleanup is 9am-1pm, Sunday, October 16—Volunteers Needed
Bring Garden Tools. Text Ron Russell for info at 517-673-2731.



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



Off S. State St. south of Ellsworth Rd. and across the street from the Ann Arbor Airport

Other News

- **York Twp. Meetings**—Planning Commission, October 24; Board of Trustees, October 11; 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 October.
- **50/50 Raffle**—The winning ticket drawn at the September Board meeting was held by Jim Walters. Congrats Jim! Last raffle drawing of 2016 is on October 28 at the Steak Fry.
- **Volunteer Hours**—The November 30 year-end date for volunteer hours is rapidly approaching. Volunteer now!
- **Friends of the NRA** dinner committee is in need of help. If interested, please call Gary Knechtel at 734-218-0381, or email garyknechtel@reagan.com.

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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.

October 2016 TCSL Event Calendar

| 30 Sunday | 31 Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | 1 Saturday |
|--|---|--|---------------|--|---|--|
| Trap Noon-Done | Youth Air Rifle 6-8pm <i>Halloween</i> | Last Raffle Drawing of 2016 is on Steak Fry Night, October 28th! 50/50 raffle up to max prize of \$450. Tickets available at the bar now—only 100 sold per raffle | | | | CCW/CPL PPIH 8am-5pm |
| TCSL Breakfast 8-11:30am Trap Noon-Done | | | Trap 5-7pm | Advanced Firearms Handling (Military Personnel Only) 10am-8pm | Bolog Rehearsal Dinner 4-10pm | Bolog Wedding 8am-11pm Jr. Travel Trap Shoot (Both Ranges) 10am-6pm |
| 9 CCW/CPL PPIH 8am-5pm (Pistol House Closed Noon- 3pm); Handgun Shoot Noon-4pm; C. Olson Birthday Party 1pm Trap Noon-Done | 10 Youth Air Rifle 6-8pm <i>Columbus Day</i> | 11 | 12 Trap 5-7pm | 13 Education Committee Meeting 6:30pm | 14 | 15 New Member Orientation 9am-Noon Wicked Jeeps Event Noon-8pm |
| 16 Fall Club Cleanup 9am-1pm Membership Task Force Meeting Noon-1pm Trap Noon-Done | 17 Youth Air Rifle 6-8pm Safety Committee 6:30pm | 18 | 19 Trap 5-7pm | 20 Board & Member Meetings 6:30pm | 21 IDPA Setup 4-9pm Pistol Ranges Closed | 22 RSO Training 8am- 5pm: Military Shoot 9am-1pm (100yd Range Closed); IDPA Match 10am- 6pm Pistol Ranges Closed |
| 23 RSO Training 8am-5pm Handgun Shoot Noon-4pm Trap Noon-Done | 24 Youth Air Rifle 6-8pm | 25 | 26 Trap 5-7pm | 27 Veterans & Friends Dance 6-10pm | 28 Steak Fry 5-7pm <i>Raffle Drawing!</i> | 29 Basic Pistol 8am-5pm Basic Shotgun 8am-5pm |

November 2016 TCSL Event Calendar

| Sunday | Monday | 1 Tuesday | 2 Wednesday | 3 Thursday | 4 Friday | 5 Saturday |
|---|-------------------------------|--|-------------|--|---|---|
| | | | | | NRA Basic Instructor Training 10am-4pm | NRA Pistol Instructor 8am-5pm Shotgun Instructor 8am-5pm Milan Chamber Dinner 9am-Midnight |
| 6 TCSL Breakfast 8- 11:30am; CCW/CPL PPIH 8am-5pm; Handgun Shoot Noon- 4pm Trap Noon-Done <i>Daylight Time Ends</i> | 7 | 8 <i>Election Day</i> 7am-8pm VOTE! | 9 | 10 Education Committee Meeting 6:30pm | 11 <i>Veterans Day</i> | 12 CCW/CPL PPIH 8am-5pm |
| 13 Trap Noon-Done | 14 Safety Committee 6:30pm | 15 | 16 | 17 Board Meeting Only 6:30pm NO Member Mtg. | 18 | 19 New Member Orientation 9am-Noon |
| 20 Trap Noon-Done | 21 | 22 S. Marr Birthday Party 5-11pm | 23 | 24 <i>Thanksgiving</i> | 25 | 26 |
| 27 Trap Noon-Done | 28 | 29 | 30 | Contact Jerry Chie for hall rental information at sgchie@comcast.net or 734-483-8435, or call the club at 734-429-9561 | | |

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!