



## ON TARGET

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



### President's Column

Mid November the annual deer firearm season arrives. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources in its 2016 Michigan Deer Hunting Prospects report states in part as follows:

- Fewer hunters went deer hunting in 2015; however, there was a small increase in the number of deer that were harvested.
- In 2015, the number of successful hunters in the Upper Peninsula declined while there was an increase in the number of successful hunters. Four out of every ten hunters in the Lower Peninsula killed at least one deer.
- Expectations are that due to the harsh, long 2012, 2013, and 2014 winters there will continue to be fewer deer in the Upper Peninsula but the mild 2015 may end up resulting in the success of more hunters than last year.
- The number of 2.5–3.5 year old deer in the Upper Peninsula will be low, also as a result of the 2012–2014 harsh winters.
- The Lower Peninsula may have a slight increase in the number of deer killed.

When you get your deer this year take a photo and send it to us so we can post some on our webpage or in our newsletter.

You may enjoy the [2017 Michigan Deer & Turkey Expo](#) which is on Friday, February 17, 2017 through Sunday, February 19, 2017. It will be held at the Lansing Center, 333 E. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, MI 48933. There will be exhibitions, contests, and seminars.

At the upcoming November 17, 2016 Board meeting, a nominating committee will be approved by the board and given the task of trying to get the February 2017 ballot put together with candidates for each position. If you want to throw your hat into the ring, I would suggest you do so before the end of this year with the understanding that nominations can also be made from the floor at the January 2017 meeting.

John Kiddle has been the editor of the TCSL Newsletter, On Target, for a number of years. John has done an outstanding job, year-in and year-out, creating an attractive, informative newsletter. He has been able to get advertisers each month which has resulted in the newsletter generating money for the club. John is stepping down as the editor of the newsletter. First of all, I want to personally thank John for all of his efforts on the newsletter. Between catching errors, coming up with material...

*Continued ↓*

### President's Column (Cont.)

for the newsletter, putting up with presidents submitting their column late, correcting errors on the on-line calendar, etc. he has consistently drafted a professional product which has been mailed first class mail, available at the bar, and viewed on-line. If you have the skill set to create the newsletter and you are interested in earning your volunteer hours as the editor, please contact me at [steve@reedlawgroup.com](mailto:steve@reedlawgroup.com). In the meantime, when you see John at the club, give him a pat on his back for a job well done.

There is no membership meeting in November pursuant to our bylaws, but there is a board meeting. Feel free to come to the board meeting, keep current on TCSL and earn a volunteer hour.

See you on the ranges.

~Steve Reed

### New Trap Building Thanks



The new Trap Range Storage Building and improvements to the Warming House including new roof, soffit,

fascia, gutters, and interior improvements are finally complete. There have been several events held at the trap range since the project was undertaken and I assure you all that the response to the improvements has been overwhelmingly positive from members as well as outside guests. That is absolutely the best testament that any one of us could hope for.

I would like to thank all who donated their time, money, sweat, expertise, and patience to make this all come together. This project could not have come off as smoothly without the special efforts of Mike Cowhy and Dave DeNoyer whose framing and construction expertise put us weeks ahead of where we may have been otherwise. Not only did we have volunteers from the Trap Committee, but members from across the club, and non-members (one of which became a member) donated their time and knowledge to make this project such a huge success. I know of at least one teenager that worked on the project and would encourage all of our members to make the effort to encourage youngsters to come out and enjoy the shooting sports, lest we forget that they are the lifeblood of this club.

Thank you one and all.

Cordially, Paul Scowley

### Memorial and Well-being

Pam Hasselbach's mother passed away recently. Maudie Abraham's cousin, Jean Greer, passed away recently. Douglas Foltz of Dexter passed away October 15, 2016. He was 47 years old. Please keep the families in your thoughts and prayers. Notify us of illness, loss, or good news by email at [newsletter@tcsl.org](mailto:newsletter@tcsl.org).

### Military Rifle Match Held



A Military Rifle Match was held on October 22, 2016. Chris Leite took first place with a score of 319; Gerry Marken took 2nd with a score of 293; and 3rd place to Mark

Smokowicz with a score of 274. That event wraps up the summer portion of the Military Rifle match for 2016—congrats to all who participated throughout the year.

The entire season's results have been compiled and will be provided, look for it on the table at the clubhouse next time you stop by.

The next Military Rifle match will be held on January 21, 2017 and will be a bench rest match, 10 rounds for sight-in, and 10 rounds for score. Closest grouping wins the match. Watch for more info in upcoming newsletters.

### Senate Bill 570

Senate Bill 570 provides tax protection for charitable sportsmen's clubs and is fully supported by MUCC. The bill has been passed by the senate and is now in the house committee on tax. Members should urge their representatives to pass this bill. Click [here](#) to find your representative's contact information.

### 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.

## 2016 Pin Head Review

During this summer, Tri-County held six Bowling Pin Shoots on one of the action bays at the Pistol Range. This year over 240 shooters took the challenge by stepping up to the firing line, located 25 feet away from a table with five bowling pins on it. After being given the command to “load and make ready”, they waited for the words “shooter ready... stand by”, and at the sound of the beep from the shot timer, they quickly raised their firearm and began shooting until all five pins were knocked down. After unloading and making sure their firearm was safe, they were told by the range officer the results of their efforts.

Some shooters smiled, some sighed, but 99% of the time, they bought another chance to try again. Adrenalin, and the friendly rivalry in conversations, are the main ingredients that can be found at this type of event. Participants were members and non-members who brought along family and friends. In the end, no one was a loser. Building skills and confidence was another benefit of this event.

Listed below are the top shooters from each monthly match:

April—Fastest time of day- Earl Austin at 2.30 seconds; Fastest average for the day - Earl Austin at 2.63 seconds

May—Fastest time of the day- Tom Walter at 2.50 seconds; Fastest average for the day - Tom Walter at 2.88 seconds

June—Fastest time of the day- Earl Austin at 1.72 seconds; Fastest average for the day - Earl Austin at 2.1 seconds

July—Fastest time of the day - Earl Austin at 2.78 seconds (with revolver); Fastest average for the day - Earl Austin at 3.48 seconds (with revolver)

August—Fastest time of the day- Tom Walter at 2.37 seconds; Fastest average for the day - Tom Walter at 2.86 seconds

September—Fastest time of the day- Earl Austin at 1.93 seconds; Fastest average for the day- Earl Austin at 2.88 seconds

Thanks to all the people who came out to make this a safe and fun event. A special thanks to everyone who helped with the set-up and tear down at the range. Hope to see everyone next year and hopefully a lot more new shooters.

Thank you,  
Mike Cowhy



After eight years as newsletter editor, I've decided to step down. If you would be interested in working on TCSL's newsletter, contact Steve Reed at [steve@reedlawgroup.com](mailto:steve@reedlawgroup.com). Editing the newsletter is a great way to learn about the club, meet other members, and earn work hours. The main requirements are an ability to write (though it's more editing than writing) and knowledge of MS Word. ~John Kiddle

## IDPA at TCSL by Stefan Graf

Last week was the last IDPA match at TCSL. Attendance was lower, about 58 shooters, due to the colder weather. We had five stages and thankfully, the volunteers needed to run the match. We are all grateful for the time devoted by volunteers to setup, manage, and officiate the matches! There is a lot to be done each month to host all of the people that come to the club to shoot IDPA—website updates, stage designs, stage setup on Friday evenings, arriving early on Saturday to complete the setup, IT work for the score keeping (electronically), managing the sign in and money collection, food preparation, two Safety Officers per stage, Match Director, and finally teardown of the stages. Maintenance of the action bays and props used for shooting is ongoing but the love of this sport by so many people keeps the momentum up each season.

We will not be hosting IDPA shooting until next spring but other clubs run some winter matches and indoor ranges like Ann Arbor Arms, Top Gun, and the Firing Line offer moving and shooting sports and practice throughout the winter.

Our IDPA team is planning a fundraising event sometime this winter to help pay for new targets, props and supplies. Having some of the newer activated, moving props makes the sport more interesting and helps to promote the matches at TCSL. Watch the events calendar and plan to come to the fundraiser. We would appreciate your support!

### People

We would like to thank these two couples for their dedication and support each year. They are all certified IDPA Safety Officers and while they are not TCSL members, they volunteer to help our matches throughout the season.

**Paul and Sherryl** got started in IDPA when, after receiving his CPL, Paul took a drawing from the holster course that was taught by an IDPA Master Shooter. The instructor encouraged the class to try IDPA. Paul did and was very excited about the benefits of shooting the sport. He told Sherryl about it and she said, “I’m in!” They shoot about six live-fire matches or practices each month. They told me that what they like about shooting at TCSL is the “welcoming feeling” that they get from our members and staff.



**Bruce and Dianne** started shooting IDPA about 14 years ago to practice moving and shooting skill sets after they got their CPLs. They shoot on average eight times a month in the summer and about four times a month in the winter at five clubs in southeast Michigan that offer IDPA shooting. They enjoy TCSL because the technical scenarios are creative and challenging, there is shelter from the sun and rain on our action bay, and ... we offer BBQ lunch at each match! Thanks Tom!



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### Other News

- **York Twp. Meetings**—Planning Commission, November 14; Board of Trustees, November 15; 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**—Next one is January 27, 2017.
- **“I Support Blue” Signs**—The October Board approved sale of “I Support Blue” signs as a TCSL fundraiser. Watch here for details or check at the bar. Thanks to Ed Benko for developing the idea!
- **Mi-HUNT**—Find the perfect fall hunting spot with DNR's interactive, online mapping tool. Click [here](#).
- **Friends of NRA Dinner** is April 14, 2017. Volunteers are needed. If interested, please call Gary Knechtel at 734-218-0381, or email [garyknechtel@reagan.com](mailto: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.

## November 2016 TCSL Event Calendar

Sunday	Monday	1 Tuesday	2 Wednesday	3 Thursday	4 Friday	5 Saturday
			Pistol Night on Action Range 5-7pm NRA Meeting 7pm		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 <b>VOTE!</b>	9 Pistol Night on Action Range 5-7pm	10 Education Committee Meeting 6:30pm	11 <i>Veterans Day</i>	12 CCW/CPL PPIH 8am-5pm
13 Membership Task Force Noon-1pm Trap Noon-Done	14	15 <i>Regular Firearm Deer Season Opens</i>	16 Pistol Night on Action Range 5-7pm	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 Pistol Night on Action Range 5-7pm	24 <i>Thanksgiving</i>	25	26
27 Trap Noon-Done	28	29	30 Pistol Night on Action Range 5-7pm <i>Regular Firearm Deer Season Ends</i>	Contact Jerry Chie for hall rental information at <a href="mailto:sgchie@comcast.net">sgchie@comcast.net</a> or 734-483-8435, or call the club at 734-429-9561		

## December 2016 TCSL Event Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	1 Thursday	2 Friday	3 Saturday
						CCW/CPL PPIH 8am-5pm
4 TCSL Breakfast 8-11:30am Trap Noon-Done	5	6	7 Pistol Night on Action Range 5-7pm	8 Education Committee Meeting 6:30pm	9	10 Wicked Jeeps Upstairs Rental 3pm-Midnight
11 CCW/CPL PPIH 8am-5pm Bill Towler Party 3-10pm Trap Noon-Done	12 Safety Committee Meeting 6:30-8pm	13	14 Pistol Night on Action Range 5-7pm	15 Board & Member Meetings 6:30pm	16 Veterans & Friends Dance 6-10pm	17 New Member Orientation 9am-Noon
18 Lindemann Party 9am-6pm Trap Noon-Done	19	20	21 Pistol Night on Action Range 5-7pm	22	23	24
25  Trap Noon-Done <i>Christmas</i>	26	27	28 Pistol Night on Action Range 5-7pm	29	30	31  <i>New Year's Eve</i>

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!