



Tri-County Sportsmen's League • 8640 Moon Road, Saline, MI 481176 • 734-429-9561 • tcsl.org

President's Column

Happy New Year, January 2019!

This month we will hold a Board Meeting on Thursday, Jan 17th at 6:30pm, immediately followed by a Membership Meeting. It's also a Burger Night from 5:00 – 6:30 pm. We will also hold the presentation awards for Member of the Year, Associate Member of the Year, Leadership Award and Suggestion of the Year Award.

Next month will be the January Membership Meeting and it is special, called the "Annual Meeting". The Committee Chairs will give a brief annual report to the Membership. In addition, if you want to run for a seat on the board and to be included on the ballot for the February elections, the time to declare your intentions will be at the January Membership Meeting. Don't miss it, come early for a burger and you will also get hours for attending.

Elections will be held at the Annual Meeting on Thursday, Feb 21st, from noon until 8pm. Each member (regular, young adult, life, senior, probationary, or past president) in good standing, is entitled to one vote. If you need an absentee ballot, you will need to request one 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting, before January 22nd.

Need a refresher on TCSL rules or want to get up to speed on the changes that have been made over the years. When was the last time you took that class? The Orientation class is open to the membership and is held on a monthly basis. January's Ori-

entation will be held on Saturday, Jan 19th beginning at 9 am and lasts until approximately noon. You are invited to attend.

We made progress on the Creek Cover. Project Manager Paul Scowley headed up an assembly crew and completed 41 assemblies out of the 50 we need to fully cover the creek, until he ran out of materials. Will need to replenish materials and finish up the remaining units and get that creek covered. See article later in this issue with pics.



Dick Cupka led a "Visqueen Crew" and enclosed the north and south walls of the pistol house and installed storm doors on a 50 deg F, December Friday.

Can't thank enough those who helped with these projects.

Mark Smokowicz
president@tcsl.org



Positive Thoughts



While I was volunteering at the Ann Arbor Thrift Shop before Christmas, a young man came in to buy a sweater and dress pants. When it turned out that he didn't have enough money to cover the tax for both items, one of the clerks took the necessary money from our donation change so that he could purchase both items. He was very grateful and left the store. Less than five minutes later he came back. He had found a dollar in his coat pocket and wanted us to use it for the next person in need.

Simple acts of kindness are always returned when least expected!

Carol Parent
cbrklich25@hotmail.com

All members are invited—and encouraged—to contribute to this column.
Let's put more positive energy out there!!!

Women's Sport Shooting - 2019

Women Sport Shooting will kick off the 2019 season with an Air Rifle Shoot on Sunday, January 20. All of our matches are on Sunday afternoons from 1-3pm upstairs in the club. The fee is \$5.00 per person, and you can shoot as many rounds as you like. After everyone has shot a practice round, we will then shoot at regulation targets. The top three shooters will have bragging rights in the following month's newsletter! Now that is an incentive to come out and have some fun!

Future dates are:

January 20 • February 17 • March 10 • April 14

As the weather gets warmer, we will have outdoor events and are hoping to include Archery and Trap this year.

This past fall, a few of us joined the pistol shoot and had a great time. We look forward to joining them again this year and will post dates and times as they become available.

We welcome **everyone** at our events! The more the merrier! To reiterate: ALL—male, female, kids—are welcome. We are always open to suggestions and ideas for other types of shoots, and we welcome your questions.

contact:

Val Kabat, women.tcsl@gmail.com
Carol Parent, cbrklich25@hotmail.com
Sue Smokowicz, sue.smoke@comcast.net
Renee Tellas, ccw4pp@yahoo.com



HELP WANTED

Archery Committee Members

Kids on the Range Day Chair for 2020

Bartenders!

We need to build our band of merry bartenders to draw on for special events.

Kitchen Help, Servers, etc.

contact: Mark Smokowicz
president@tcsl.org

Memorial and Well-Being

Keep member Mike Johnston in your thoughts and prayers as he recovers after an emergency visit at St Joseph Mercy Hospital.

Member Steve Nesmith became a grandparent for the 3rd & 4th time with the birth of twin boys Wyatt & Carson.

Member Mark & Sue Smokowicz became grandparents again with the birth of Addison Mae.

Please email memorial and well-being announcements to newsletter@tcsl.org.



Ask TCSL

Can I shoot 50 BMG on TCSL ranges?

Neither a firearm chambered in .50 BMG nor one in fully automatic mode may be fired on TCSL property. No shooting of any wildlife is allowed on TCSL property or Ranges.

What type of targets can I use at TCSL?

Use only paper, cardboard, or clay pigeon targets on the Rifle Range and in the Pistol House. Newbold brand or other self-sealing targets 8" in diameter or smaller may also be used. Targets may depict generic images of animals or monsters. Targets used on the Rifle Range or in the Pistol House, except during a TCSL-sanctioned event, may not include a depiction of a human being. When such a target is allowed, it must depict a generic human being and not a public figure, politician, head of state, religious figure, person in religious garb, or child. The only steel approved steel targets on TCSL ranges are the plate racks located in Action Bay 2. (This does not include board-approved special events)

For complete TCSL rules visit tcsl.org/ranges-rules.

contact: Ken Ross
safety@tcsl.org

for Rent

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Dances

Memorials

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contact: Carol Parent
reservations@tcsl.org

Rent Our Range

contact: safety@tcsl.org



JOIN US!

New members welcome!

Rehearsals Begin

Thursday, January 24
7:30 pm

Emmanuel Lutheran Church
201 N. River, Ypsilanti
(rear entrance)

Spring Concert

Thursday, May 9 • 7:30 pm
Towsley Auditorium
Washtenaw Community College

Questions?

ypsicommchoir@gmail.com
ypsicommchoir.org

DryFire for Trap Training

When Roger Sacks passed away unexpectedly in July, his family suggested that memorial gifts be directed to the Saline High School Trap Team. These memorial gifts have been used to purchase a clay pigeon and game-shooting simulator called DryFire for training and indoor practice. In addition to allowing off-season practice by the high school team, we intend to use the simulator software as a tool for the NRA Basic Shotgun course and also for practice by Tri-County members. (How and when members will use the system is still under discussion.)

DryFire was developed in Derbyshire, England and supports all clay pigeon shooting disciplines. It allows you to use your own gun to shoot virtual targets indoors. An eighteen-foot wide screen depicting a trap range has been hung on the wall in Tri-County's ballroom. Using your own gun, a microswitch is attached to your trigger and DryFire's compact laser unit is inserted in your muzzle. You call "pull" to launch a clay and when you squeeze the trigger the muzzle insert will send a short pulse of infrared light, picked up by the camera on the DryFire simulator, to determine if the shot was a hit or miss.



DryFire has been designed using complex algorithms to simulate the realistic flight of targets, as well as the use of different ammunition and chokes.

The simulator projects a red laser target onto the screen. This laser target moves at the same trajectory and speed as a real clay target. We have been experimenting with the system and it is amazingly realistic!

To see the system in use, check out the following video on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Cp5yx1PIVY>.



Women on Target

Believe it or not it's planning time again for Women On Target! This year, we'll be hosting the event on June 8. All Range Leads, Ammo Chair, Kitchen Chair, and anyone else interested in our preparation meetings are urged to attend these meetings.

All regular meetings will be on the first Tuesday of the month at 6:00pm:

February 5 • March 5 • April 2

Volunteer Dinner: May 28 at 6:00pm.

At this meeting, we'll tie up any loose ends and answer any questions that need answering. **ALL VOLUNTEERS** (inside and out) should attend.

We will have raffle baskets as before for the ladies. If you would like to donate any items for the raffle tables and/or the volunteer raffle we would appreciate and happily receive them.

Registration for Women On Target will begin on April 1. Applications will be available online at TCSL.org and at the club. (Note: We cannot accept registration online.) All applications must be completed, signed, and returned with the \$80 fee. More information will follow in future newsletters.

Sponsors are needed to help defray the cost of Women On Target. This is a great way for members to advertise their businesses. Your business will be acknowledged the day of the event, on signage, and on our t-shirts. Thanks in advance for your consideration.

contact:

Carol Parent, cbrklich25@hotmail.com
Sharon Burkhardt, mudiblues@att.net
Sue Smokowicz, sue.smoke@comcast.net



Kids on the Range Day

Because the players are mostly the same for Women on Target and Kids on the Range Day, the Tuesday evening meetings (including the Volunteer Dinner) will be for both groups.

This seems like the best use of everyone's time and the most respectful of the busy schedules we all keep.

KORD volunteers will have one additional meeting - on Tuesday, July 9 - just in case. :)

contact: Val Kabat
KORD@tcsi.org



Education Committee

Upcoming Courses & Workshops

- Sat, Jan 5, 8am:
NRA Basic Pistol Shooting
- Sun, Jan 6, 8am:
CPL-NRA PPIH
- Thur, Jan 10, 6:30pm:
Education Committee Meeting. Open to members.
- Sat, Jan 12, 8am:
NRA Basic Pistol Instructor Training
- Mon, Jan 14, 7pm
Scouts BSA Troop Meeting
- Wed, Jan 16, 6pm:
Know Your Gun Workshop. Free to members and their guests. RSVP required.
- Mon, Jan 21, 7pm
Scouts BSA Troop Meeting
- Thur, Feb 14, 6:30pm:
Education Committee Meeting. Open to members.
- Wed, Feb 20, 6pm:
Know Your Gun Workshop. Free to members and their guests. RSVP required.

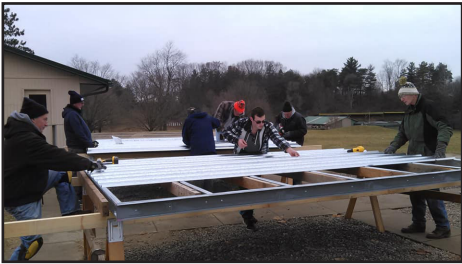
For more information about the Education Committee and events that it sponsors,

contact: Brian Craig
education@tcsi.org
or call or text 734-637-8000

Cover the Creek Project

Volunteers met on Saturday, December 8, to fabricate metal modules to “cover the creek.” When completed, the new modules will replace an aging wooden structure that was built years ago to prevent lead shot from entering the drain that cuts through the club’s property. Paul Scowley is the manager of this project. Additional work days will be scheduled in the future to complete this important project.

contact: Paul Scowley
p_scowley@hotmail.com



Monroe Youth Trap

The Youth Traveling Trap Team from Monroe shot at the TCSL trap range on December 1. They were joined by a couple of our youth from the Saline High School team. Each shooter shot one hundred targets, an Annie Oakley shoot, and enjoyed hot turkey sandwiches in the Trap clubhouse.



MUCC Legislative Roundup

SB 1035, Property Tax Exemption for Charitable Sportsmen's Clubs. Unfortunately, this was our biggest loss this session. When everything shook out, townships, municipalities and school districts were able to swing votes their way citing the unknown, potential loss of revenue. MUCC learned on Thursday morning that we were not going to have the votes in the House to get this to Gov. Snyder. This issue will continue to be a top priority for MUCC in 2019 as we look to rework the bill and make it feasible for all those involved. It will require reintroduction with a new bill number and must go through the process all over again.

HB 5321, Moratorium on the Sterilization of Game Species in Michigan. Gov. Snyder signed Rep. Cole's bill into law earlier this week, and it was a bill that Michigan United Conservation Clubs helped to craft and get across the finish line. HB 5321 did meet resistance, but the compromise language provides a four-year moratorium preventing the DNR from issuing "research permits" that allow the sterilization of game species. After four years, it will be up to the DNR, NRC and stakeholders to decide if sterilization is an effective method of managing game species using the "research" outcomes gained in Ann Arbor during the city's ongoing sterilization project. MUCC is optimistic that scientific research will not validate sterilization as an effective tool for the management of game species, and that hunters will continually be the primary managers of Michigan's game species.

Michigan Pheasant Hunter Initiative. MUCC was informed early this morning that our request for supplemental funding did make it into the final budget bill, **SB 601**. The supplemental appropriations bill will now head to Gov. Snyder who will have the ability to sign, or line-item veto certain parts of the the legislation. This initiative was a 2017 MUCC resolution that passed unanimously through our Annual Convention. The initiative looks to create more pheasant hunting opportunities on state lands in Michigan.

SB 1211, Dubbed Casperson's "Wetland Destruction Act." Initially, MUCC was opposed to this bill along with numerous other conservation groups throughout Michigan. In its final form after midnight today, MUCC, along with many of our partners who have worked tirelessly on this bill, stands neutral. Most of the language weakening wetland protections that raised flags throughout the environmental and conservation communities has been removed. MUCC Deputy Director Amy Trotter said, "Sportsmen and environmental organizations teamed up together on direct and grassroots advocacy to drain the 'wetland destructions act.'" Currently, this bill is awaiting Gov. Snyder's decision.

HB 5854-5855, Voluntary Wetland Restoration Program. Not to be confused with the above, this proactive legislation spearheaded by Ducks Unlimited, sponsored by Reps. Howell and Bellino and supported by MUCC heads to the Governor to create a program to streamline permits for voluntary wetland restoration work done by an agency or non-governmental organization.

SB 1145. This bill would have allowed the harvest of lake trout by commercial fishermen, which has been prohibited since the 1960s. This Sen. Casperson bill, if passed, could have had serious ramifications for not only lake trout, but also could interfere with the upcoming tribal negotiations on the Great Lakes Consent Decree beginning next year. MUCC stood with the charter boat industry, Trout Unlimited, the Michigan Steelhead and Salmon Fishermen's Association, and Hammond Bay Area Anglers in opposition and stopped this bill from coming out of committee. We look forward to working together in 2019 on comprehensive updates to the commercial fishing law.

SB 1258-1259. Unfortunately, the recreation passport opt-out was a late-introduced bill that never got legs in the House, after passing the Senate last week. This legislation would have every vehicle automatically pay for the recreation passport unless the owner opted out, potentially raising more funding for state and local parks operations and maintenance. MUCC will continue to look for long-term funding opportunities to ensure our parks and recreation infrastructure can be maintained into the future.

SJR O, SB 763, SB 931-932. This package introduced by Sens. Casperson, Hansen and Booher, in its final version, was widely supported by the conservation and recreation community and made changes to capture the next rollover of the oil and gas revenues, currently going into the State Parks Endowment Fund (SPEF), to put them back into the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund once SPEF reaches its cap. SJR O will be a constitutional amendment on the 2020 ballot to increase the flexibility of the funding to invest in both land acquisition and recreational development projects.

HB 6123. After yet another battle earlier this year over potentially dangerous changes to our water withdrawal law, this bill led by Michigan Trout Unlimited seeks to reauthorize the water use advisory council to make recommendations to the state on improvements that can be made on the use of data and models, and to the process for using the water withdrawal assessment tool. MUCC supports this legislation that was sent to the Governor this morning. Michigan United Conservation Clubs would again like to thank you for your support throughout the last few weeks. Our membership is what makes us strong and able to accomplish so much in Michigan's conservation realm. The staff and I would like to wish you a happy holiday season and a prosperous new year. We look forward to returning stronger than ever in 2019 and to get to work on your behalf as the insiders for your outdoor traditions.

Yours in Conservation,
Nick Green, MUCC Public Information Officer

For any questions or comments, please email
Nick Green. ngreen@mucc.org
or MUCC Deputy Director Amy Trotter, atrotter@mucc.org.

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January 2019 - TCSL Event Calendar

Information subject to change; please check the online calendar: tcsl.org.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 	2 10am-Range Time-Rifle	3 9am-Dance Lessons 6:30pm-Friends of the NRA Mtg	4  National Spaghetti Day	5 8am-NRA Basic Pistol Shooting
6 8am-Hearty Breakfast- Public Invited 8am-CPL-NRA PPIH Noon-Trap	7 9am-Dance Lessons 7pm-Scouts BSA Troop Mtg	8	9 10am-Range Time-Pistol 6pm-Air Rifle Marksmanship	10 9am-Dance Lessons 5pm-Burger Night 6:30pm-Education Committee Mtg	11 5pm-Dance Party	12 9am-Military Rifle Match 10am-NRA Basic Instructor Training
13 8am-NRA Basic Pistol Instructor Training Noon-Trap	14 9am-Dance Lessons	15	16 10am-Range Time-Rifle 6pm-"Know Your Gun" Workshop (RSVP Required)	17 9am-Dance Lessons 5pm-Burger Night 6:30pm-Board Mtg 7pm- Membership Mtg	18	19 9am-New Member Orientation
20 Noon-Trap 1pm-Women's Air Rifle - All are Invited!	21 9am-Dance Lessons 6:30pm-Safety Committee Mtg	22	23 10am-Range Time-Pistol 6pm-Air Rifle Marksmanship	24 9am-Dance Lessons	25 5pm-Flame-Broiled Steak Fry-Public Invited	26
27 Noon-Trap	28 9am-Dance Lessons 7pm-Scouts BSA Troop Mtg	29  National Corn Chip Day	30 10am-Range Time-Rifle	31 9am-Dance Lessons	<div> For hall rental information, contact Carol Parent cbrklich25@hotmail.com 734-417-6895. Or call the Club at 734-429-9561 </div>	

February 2019 - TCSL Event Calendar

Information subject to change; please check the online calendar: tcsl.org.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Range & Clubhouse Hours Rifle & Pistol Ranges: Monday-Saturday, 10am-8pm or dusk Sunday, noon-8pm or dusk Clubhouse: Sunday-Tuesday, noon-6pm Wednesday-Saturday, 10am-6pm				1	2  Groundhog Day
3 8am-Hearty Breakfast- Public Invited Noon-Trap	4 9am-Dance Lessons 7pm-Scouts BSA Troop Mtg	5	6 10am-Range Time-Pistol	7 9am-Dance Lessons	8 5pm-Dance Party	9 8am-NRA PPIH Instructor Training
10 Noon-Trap	11 9am-Dance Lessons 7pm-Scouts BSA Troop Mtg	12 3pm-Milan Rotary Club Christmas Party	13 10am-Range Time-Rifle 6pm-Air Rifle Marksmanship	14 9am-Dance Lessons 6:30pm-Education Committee Mtg	15  National Gumdrops Day	16 9am-Military Rifle Match
17 Noon-Trap 1pm-Women's Air Rifle - All are Invited	18 9am-Dance Lessons 6:30pm-Safety Committee Mtg 7pm-Scouts BSA Troop Mtg	19	20 10am-Range Time-Pistol 6pm-"Know Your Gun" Workshop (RSVP Required)	21 9am-Dance Lessons Noon-Elections for TCSL Officers & Board 5pm-Burger Night 6:30pm-Board Mtg 7pm-Membership Mtg	22 5pm-Flame-Broiled Steak Fry-Public Invited	23 9am-New Member Orientation
24 Noon-Trap	25 9am-Dance Lessons 7pm-Scouts BSA Troop Mtg	26	27 10am-Range Time-Rifle 6pm-Air Rifle Marksmanship	28 9am-Dance Lessons		