



Tri-County Sportsmen's League • 8640 Moon Road, Saline, MI 48176 • 734-429-9561 • [tcsl.org](http://tcsl.org)

### President's Column

Happy New Year!! I hope everyone was able to enjoy the Holidays and had some time to relax.

I find it hard to believe 2022 is here already, and even harder to believe that we are still dealing with COVID. That said, I am hopeful and optimistic that 2022 will be great, and that we will be able to get back to our normal ways of doing things.

I want to extend a big thanks to everyone that has volunteered at TCSL this past year. It is your efforts and contributions that have kept us in a good place despite all the challenges we have faced. I also want to thank everyone that has made donations to the club. The TCSL Booster Club is one of the big reasons we have been able to weather the financial challenges the pandemic has created for us.

As we look towards 2022, I am hopeful that we will continue to see an increase in activity at TCSL. We are on track for the return of long time TCSL activities like Women On Target and Kids on the Range Day, as well as already seeing some increases in Hall Rental reservations and plans for shooting events. All of these events will require volunteers, so keep an eye out for meeting invites and calls for assistance.

Our next Board and Membership meetings are on January 20th in person at the clubhouse. We may try to set up a Zoom option for those unable to attend in person—pending a working tech solution for that.

The January Board meeting is the last opportunity for us to accept nominations for Officers or Board members. Nominations will be accepted from the floor, and the nominated party must be present to accept the nomination or do so in writing ahead of time. We currently have nominees for all positions except Recording Secretary, which is an Officer's role. If you are interested, or know someone who would be good at that, please let me or Mark know, and be prepared for nominations at the meeting. If you have any questions about the role, feel free to ask Stuart Berry, our current Recording Secretary.

The January Membership meeting will include reports from each Range and Activity Chair, summarizing their activities for the previous year.

Elections will occur in February. Please see the additional information in the Newsletter.

Be well, stay safe, and lets make 2022 a year to celebrate!

[Carlos Soto](#)  
1st Vice President

### Safety at TCSL

As we begin 2022, I'd like to wish everyone a happy and safe new year. It's been a while since I've written an article for the newsletter, and there are few things that the Safety Committee would like to pass on to the members.

First, you may have noticed that the firing line has been moved on a couple of the action bays. The walls of the action bays are made of lapped wood, and the area between is filled with crushed stone. This assures that rounds cannot get out of each bay. You may notice that the last 12 feet is plywood. The plywood areas were filled with much finer pea gravel. Over time the plywood has separated from the support posts and the pea gravel has run out at the seams. That leaves only two pieces of plywood separating the bays at the previous firing line—causing a safety concern. This situation was discovered by a member and reported to the Safety Committee in November. We immediately moved the firing line to a point where the stone still fills the void. This is an interim step until we can do a full and proper repair. Due to the winter weather and availability of volunteers, that won't be completed until sometime this spring.

A lesson learned from this situation is that members may notice issues before any range chairs, officers, or committee members. To borrow a phrase from the police community "If you see something, say something." Please feel free to email the Safety Committee at [Safety@TCSL.org](mailto:Safety@TCSL.org). Someone will follow up on any issue that is reported.

The next item I want to bring to everyone's attention is the new range hours. Shooting may NOT begin UNTIL 10am on Monday through Saturday and noon on Sunday. That remains the same, but there has been a change in the ending time. Previously, the rules said "Dusk or 8pm, whichever comes first." The new ending time is **SUNSET or 8pm, whichever comes first.** The times of sunset for Saline are posted in the entry area of the clubhouse, or you can consult an app on your phone. Just make sure you put "Saline" as the location. The change to "SUNSET" is more specific and should result in less confusion. Sunset times are readily available via an app on your phone. "Dusk" may mean different things to different people.

Finally, I want to remind everyone about target placement. We continue to see damage to beams and overhead wood. We also see evidence of skips off the ground. Remember, your target should be placed at the same level that your muzzle will be when shooting. In the pistol house, the ground, where the target stands are located is BELOW the level of the floor at the firing line. If you place a target at shoulder height, at the target stand, you will be pointing DOWN when standing at the firing line. Also, if you change shooting position (sitting, standing) your target location should change too. If, after setting targets and assuming firing position, your muzzle isn't relatively parallel to the ground, you need to adjust your target. Also remember the gun safety rule "know your target and what is in front and behind it." There should be NOTHING in front, and a clear view of the berm (and only the berm) behind it.

I hope you find this information helpful in understanding—from a safety perspective—what is going on at YOUR club. If you have any questions please email [safety@tcsl.org](mailto:safety@tcsl.org).

[Tom Lewandowski](#)  
TCSL Safety Chairman

## White Elephant Rifle Match Held

Our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual White Elephant Rifle bench match was held on Saturday December 11<sup>th</sup> at the 100-yard rifle range with 5 shooters.

Results of the match:

Place	Shooter	Rifle	Round	Score	Adj. Score
1st Place	Ed Benko	M1 Garand	308 Win	195-8x	195-8x
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Dave Vandermark	1903A3 Springfield	30/06	185-4X	186-4X
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Jeff Gage	AR-15	223 Rem	182	186
	Jerry Marken	M1A	308 Win	173-2x	176-2x
	Dave Harris	AR-15	223 Rem	176	171

This was called a 'White Elephant' match because there was some random 'gifting' involved. Before scoring rounds, shooters drew a number from a hat to establish an order, and then in that order picked from a selection of sealed, unmarked envelopes. Each shooter had the option of picking an envelope from the stack, or taking one from a shooter who had already picked. If their envelope was taken, then that shooter had to pick another from the stack. After the second round, scores were tallied and the envelopes opened. Each envelope had instructions for whether to add or subtract to your or another shooter's score. What you see as the Adjusted Score was the result of these changes. All in all, it was a pretty amazing display of shooting.

Our next Rifle Match will be held on Saturday, January 15<sup>th</sup> (a 100yd Bench Match) and is open to all TCSL members and guests. Registration starts at 9am and the match begins at 10am. A short safety briefing will be held prior to the match. Fees for the match will be \$10 for members and \$15 for guests. You can compete with any military style rifle (no full autos), foreign or domestic, modern or vintage, with iron sights or scope.

The upcoming winter matches are conducted from the bench rest, and course of fire is 10 rounds sight-in over a period of 10 minutes followed by 10 rounds for score over a period of 10 minutes. Highest score wins. Bring 20 rounds of safe ammunition, safety or shooting glasses, hearing protection, registration fee and appropriate warm clothing. A spotting scope is useful, and you may also bring rests or other positioning gear. Some rests, blocks and sand bags are available.

**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 further information or questions contact Dave Vandermark at [rifle@TCSL.org](mailto:rifle@TCSL.org).

## Membership

Five new applicants were presented to the Board of Directors for approval. They include:

Audrey Barkel  
Christian Groom  
Larry R Jones II  
Tristan Lowery  
Philip McIntire  
Alex Smith

Audrey is the wife of late member Barry Barkel. She has requested to have his membership transferred to her, and Club bylaws allow this. Christian is an active military member, and the others are regular probationary members.

Larry R Jones II, Tristan Lowery, and Philip McIntire also attend the recent orientation and, with the approval of their applications by the Board of Directors, are no longer probationary members of the club. Please join me in welcoming them.

As you are aware, we are in the midst of annual renewals. Please remember to sign the waiver at the bottom of the page. I will be printing new badges and sending them out every 7 to 10 days. You should receive your new badge within 2 to 4 weeks of the time you send in your renewal. You are also welcome to pay by credit card at the Club house when it is open.

If you're able, please consider adding a donation to the Booster Club to your renewal form before you return it.

Thanks

[Charlie Unbehaun](#)  
[Membership Secretary](#)

## 2022 Rifle Match Schedule

- 1/15 - 100 yd High Power Bench Match
- 2/19 - 100 yd High Power Bench Match
- 3/19 - 100 yd March Madness Match
- 4/16 - 100 yd 22LR Bench Match
- 5/7 - Lever Action Match
- 5/21 - Military Match
- 6/11 - Military Match (date may change)
- 7/2 - Trench Match
- 7/16 - Military Match
- 8/6 - Cavalry Match
- 8/20 - Military Match
- 9/3 - 185 yd Bench Match
- 9/17 - 100 yd 22LR Bench Match
- 10/1 - Trench Match
- 10/15 - Military Match
- 10/29 - 100 yd 22LR Bench Match
- 11/19 - 185 yd Bench Match (starts at noon)
- 12/17 - White Elephant Match



Michigan United Conservation Clubs is the largest statewide conservation organization in the nation. Founded in 1937, our mission is to unite citizens to conserve, protect and enhance Michigan's natural resources and outdoor heritage. This mission drives everything we do as an organization.

You can help ensure that MUCC exists for generations of hunters, anglers and outdoorsmen yet to come, whether you choose to get involved or are looking for ways to give.

Use our online donation form as a secure and convenient way to support the work MUCC does.

Click here to a [Donate Now](#)  
Or, go to [mucc.org](http://mucc.org)

## TCSL RANGE HOURS

**Monday-Saturday:**  
Shooting may begin  
no earlier than 10am

**Sunday:**  
Shooting may begin  
no earlier than 12noon

**Every Day:**  
Shooting must cease  
by 8pm or sunset, whichever  
occurs earlier.

## TCSL Sales

Brass and Rummage sales at TCSL brought in **\$5,626.99** to the club in 2021—our best year ever (by far). Thank you to everyone who donated, shopped at the sales, and put their spent casings in the bins; it makes a huge difference! Keep your eyes and ears open for our next sale, probably sometime late Spring 2022. As always, any donations of outdoor-related gear or tools is much appreciated. Contact Dave Vandermark at [rifle@tcsl.org](mailto:rifle@tcsl.org) to set it up, or drop the items (boxed or bagged and marked "attn: Dave V.") at the club with Lance.

[Dave Vandermark](#)



## Booster Club

### DONATE TO

*Tri-County Sportsmen's League*

Suggested donations:

\$10 \$50 \$100

Or choose your amount.

You can also make this a recurring, monthly donation.

To donate via PayPal, scan the QR Code below with your smart phone or tablet.



Or mail a check to:

*Tri-County Sportsmen's League*

*Attn: Booster Club*

8640 Moon Road, Saline, MI 48176



The mission of the Booster Club is to raise funds to supplement TCSL's traditional funding through member dues. These funds will help to ensure that TCSL can continue to: Promote sportsmen and women in the betterment of hunting, fishing, hiking, camping, boating, shooting.

- Host social activities for our members.
- Provide leadership for our youth.
- Participate in citizen action in the legislative process.
- Protect our environment.

## From the DNR and TCSL Hunter Education Commity

### General Safety Reminders

- Tell someone the specific time, duration, and location that you will be hunting; and schedule check-in times. Update your contact if plans change. Medical incidents are unplanned, so staying in contact with someone who knows your plan could save your life.
- Hunt with a partner and know your zone-of-fire.
- Carry a two-way communication device—such as a phone or two-way radio—that receives service in remote areas. Ensure the device is always within reach in case you need to call for help.
- Hunting on or near water? Wear your life jacket.

### Firearms

- Keep the safety of your firearm on until you are prepared to take your shot.
- Treat every firearm as if it is loaded.
- Keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction at all times.
- Be aware of your surroundings – know your target and what is beyond it.
- Put your finger on the trigger only when you are ready to shoot.
- Don't use your scope as binoculars – only point your firearm at something you intend to shoot.
- Unload the firearm when crossing obstacles and/or getting in or out of a tree stand.
- Check the barrel and ammunition to ensure they are clear from any obstructions and use the proper ammunition.
- Do not drink alcohol or use any mind-altering substances when hunting – including marijuana and/or medications.
- Firearms in the home should be unloaded and securely stored separate from the ammunition.
- When transporting firearms in vehicles make sure that they are unloaded and in a case.

### Tree Stands

- Using your hands and feet, maintain three points of contact at all times when ascending or descending into a tree stand
- Always use a full body harness that is attached to a secure fall line positioned above your head.
- When lifting your firearm or crossbow into a tree stand, use a secure pull system (such as a rope) and make sure it is unloaded and the safety is on. Do not attach anything to the trigger guard.
- Refrain from using screw-in steps on tree stands that are located on public land.
- Ensure your tree stand is securely attached and stable prior to using it.

### Hunter Orange & Trespassing

- Obey no trespassing signs - they are there for a reason.
- If your game goes onto property marked as "no trespassing," you must have the landowner's permission to retrieve your game.
- The DNR recommends that you wear as much hunter orange as possible to increase your visibility - orange and other colors do not impact deer's behavior.
- Hunter orange should be worn as the outermost layer of clothing and must be visible from all directions. Options include:

Cap - Hat - Vest - Jacket - Raincoat

- Hunter orange garments (including camouflage) must be at least 50 percent hunter orange to meet the legal requirements.
- If you are recreating outdoors near hunting areas, wear hunter orange so you can be seen by hunters.

### Stay safe and have Happy New Year

[The Hunters Education Committee](#)  
[Jon N Yost](#)

### February Newsletter

Absolute deadline for article submission:

January 24

[newsletter@tcsl.org](mailto:newsletter@tcsl.org)

**WELCOME**  
**2022**





## Country Breakfasts Return to Tri-County Sportsmen's League!

**Sunday, January 9  
8-11:30am**

**Come Enjoy Breakfast with Friends.**

**Open to the Public.  
It's a great place to meet old friends  
and make new ones.**

**\$8 for adults  
\$4 children (12 and under)  
Children under 5 are FREE**

**Two more breakfasts coming up:  
February 6, March 6**

**Tri-County Sportsmen's League  
8640 Moon Road, Saline, MI 48176**

## HAAB'S RESTAURANT

**18 West Michigan Avenue  
Ypsilanti, Michigan  
734-483-8200 • Haabs@provide.net  
www.HaabsRestaurant.com**

*Supporting the Community for  
More Than 80 Years*

### 2021 Rifle Match Season Results

Below are the final season standings for the 2021 Rifle match Season. For each match held, first place was 5 points, second place was 3 points, and third place was 1 point.

1. Dave Harris	48
2. Jerry Marken	34
3. Dave Vandermark	33
4. Mark Smokowicz	23
5. Chris Leite	18
6. Ed Benko	15
7. Brad Orr	8
8. Jeff Gage	7
9. Tom DeVries	7
10. Larry Jackson	5
11. Demaris Sufalko	5
12. Loylle Settlemire	3
13. Sandy Walke	1
14. Matt Orr	1

You probably won't win if you can't shoot, but you can't win if you don't shoot!

[Dave Vandermark](#)



## TCSL STEAK FRY



**Friday, January 28, 5-7pm**

**At Tri-County Sportsmen's League  
8640 Moon Road, Saline**

Take the night off from cooking and join us.  
This is the best dinner money can buy!

Open to the public, so bring friends and family along.  
Great time to connect with other TCSL members!

Choose from a Steak, Chicken or Salmon,  
and watch it get cooked over a huge outdoor grill.  
Then choose from an assortment of side dishes.

Meal includes:  
Salad, Roll, Potatoes, Vegetable, Baked Beans, and Dessert.

Now offering kids meals:  
Hamburger or Hot Dog, Mac & Cheese.

Steak Dinner . . . . . \$20.00  
Salmon Dinner . . . . . \$15.00  
Chicken Dinner . . . . . \$10.00  
Children (12-5) . . . . . \$ 6.00  
Children (under 5) . . . . . Free

### From the Treasurer

Just a reminder—when you renew your membership—you can donate to the TCSL Booster Club.

We have received many 2022 renewals that included a gift to the Booster Club. Thank You!

The Booster Club was started in May of 2020 with the idea that we may need to raise funds to meet operating expenses during the COVID-19 shut-down. Many members made donations and some setup monthly, recurring PayPal donations.

Since its inception, members have donated \$20,729!

We did use some funds in September 2021 to cover major expenses during a time of the year when income tails off. The Booster Club balance is currently \$8,200.

The Booster Club provides a cash reserve and eliminates the need for short-term borrowing.

Thank you to all that have supported the TCSL Booster Club!

[John Harden](#)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 RSO On Duty:	27 12pm - Friends of 7pm - BSA Troop	28	29 RSO on Duty: Mark 10am - Wednesday	30 12pm - Friends of	31	1
2 RSO On Duty:	3 RSO on Duty: Mark 12pm - Friends of	4	5 RSO on Duty: Mark 10am - Wednesday	6 12pm - Friends of	7	8
9 8am - Breakfast at	10 12pm - Friends of	11	12 10am - Wednesday 6:30pm - Gun Safety	13 12pm - Friends of 6:30pm - Education	14	15 9am - New Member 10am - High Power
16 8am - NRA CCW	17 12pm - Friends of 6:30pm - Safety 7:30pm - Finance	18	19 10am - Wednesday	20 12pm - Friends of 5pm - Burger Night 6:30pm - Board 7pm - Membership	21	22
23	24 12pm - Friends of	25	26 10am - Wednesday	27 12pm - Friends of	28 5pm - Flame Broiled	29
30	31 12pm - Friends of	1	2 10am - Wednesday	3 12pm - Friends of	4	5 8am - Michigan CPL

**Very Important:** For up-to-date information, please see the [online calendar](#).

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	31 12pm - Friends of	1	2 10am - Wednesday	3 12pm - Friends of	4	5 8am - Michigan CPL
6 8am - Breakfast at	7 12pm - Friends of	8	9 10am - Wednesday 6:30pm - Gun Safety	10 12pm - Friends of 6:30pm - Education	11	12
13	14 12pm - Friends of 6:30pm - Safety 7:30pm - Finance	15	16 10am - Wednesday	17 12pm - Friends of 5pm - Burger Night 6:30pm - Board 7pm - Membership	18	19 10am - High Power
20 8am - NRA CCW	21 12pm - Friends of	22	23 10am - Wednesday	24 12pm - Friends of	25 5pm - Flame Broiled	26
27	28 12pm - Friends of	1	2 10am - Wednesday	3 12pm - Friends of	4	5 8am - Michigan CPL