



Tri-County Sportsmen's League • 8640 Moon Road, Saline, MI 48176 • 734-429-9561 • tcsl.org

President's Column

The holiday season is now in our rearview mirror, and the days are slowly—ever so slowly—staying light a little longer.

When you're daydreaming, visions of last year's shooting activities probably come to mind, perhaps even visions of purchasing a new firearm or crossbow. If you're an active TCSL member, your memories include discussing shooting sports, working on TCSL projects, or participating in TCSL activities with other members. My guess is that, as you drove away from TCSL after any of these activities, you were just in a little better mood—as were those you interacted with. That's why TCSL will celebrate its 86th birthday this year. It's not a closely guarded secret that TCSL members and activities are enjoyable for a wide range of members' ages.

I am not going to try get you to contribute more volunteer hours, to step-up and chair a committee or activity (i.e., newsletter chair,). My belief is that someone will step up if it is an activity is important to the Club. I do not criticize those who do not step up. Our lives are full, and there's a long list of things that have to take priority. We often don't know what's going on in another member life that might limit their availability for volunteering..

Instead of asking you to step-up for volunteer hours or positions, I'm going to ask you to do one thing in the new year: If you are already coming to TCSL to shoot or for an event, once in 2025, bring a guest with you. If everyone did this—just once—in 2025, several hundred new individuals would become familiar with TCSL. Some of these guests may join, some may refer TCSL to a friend looking for a new range, etc. This does not cost any member any additional time, since you are only bringing a guest when you are already coming to TCSL. If we all do this at least one time this year, it is extremely likely that TCSL will celebrate another 86 years,

I would like to personally thank all of the members this year who while I was President, without being asked, offered to do a wide assortment of tasks throughout this last year as my health issues became more and more challenging. To say TCSL has an outstanding group of members would be a big understatement.

Be safe while shooting and think spring.

[Steve Reed, president@tcsl.org](mailto:Steve.Reed@tcsl.org)

Membership

Two people submitted applications in October:

Dan McNamara - Probationary
Andrew McNamara - Junior

Four people attended orientation this month:

Deandre Ellis - Probationary
Michael Gluck - Probationary
Matthew Lang - Probationary
Dan McNamara - Probationary

Please welcome them to the Club!

We currently do not have any orientation sessions scheduled for January. Please keep an eye on the Club calendar for dates in the future. I will send an email to new applicants who need orientation a week or so before the date. We have a couple of requests for a weekday orientation. If you would like to attend then, please let me know about possible date and time options.

We are starting the annual renewal cycle. In theory, by the time you read this your renewal notice has been sent.

Current probationary members' renewal notices will be sent to them 4 to 6 weeks before their membership expires. Please check your membership card for the expiration date.

The current membership includes 25 Associates, 5 Juniors, 21 Life Members, 48 Probationary, 7 Past Presidents, 2 Probationary Young Adults, 217 Regular Members, 71 Seniors, and 4 Young Adults. This totals 403.

If you have any questions about renewals or volunteer hours, please contact me at membership@tcsl.org.

Thanks,

[Charlie Unbehan](mailto:Charlie.Unbehan@tcsl.org)
Membership Secretary

JANUARY



Rob Struk
REALTOR®

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Office: (313) 274-7200 Ext. 253
Fax: (313) 274-6268
Email: robert.struk@gmail.com

1992-2021 Office





"LIST WITH A GOLD COAT"
BRANDY STRUK

Annual Meeting - Board Election

The 2025 Board Election will be held at the Annual Meeting on Thursday, February 20, 2025.

Absentee Ballots

If you are not certain that you will be able to attend the February 20 meeting to vote in person, you should request an absentee ballot now. Absentee ballots must be requested on or before January 21, 2025. To receive an absentee ballot, mail your request, along with a self-addressed, stamped envelope, to the Club at:

Tri-County Sportsmen's League
ATTN: Absentee Ballots
8640 Moon Rd.
Saline, MI 48176

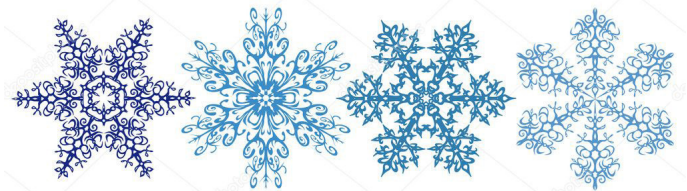
You may also drop off your request for an absentee ballot, along with a self-addressed, stamped envelope, at the Club by January 21. Your ballot will be mailed to you after candidates are finalized at the January 21 meeting.

Your completed absentee ballot must be received at the Club by February 20, 2025.

Nominations

Nominations for 4 regional directors (1 from each geographic region), as well as all Officer positions will be finalized at the January 16 membership meeting. If you would like to run for the Board or nominate someone for a seat, you may do so at the January meeting or you may send word at any time before the meeting to: secretary@tcsl.org. Please include your name, member number, and phone number.

[Carol Grubb, secretary@tcsl.org](mailto:Carol.Grubb_secretary@tcsl.org)



MUCC News

Don't miss out! This is an amazing opportunity for you and a friend to get the once-in-a-lifetime experience of watching the Super Bowl in person! Add in the flight voucher, hotel stay, and VIP experiences, and you're geared up for one of the best weekends of your life! Buy tickets (\$100 each) today at mucc.org/superbowl.

WIN TWO TICKETS TO THE SUPER BOWL!

Ticket Package Includes:

- Two (2) tickets to Super Bowl LIX in New Orleans
- Three (3) nights hotel accommodations at the Hotel Monteleone
- \$1500 Flight Voucher
- On Location Lounge Featuring Lombardi Trophy
- Super Bowl LIX Gifting Experience
- Choice of New Orleans Event
- Gameday Experience - Club 67

Package valued at over \$33,000!



Michigan United Conservation Clubs supports SB 664 and HB 5334

These bills require the Department of Education to create an optional program, in compliance with the Department of Natural Resources' hunter safety course, that school districts can choose to implement in their schools.

The course would be available to 6th- through 12th-grade students in the school district, and upon completion, successful students will have satisfied their hunter safety requirements. The legislation has bipartisan support in both chambers and is awaiting a committee hearing.

SB 664 has passed the Michigan Senate! The Michigan House still has a few days of work left during the legislative session. Go to mucc.org, and use the tool under the policy advocate link/flag to write your representative and tell them to support the next generation of conservationists.

[Jim Pryce, mucc@tcsl.org](mailto:Jim.Pryce_mucc@tcsl.org)

White Elephant Rifle Match Held

Our 6th annual White Elephant Rifle bench match was held on Saturday, December 14, at the 100-yard rifle range with four shooters.

Results of the match:

Place	Shooter	Rifle	Round	Score	Adj.
1st Place	Larry Walton	Mauser Sporter	30-06	195-5x	195-5x
2nd Place	Dave Vandermark	1903A3 Springfield	30-06	184-2X	187-2x
3rd Place	Tony Roberts	22 Tippman	22 LR	174	179
	Julius Roberts	AR-15	223 Rem	168	173

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.

Our next Rifle Match will be held January 18 (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 center-fire 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 sandbags are available.

For further information or questions contact

[Dave Vandermark, rifle@TCSL.org](mailto:Dave.Vandermark.rifle@TCSL.org)

Trench Match Held

On Sunday, December 7, TCSL hosted its 7th Trench Match. Its purpose was to simulate shooting positions you might find yourself in defending your trench in World War I. It took place on the 100 yard rifle range, and was a 50 shot match, with three rounds:

Round 1 – Standing Position. 20 shots from a standing position, supported at 100 yards. Required 4 loading cycles that could vary in number of shots each (5-5-5-5, or 8-2-5-5, or 2-10-5-3, etc.). Timer starts with the rifle unloaded. Time limit: 90 seconds.

Round 2 – Kneeling position. 10 shots kneeling, supported at 100 yards. Required 2 loading cycles. Timer starts with the rifle unloaded. Time limit: 60 seconds.

Round 3 – Prone Position. This round was time limited to 100 seconds, and allowed the shooter up to 20 shots to break 10 clay birds that were hung at 100 yards. Firing was in the prone position, supported using a rest provided. Required 4 loading cycles that could vary in number of shots each (5-5-5-5, or 8-2-5-5, or 2-10-5-3, etc.). Timer starts with the rifle unloaded. Points awarded based on the number of clays broken (5 per bird), with a 10 point bonus if all 10 are broken.

So, why is this called a trench match? The rests provided in rounds 1& 2 are small ports in a mock trench wall, and the prone rest simulates an earthen berm. They are meant to not be comfortable positions. And to add to the difficulty, the rifle must have a bayonet attached during all firing. Total possible points was 360.

Match Results:

	Name	Rifle	Caliber	Score
1st Place	Paul Jahn	M1 Garand	308 Win	316-1x
2nd Place	Larry Sanford	M1 Carbine	30 Carbine	96
3rd Place	Larry Walton	Mauser 98k	8x57	172
	Tony Roberts	1917 Enfield	30-06	89
	Julius Roberts	Swiss K31	7.5x55	40
	Dave Vandermark	AR-15	223 Rem	27

For further information or questions contact

[Dave Vandermark, rifle@TCSL.org](mailto:Dave.Vandermark.rifle@TCSL.org)



MLK
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

DAY

MONDAY, JANUARY 20

2025 TCSL Rifle Match Schedule

- 1/18 100 yd high power bench match (10am start)
- 2/8 100 yd high power bench match (10am start)
- 3/15 March Madness match (10am start)
- 3/29 Lever action match (10am start)
- 4/12 Military match (10am start)
- 5/3 Cavalry match (10am start)
- 5/17 Kentucky Windage 22LR match (10am start)
- 6/14 Military match (10am start)
- 6/28 185 yd high power bench match (10am start)
- 7/10 IBS 22LR match (6:30pm start)
- 7/19 March Madness Match (10am start)
- 8/7 IBS 22LR match (6:30pm start)
- 8/16 185 yd high power bench match (10am start)
- 8/28 IBS 22LR match (6:30pm start)
- 9/6 Military match (10am start)
- 9/16 IBS 22LR match (6:00pm start)
- 10/18 March Madness Match (10am start)
- 11/15 Trench match (10am start)
- 12/13 White Elephant match (10am start)



Women On Target

Save the Date: Saturday, June 7, 2025

Preparations are beginning for Women On Target 2025. As was announced in last month's newsletter, Gerry Eaton has graciously agreed to take the reins as the new Chair for this event. I look forward to introducing Gerry at our first planning meeting which will be held on **Tuesday, January 7, at 6:30pm** at the Club. As in past years, we will be meeting in conjunction with Kids on the Range Day.

There are many volunteer positions to be filled. Many of you have been involved for many years. We look forward to your help again this year. Some of you may be new to the event. We need and welcome your help. Our generous volunteers are the wheels that keep Women On Target on track and moving along. Please join us on January 7 at 6:30 as we discuss what is needed and how you can help make this year's event a success.

Wishing you a Happy and Healthy New Year!



[Carol Grubb, wot@tcsi.org](mailto:Carol.Grubb_wot@tcsi.org)

734-417-9599

Ugly Sweater Contest

Thursday, December 19

For the second year in a row, Nancy Lindemann walked away with bragging rights for the ugliest Christmas sweater. Sorry, Charlie Unbehaun. You were so close!



Kids on the Range Day

Save the Date: Saturday, July 12, 2025

Please join us for a WOT/KORD planning meeting on **Tuesday, January 7, at 6:30pm**. I'm excited to introduce you to the new KORD Chair, Daniel Kaminski, who'll be taking over from here. I know you'll give him a warm welcome!

Whether you're an old hand at this event or have never had the opportunity to volunteer, please join us. There's much to be done!

And in case I forget to say it at the meeting, I want to sincerely thank each and every one of you who have volunteered during my tenure as Chair. You have been a joy to work with!



[Val Kabat, kord@tcsi.org](mailto:Val.Kabat_kord@tcsi.org)

Tri-County Euchre

Come join us at Tri-County for Euchre Night, regularly scheduled for the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month. Upcoming dates:



January 8

January 22

February 12

February 26

Cover charge: \$5 (with \$2.50 going to the prize pots at the end of the night and the other \$2.50 going to the Club).

6-7 pm: Sign-in early for your place at the full tables. If you don't know how to play or have gotten rusty, this hour is perfect for you to learn or to brush up.

7pm: Play begins, with the final games at about 9pm.

Cash bar (with snacks available for purchase) and free popcorn.

Call Carol Grubb at 734-417-9599



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

Attr.: Booster Club

8640 Moon Road, Saline, MI 48176

Thank YOU

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.

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.

Hunter Education

How Did You Do?

The Department of Natural Resources has released its annual list of the ten best practices for hunters to remember. Check and see how you did and if you can do better. Conservation officers say following these tips will help hunters avoid the most common violations and mistakes they see every year. Here is a closer look:

Properly tag your deer

Conservation officers often see the wrong kill tag on game—such as fish or turkey licenses on deer. Frequently, this is a simple mistake made in the dark and can be corrected by re-tagging the deer as soon as you notice the error.

Remember, too, that reporting your deer within 72 hours of harvest is just as important as tagging it. With the Free Michigan DNR Hunt Fish app of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, it is easy.

Know your firearm and how it functions

Take the time to familiarize yourself with your firearm and make sure it is properly sighted and functioning before you go hunting. If it's been a while since you used your firearm, consider visiting TCSL and make sure it is working properly.

Know your target and what's behind it

No one may hunt with a firearm within 450 feet (ca. 137 m) of an occupied structure (including buildings, dwellings, homes, residences, cabins, barns, or structures used for farm operations) unless they have permission from the landowner. It is your responsibility to know the property lines where you are. Remember, you are responsible for where your bullets end up.

Respect landowner rights

Always respect posted trespassing signs and property boundaries. If a deer runs onto private property, the hunter cannot retrieve it without the landowner's permission. If you'll be hunting near someone else's property, contact the landowner ahead of time; don't wait until you're tracking game. Think how you would feel if someone came on your property without asking first.

Share public land

Research and scout the land you plan to hunt before opening day. Brush, constructed blinds, and tree stands on public land are just that, public. Regardless of who constructed, purchased, or tends to these

blinds, when they're on state-managed public land, they are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Public land cannot be posted or reserved. But don't be "that guy" that is in my spot on opening day because you didn't scout out a good spot.

Leave the land better than you found it

Practice the "leave no trace" ethic and don't litter. Whatever is brought into the woods must be taken back out. If you see trash, and you can, pack it out. Leaving propane bottles, hand-warmer wrappers, food wrappers, bottles, and other trash is illegal and may result in a fine.

Wear hunter orange

Hunters are required by law to always wear hunter orange as the outermost layer of clothing. Hunter orange garments, including camouflage, must be at least 50% hunter orange and be visible from all directions. If you see other hunters in your hunting area, acknowledge their presence. A friendly wave of your orange hat is nice.

Know and follow baiting regulations

Baiting and feeding are banned in the entire Lower Peninsula. In the Upper Peninsula, baiting may occur from September 15 to January 1. Bait volume at any hunting site cannot exceed 2 gallons. Bait must be spread on the ground and in an area that measures a minimum of 10 feet by 10 feet or its equivalent.

Hunt in-season, during legal hours

During firearm season, a hunter may legally shoot game starting 30 minutes before sunrise and until 30 minutes after sunset.

Be respectful to other hunters

Michigan law prohibits anyone from obstructing or interfering with the lawful taking of animals. Hunter harassment—when a person or organization intentionally sabotages another hunter's quality opportunity to take game—is a misdemeanor offense.

I hope you have a Great and Successful 2025

Happy New Year

[Jon N. Yost](#)
[Hunter Education Committee](#)

Memorial & Wellbeing Celebration & Thanks

Please send items for this column to:
newsletter@tcsl.org



February Newsletter

Absolute deadline for article submission:
January 24
newsletter@tcsl.org

For advertising information: tcsl.org/newsletters



IDPA Early Planning Meeting Wednesday, January 29 - 6:30pm


We'll be getting an early start for the 2025 IDPA Challenge Match with an online/Zoom meeting. Please see the Club calendar at tcsl.org for the link.

[Steve Newsmith](mailto:stevewsmith@gmail.com)
stevewsmith1@gmail.com



THANK YOU!
thank you!

Your Treasurer thanks you in advance for your prompt return of your membership dues!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 RSO on Duty: Charlie U. 12pm - Trap Shooting @	30	31	1 10am - Wednesday Range 	2	3	4
5 8am - Michigan CPL 12pm - Trap Shooting @	6	7 6pm - WOT/KORD	8 10am - Wednesday Range 6pm - Euchre Night @ Tri-	9	10	11
12 12pm - Trap Shooting @	13 12pm - Friends of 6:30pm - Safety 7:30pm - Finance	14	15 10am - Wednesday Range	16 12pm - Friends of 6:30pm - Board Meeting 7pm - Membership	17	18 9am - High Power Bench
19 12pm - Trap Shooting @	20 12pm - Friends of	21	22 10am - Wednesday Range 6pm - Euchre Night @ Tri-	23 12pm - Friends of	24	25
26 12pm - Trap Shooting @	27 12pm - Friends of	28	29 10am - Wednesday Range 6:30pm - IDPA 2025	30 12pm - Friends of	31	1



Please always see the online calendar for up-to-date information!



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 12pm - Trap Shooting @	27 12pm - Friends of	28	29 10am - Wednesday Range 6:30pm - IDPA 2025	30 12pm - Friends of	31	1
2 12pm - Trap Shooting @	3 12pm - Friends of	4 6pm - WOT/KORD	5 10am - Wednesday Range	6 12pm - Friends of	7	8 9am - High Power Bench
9 12pm - Trap Shooting @	10 12pm - Friends of	11	12 10am - Wednesday Range 6pm - Euchre Night @ Tri-	13 12pm - Friends of	14 	15
16 12pm - Trap Shooting @	17 12pm - Friends of 6:30pm - Safety 7:30pm - Finance 	18	19 10am - Wednesday Range	20 12pm - Friends of 6:30pm - Board Meeting 7pm - Membership	21	22 4pm - Coffey Birthday
23 12pm - Trap Shooting @	24 12pm - Friends of	25	26 10am - Wednesday Range 6pm - Euchre Night @ Tri-	27 12pm - Friends of	28	1