

Rockford Sportsman's Club



11115 Northland Drive
PO BOX 624
Rockford, MI 49341
(616) 866-4273

rockfordsportsmansclub.com

March 2014 Newsletter

It is another month of that white stuff and I hope many of you enjoy indoor projects. At least the Olympics can qualify as indoor in the USA.

The club is still seeing outdoor activities on the shooting ranges. However, Skeet and Trap shooting has been quite slow several nights with none or a few shooters. The league has more shooters than last year's winter events and they may extend the league by a few weeks to provide time to get all the events completed. Just like school, if you miss too many days there is an extension for make-up days.

The club snow removal has been spectacular this season even with the near record snow fall, a huge thank you to Andy Laitila for his relentless pursuit of keeping the area clear. Also, thank you to all those who have shoveled sidewalks and used the snow blower on the shooting areas. We have a roof leak due to ice buildup in the center of the club house. After consulting with several contractors the best approach is to rake as much snow off as possible and apply snow melt on the ice. The ice cycles on the east side are not causing a problem and hopefully we can get to spring without too much trouble. The center area inside will need ceiling and light fixture repair in the original section due to water damage.

At the March membership meeting our sound committee will present the proposed plan that was approved at the last board meeting. Our 2014 budget provided for the upgrade that was originally planned when the money was available.

As a reminder everyone should note that a few items need attention when you are the last one out of the building or ranges. This will help keep our utility bills in check.

Lights off

Thermostats, 2 in the main building, turn down to 58.

Vent fan over stove hood turned off

Empty trash containers when full

Doors and Gate locked

If anyone has contact with personnel at the school, we need someone to spearhead the coordination with the schools for the Tracks magazine, Bob Bond Scholarship applications and Birds of Prey program for sixth graders.

Just a quick note to let you know that the by-law committee is meeting the second and fourth Tuesday each month and will present the proposals to the membership meeting within a few months. We hope to provide additional clarifications and amendments to the changes the club has experienced the past few years. The by-laws require two membership meetings to pass any proposed changes.

We have quite a few new members that need to visit the club for their safety tours and details about the club. Someone is available at the shoot building on Monday and Thursdays from 6-7 and Sunday from 10-1 to conduct tours.

George Mayhak

Rockford Sportsman's Club

Regular Meeting Minutes February 4th 2014

Invocation: Gordon Pickerd

7:15 PM Call to Order and Pledges by President George Mayhak

No new members – Guests – Sheriff Larry Stelma, Under Sheriff – John Hess
Next Board Meeting is February 18 – 7:00 PM - all members are welcome
Sunshine: Willie Bradley is home!...Jim Jones will be undergoing surgery this month. Curt Becker will be having surgery in March. Our hope is for a speedy recovery for both.

Minutes from the last regular meeting and board meeting accepted as printed. Motion by Terry King – supported by Dan Vincent – approved.

Vice-President's Report:

Discussed firearm safety on the ranges – open actions at all times – clear chamber indicators need to be utilized. Shotguns open and empty except when on station and ready to shoot.

Secretary's Report: Terry Stuart:

Minutes and agenda with February calendar available on check-in table. Also web site policy for those who will be making changes to their information available.

Treasurer's Report: Len Laitila:

January Report – Total Income \$7,498.31, Total Expense \$2,432.34 (Directors insurance accounted for most of the expenses for January) Net Income for the month - **-\$5,065.97**
MUCC completed the required financial audit of the clubs' books for 2012 and no issues were found. All checks accounted for – all expenses matched up with detailed receipts. All major expenses were checked and the proper documentation was found to support each expense. This is required for our 501-C3. MUCC will work on our books for 2013 soon and a report will be forthcoming.

The club received thank you notes from the North Kent Community Center and the Krause Library for our 2013 donations. Many books were purchased for the Library with the donation we gave. Our donation to the North Kent Community Center will in part be used to help provide a life coach for folks who find themselves in serious financial difficulty.

Special Presentation: Sheriff Larry Stelma

Sheriff Stelma introduced himself and gave background information on his education and interest in hunting, fishing, and firearms. He was elected Kent County Sheriff in 2000 and is up for reelection for his 5th term. The sheriff is the only county elected law enforcement officer in the state. He belongs to a number of sportsmen's clubs. He explained that the budget for the Kent County Sheriff's office is \$65 million dollars and approximately 70% of that amount is spent on corrections.

Sheriff Stelma informed the club that he supports CPL and Open Carry. He further explained that there are around 13,000 CPL license holders in Kent County – about 5% of the total population. Last year 5,000 new licenses and renewals were handled by the County. Of the \$105 fee each of the CPL license holders pay - \$64 is kept by the State Police for their record checks, \$26 is the county clerk's fee for handling the paper work, and the Sheriff's office receives \$15 which is used for background checks. The only check currently used for CPL applicants is a criminal background check and Sheriff Stelma is and has been concerned about the lack of any sort of mental health information that would better help determine whether or not a person should be issued a permit. There is no data base on people who for non criminal reasons should not be able to own a firearm. (In other words a mentally disturbed person may be able to slip through the cracks and obtain not only a firearm but a license to carry same) Since his office has the final say on these permits – if a permit is issued to a non-stable person who then commits a crime – the Sheriff would be the one who could be sued. By statute, the County Prosecutor is not held responsible and cannot be sued. Sheriff Stelma informed the members that if this were to happen, the legal fees etc. would be the responsibility of the citizens of the county.

Sheriff Stelma went on to discuss unintended consequences of the carry law in Michigan. Since it was approved by a citizen referendum and placed on the ballot – Michigan became a shall-issue state in regards to a CPL license. The unintended consequences of this action include – folks who in some counties had a general permit – lost that when the new law went into effect. There was no provision for the state to issue renewals or for that matter to inform a CPL holder that their license was about to expire. Unlike every other permit/license in Michigan. For example: you get a notice when your driver's license is about to expire and you can easily renew the old one at a State of Michigan office. Not so with a CPL. You have to keep track of when it is about to expire, fill out the same paperwork and go through the same process as when you first applied.

The presentation was well received and many questions were answered. There were other considerations that were not covered and the club may wish to have Sheriff Stelma return and cover some of these.

Committee Reports:

- Trap/Skeet is opened every Sunday from 10 AM on and every Monday and Thursday evening starting at 6 P.M.. Winter League continues and you may still join this shoot. Shooting will be on Sunday from 11-3 and Monday and Thursday from 6-9.
- NSSA Wednesday night events continue on the first Wednesday of each month. Next one is Feb. 15. Cowboys reported 17 hardy shooters for January. Next Old Coot Shoot – February 19th. Eye and ear protection are required for participants and spectators.
- Winter archery program begins Jan. 16 from 6:30-9:00 PM. Targets 20 yards – both compound and recurve bows may be used. Also included will be a special event using crossbows. Equipment (bows/arrows etc.) is available for those who would like to try out this venue. It is shot indoors
- April Hunter Safety is scheduled for April 21st, Monday – 23rd Wednesday (evenings) and April 26th Saturday – all day. Helpers are always needed and welcomed. See Bill Skallos' contact information on our new website and let him know you are available or call him at 866-0096. Many thanks – Great program and many hands make light work. MUCC – the anti hunters are at it again. This time the target will be wolf hunting – a petition will be available for you to sign at the March 4th regular meeting and some will be available for you to take and collect more signatures. Coming up in March – our annual help downtown with food donations for Sportsmen Against Hunger – help load donations in a truck for credit for our club toward this project. People who donate food items get a free ticket into the Sport show.
- Publicity/Marketing: No report this evening.
- Food and Beverage: No report this evening
- Apparel: An interest sheet was passed around for members to indicate their interest in club apparel. Sleeveless vests were suggested.
- Building and Grounds: Carpet cleaning is completed. To be repeated this Spring. Many thanks to the volunteers who helped with this project. Outdoor security lighting – the Board will be investigating the placement of LED lights on the peak of our building to see if they would provide enough parking lot lighting and security.
- Work Hours: See web site
- Road Clean-Up: not scheduled yet
- Party Committee: No parties planned yet but the annual dinner is scheduled for Sept. 13.
- Gun Show: Jim Jones thanked members for providing descriptions of their shooting venue. Peter and Jim made many contacts at the gun show and a lot of this information was distributed. A new banner is being planned advertising our club events. Send your suggestions/art work etc. to peter.kreutzfeldt@comcast.net. This is another way you can advertise your venue. A new tri-fold pamphlet would be very helpful in introducing people to our club, its history, and its activities. Help would be appreciated.

Old Business:

The Sportsmen Against Hunger Challenge – in terms of venison handled by Barb's in Rockford shows that Madison contributed 803 pounds, Sparta – 1145 pounds and Rockford – 1240 pounds. code of conduct was made available at the start of the meeting.) No discussion motion approved.

New Business:

A motion was made by Terry Stuart supported by Peter Kreutzfeldt to approve Steven Mitchell as our By-laws revision chairman. After discussion motion was approved.

A motion was made by Terry Stuart supported by Gordon Pickerd to approve the web site code of conduct. (This code of conduct was made available at the start of the meeting.) No discussion motion approved.

Open Forum:

25/25 Drawing Winners: Jim Devereaux and Larry Pierson (\$30.50 each) - \$30.50 to Sportsmen Against Hunger project and \$30.50 for club revenue. Thanks to all who participated.

Other gun related cleaning items were awarded after the cash drawing. (Thanks, Gordon for handling this)

Respectfully submitted:

Secretary Terry Stuart

**Board Meeting Minutes
February 18, 2014**

Jim Jones is home and recovering from knee replacement surgery.

Attendance: George Mayhak, Bill Skallos, Mike Roche, Gordon Pickerd, Tim Hall, Len Laitila, Tim Hall, Steve Gardner, Dan Hankinson, Dave DeVries, Steven Mitchell, and Terry Stuart.

Guests: Greg VerVeer, Neil Schaefer

Absent Board Members: Barbara Blough, Dan Vincent

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by President George Mayhak. Tim Hall gave the invocation.

Report #1

By-Law committee update – Steven Mitchell – Committee members thus far: John Harbin, George Mayhak, Mike Roche, Bill Skallos, and Tom Smith. Future meetings are scheduled for the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm.

Need for bylaw revision:

Club membership has increased significantly since 2008 (by 50%)

Circumstances have risen not adequately covered with the current By-Laws.

Financial controls inadequate as covered in the current By-Laws.

Minor inconsistency in current By-Laws need correction.

Report #2

Audio/Visual Improvement Committee – Steven Gardner – Committee members thus far: Greg VerVeer, Neil Schaefer. Report presented to the Board regarding updating our audio/visual needs in the main building. After discussion a vote was taken to approve this committee to proceed with their proposal. (which will be explained and questions answered at the next regular member meeting in March) Motion made by Len Laitila and supported by Dave DeVries to spend \$9,725.00 for the necessary upgrades to our existing system. This exceeded the budgeted amount slightly and was approved by the Board of Directors.

Help will be needed in installing such upgrades. If this is an interest you have you are welcome to join in and help.

Business Items

MUCC (Michigan United Conservation Clubs) is working to collect 300,000 signatures as a counter measure to those who would try to control hunting in Michigan. (RSC will try to obtain at least a thousand signatures to help in this fight) Petitions will be available at the March Regular Meeting or see President George Mayhak. These petitions are due by the April 1st. Your help is needed.

Officer's Reports

President – George brought to the Board's attention of a proposed expenditure of \$275 to complete a "blind" type banner to be displayed at the gun shows. Peter Kreutzfeldt is in charge of this. George Mayhak made the motion to spend these funds for this purpose supported by Gordon Pickerd. Approved.

Further motion to have the Board see a proposed drawing/sketch of this new banner before it is made. Motion approved.

*side note – the marketing budget will need to be amended to cover the cost of this banner and future gun show expenses. This will be done soon.

A new safety flyer was introduced to the Board regarding trap and skeet rules. This will be made available to all shooters and will also become a part of the scoring clip board. The Secretary has a copy for you to look over if you wish.

Vice President – Gordon indicated we have a serious problem with ice build-up and water damage in the old portion of the main building. Snow needs to be raked away from the eaves (the club has a roof rake) and out heat duct needs to be sealed and insulated. The ceiling in the old portion of our clubhouse will need repair when the weather clears up.

Secretary – Terry had no report tonight

Treasurer – Len – As of 2/18/2014 Total Income for February= \$4,500. Total Expenses = \$\$1,467.17. Net ordinary income - \$3,032.83. A detailed report is available from the treasurer at every regular meeting if you wish to look over the books. The secretary also has a copy for the official records.

Len reported that we are looking for three chairpersons for 2014 – Scholarship, Birds of Prey presentations, and Tracks magazine subscriptions for local schools. If interested please contact George Mayhak or a Board member.

Len also reported that a thank-you was received from the Algoma Township Fire Department for allowing them to use our clubhouse for their banquet.

Sgt. At Arms – Dan Vincent (absent)

Trustee Reports

Dan Hankinson inquired about our clay target position and when new targets will need to be ordered. The club has enough targets to last until the first of April.

Dave DeVries inquired about the MUCC petitions. These are available from George Mayhak.

Steve Gardner –

Steve reported that we have been approved by the National Shooting Sports Foundation to host our annual **Rimfire Challenge** which has been scheduled to occur on May 10th. Steve suggested we look into a Pay Pal arrangement for various shooting venues to collect funds and sign up participants. This would be helpful with the rimfire challenge, NSSA events, the two day cowboy shoots, and perhaps our dues collection. We will be looking into this to see how it could be further utilized by the club. Steve also announced that we are officially registered as a CMP Club. This will be added to our website. Dates for the 2015 CMP shoots were discussed and approved by motion. Dave Devries made the motion to approve these dates and Steven Mitchell supported the motion. Approved.

Tim Hall no special report this evening.

Bill Skallos – Next hunter’s safety will be held in April. 2014 dates are on the calendar. Last weekend the Michigan Winter State Games archery competition was held in the main building. 127 archers participated. Hunter safety for April has 22 prospective hunters already signed up. The winter archery shoot continues with 11 participants at the last shoot. The mop bucket needs repair or replacement. Bill noticed that someone forgot to turn down the thermostat when they left the building. If you turn it up...please remember to turn it back down when leaving. Bill is looking into better seals and insulation for our exit doors – two of them need to be attended to at the cost of around \$50 each and he will also look into a timer on our exhaust fan in the kitchen.

Steven Mitchell – Steve Mitchell will be the chairman for the By-laws revision committee and George will appoint the other committee members.

Mike Roche brought to the attention of the Board two new members – Anthony and Kristi Gentry and Brad and Sandra Burns. Mike made a motion to accept these folks as new member supported by Dan Hankinson. Motion approved. Mike also mentioned that our club printer has stopped working. A new one will be purchased with funds from the maintenance budget. Mike Roche made the motion to purchase and Bill Skallos supported this. Motion approved.

General announcement – The range improvement projects this spring will follow this order – complete the rifle range, improvements to the South pistol range, then the major project on the North pistol range.

It has been reported that our toilet paper is disappearing at an alarming rate. (Over a case per month is somehow gone through) The Board will consider ways to control this perhaps getting the larger rolls and accompanying dispensers.

Respectfully submitted by,
Terry Stuart - Secretary

Meeting ended at 8:45 pm. Next board meeting March 18, 2014



13861 White Creek Ave.
Cedar Springs, MI 49319
(616) 696-0010

Ross' GunWorks LLC

SAFE, RELIABLE, PERFORMANCE IS OUR GOAL



Dave DeVries
GUNSMITH / OWNER

GUNSMITHING & SALES SHOP 616-884-8026
3 MILES EAST OF CELL 616-350-6551
ROCKFORD, MICH. CALL FOR APPOINTMENT

2014 Calendar.

Please check website for latest changes <http://www.rockfordsportsmansclub.com/>
Calendar Changes Dan Vincent, Terry Stuart, Barbara Blough or Mike Roche
Calendar and Web design by Jim Ruders Jim@Ruders.com

Sat Mar 1, 2014 - All day JOAD, 8am Cowboy Action Shooting
Sun Mar 2, 2014 - All day JOAD, All day Winter League 2013 10-330, 10am Trap & Skeet
Mon Mar 3, 2014 - 6pm Trap & Skeet open to public
Tue Mar 4, 2014 - 7:15pm General Membership Meeting
Wed Mar 5, 2014 - All day JOAD All day NSSA, 9am Range Maintenance - Cowboy Bowl/
Rifle/Pistol
Thu Mar 6, 2014 - 6pm Trap & Skeet Open to Public, 6:30pm Winter Archery
Sat Mar 8, 2014 - 9am Gun Show @ 28th Street (skillind@gmail.com)
Sun Mar 9, 2014 - 9am Gun Show @ 28th Street (skillind@gmail.com), 10am Trap & Skeet
Mon Mar 10, 2014 - 6pm Trap & Skeet open to public
Wed Mar 12, 2014 - All day Old Coot shoot 8-3, 9am Range Maintenance - Cowboy Bowl/
Rifle/Pistol
Thu Mar 13, 2014 - 6pm Trap & Skeet Open to Public
Fri Mar 14, 2014 - 10am DOHS (Craig Smith north pistol range 10-1)
Sat Mar 15, 2014 - All day JOAD, -All day Relay for Life main club house (scott gerow),
10am Defensive Pistol-Cowboy Bowls Pending
Sun Mar 16, 2014 - All day JOAD, 10am Trap & Skeet Open to Public
Mon Mar 17, 2014 - 6pm Trap & Skeet open to public
Tue Mar 18, 2014 - 7pm RSC Board Meeting
Wed Mar 19, 2014 - All day JOAD, 9am Range Maintenance - Cowboy Bowl/Rifle/Pistol
Thu Mar 20, 2014 - All day ES Team 100 yd range 10-2, 6pm Trap & Skeet Open to Public
Sat Mar 22, 2014 - All day JOAD, All day Mustard Seed Ministries Annual fund raising auc-
tion 4-12pm Rental G Mayhak, 10am CMP - 100/200 range
Sun Mar 23, 2014 - All day JOAD, 10am Trap & Skeet Open to Public
Mon Mar 24, 2014 - All day MSP Pistol range-shoot building 10-5 (DV), 6pm Trap & Skeet
Tue Mar 25, 2014 - All day MSP Pistol range-shoot building 10-5 (DV), 5pm CMP - 100/200
range
Wed Mar 26, 2014 - All day JOAD, All day MSP Pistol range-shoot building 10-5 (DV), 9am
Range Maintenance - Cowboy Bowl/Rifle/Pistol
Thu Mar 27, 2014 - 6pm Trap & Skeet Open to Public
Fri Mar 28, 2014 - 10am DOHS (Craig Smith north pistol range 10-1)
Sat Mar 29, 2014 - All day JOAD
Sun Mar 30, 2014 - All day JOAD, 10am Trap & Skeet Open to Public
Mon Mar 31, 2014 - 6pm Trap & Skeet open to public

Young Insurance

Serving the community since 1923

*For all your insurance needs
servicing all of West Michigan*

We offer: Home, Auto, Life,
Health & Commercial Insurance

39 South Main St.
Rockford, MI 49341

PH: 616-866-1517
www.wayoung.com

Concealed Carry Classes & Firearms Instruction



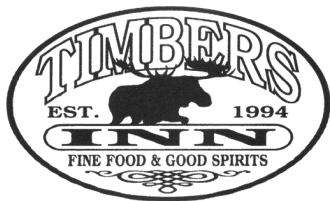
Classes held at RSC

Certified NRA Instructors

Safe2Carry.com

887-9917 or 366-3406

Rockford Sportsman's Club
 11115 Northland Dr.
 P.O. Box 624
 Rockford, Michigan 49341



6555 Belding Rd.
Rockford, MI 49341
(616) 874-5553

A proud supporter of the R.S.C.

Story's Fresh Meats & Deli

Fine Fresh Meats * Fresh Deli Sandwiches
 Deli Salads * Hormone Free Dairy * Desserts
 Smoked Meats & More!

11761 Northland Dr NE Rockford, MI 49341
 616-696-8862 Fax 616-696-8865

www.storysmeatsanddeli.com



Vitra Guard * Valspar Paints

Screen & Glass Repair

Complete Hardware, Tool,
 Plumbing & Heating,

Electrical and Paint Departments

A proud supporter of RSC.

643 Northland Drive, Rockford, MI 49341 * (616) 866-9155
 OPEN: Mon-Fri. 7:30 to 8, Sat. 8 to 5, Sun. 10 to 3



"WE DO IT BETTER...BECAUSE WE TRY HARDER"

Professional

HOME IMPROVEMENT, INC.

PROFESSIONAL PEOPLE • PROFESSIONAL RESULTS

Additions Insulation Roofing Siding
 Carpentry Doors/Windows Garages

Robert & GERALYNN Gardner, RSC Members
 784-5700 or 863-0166