

Rockford Sportsman's Club



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rockfordsportsmansclub.com

March 2017

March the month between winter and spring. The trap and skeet winter league comes to an end and the spring league begins. Actually, there have been several spring days during the January/February shoots. The new 200 yard center fire rifle event will start in March. Check the calendar. This will be a fun challenge.

The newest adventure for RSC is establishing a Michigan State High School Clay target league. According to the information advertised, this is Michigan's fastest growing and safest high school sport. There are currently seven students in the program and they shoot on Sunday from 3 to 5, as well as practice on the regular skeet and trap shoot times. The leagues priorities are safety, fun and marksmanship. Young trap shooters in grades six through twelve earn a firearms education certification and compete on a regular bases along with travelling to area shoots for local competition and later on to the State championships where all are eligible to shoot. There are no benchwarmers. The current Rockford group has purchased matching shooting vests and team hats. They will surely represent RSC very well. The key members coordinating this program are Kevin Freeman, Gordon Pickerd, Don Bozewinkle and Rich Averill, Brian Pickerd and Ken Knol. One of the benefits of this program is to introduce many young people to RSC for our future sustainability and the satisfaction of developing good shooting habits.

As for sustainability, the board has been considering a change in our dues structure which will be presented to the membership in the near months. The objective is to keep up financially strong and continue with development. Inflation average has been averaging 1.5% per year will all our fixed costs which we have not addressed for the past approximate 10 years. Our many events over the years have kept our bottom line healthy and the membership has continued to support the day to day and long range development.

The March meeting may have Jennifer German from the Krause Memorial Library branch asking for ideas of publications to purchase with the donations from RSC. Not confirmed yet but the North Kent Service Center may also be represented.

Gordon Pickerd will host the March meeting and I'll be back in Mid March after a week of biking and tourist stuff in Savannah Georgia. (Largest Irish festival in the country the week we leave, we will miss it).

Please remember the silent auction items you may want to sell. The honey sold last month was great tasting as reported by several persons. Probably could sell your ice fishing stuff for the remainder of this year.

George

**Rockford Sportsman's Club
Membership Meeting Minutes
February 7, 2017
Call to order at 7:15 P.M.**

Invocation was given by Jim Hessler.
Last two months of minutes were approved as published.

President's Report: George Mayhak

Guest from Krause Memorial Library will attend March meeting.

Vice President's Report: Gordon Pickerd

Scholastic program for shooting trap/skeet. Discussed possible grant options to build program.

Chairman's Report:

No Report. Lee J. Christensen will be new Chairman.

Secretary's Report: Barbara Blough

Thank you notes received from Kent District Library and North Kent Community Services.

Membership Secretary's Report: Mike Roche

Mike made motion to accept new members Tony Amato, Scott & Heidi Suidinski, Greg & Amanda Hewitt, Adam & Alana Brown, Brad & Tina Johnson, Stephen & Bonita Alsum, Mike & Mindy Serra, supported by Bill Lane, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Len Laitila

Total Income \$13,140.34. Total Expense \$4,046.35. Net Income \$9,093.99.
Reviewed Market Value reports on Investments.

Sergeant of Arms Report: Dan Vincent (Absent)

No Report.

Committee Reports

NSSA Shoot this Saturday. Trap and Skeet is in the middle of Winter League.
Cowboys. Shoot was last Saturday.
CMP. Saturday February 25th. NSSF, May 13th, meeting tonight.
Bench Rifle, March 14th, first match starts at 4pm.
Defensive Pistol. Will have electronic scoring this year. Next shoot April 15th, 10am.
Hunter Safety. Next class is in April. 24, 26, 29.
MUCC next meeting is in March.
Building/Grounds/Food & Beverage. Looking for someone to volunteer to pick up items that get put on the list in the clubhouse.
Sportsmen Against Hunger, March 16th at the Ultimate Sport Show
Safety Review. Golf ball was found at 50 yard range.

Old Business

Donation was made from a Memorial held at club Leonard Dyer.
Donation of \$1,500 to the Veteran's Home from NSSF.

Open Forum

Gun Show on February 25 and 26, see Peter Kreutzfeldt to volunteer.

Membership Meeting Minutes Continued

Turkey Federation Dinner at RSC March 3rd.

February 18th Sportsperson's dinner at Bella Vista Church.

Boater's Safety classes in process of being organized first couple weeks in April. More information will be available in newsletter.

Raffle: 50/50. \$51, Tom Mroczkowski, Chip Stevers.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.

Respectfully submitted

Barbara Blough

Rockford Sportsman's Club Board Meeting Minutes February 21, 2017 Call to order at 7:00 P.M.

Attendees: Lee J. Christensen, George Mayhak, Gordon Pickerd, Barbara Blough, Mike Roche, Steve Mitchell, Dan Hankinson, Steve Gardner, Bill Skalos, Bob Drury, Ryan Cordes. Absent: Len Laitila and Dan Vincent. Guests: Kevin Freeman and Dave Hemmerly.

Invocation was given by Gordon Pickerd.

President's Report: George Mayhak

MUCC convention on June 17th in Owosso. Will check with Tim Hall to make sure he can attend. George made motion to send someone to attend and authorize \$300 for costs, supported by Gordon, motion carried.

MUCC is offering a hard copy subscription for \$20.

Filled out affidavit to claim exemption for small business personal property taxes, mailed on February 3rd.

Vice President's Report: Gordon Pickerd

Kevin and Gordon were at Rockford High School and they are officially recognizing Trap and Skeet as club sport. RSC will be getting full page in yearbook of students participating in sport.

Several club members are interested in making donations. Donations will be matched by Midway. There will be six events this year; Trap is at Harper Creek, Marshall and St Joe. Skeet will be at Fuddusters, Kent League, Marshall. Further discussion of funding. Gordon made motion for club to donate \$2,500, supported by Mike, motion carried.

Secretary's Report: Barbara Blough

No Report.

Membership Secretary's Report: Mike Roche

Mike made motion to accept new members Chad and Brittany Mazle, Craig and Jessica Congleton, Jennifer and Curtis Vanderzee, supported by Gordon, motion carried.

Mike made motion to set up square for accepting credit cards and there will be a 2.75% charge for each use, supported by Steve G. Discussion for how this would benefit club. George amended motion subject to Len's approval. Amended motion carried. Original motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Len Laitila (Absent). Report given by Steve G.

Total Income \$2,728.00. Total Expense \$1,656.60. Net Income \$1,071.40.

Sergeant of Arms Report: Dan Vincent (Absent)

Trustee Reports

Ryan Cordes

Birds of Prey program will not be able to be done this year after contacting school. It will be set up

Board Meeting Minutes
Continued from last page

For next year.

Bob Drury

Several shoots were cancelled due to ice.

Steve Mitchell

Contact list on the webpage. 13 officers and trustees. Only have e-mails. Some messages are not answered timely. Problems with answering machine, George will look into this. If anyone needs to change their e-mail let Steve know.

Financial Policy Committee, Maximum Operating Budget Report. Committee came up with some guidelines. Guidelines should be put into place as soon as possible. Reviewed expenses and these are increasing 1.5% per year. Dues and Rental Income should be included in the Financial Policy. Retiree changes to include, changing age from 55 to 65 and change bylaws to pay 50% of full member rate. Grandfather current retirees that have already met the age but will charge the 50% rate. Increase the dues \$20 and revise the Associate bylaws to allow maximum of two guests per shoot after their one year anniversary. Gordon made motion for committee to review bylaws and Financial Policy to make these changes and bring back to board next month, supported by Bob Drury, motion carried.

Dan Hankinson

Asked for update on the electrical updates. Need to wait until spring to do final estimates. Needs Bill to give items need for Hunter's Safety.

Steve Gardner

CMP will be this weekend, Saturday.
NSSF is up and registration is active.

Bill Skillos

Hunter Safety sign ups have started for end of April.

Next meeting, March 21st, 7:00pm.

Meeting adjourned 8:13pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Blough
Secretary

Please Note

Shooting in Cowboy Area is not permitted. Only special events

First one at Club leaves Gate Open, Last one out Locks it

Only Full Members can bring Guests, All events are open to public

michigan OUT-*of*-DOORS

MICHIGAN UNITED CONSERVATION CLUBS

UPDATE | How Will Future Generations Remember You?

Mike & Joann --

This past week, the Department of Natural Resources gave a presentation to the new House of Representatives Committee on Natural Resources. It was a standard introductory presentation to the new committee, of which only one member returns from last session's Natural Resources Committee (Rep. John Kivela, D-Marquette, who won MUCC's Legislative Conservationist of the Year Award in 2016). In the presentation, DNR Director Keith Creagh rattled off some amazing facts about Michigan's natural resources, for instance:

- Michigan has 763,618 hunters, #3 in the nation, generating \$2.5 billion annually and supported by 4.5 million acres of state public land.
 - Michigan has 1.1 million anglers, 11,000 lakes and 1,300 public boat access sites.
 - Michigan's over 4 million acres of public land state forest generates \$20 billion and 35,000 jobs each year.
- Listening to these facts, I couldn't help but reflect that some of these figures are a direct result of resolutions passed by Michigan United Conservation Clubs members over the years. For instance, in 1939 we campaigned for legislation to provide public access sites to Michigan lakes and streams using hunting and fishing license fees. And how many of those hunters would we have if MUCC didn't support mandatory hunters' safety in 1970, or the elimination of the minimum hunting age in 2011? How many acres of that public land would we have if MUCC didn't stop the diversion of game and fish funds to non-conservation uses in 1940 or support legislation creating the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund in 1976?

Each of these actions taken by MUCC in decades past helped conserve the natural resources we enjoy today. But what will be our legacy for generations to come? Each year, our members decide what actions we will take to conserve natural resources for future generations through our conservation policy process. Members propose resolutions at conservation policy meetings and vote on whether to advance those to our Annual Convention in June, where delegates representing our affiliated local sportsmen's clubs and individual members vote whether those actions should be MUCC's policy. In recent years, successful resolutions have led to the elimination of the 150-yard "no hunting" zone for bowhunters and trappers, the year-round coyote and bass seasons, our efforts to protect fisheries from net-pen aquaculture, and increases in poaching fines, among many other things.

Any MUCC member or member club can introduce a resolution, but the last chance to do so this year is less than a month away. The last Conservation Policy meeting before our Annual Convention will be held on March 11 at the Munising Township Hall in Wetmore, Michigan, just outside of Munising. If there is a conser-

vation action or position you believe strongly that Michigan United Conservation Clubs should take, now is the time to make your voice heard. You can complain all you want about what MUCC should or shouldn't do, but unless you introduce a resolution stating why and convince our members that you're right, we cannot take action.

This is the last chance to participate in the democratic grassroots process which determines MUCC's conservation policies. Since 1937, this process has helped to provide the hunters, anglers, trappers, conservationists, public land, fishing access, fish and wildlife we enjoy today. [Sign up here to register for the March 11 Conservation Policy Meeting](#) to pass it on to the next generation.

Have an idea but can't make the meeting? Email Amy Trotter, MUCC Deputy Director, at atrotter@mucc.org.

Help Michigan United Conservation Clubs conserve our natural resources for future generations by making a donation at www.mucc.org/donate! Or, stop by the MUCC booth at Outdoorama Feb. 23-26 and purchase a 50/50 Conservation Jackpot ticket!



Calendar

Please check website for latest changes <http://www.rockfordsportsmansclub.com/>

Calendar and website Changes Dan Vincent, Steve Mitchell or Mike Roche

Web Design—Jim Ruder

The Rockford Sportsman's Club

Mar 2017 (Eastern Time)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 Winter league 10am 10am - Trap & Skeet	27 Winter league 5-830 5pm - Trap & Skeet	28	1 NSSA 8am - Range	2 Winter league 5-830 5pm - Trap & Skeet	3 Wild Turkey	4 Cowboy action shoot
5 Winter league 10am 10am - Trap & Skeet	6 Winter league 5-830 5pm - Trap & Skeet	7 7:15pm - General	8 8am - Range	9 Winter league 5-830 5pm - Trap & Skeet	10 DHS Rifle and N	11
12 Winter league 10am 10am - Trap & Skeet	13 Winter league 5-830 5pm - Trap & Skeet	14 200 yard Bench Rest	15 Old cool shoot 8-1 B 8am - Range	16 MSP ES Team 100yd Winter league 5-830 5pm - Trap & Skeet	17	18 Relay for Life Scott
19 Glelie Mahoro 10am - Trap & Skeet	20 5pm - Trap & Skeet	21 7pm - RSC Board	22 8am - Range	23 5pm - Trap & Skeet	24 DHS Rifle and N	25 CMP 8am - 10pm
26 10am - Trap & Skeet	27 12pm - Hockey- 5pm - Trap & Skeet	28 200 Yard Bench Rest	29 8am - Range	30 5pm - Trap & Skeet	31	1 Cowboy action shoot 8am - CPL/Def.Pistol

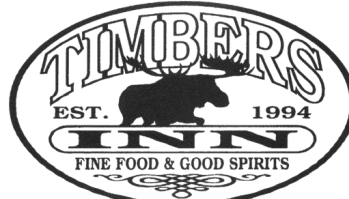


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