



NEWSLETTER

3400 W. Bard Rd., Muskegon, MI 49445 231-766-3428

Open Mon. & Wed. 10am – 10pm, Sat. & Sun. 10am – 6pm

Issue No. 11

January 2008

IMPORTANT NOTICE

New shooting prices:

Member Prices

Trap & Skeet \$4.00/round
Trap & Skeet Doubles \$5.00/round
5 Stand \$5.25/round
Sporting Clays \$13.00/50

Non-Member Prices – add \$2.00

INCOME/EXPENSE COMPARISON

Last month with the newsletter, members were sent a comparison of income in 2006 to 2007, which showed a decrease in our income. This was an effort to keep our members informed and to let our members know that the Board was addressing it.

What seemed to have happened is this information was mis-interpreted that the club was closing the doors, at least that is what the word out on the street is.

Nothing is further from the truth. In no way are we financially hurting or closing our doors. We may need to tighten our belts a little but every shooting club has seen a decline in their shooting.

Any good business consistently reviews their financial status and determines what steps should be taken to increase revenue, decrease expenses, where do we stand compared to last year and where do we hope to be at the end of 2008.

If anyone has comments, questions or concerns regarding the club's financial records or financial status, please call Sharon Prus, club Treasurer or Bill Mura the club's accountant.

Welcome New Members!

Louis Fincher
David Barnett
Brian Bean
Joe Huf

2008 MEMBERSHIP DUES

Your 2007 membership expired on December 31, 2007.
Regular annual membership - \$60.00
Senior annual membership - \$30.00

You have until January 31, 2008 to pay your dues. If paid after this date there will be a \$10.00 late fee assessed.

We do accept MC/VISA if this would be more convenient for you.

4 FREE ROUNDS!!

Bring in a new member (not a renewal) to Seaway Gun Club and get 4 free rounds of trap or skeet. Bring in 2 new members get 4 free rounds of trap or skeet and a hat.

Upcoming Events

Winter League has begun!! Sign up now – Deadline is January 20th. Must have 3 scores posted by the 20th, excluding Sporting Clays.

You choose the score to post!! Scores must be chosen the same night of shooting. Don't like your scores, don't post any. Great banquet at the end! Sign up now!!!

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Out with 2007 & in with 2008!! As we look back a case of targets 4 years ago was \$4.25, in January 2007 was \$7.10 and today they are \$8.20. Propane was \$1.62 and today is \$2.40 and climbing. We set out in 2007 scheduling 12 ATA Trap events, 7 Sporting Clays registered shoots, 1 Skeet Shoot and a MUCC State Championship weekend, as well as our league Fun Shoots, the Jim Schillaci Shoot, Pheasant

Forever Youth Day and a segment on TV with Michigan Out of Doors covering the youth weekend.

It has been a very busy and fast paced year, all done with some awesome volunteers. The Board of Directors is always looking for ways to improve the club but most of all good people "the volunteers", who will help carry the torch into 2008 with great enthusiasm as we have had this past year.

New ideas and games are in the making as we speak. Already scheduled for 2008 are 7 ATA registered shoots, 6 sporting clays registered shoots, a registered skeet shoot, the Jim Schillaci Memorial shoot, Pheasants Forever Youth Day-June 7th, Delta Waterfowl Shoot-May 17th, and many fun shoots including our Wednesday mornings "Sporting Clays Clutch" headed up by our own David Bolen and Mark Trent, two of the mightiest volunteers this year. Not a day goes by when someone is not at the club improving the grounds or just walking the course and shooting the automated sporting clays course.

By mid summer we will have an automated skeet & trap field in place where you can come and shoot the fields even when we are closed. Your club, your game, 7 days a week!!

In 2007, Michigan United Conservations Club "MUCC" was contacted for a bid to host a state Sporting Clays shoot. Once arriving and seeing our facilities, we ended up being the first club ever to host a skeet, trap and sporting clays state championship in one weekend. With lots of planning, it went off without a hitch. Over 200 shooters and 200+ spectators, all the fields were full for 2 days. Camping sites were full and thanks to Don Ackerberg, we even had camping overflow and parking in his field. All from a simple idea "just try".

And try we have to make and keep Seaway "West Michigan's Premier Shotgun Sports Shooting Facility". Late in the year we added a website thanks to Patrick Bowen. Patrick, one of our trappers at the time, studied web design in school. He came to us after hearing the board was looking for a web designer. Now up and running, www.seawaygunclub.com and you need to check it out!!

So you think we are just another gun club....well come out and get shooting as the birds are flying at Seaway!!

THANK YOU!!

To Frank Kinsley & Mark Trent for installing the wood burner in the clubhouse and to Jeff Stokes for supplying the wood!!

Feel the warmth!!

SPORTING CLAYS CLUTCH



COME LEARN TO SHOOT SPORTING CLAYS!!
SPORTING CLAYS CLUTCH MEETS ON WEDNESDAY MORNINGS AND WILL TEACH YOU EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW!! LUNCH IS SERVED AT NOON!!

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO
ATTENDED THE PRE-NEW YEARS CLUB
SHOOT. THE ATTENDANCE WAS
WONDERFUL.**

**PRIZES GIVEN AWAY INCLUDED X-MAS
TREE STAND DONATED FROM MITCH,
SHELLS, GLOVES, ROAD ATLAS FROM
MIKE ALLEN AND A CERTIFICATE FOR A
NIGHT'S STAY AT THE WEATHERVANE
IN.**

**THE NEXT CLUB SHOOT (OLD TIMERS)
WILL BE ON JANUARY 20TH. PLAN ON
ATTENDING FOR A FREE BLUEBERRY
PANCAKE & SAUSAGE BREAKFAST!!**

Advertising Opportunities

Place a business card size ad in our newsletter – 6 issues for \$60. Place a 12 month banner ad on our website for \$100.00!

Place an ad on the web and in the newsletter for \$150.00 – save \$10.00!! Our website is linked to MIClays, ATA, NSSA and Wings & Clays websites.

Please contact Sharon for more info. 231-670-1647

WEBSITE.....WEBSITE!

Check out our new website! Event information and pictures will be updated as needed. Thank you Patrick for doing such a great job!!

www.seawaygunclub.com.

MEET YOUR BOARD

MIKE ALLEN

Trusee

I am an insurance agent for State Farm Insurance in Shelby, MI for the past 28 years and am married to wife Karoline for 20 years and have a daughter Ashley, age 19. Ashley attends Muskegon Community College majoring in accounting. Levi, who I met through Big Brothers/Big Sisters lives with us and is a junior at Shelby High School.

My hobbies include deer hunting, golf but I haven't golfed in the past 1 ½ years to pursue my shooting passion. My license plate is printed "MrLucky" due to getting 2 holes in one, 1 double-eagle on 520 yd Par 5, hitting the any sex Michigan Elk Tag in 2000, harvesting what I wished for (careful what you wish for) granddad bull elk, 10 ½ yrs old, 625 lbs field dressed but only a 5x3 rack. I had to run him twice through the cuber, and was still very chewy.

I was originally a skeet shooter from about age 12, then saw the light and converted to trap about 2 years ago. Best score was at the 2006 Fall Team Shoot at Mason, a 99 with first 50 straight and 75 straight attained. I'm learning to shoot with one eye open since my brain aneurysm in late August however I feel my sight will be fully back by July State Shoot (MrLucky's wishful thinking). I have many books and tapes on Skeet and Trap and feel I can do a good job on instruction on either, if you need/want any help improving your game, please don't hesitate to ask as I enjoy helping others shoot better.

APRIL 27TH – 500 SINGLES
JUNE 1ST
JUNE 21ST & 22ND – ZONE 3
SEPT 27TH & 28TH – FALL SHOOT

SPORTING CLAYS SHOOT

JANUARY 13TH
APRIL 26TH - IRONMAN
MAY 25TH
JUNE 22 – W MI CLASSIC
JULY 18TH – GR LAKES PRELIM
SEPTEMBER 7TH – MICHIGAN CUP

SKEET SHOOT

JUNE 21ST & 22ND

2008 MTA Shoots

Work Day – April 20th
Spring Team – May 2,3,4
Great Lakes Grand May 20-26
500 Singles – June 28
500 Doubles – June 30
State Shoot – June 30-July 6
MI Handicap – July 24-27
Fall Team – Sept 5,6,7

SEAWAY GUN CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President – Dennis Blankenship – 893-4510
Vice President – Dave Bolen – 861-0307
Treasurer – Sharon Prus – 670-1647
Secretary – Mike Dykstra – 616-899-2644
Trustee – Mark Trent – 893-3720
Trustee – Mike Allen – 861-5858
Trustee – Jimmy Bronson – 744-2957
Trustee – Brian Erickson – 861-5112

If you have any news articles, items for sale or pictures to add to the newsletter, please send them by email to sp74qto@aol.com or drop them off to Jeff at the counter.
Thank you

2008 REGISTERED SHOOT DATES

ATA SHOOT DATES