



**GRAND VALLEY CAP N BALLERS™
SMOKE POLE
AUGUST 2018**



JEFF'S JOURNAL

Grand Valley Cap "n" Ballers Frontier Shoot 2018. We could not have possibly anticipated just how successful this year's shoot would be. That is because every previous event was slightly down from the 2017 numbers. The biggest factor in that was some kind of weather related issue happened. First it was cold then

to windy then to hot. In my mind, all I could think of was what next. This time we lucked out. The weather was very pleasant up until Saturday afternoon when it became quite warm and humid, but by then the majority of the shooting was winding down so that wasn't too hard to accept. We did have some rain, however it was overnight on Wednesday and we needed that to settle down the dusty trails. Just how successful was the event? I'll start with registration. Would you believe almost dbl. from 2017 last year 64 and this year 112. I am still scratching my head trying to figure that one out. What ever the reason, we could not be happier and we hope this is a trend of revival for all the muzzle loading clubs. We had our regulars that we see every year but the encouraging thing was the many new shooters and young people we had not seen before. I hope everyone had a good time and we look forward to seeing you here in the future. We have many events here so check out our schedule at gvcnb.org. The success was not limited to just attendance but to every income generating venue at the shoot. The kitchen, silent auction and concession all did better than the last several years. This is because of all the hard

work and dedication so many of our club members spent in the preparation an actively working at the shoot. This year is truly one of those times when listing individuals who contributed to the shoots success would be impossible. This year was one of the best for me because so many of you volunteered to help that all our venues were staffed and then I could step-in and help where needed. This year a general THANK YOU! Is issued to all of you who helped in any way I am very proud of you for your effort.

I know many of our guests receive our newsletter so I'd like to thank you too not only for coming to the shoot but for helping us at times and for being so generous in your contributions. Anytime we have a shoot safety is our most important issue. This year our Range Officers reported to me that there very few if any issues in that regard. Overall this is one of the best Frontier Shoots we have had in several years. Thank you again.

I wish we could take a break and relax a bit but that is not the case. This coming weekend we have the Youth Shoot to do. Then we have the State Shotgun Championships after that, we finish the busy month with Fun Tyme at the Range on the 24th

and 25th. We had a lot of fun at this shoot last year and I anticipate this year will be no exception. I have a couple of new targets to try this year and this year we will do most of our shooting On Saturday so we can have the awards for those of you who cannot stay overnight. We will still shoot the Long Hunter Range on Sunday for those of you who chose to spend the night. Wow! That's a lot for one month I hope I don't run out of energy by then.

See You soon; Jeff



FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

Folks, there has been about 9 LP tanks that have come up missing from the club grounds. It would be a good idea to chain and lock you LP tanks to your unit.

***Please keep the Shinabarger Family
in your prayers during this difficult
time***

Secretary's Corner

Dawn Thurkettle

Last weekend was our annual Frontier Shoot. What a great weekend! It was so nice seeing some faces that I haven't seen in a while, and very nice seeing faces that I have never seen. I think that the success of Frontier Shoot comes from our dedicated members who get out there and "sell" our club. I really only heard positive comments from those guests. Now looking on to the rest of the year, and yes, planning for our next Frontier Shoot.

I would like to take a moment to commend Jeff and Ron. These two guys work so very hard for this club. It's like whatever they do, it involves the club. And I'm sure that they have lives away from the grounds, I think. But it is the dedication of these two men that have helped keep things moving forward. Yes, we have other members that work very hard for our club, we have many members that do, I'm not discounting them at all. I want to thank those two men for continuously doing what they do. If the time ever comes and they leave their posts, I hope the next generation will look back and see what the dedication of these two men have meant for Grand Valley Cap n

Ballers, and use some of the tools that they have put in place for our club. And I hope that the next generation continue to have the enthusiasm that these two men have had for Grand Valley Cap n Ballers and the sport of black powder shooting. Thank you.

FROM SHOTGUN

Frontier Shoot is over for another year. We had a decent turnout at Shotgun.

Other than the fact that it was very hot we had a good time. We had shooters from Texas, Canada, Indiana and of course Michigan. At the awards, it has been a long long time since I saw that many participants. Hope it's a sign of things to come.

Don't forget State Shotgun Championships August 14th to the 19th. Hope to see a great turnout there.

Paul

Wahoo!!! 100+

Frontier Shoot # 51 is in the books and I was so happy to be a shooter in the event this year. Tom and I had retired from competitive shooting around

2001. I have dipped my toes in the water by taking my granddaughter and her friend to the Women's Shoot (Janet Tessman started this fun shoot, and any woman who has not participated in it you are missing a great time.) This year I talked Bonnie into joining me at State and retirement went out the door! So, I packed my guns and headed back to Frontier Shoot.

The rumors were true the shoot has gone down in the number of shooters, but it was so much like old times. Thursday night I was greeted with the noisy fish fry pot luck. Every picnic table was full and more of us in the club house.

Passing the hat, they raised over \$290.00 for a new fryer and a non-club member started a 50-50 that ended up a total of \$140.00.

The fish fry has been a tradition started by the Ohio clan "back in the day". Now I wish we would add back the musicians that played at the campfires. The dance at the pavilion was fun but going to the different campfires and hearing the "back home music," was the best! Even had a wash tub instrument at one or two sites.

Friday was a "work day" for me. I began my duties at shotgun registration, and even filled in as range officer. Work day really means

getting to watch the shooting and talk with old and new friends. Volunteer and you will see the fun and it could be a new adventure.

Driving from shotgun to the rifle range, I was amazed at the number of campers, tents and tee pees. Sure, looked like the old shoots, except no one was using our camper as a stake to tie down their tent, (true story that is how crowded it could be years back.)

Pat was kind enough to share the registration duties with me and that sent me on a mission 100 registered shooters or bust. Yes, the stories are true we use to line them up down the road to get registered Friday and normally hit at least 250 by night fall but from reports on shoots around the country things are getting tight for most muzzle loading clubs.

I kept track and we were so close 93, 94, oh when would it hit 100? I tried sending people out on the road to haul people in, thought I had found a fortune in charging the vendors for setting up, but Jeff cut me off at the knees, explaining that he was just happy to have them. He made a lot of sense so I had to sit on my hands and wait for the next shooter to sign in. Waiting was half the fun, when would number 100 show up. Everyone was very confident we would get #100 this year. We had to wait till morning!!!

Ruth Palmer who is a champion of keeping muzzle loading alive had brought three grandchildren with her and ta da! Her granddaughter was number 100! I wish I had thought and had confetti to throw in the air. There are shooters out there and we can get more interested if we just TRY.

It was a sight for sore eyes to see a full line all day Saturday, everyone enjoying my favorite sport, laughter, people helping others with supplies, or gun problem, the roar of the rifles when they went off, and the lovely aroma of black powder in the air. I was home again, no matter how rusty a shooter I am, it is the people that make this sport the best there is and we have started back on the road to recovery if we work at it just a little.

I am going to ask that you all put your thinking caps on as to how we get 150 shooters next year and each month I am going to challenge you to try one that I plan to add to the list. This month get those wives, daughters, girl friends together and head to GVCNB for the Women's Shoot August 25. Once in the blood, it will stay there.

Please don't make me wait till Saturday morning next year to see the 150th, I am an old lady of 68 and who knows if my heart could take the suspense!

Thanks to all who let me be a part of the excitement of Frontier Shoot.

See you at the shoot,

Paulette Maxson

THANK YOU

*We would like to thank John, Colleen, Khalan and Trent Roe for all the hard work they do to make Frontier Shoot Kitchen a success. Also thank you to Robin Snyder for coming in to cook fries when we were short. Your smiling faces and dedication are great to be around the whole weekend. You kids **ROCK!!!***

John & Cheryl Snyder

BOW AND ARROW

*In the **Primitive Bow** Roger Pierce placed first with 126, Russ Povenz placed second with 93 and Leanne Pierce placed 3rd with 71. In the **Master Class** Joe German placed first with 151 and Kevin Heimstra placed second with 141. Shar Heimstra placed first in the **Novice Class**.*

WOODS WALK

Larry Horrigan took 1st place in the Trade Gun Woods Walk. Kurt Nienhouse took first in the woods walk and Russ Povenz took second.

LINE MATCHES

50 Yard Women's Buffalo

Karen Barnum

25 Yard Womens all Black Bull

Jackie Armstrong -----46

Leanne Pierce-----45

Lee Patterson-----44

25 Yard Trade Gun

Dennis Priddy-----46

Roger Pierce-----41XX

Larry Horrigan-----41

50 Yard Trade Gun

Bill Basrnum-----39

Ed Henson-----21

Roger Pierce-----20

25 Yards Men's Rifle (3 Bull)

Roger Pierce-----36X

Ed Henson-----36

Jeff Terrell-----34X

Women's Novelty (Pig)

Leanne Pierce-----38

Janet Tessman-----30

Men's 25 Yard Novelty (Wild Boar)

Roger Pierce-----46

Dennis Priddy-----45

Jeff Terrell-----39

Men's 50 Yard Groundhog)

Ed Henson-----40

Scott Silverman-----35

Larry Horrigan-----33

25 Yard Women's (Mouse)

Leanne Pierce-----47

Jackie Armstrong—45

Janet Tessman-----42

25 Yard Rifle (3 Bull)

Larry Horrigan-----42

Jeff Terrell-----42

Jerry Tessman-----41

Ed Henson-----40

THANKS FOR THE INFORMATION

A sweet grandmother telephoned the reception desk of a large city hospital. She timidly ask, "is it possible to speak to someone who can tell me how a patient is doing?" The operator said, "I'll be happy to help you." What is the name and room number? The grandmother in her weak voice said Holly Finkel in room 302. The operator replied, let me check. Good news, the records say she is doing very well. Blood pressure is fine, blood work normal and her doctor has scheduled her to be discharged today. The grandmother said thank you. Operator replied, you are more than welcomed. Is Holly your daughter? Grandmother said, NOO, I,m Holly Finklel in room 302, no one tells me anything.

*The "RETURN
OF ROBIN
HOOD" was*

*cancelled in June due
to heavy rain.*

*(Apparently Robin
Hood did not want to
get wet) the Robin
Hood Archery event
has now been*

rescheduled for

September 29,

*2018. This event will
take place rain or shine
and will begin at 10:00
am. There is still a \$5*

*entry fee and you will
also need a \$10 Blanket
Prize. Lunch is
included.*

*This event is a lot of fun
so please try to join us
as we shoot throughout a
live narration of the
story of Robin Hood.*

*GRAND VALLEY CAP N BALLERS
3506 26TH STREET
HOPKINS, MI. 49328*

**4th ANNUAL YOUTH DAY
GRAND VALLEY CAP N BALLERS™
3506 26TH STREET
HOPKINS, MI. 49328**

AUGUST 11, 2018 FROM 9 am till 3 pm

**FOR THE BEGINNER TO THE PROFESSIONAL
Cost is only \$10/child**

The program will be:

**Tomahawk & Knife BB gun
Air Rifle**

Bow & Arrow Muzzle Loading

**Event will be divided into age groups
Everyone will be supervised and instructed
in each event**

There will be prizes for each event

**Lunch provided for the kids
Parents can eat as well for a donation**

**Parents come and enjoy camping on our
campground for only \$10.00 for electric
hook-up**

**For more info: Barbara Kinzer
616-298-6921**

**GVCNB SMOKE POLE
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