



The Smokepole

Official Publication of
Grand Valley Cap'n Ballers™
Muzzle Loading Gun Club

Visit us at: -
www.gvcnb.org.

January 2024– Happy New Year!!

PLEASE READ

This will be the last Smokepole that gets sent out if I don't hear from you!

If you would still like to receive the Smoke Pole, please text me at

616-284-7146 or if you have email, email me so I can email you.

GVC&B Club Officers 2023-24

President	Jeff Terrell
Vice President	Larry Horrigan
Secretary	Pat Bradfield
Treasurer	Ron Fernwalt
Range Officer	Tom Verberg
Newsletter	Jackie Armstrong

Board Members (Year Elected)

Dennis Priddy	2022
Scott Silverman	2022
Bonnie Fernwalt	2022
Jimmy Dauthrich	2022
Neal Armstrong	2023

A Patriot Speaks
May we think of Freedom, not as the right to do what we please, but use it as the opportunity to do what is right.
Peter Marshal

Coming Events

No meeting in February
Next Club meeting March 3rd

Jeff's Journal

Hello my friends, and welcome to the new year. I'm sure I won't be the only one to say where did 2023 go. This was especially true of the holiday season. It seemed to me like the time from Thanksgiving to New Years went by faster than ever this year. Maybe it did and then on the other hand, getting older may have had something to do with that. This year we had our family gatherings in sections.



Christmas breakfast was enjoyed with Pam, Jeff and Carson, then in the afternoon we went to Melissa's home with her family for more food and an adult beverage or two. When we came home later that evening the stars were out and it was still near 50 deg I like a green Christmas more and more We were so blessed and have that time together. Our last party was a week later with the entire family, children (2) grandchildren (7) and the greats also (7). Wow! Was it noisy a

little bit crazy at times, but so very special for all of us. We have so much to be thankful for and I am. I sincerely hope each of you enjoyed the season as much as we did.

HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE. And so, it is, we begin another year, there's not much going on right now, except to thank Larry for taking responsibility for the shoot last Sunday. I think there were 10 shooters who came out to shoot on that foggy day to shoot the scores are in the newsletter, somewhere.

F.Y.I. the History Show is about two months away from now. I'm mentioning this info., now just in case you might have found something in your accoutrements that you no longer need, if so, please consider donating to the trade goods table at the show. The only restriction is it must be pre-1890. We can certainly use it this year. We will be having an extra table this year to accommodate our advertising committee they have been working diligently this Winter on promoting our club for the show, just wait until you see what's going to happen, I'm really excited for 2024 and the show especially. Most of all it will be only days away from Spring and then we can really get the season going. Funny I should say that because snow just arrived this week. Please be safe, there's so many wacky drivers out there and we still have a couple of months of this to go. See you soon.

Jeff

CAMP WATER NEED!

We need someone to assume the job Ron has been doing of turning the water on in the spring and shutting it off and blowing out the lines in the fall. This is an easy job and Ron will show you how the job is done.

Please contact Ron and let him know you will take over this much needed job.

Thank you in advance for your help!

DUES AND CAMP SITE FEES

Don't forget to get your dues and campsites in not later than January 31. Remember the postmark and date need to be postmarked by January 31, 2024

NMLRA DUES

What a deal, the NMLRA is offering 3 years single membership for the price of 2 years. Sorry no family membership with that deal. You can purchase a digital 3 year membership for \$70 or the membership with the magazine for \$100. Give me a call @616-836-5760 for more information or a check made out to the NMLRA and I will make out all the paper work but I would need the check before Christmas.

Ron

REMEMBER,

"AS A TEAM WE WILL SUCCEED"

Ode to a People/Tribute to a Place

I'm often thankful for a place we call Grand Valley. I love its people ... and the retreat it's become too so many of us. I love its *stuff*; its beautiful facilities, the smell of pine and burnt powder, its family atmosphere and a place to hunt in the fall. I love the twanging of bow strings, and the crack of rifles on the line. And I love its history—and its *love* of history. I love its romance, the crunching of fall leaves and people walking about at times with strange regalia.

But I've found much more than facilities, natural beauty, and full-throated entertainment. What makes the place indispensable are its people. Whether it's Larry creating his French pieces, Denny turning out another work of master-craftsmanship, or Jerry touching off his smoke-wagons on the line—with a child-like grin—I might add. And then of course, there's all those who give tirelessly of their time to administrate this whole enterprise. Thank you, Jeff, Ron, Larry. Grand Valley is a place of camaraderie, shared with those who love the old ways, and I'm proud to call myself a part of it all. I'm glad to be on this journey with all of you.

Neal Armstrong

On the Firing Line

Line Matches—

Men's 50 yd Rifle Bear

- | | |
|--------------------|----|
| 1. Larry Horrigan | 34 |
| 2. Jimmy Dauthrich | 33 |
| 3. Ed Henson | 28 |

Men's 25 yd Rifle—Hedgehog

- | | |
|--------------------|-----|
| 1. Ed Henson | 46x |
| 2. Larry Horrigan | 44 |
| 3. Jimmy Dauthrich | 44 |

Men's 25yd Rifle Novelty—Rat

- | | |
|-------------------|----|
| 1. Larry Horrigan | 40 |
| 2. Ed Henson | 28 |
| 3. Ben Kerkstra | 18 |

Men's 50yd Trade Gun— Buffalo

- | | |
|-------------------|----|
| 1. Louis Lorenz | 31 |
| 2. Larry Horrigan | 26 |
| 3. Bill Barnum | 22 |

Men's 25 yd Trade Gun— Keyhole

- | | |
|-------------------|----|
| 1. Larry Horrigan | 44 |
| 2. Ed Henson | 43 |
| 3. Louis Lorenz | 41 |

Women's 50 yd Rifle— Big Bull

- | | |
|-------------------|----|
| 1. Karen Barnum | 35 |
| 2. Dominique Carl | 17 |

Women's 25 YD Rifle—5 Acorns

- | | |
|-------------------|-----|
| 1. Karen Barnum | 20x |
| 2. Dominique Carl | 10 |

Women's 25 YD Novelty—Woodchuck

- | | |
|-------------------|----|
| 1. Karen Barnum | 38 |
| 2. Dominique Carl | 14 |

Special—Dick Miller Drawing

- | |
|------------------|
| 1. Ed Henson won |
|------------------|

Woods Walk—

- | |
|----|
| 1. |
| 2. |

Shotgun

No scores to report

Grand Valley Cap & Ballers
537 Brownell se
Grand Rapids, MI 49548

GVCnB 2024 MEMBERSHIP AND CAMPSITE RENEWAL FEE

Annual dues and campsite fees are payable no later than January 31, 2024. Payment must be made to treasurer FOR \$150.00 FOR THE CAMP SITE AND \$50.00 MEMBERSHIP DUES either at any meeting or post-marked no later than January 31, 2024. Make checks payable to Grand Valley Cap N Ballers. Fill out ahead of time to avoid confusion. Thanks. This form must be completed with payment.

IF YOUR CHECK IS NOT POSTMARKED BY JANUARY 31, YOU WILL LOSE YOUR MEMBERSHIP AND NEED TO START OVER AGAIN TO BECOME A MEMBER.

If you have a designated campsite and the fee is not paid ahead of time, FEE WILL BE DOUBLED AFTER JANUARY 31, 2024. If not paid within 30 days after January 31, the unit must be moved off club property, or it will be impounded by local law enforcement.

REMEMBER THAT ALL MEMBERS WHO HAVE CAMPING UNITS ON CLUB PROPERTY ARE EXPECTED TO CARRY INSURANCE ON THEIR UNITS OR ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY DAMAGE THAT MAY OCCUR WHILE ON CLUB PROPERTY.

Please fill out the following in very clear and legible print and return to GVCNB, 16808 Peach Ridge, Kent City, Mi. 49330

Name _____

Spouse _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail Address _____

Signature _____

NMLRA Membership # _____

Dues \$50.00 _____

Campsite Fee \$150.00 _____

Total Submitted \$ _____

Group Camping Area _____

or Lot Number _____

Membership Status Regular _____ Life _____

Year Joined GVCnB _____

CAMPSITES AND CAMPSITE REGISTRATION

The \$150.00 a year camping fee reserves the campsite and includes 20 days of electric hookup without additional charges.

Anyone camping at Shotgun will pay the event fee, plus the additional current up charge for A/C use.

At major events, i.e.; Zimmerman, Spring Shoot, Family Rendevous, Frontier Shoot, Ladies Fun Tyme At The Range, and OctoberFest/Meat Shoot, members are **REQUIRED** to pay the electrical charge for that event.

All members paying the event electrical fee will not have those days deducted against their 20 day limit.

After a registered reserved campsite member has surpassed the 20 day electrical use limit, those members will be charged a \$2.00 a day electrical fee if plugged in.