



The Smokepole

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

Visit us at: -
www.gvcnb.org.

February 2024

Thank you David Fox & Kevin Price for stepping up to take this job over. Ron still would like to get a couple more people trained in this job. So let him know if you like to get in on this.

Thank 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
 Ed Henson 2023

A PATRIOT SPEAKS
Those who make peaceful revolution to tyrannical policies, impossible, will make violent revolution probable.

NMLRA

National Territory Lady Trap
Champion 1st place –
Bonnie Fernwalt

National Lady Skeet Champion
2nd place- Bonnie Fernwalt

National Trap Champion 2nd–
John Turner
3rd place– Ron Fernwalt

Jeff's Journal

Wow! I am so glad the January thaw held off until February this year. Last Sunday was a welcome break from the clouds and cold weather we have had for over a month. As most of you know by now I'm by no means an advocate for Winter and any of the outdoor activities it offers. That's why I have not been to any of our monthly shoots held in the Winter months for a few years. Exception, last Sunday, when I saw the forecast for sunny and 45 + I knew I had to get out to the range and shoot. And so I did along with about 20 others, it's amazing how a little sunshine can get us right back in the mood to be outdoors. That was the case for most of us, except our die-hard shooters of course. I was pleasantly surprised to have a second and a third in the rifle matches, I didn't think that was so bad considering months of not shooting at all. I came ever so close to



having a really good score on the 50yd. target, but I only had 4 of my .020 patches, so my last shot was with a .015 and I lost it and had a 5. On Monday I ordered 200 of the .020 patches so that won't happen again. Being outdoors the shooting, the sunny day were all great but doing all that with my friends again was just the BEST of all. Next month we get back to the regular monthly routine with the shoot and a regular business meeting on the 3rd of February. I hope to see more of you in attendance that day.

Last Saturday Ron, Eric and I drove to Eaton Rapids for the State assoc. Winter meeting, there not much to report on those proceedings except a FYI the State Shoot will be here at Grand Valley in July and will be for the next three years so plan ahead for that and plan to attend.

ATTENTION! ATTENTION!

About this time of year, we always schedule a work detail for Campground and Range clean-up. This year we need to get an early start on that project. The heavy wet snow we experienced in December took a huge toll on many of the trees on our property. We have several trees (not just limbs) down, two are on the 50 yd. line and that will need to be repaired as well. **That is why we will be having a chain saw work day to get this mess cleaned up on March 2nd beginning at 9 am.** This is one of those occasions when we need all hands on deck to get this job done the project is way too

big to leave to just a few. The way things are right now we could not even consider having any events on our property. **We need everyone's help, please be there on Saturday the 2nd.** We will have lunch provided since this will not be a half day project. Stay well and we will see you then.

Jeff

P.S. Just reminder, donations of trade goods are being excepted for the History Show, it's only 6 wks. from

FROM THE SHOTGUN CRIB

All of our flyers are made up and posted to the web. The state shoot schedule is also posted on the web. There are fewer shoots this year than last. When you can support the other clubs if you are able to and it is a free weekend.

Most of the 2nd and 3rd place prizes have been purchased.

We are going to do some improvements at the shotgun range this year which will be running electric out to our incoming traps. The extension cords are not quite big enough to carry the load. Also painting of the lawn mower storage and outhouse. I will see that the buildings get power washed before painting.

When you leave the shotgun camping area and there is no vehicle or person there the gate must be locked and closed. ATF came in to inspect this past year and the gate was open and they frowned upon that. If they do a drive in again, we could face a heavy fine. I will be reminding you again in the future. We almost had to move the vault, but the inspector did some checking, and we are ok. WE JUST HAVE TO LOCK THE GATE WHEN NO ONE IS AT SHOTGUN.

OTHER HAPPENINGS

Just received the new pricing on Powder and those prices will be going up in the near future. I am hearing that percussion caps are hard to get and not saying when they will be available. Our supplier is hoping they will have percussion caps in the near future.

We got the sale of Black Powder to Mackinac State Historic Parks. That has been shipped and they have received it.

Well folks I hope you had a good Christmas and a Happy New Year. Keep up the good work you have been doing for the club and we will succeed.

Together as a team we will succeed.

Ron

On the Firing Line

Line Matches—

Men's 50 yd Rifle Bear

- | | |
|-------------------|-------|
| 1. Larry Horrigan | 42 2X |
| 2. Jeff Terrell | 35 1X |
| 3. Ed Henson | 35 |

Men's 25 yd Rifle—Bulls Eye

- | | |
|--------------------|-------|
| 1. Jimmy Dauthrich | 48 |
| 2. Larry Horrigan | 47 |
| 3. Ed Henson | 45 1X |

Men's 25yd Rifle Novelty—Ground Hog

- | | |
|-------------------|----|
| 1. Ed Henson | 43 |
| 2. Larry Horrigan | 40 |
| 3. Jeff Terrell | 31 |

Men's 50yd Trade Gun— Buffalo

- | | |
|-------------------|-------|
| 1. Bill Barnum | 35 1X |
| 2. Larry Horrigan | 22 |
| 3. Ben Kurkstra | 18 |

Men's 25 yd Trade Gun— Keyhole

- | | |
|-----------------|-------|
| 1. Louis Lorenz | 45 |
| 2. Bill Barnum | 44 1X |
| 3. Ed Henson | 44 |

Women's 50 yd Rifle— Bulls Eye

- | | |
|-------------------|----|
| 1. Karen Barnum | 35 |
| 2. Leanne Pierce | 21 |
| 3. Dominique Carl | 10 |

Women's 25 YD Rifle—Big Heart

- | | |
|-------------------|----|
| 1. Leanne Pierce | 39 |
| 2. Karen Barnum | 18 |
| 3. Dominique Carl | 7 |

Women's 25 YD Novelty—Bee

- | | |
|-------------------|----|
| 1. Leanne Pierce | 31 |
| 2. Karen Barnum | 21 |
| 3. Dominique Carl | 7 |

Woods Walk—

- | | |
|-------------------|-----|
| 1. Ed Henson | 150 |
| 2. Kurk Neinhouse | 130 |
| 3. Tom Knight | 100 |

Shotgun

No scores to report

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