



The Smoke Pole

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

Visit us at: -
www.gvcnb.org.

April 2025

*****SPONSORS*****

We NEED sponsors to cover our matches. Get out and see your local business to see if they would be interested in sponsoring a match or two. Their names and/or business will be on the web until September of 2026. Look at what business's we have & do your best to support these businesses that have sponsored matches.

****ANNOUNCEMENT****

John Snyder announced at the that the Celebration of Life for his deceased wife Cheryl, will be June 14th at 2 pm.
All are welcome to attend.

GVC&B Club Officers 2024-25

President: Jeff Terrell
Vice President: Larry Horrigan
Secretary: Lee Patterson
Treasurer: Chelsea Fox
Range Officer: Roger Pierce
Newsletter: Jackie Armstrong

Board Members (Year Elected)

Dennis Priddy 2024
Bonnie Fernwalt 2024
Tom Verberg 2024
Leanne Pierce 2024
Neal Armstrong 2023
John Turner 2023
Ed Henson 2023

50/50 WINNER

Jackie Armstrong

ATTENDANCE WINNER

Bonnie Fernwalt & Pat Malloy

CONGRATULATIONS

Jeff's Journal

Good afternoon or morning whatever that would be depending on whatever time of day it is when you decide to read this month's Newsletter. As of last Saturday, our shooting season for 2025 is officially underway, with the shooting of the Art Zimmerman Memorial Shoot. This has been our first shoot of the year for 6 years now and attendance has continued to grow a few shooters at a time every year. This year, thankfully, that was no exception. I kind of wondered about that since it was a bit chilly in the morning and then there was a chance of rain. Fortunately for us the rain never happened and for once the cold wind we've had for days was very near calm. We started shooting the 10 matches right at 10am, and the line was very busy all day since all matches for



this event are squadded and nobody wanted to miss a match. We finished right on time at 2pm and proceeded to the awards, where we had a first-time shooter with a borrowed gun, who placed in three matches and was 3rd overall. Good for him! Another, plus this year we had two more new shooters and a couple of people who had never been to our Club before. Thanks for coming and I hope you had fun because we really enjoy doing this event and it is meant to be FUN. The team was at their best on Saturday from Range Officers, to Scorers, Registration and special thanks to Kurt and Mary Nienhouse and Jennifer Buchanan for the delicious campfire chili, cornbread muffins and the desserts. PS, Thanks to all those who contributed to the Raffle Prizes. All in all, it was a very successful event.

On Sunday our Club Shoot had many less shooters, and it was also much colder and windy too. The Sun did come out later, but it was too late to do much good. The basement was the place to be, with a fire burning steadily in the wood stove. It was nice and warm just the way I like it.

Continue...

The meeting began right on time and one of the first things I wanted to do was to thank everyone who participated in the clean-up work detail last month, Special thanks are needed to be given to Dick Miller for lunch and David, Drew and Mark for their time and power tools, it made the job so much easier. We've put off splitting the pile of wood under the porch for a couple years now, it is no longer a problem, Tom brought his splitter and he and Jon got the job done, all split and neatly stacked for future use. At the meeting it was mostly routine after that except a reminder **our next club shoot and meeting will be April 27th and there will be no Air-gun Match on the 26th there also will be no woods walk on Sunday due to an encampment in the woods.** Line matches will go on as planned on Sunday at 11am for pistol only and long gun matches at noon. **There will be a volley for Cheryl Snyder before the line matches begin.** The last reminder is that Spring Shoot is May 2nd and 3rd be prepared to help where needed and shoot if you can. I hope you have a great next couple of weeks and OMG I also hope it warms up by then.

Jeff

A PATROIT SPEAKS

What we need are dedicated lovers of American patriotism, who express their Faith in their country, by working to improve it.

Hubert Humperty

Air Gun

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Archery-Men

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Archery-Women

- 1.
- 2.

On the Firing Line

Line Matches—

Men's 25yd Rifle– Novelty

1. Jeff Troy
2. Ed Henson
3. Dennis Priddy

Men's 25yd Rifle

1. Kurt Nienhouse
2. Ed Henson
3. Todd Gomah

Men's 50yd Rifle

1. Larry Horigan
2. Ed Henson
3. Mark Smith

Men's 25yd Trade Gun Novelty

1. Ed Henson
2. Dennis Priddy
3. Todd Gomah

Men's 25yd Trade Gun

1. Larry Horrigan
2. Ed Hensen
3. Dave Fox

Men's 50yd Trade Gun

1. Ed Hensen
2. Mark Smith
3. Drew Harrington

Special shoot

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Men's 25yd Pistol-

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Men's 50yd Pistol

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Women's 25yd Rifle

1. Leanne Pierce
- 2.
- 3.

Women's 50yd Rifle

1. Leanne Pierce

Woods Walk-Flint

1. Kurt Niehouse

Woods Walk– Trade Gun

- | | |
|-------------------|-----|
| 1. Ed Hensen | 160 |
| 2. Dre Harrington | 110 |

Woods Walk Percussion

1. Ben Kerkstra

FROM THE SHOTGUN CRIB

THANK YOU

A big **thank you** goes to Ron Nanzer. He gave me his supply of shotgun wads to do what I wanted with them. I talked with Michael from Flintlocks LLC and swapped them out for 12-gauge wads. We now have a supply for maybe 2 – 3 years of prizes for Spring, Frontier, Territorial and other shotgun matches. I will know more when I take inventory at the end of the year.

A big **thank you** goes to John Shinabarger for donating 2 more Atlas Traps for use at Sporting Clays

We still have some clean up to do in the shotgun area to be ready for Sporting Clays on the 19th starting at 9:00am and also for our guests at Spring Shoot.

Don't forget our modern sporting clay's on the 19th.

CAMPSITES AND CAMPSITE REGISTRATION

*******Spring Shoot will be up on us soon. Remember all tarps and covers *****
are to be off of your camping units by Spring Shoot.**

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 Rendezvous, Frontier Shoot, Ladies Fun Tyme At The Range, and October Fest/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.

ANY GUEST CAMPING WITH THEIR UNITS ARE REQUIRED TO PAY \$5.00/DAY FOR ELECTRICAL USE.

Campground Committee

GRAND VALLEY CAP n BALLERS™

**3506 – 26TH STREET
HOPKINS, MI.**

Each year the Grand Valley Cap n Ballers™ Muzzle Loading Gun Club has their annual Spring Shoot the first weekend in May and their Frontier Shoot the first weekend in August. This is a family sport which includes husbands, wives and kids as you can see by the matches that we have.

We draw competitors from Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Canada, Missouri, and Kentucky and as far away as North Carolina and California. The Spring Shoot is a 3-day event with competitors arriving a week early and setting up camp. The Frontier Shoot is a 4-day event with competitors coming in as early as the weekend before to set up camp for the event. A lot of the competitors come early and spend their vacation in the area prior to the event.

The shoots will be held at the Grand Valley Cap N Ballers™ Muzzle Loading Gun Club located at 3506 – 26th Street, Hopkins, Mi. which is Southwest of Dorr, Mi.

We are always looking for businesses and individuals that would like to sponsor a match or two. The cost to sponsor a match is only \$25.00.

Each month there are over 200 newsletters that go out and by getting your sponsorship in now will give you over 1000 hits plus the brochure that will be handed out at the events and also listed on the web at www.gvcnb.org for one year. If you have someone that has a business, we can put their web site and or their phone number on the sponsorship list. This helps defray the cost of the events, so we don't have to raise prices for registration etc.

Thank you very much for your support and stop out anytime and we will give you a tour of our facilities.

GRAND VALLEY CAP N BALLERS™

**16808 PEACH RIDGE
KENT CITY, MI. 49330**

Commitment

One match sponsor fee for Spring Shoot and/or Frontier Shoot 2024.

Amount-----\$25.00

Thank You for Your Support:

Make checks payable to:

Grand Valley Cap N Ballers
16808 Peach Ridge
Kent City, Mi. 49330

YES, I will sponsor match Number(s) _____, _____, _____, _____

2nd Choice _____, _____, _____, _____.

Check enclosed _____ (please circle Spring Shoot or Frontier Shoot)

Sorry, I can't this year _____

Name of Sponsor _____

By _____

If you are a business put your phone number and or e-mail address here

-----tear/cut off on dotted line-----

YOUR RECEIPT

DATE _____

MAILED CHECK TO: GRAND VALLEY CAP N BALLERS, 16808 PEACH RIDGE, KENT CITY, MI. 49330

AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

GRAND VALLEY CAP N BALLERS™

2025 SPRING SHOOT SPONSORS

RIFLE

MATCH 1	25 YARD OH AMS-----CHRIS LONGCORE
MATCH 2	50 YARD OH AMS-----
MATCH 3	100 YARD OH AMS-----
MATCH 4	25 YARD OH OS-----J & J TRADING-----269-299-0581
MATCH 5	50 YARD OH OS-----
MATCH 6	100 YARD OH OS-----
MATCH 7	25 YARD OH FLINT OS-----J & J TRADING-----269-299-0581
MATCH 8	50 YARD OH FLINT OS-----
MATCH 9	100 YARD OH FLINT OS-----
MATCH 10	25 YARD OH WOMEN AMS----
MATCH 11	50 YARD OH WOMEN AMS-----
MATCH 13	25 YARD OH NOVELTY AMS-----
MATCH 14	50 YARD OH NOVELTY AMS-----
MATCH 17	25 YARD OH TRADE GUN-----
MATCH 18	50 YARD OH TRADE GUN-----
MATCH 23	25 YARD SUB JUNIOR-----JEFF & PAM ADAMS
MATCH 24	50 YARD SUB JUNIOR-----
MATCH 25	25 YARD JUNIOR-----
MATCH 26	50 YARD JUNIOR-----
MATCH 27	25 YARD PISTOL/REVLVER-----GRAND VALLEY CAP N BALL FANATIC
MATCH 28	50 YARD PISTOL/REVOLVER-----GRAND VALLEY CAP N BALL FANATIC
MATCH 31	25 YARD YOUTH-----
MATCH 32	50 YARD YOUTH-----
SATURDAY PRIMITIVE	PERCUSSION --- WOMEN---- JUNIORS TRADE GUN-----

SHOTGUN

MATCH 1	15 BIRD TRAP OR SKEET-----JOHN & JUDY TURNER
MATCH 2	10 YARDS---MONTERAY PINES GENERAL STORE, 2730 - 136TH AVE, HOPKINS
MATCH 3	16 YARDS-----DAN LEPO
MATCH 4	20 YARDS-----CENTER SHOT GUN RANGE-centershotgunrange#range.com
MATCH 5	LADY'S 10 YARD-----BLACK GOLDT RANSPORT MILLING PAVING--616-896-1560
MATCH 6	LADY'S 16 YARD----- J K R COMPANIES,616-813-3400-----kskcarlson@charter.net
MATCH 7	JUNIORS 10 YARDS-----CENTER SHOT GUN RANGE-centershotgunrange#range.com
MATCH 8	FLINT 10 YARD-----MYRNA HOLLOWAY
MATCH 9	NOVICE 10 YARDS----- BLACK GOLDT RANSPORT MILLING PAVING--616-896-1560
MATCH 11	TRANHAM PROTECTION-----JOHN & JUDY TURNER AND DAN LEPPA
MATCH 12	SKEET SINGLES--- -----J K R COMPANIES,616-813-3400-----kskcarlson@charter.net
MATCH 13	SKEET DOUBLES-----VACATION LAND SALES - 616-896-8371 -vacationandsales.com

GRAND VALLEY CAP N BALLERS™

2025 FRONTIER SHOOT SPONSORS

RIFLE

MATCH 1	25 YARD OH AMS-----	
MATCH 2	50 YARD OH AMS-----	
MATCH 3	100 YARD OH AMS-----	
MATCH 4	25 YARD OH AMS-----	FLINTLOCKS LLC ---317-933-3441
MATCH 5	50 YARD OH AMS-----	
MATCH 6	100 YARD OH OS-----	
MATCH 7 *	25 YARD OH FLINT OS-----	
MATCH 9*	50 YARD OH FLINT OS-----	
MATCH 10	25 YARD OH WOMEN-----	
MATCH 11	50 YARD OH WOMEN-----	
MATCH 13	25 YARD OH NOVELTY-----	
MATCH 14	50 YARD OH NOVELTY-----	
MATCH 17	25 YARD OH TRADE GUN-----	CAL MEABON
MATCH 18	50 YARD OH TRADE GUN-----	CAL MEABON
MATCH 19	25 YARD OH NOVICE-----	
MATCH 20	50 YARD OH NOVICE-----	
MATCH 23	25 YARD YOUTH X STIX AMS-----	
MATCH 24	50 YARD YOUTH X STIX AMS-----	
MATCH 25	25 YARD OH JUNIOR AMS-----	JEFF & PAM ADAMS
MATCH 26	50 YARD OH JUNIOR AMS-----	
MATCH 27	25 YARD PISTOL/REVOLVER-----	GRAND VALLEY CAP N BALL FANATIC
MATCH 28	25 YARD REVOLVER-----	GRAND VALLEY CAP N BALL FANATIC
MATCH 29	50 YARD PISTOL/REVOLVER-----	GRAND VALLEY CAP N BALL FANATIC
MATCH 30	50 YARD REVOLVER-----	GRAND VALLEY CAP N BALL FANATIC
MATCH 31	25 YARD FLINT PISTOL-----	GRAND VALLEY CAP N BALL FANATIC
MATCH 32	50 YARD FLINT PISTOL-----	GRAND VALLEY CAP N BALL FANATIC
MATCH 33	25 YARD CO-ED-----	
MATCH 35	50 YARD X STIX AMS-----	J & J TRADING----269-299-0581
MATCH 36	100 YARD X STIX AMS-----	J & J TRADING----269-299-0581
MATCH 38	100 YARD X STIX OS-----	J & J TRADING----269-299-0581
MATCH 38	100 YARD X STIX OS-----	J & J TRADING----269-299-0581
MATCH 41	50 YARD BENCH AMS-----	
MATCH 42	100 YARD BENCH AMS-----	
MATCH 43	50 YARD BENCH OS-----	
MATCH 44	100 YARD BENCH OS-----	
MATCH 47	OLD TIMERS 25 YARD AMS-----	

FRIDAY PRIMITIVE*
TRADE GUN-----

PERCUSSION
WOMEN'S----

FLINT
JUNIORS--

SATURDAY PRIMITIVE:

MATCH 1

MATCH 2

MATCH 3

MATCH 4

MATCH 5

MATCH 6

MATCH 7

MATCH 8

MATCH 9

MATCH 10 --

GRAND VALLEY CAP N BALLERS™

2025 FRONTIER SHOOT SPONSORS

SHOTGUN

MATCH 62	GVCNB MENS CHAMPIONSHIP-----JOHN & JUDY TURNER
MATCH 63	GVCNB LADY'S CHAMPIONSHIP -----J K R COMPANIES,616-813-3400 kskcarlson@charter.net
MATCH 64	GVCNB JR CHAMPIONSHIP---CENTER SHOT GUN RANGE---centershotgunrange#range.com
MATCH 70	TRADITIONAL STYLE-----
MATCH 71	NOVICE 10 YARDS-----BLACK GOLD TRANSPORT MILLING PAVING--616-896-1560
MATCH 75	CO-ED PROTECTION----- DAN LEPPA & RON & BONNIE FERNWALT
MATCH 76	10 YARD TRAP-----MONTERAY PINES G VACATION LAND SALES - 616-896-8371
MATCH 77	16 YARD TRAP-----JOHN & JUDY TURNER
MATCH 78	20 YARD TRAP-----BLACK GOLD TRANSPORT MILLING PAVING--616-896-1560
	AGGREGATE MATCHES 76, 77, 78---
MATCH 79	LADIES 10 YARD TRAP-----CORNER STONE CONTRACTING, 2606 142ND AVE., DORR
MATCH 80	LADIES 16 YARD TRAP-----MYRNA HOLLOWAY
MATCH 81	LADIES 20 YARD TRAP---VACATION LAND SALES - 616-896-8371 -vacationandsales.com
	AGGREGATE MATCHES 79, 80, 81-----
MATCH 82	JUNIORS 10 YARD TRAP-----DAN LEPPA
MATCH 83	OLD TIMERS 16 YARD TRAP-----J K R COMPANIES,616-813-3400 kskcarlson@charter.net
MATCH 88	TRANHAM PROTECTION-----
MATCH 89	FLINT 10 YARDS-----JOHN & JUDY TURNER
MATCH 90	FLINT 16 YARDS-----MYRNA HOLLOWAY
MATCH 91	SKEET SINGLES-----CENTER SHOT GUN RANGE---centershotgunrange#range.com
MATCH 92	SKEET DOUBLES-----JOHN & JUDY TURNER

GRAND VALLEY CAP M BALERS™



Our mission is to create, promote and encourage an interest in historical firearms; to preserve their histories, along with the crafts and traditions of our American heritage; to promote good fellowship and teach firearm safety; to purchase, hold and use the Club property, both real and personal for accomplishing these purposes, and to preserve our constitutional rights as to any and all acts permitted by the laws of the State of Michigan.

*GRAND VALLEY CAP n BALLERS
MUZZLE LOADING GUN CLUB™*