



The Smoke Pole

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

Visit us at: -
www.gvcnb.org.

December 2025

Don't forget to renew your membership and pay your camping dues if you have a spot. The form is on pg 4 to send to Ron.

A PATRIOT SPEAKS

You cannot escape the responsibility of tomorrow by evading it today.

Abraham Lincoln

GVC&B Club Officers 2025-2026

President: Jeff Terrell

Vice President: Larry Horrigan

Secretary: Ron Fernwalt

Treasurer: Chelsea Fox

Range Officer: Roger Pierce

Newsletter: Jackie Armstrong

Board Members (Year Elected-2 year position)

Dennis Priddy 2024

Bonnie Fernwalt 2024

Tom Verberg 2024

Leanne Pierce 2024

Neal Armstrong 2025

Dave Fox 2025

Drew Harrington 2025

50/50 WINNER

Dick Miller

ATTENDANCE WINNER

Ed Henson & Paul Thurmond

CONGRATULATIONS

Jeff's Journal

This will be one of my shortest articles ever, w3which is ok since we nothing going on this time of year anyway. I've been out of the loop and stuck indoors with my annual respiratory illness for over two weeks. I saw my doctor today an now I have medications to get rid of this congestion. I strongly dislike, especially when it comes so damn early.



Schedules and flyers are in progress an will be posted as soon as they are finished.

That is all for now.

I hope you all stay well and have a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year too!

See you in March.

Jeff

PS

There were 6 shooters in December and 4 visitors!

FROM YOUR EDITOR

Our dear friends, Ron & Bonnie Fernwalt last their son, Todd on December 8th. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

There will be two celebrations of life services will be held on Saturday, January 17th from 4pm-6pm at Hilltop Café, 222 Front St, Buchanan, MI 49107 and Sunday January 18th from 1pm-3pm at the Kent City American Legion, 1411 Ball Creek Rd, Kent City, MI 49330

Here is their address if you would like to send them a card.

16808 Peach Ridge, Kent City, MI 49330

For sale

Traditions .45 cal. Percussion Rifle in Excellent Condition. Light colored maple stock, brass hardware. 42 in barrel. Price \$200.00.

Mossberg Model 500 12-gauge, Shotgun. Mossy Oak Pattern, 2 barrels 1 Turkey Choked Full and 1 Waterfowl w/4 screw -in tubes. Tru-glow sights and fixed fiber optic. Matching Sling. Fired only 5 times. Price \$500.00 Box of shells

Contact Jeff at 616 366-3404

Air Gun

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Novelty Archery-Men

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Novelty Archery-Women

- 1.
- 2.

On the Firing Line

Line Matches—

Men's 25yd Rifle Novelty

- | | |
|------------------|----|
| 1. Dennis Priddy | 43 |
| 2. Ed Henson | 39 |
| 3. Louis Lorenz | 35 |

Men's 25yd Rifle Bulbs

- | | |
|-------------------|----|
| 1. Denny Priddy | 20 |
| 2. Ed Henson | 15 |
| 3. Larry Horrigan | 15 |

Men's 25yd Rifle Bulls

- | | |
|-------------------|-----|
| 1. Dennis Priddy | 44 |
| 2. Ed Henson | 42 |
| 3. Larry Horrigan | 41X |

Men's 50yd

- | | |
|------------------|----|
| 1. Dennis Priddy | 34 |
| 2. Ed Henson | 14 |
| 3. Louis Lorenz | 6 |

Men's 25yd Trade Gun

- | | |
|-------------------|----|
| 1. Larry Horrigan | 29 |
| 2. Ed Henson | 26 |
| 3. Dennis Priddy | 21 |

Men's 50yd Trade Gun-

- | | |
|-------------------|----|
| 1. Ed Henson | 43 |
| 2. Larry Horrigan | 38 |
| 3. Dennis Priddy | 27 |

Men's 25yd Pistol-

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Men's 50yd Pistol

- | | |
|-------------------|----|
| 1. Ed Henson | 28 |
| 2. Larry Horrigan | 28 |
| 3. | |

Women's 25yd Rifle Pie

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Women's 25yd Rifle 5 Bull

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Women's 50yd Rifle

- 1.
- 2.

Woods Walk-Flint

- 1.
- 2.

Woods Walk- Trade Gun

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Woods Walk Percussion/Silhouettes

- 1.

FROM THE SHOTGUN CRIB

FROM THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Be sure fill out the membership and camping form that is in the newsletter or pick one up from Ron at the December club meeting.

Please make sure you give us your current phone and email.

Dues and camping fees are due by January 31, 2026

Thank you for your cooperation

Remember those that are plugged in whether you're there or not, the price is \$2.00 per day excluding the weekend days of an event that you were charged for. I know for a fact that it is cheaper here than at home. This allows us to keep refrigerated food when we are enjoying the club every weekend.

THE GRAND VALLEY CAP N BALLERS AND MICHIGAN STATE CAMPING RULES

1. Each camper must keep his own campsite clean, neat and the grass cut.
2. There will be only one fixed fire pit on each campsite.
3. Use only existing cut wood or use dead fallen trees. No standing trees may be cut.
4. When the camping unit is not in use, it must be disconnected from utilities (electric and water) OR PAY THE \$2.00 ELECTRICAL FEE PER DAY. ANY GUEST CAMPING WITH THEIR UNIT IS REQUIRED TO PAY \$5.00/DAY FOR ELECTRICAL USE.
5. Additional electrical use, after the 20 days included in the annual fee, is to be paid for at the monthly meeting to Ron at shot gun and Jackie on the main campground

Thank you for your cooperation---The Campground Committee Ron, Jackie & Larry

GVCnB 2026 MEMBERSHIP AND CAMPSITE RENEWAL FEE

Annual dues and campsite fees are payable no later than January 31, 2026. Payment must be made to treasurer FOR \$150.00 FOR THE CAMP SITE AND \$50.00 MEMBERSHIP DUES either at any meeting or postmarked no later than January 31, 2026. 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, 2026. 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 _____

NMLRA Membership # _____
Dues \$50.00 _____
Campsite Fee \$150.00 _____
Total Submitted \$ _____ Group _____
Camping Area _____ or Lot Number _____
Membership Status Regular _____ Life _____
Year Joined GVCnB _____

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5. Additional electrical use, after the 20 days included in the annual fee, is to be paid for at the monthly meeting to Ron at shotgun and Jackie on the main campground

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 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 when plugged in.

Signature _____ **REQUIRED**

GRAND VALLEY CAP n BALLERS™



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™*