



Berrien County Sportsman's Club, Inc. Newsletter

www.bcsportsmansclub.com

Volume 13

Issue 9

Nov. – Dec. 2008

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Wow, I can hardly believe it. This is my last newsletter article before I pass the gavel to a new president in December. I just wanted to take a minute and thank everyone that has made my time as president such a great experience. BCSC is rich in history, tradition, and outdoor heritage, and I am proud to be a part of it in some small way.

Although, I did not accomplish all I set out to do at the club during my turn in the president seat, the improvements made have been numerous, and it is my sincere hope the club is advancing to be a better place for all its members. Just as our recent presidential election had a historic turnout, I hope BCSC members choose to voice their opinion on the candidates volunteering to run our club. Although the magnitude pales in comparison, our club will undoubtedly face quite a few challenges in the future and strong leadership is a must. So, please take some time out of your busy schedules, read the candidates letters, and come down to the club to cast a vote. It is simple, you walk in, verify membership, fill out a ballot and leave. Remember no matter if it is a major election or one at the club, it is our right as an American. And the next time you see a soldier, active or retired, please remember to thank him/her for that right.

Also, our new bylaws were voted on and passed this last membership meeting. To get a copy of the new bylaws, please refer to the website OR look back in the August 2008 newsletter, as they were printed there. Thanks to everyone that worked so hard on this new document. I am sure it will hold strong for many years, and enable BCSC to run effectively for generations to come.

Finally, with firearm deer season right around the corner, it is a great opportunity to take your kids in the woods with you. This last weekend, I had the opportunity to make a trip home to my parent's farm to check deer sign, scrapes, rubs, patterns one last time before the

season opens. I took my 3 ½ year old son with me. He was so excited. Of course, he had his trusty plastic side by side shotgun with real break open action. He was ready to see deer, but as you might guess, the deer were 'hiding' real well that day. It isn't ever quite like the shows he and I watch on TV! We checked the blinds, showed him some sign, even saw a few squirrels, and a turkey in the distance. But the experience was as pure, and memorable as any I have ever experienced because he enjoyed it. Will he remember it at his age? Maybe, maybe not. But will it make an impression for the future? I hope so. If you get the chance, take your child into the woods this season, you might not get a deer that trip, but you might make a hunting partner for life.

It has been my honor,

Dr. Chad A. Sharkey D.C
President-BCSC 2007-2008

ELECTION INFORMATION
Pg. 3-5 inside

MUCC News

The Oct. 11th. MUCC State Board voted YES to change the dues billing structure to enable all member clubs to be MUCC 100% affiliates by charging each club member \$5.00 for an annual MUCC membership with all MUCC benefits, including the Michigan-Out-of-Doors magazine in an on-line version. The on-line magazine will contain all the information as the print version. Those wishing to receive the printed magazine in the mail may do so by sending \$20.00 a year to the MUCC main office in Lansing.

Now the BCSC can and will be (per our vote at last month's BCSC meeting) a full 100% MUCC affiliated club! This will bring many tangible benefits to our club and its members.

The MUCC membership list will NOT be sold, shared, or shown to anyone outside of official MUCC staff. So we need not worry about the asking for our name and e-mail address with our coming \$5.00 MUCC full memberships. The reason for the e-mail address is for MUCC to be able to reach its members as the cost of mailing out newsletters is very high.....about \$25,000. !!!!!!!!!

Members may use the BCSC address instead of their own mailing address if they want to do so per MUCC.

The new dues structure will take effect with the 2009 membership year.

MUCC Staff officers will be meeting with every affiliated club's board in the near future to explain exactly how the money needs to be collected and sent to MUCC.

These details are still being worked out by a special MUCC committee in Lansing.

Speaking of MUCC membership, you will get the MUCC Michigan-Out-of-Doors magazine (e-zine) on-line (or a hard copy subscription for \$20.00).

As an affiliated member club we will have the access to MUCC attorneys for matters related to sportsmen, the MUCC charitable gaming license for club raffles, Range Stewardship, Kamp-for Kids, etc...

*John Castle, BCSC rep
MUCC Region 4.*

ARCHERY

By the time you receive this newsletter the gun deer season will be in full swing with a two week break in the archery season. I hope your archery season is going better than mine. So far the closest I've come to getting my buck has been with my truck and that was too close for comfort. Indoor 10 week **ARCHERY leagues** will begin on January 5th for traditional shooters and January 6th for compound shooters. If you shot in the league last year and haven't been contacted by December 15th please contact me at 429-0199 to insure your spot in the league. If you haven't shot in the league before and want to join this year contact me for more information and to sign up. Preference goes to Club members first and then to nonmembers until the leagues fill up. Cost is \$25.00 for Club members and \$80.00 for nonmembers.

Youth Instructional League will begin on Sunday January 4th at 2:00 for experienced shooters 12 and up and at 3:00 for new shooters. As always, the cost is **FREE** and equipment is provided by the Club or you may bring your own. Remember that this is open to Moms and Dads that want to learn how to shoot too. If you have any youth equipment that you would like to sell, bring it to the Club on Sundays because we have had several requests by parents for good used equipment.

Larry Janke, Archery Chairman

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Stephen & Sheila Barteck	Stevensville
Marc Buchtel	Baroda
Peter & Wilma Chenosky	Benton Harbor
Jeff & Melanie Clay	St. Joseph
Truman & Joanne Cox	Goshen, IN
John & Alicia Dunchak	Niles
John & Marie Helm	Benton Harbor
Kenneth Kirby	Berrien Springs
Bob & Marcia Medendorf	St. Joseph
John & Martha Proctor	St. Joseph
John & Jane Walzak	Niles
Bruce & Anne Weber	Baroda
Jay & Janet Easterling	Stevensville
Tom & Gail Mathews	St. Joseph

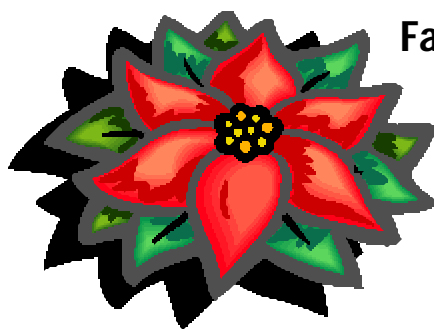
Jay & Debbie Craig	St. Joseph
Alan & Lisa Douville, Jr	St. Joseph
Rodney & Deborah Burch	Stevensville

ARCHERY NEWS

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Larry Janke
Archery Chairman



Family Christmas Party

December 6

You must r.s.v.p by Nov. 20 for children's gifts and for your meal. The dinner will be catered but we are asking for \$5.00 to offset the cost. Children three and under are free. Call Gay at 429-3514 or cell #269- 921-4875 or Tonja at 269-449-4917. Please bring hors d'oeuvres if name begins A -K And a dessert if name begins L-Z.

ELECTION PROCEDURES

Election time is nearing and we still have openings for President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. We have some excellent candidates on the ballot, but there is still room for anyone wishing to run for an office. Remember the ballot will close at the end of the **November 19th Membership Meeting. THERE WILL BE NO NOMINATIONS AT THE DECEMBER MEETING. (According to BCSC Bylaws, Article IV, Sec.2 and Article V, Sec.3, nominations from the floor can be taken at the October and November Membership Meeting)** So get your name on the ballot by contacting Karen Brumbelow (465-6736) RNKB55@comcast.net, Larry Janke (429-0199) LLJanke@comcast.net, or Kevin Pounders (269-484-4881) KC8AFW@yahoo.com by November 19, 2008.

The voting process will be the same as last year. Voting will be open from 4 PM to 8PM the day of the December 17th Membership Meeting. You will check-in by giving your name to receive a ballot and your name will be marked off the voting register. There will be a designated voting area where you can fill-out your ballot before placing it in the ballot box. At the close of the voting, the ballot box will be opened and the votes tallied. The results will be announced at the end of the December Membership meeting.

If you are unable to attend the December 17th Membership/Election Meeting, you may request an absentee ballot from the club Secretary, Scott Gane. You can contact Scott with your request by phone at 269-982-2810, by E-mail at scrgane@sbcglobal.net, or by mail to Scott Gane, 2560 S. Cleveland Ave., Suite 3, St. Joseph, MI 49085. Once you have requested an absentee ballot, your name will be marked off the voting register. Your Ballot must be in Scott Gane's hands by midnight December 12th, 2008 or it will be invalid. (This is in accordance with BCSC Bylaws, Article IV, Sec.2 and Article V, Sec.3 The secretary of the Organization shall provide an absentee ballot to a member of the Organization upon request: said absentee ballot shall be returned to the Secretary a minimum of five (5) days prior to the regular December meeting or the ballot shall be invalid.) To meet the cutoff deadline of Dec. 12th you will need to have your request by mail to Scott by Dec. 3, 2008. When you receive the ballot in the mail cast your vote and mail ballot back to Scott Gane.

Make this the year you get involved in **YOUR** club and make a difference. We hope this year's election turnout

will be huge. Come out and cast your vote, make that decision to run for an office, or volunteer your time to help anyone of our spectacular Chairman, they could use the assistance. **YOUR** club is one of the finest Sportsman's Clubs in Southwest Michigan and it has only achieved this through volunteer members. It takes us **ALL** to maintain this gem.

Thank You,
The Nominating Committee

Candidates Introductory Bio's follow: A complete article will be posted on our website's ANNOUNCEMENTS section. Go there after the November 19th meeting to see the whole ballot. Currently:

To my fellow BCSC members,
My name is **Jim Howley**, and I am running for President of the BCSC in this year's election.

Many of you know me quite well, but for those of you who do not, let me tell you a bit about me, and why I hope you will do me the honor of electing me President this year.

My wife, Margo, and I have been members of the BCSC since 1985, and have been very active in the club ever since. We have chaired the Club booth at the Berrien county Youth Fair for several years, volunteered during the shoots, NRA pistol shoots, I DPA, anything to do with kids, etc. We both enjoy so many of the events sponsored by BCSC, such as the annual Christmas party and sweetheart dance, and have met and worked with many wonderful people. Because of our involvement in the Club, we have made many lifelong friends.

I have been a member of the Board of Directors for the past six years, and have previously served the club as Treasurer, and Building and Grounds Chair. Last, but not least, I am also a certified NRA Training Counselor, where I help train people in rifle, pistol, shotgun, and qualification for Concealed Carry Permit.

The club and its members are highly important to me, and I would consider it an honor to be chosen as your President. BCSC is a great organization, which offers many opportunities to its members, and appeals to many outdoor

enthusiasts.

As your President, I would do my best to preserve the traditions we have observed over the years, while also looking for ways to ensure our continued success. The greatest asset we have is our dedicated membership, and, with your help, I will aim to increase our membership base, find new and fun ways for members to volunteer and become involved, and I will always be open to your ideas and suggestions for improvement at the Club. I am dependable, hardworking, and honest, and being "semi-retired" I have the time and the desire to do what is necessary to take this organization to the next level.

I thank you sincerely for your support and consideration.
Jim Howley

I rarely have time to use the club, but I find time to serve. I have been V.P. in 2006, a substitute board member 2007 & 2008, helped with several projects here and there. I'm running for a full three year board position. If elected my primary focus will be the club's finances.

I'm **Jack Teuteberg** and I approved this message.

I, **Paul Adam**, am seeking a seat on the board of directors. I am a life member of the club and the NRA. Also I am one of the NRA training counselor and trainers at the club. I have had a love for all outdoor sports all my life. I love anything that goes "bang" and archery as well and fishing.

As a past president of the club and with 35 years experience and owning my own company for 15 years, I feel I can help the club grow in 2009 and beyond.

I, **Gay Story**, am running for reelection as treasurer of the club. I've done this job for a year and am willing to give the club another year in this capacity.

I'm **Gil Dotson**. My wife Linda, our twin 2 year old daughters and I have been members of the Berrien County Sportsman's Club for about 2 1/2 years. During that time, I have enjoyed helping Kevin Pounders with International Defensive Pistol

Association matches and enjoyed competing in them. I have also helped Marty Prillwitz with NRA Action Pistol matches, Steel and Paper challenge matches, and Glock style shoots here at the club. I've also helped on rifle/shotgun sight in days, getting hunters ready for the upcoming deer hunting season. I enjoy participating in club activities and would enjoy working as a member of the Board of Directors. I would appreciate your voting for me as a member of the Board of Directors so I can take part in the running of the club, and work with the Board to help direct it's future. Tough economic times may be upon us and I want to help ensure the financial stability of the club in the next few years

I, **Al Rosinski**, would like to get back into active participation of the club, of which I've been a member since 1964. I've served the club as a leader and participant in the Jr. Rifle program for many years, as an NRA instructor and on the board previously. My career was with Whirlpool as a mechanical engineer. I'm a veteran and a widower with four grown children. I am seeking a seat on the Board of Directors.

My name is **Brian Snodgrass** and I am running for a position on the Board of Directors. My wife Sarah and I have been members since 2000 and participate in the Archery programs. I've volunteered at the Compton's every year, helped with the Saturday archery shoots, and the Boy Scouts' archery events. I am friends with many BCSC members but would like to know more members. Currently we live in Berrien Springs but I'm a lifelong resident of Berrien County having grown up hunting and farming in Galien. Sarah is also from Galien. We have a 14 month old daughter, Emma, who makes us glad everyday that we decided to start a family. I am a Farm Bureau Insurance agent in Stevensville and Sarah is manager of Cheer Unlimited.

THIS AND THAT

- ✓ Total membership is 453.
- ✓ **Range Safety orientations are first Monday of the month.**
- ✓ Gate cards are \$5.00/.
- ✓ **Volunteer hours in 2007 were over 2,800.**
- ✓ New members from Oct. 07 – Sept. 30, 08 equaled 81.
- ✓ **New membership year begins Jan. 1, 2009 and member renewals have been mailed. You have until Feb. to return your forms and money without a penalty.**
- ✓ If you have a change of address or are not getting the newsletter, please call Sheryl Hausmann at 269-208-1506.
- ✓ **Jr. Rifle Program has had 12 – 14 kids so far. Next dates of shoots are: Dec. 3 and 10.**
- ✓ Careful readers of the last newsletter who found the misspelled word were Gary Brumbelow, a web reader, and Larry Burwell, a paper reader. Give me a call if you find it this time: 269-468-3837
- ✓ **Helpers are needed to assist Frank to clear saplings from the berms of the rifle range. His phone is 429-3792.**
- ✓ Would you like to help decorate the Clubhouse, tables, and put up a tree for the Christmas party, call Shirley 468-3837. December 5, about 6:30. We'll heat up some pizzas and get the job done quick time.
- ✓ **There will be a meeting for all CPL instructors on January 10, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. Instructors may sign up to lead the monthly classes.**
- ✓ Toys for Tots will again be set up at the Clubhouse. Bring an unwrapped toy or money to donate.

THANK YOU

Thanks to all the workers who helped with sight-in days earlier in November. Fifty-three shooters sighted in 78 guns. Two shooters shot the running deer target. I appreciate all the help.

Martin Prillwitz

Christmas Tree Safety Tips

By Scott R. Gane, CPP

For many people, decorating the Christmas tree is a favorite part of the holiday. The following are some safety tips to make sure a mishap doesn't spoil your holiday season.

Christmas Trees

- ✓ A real tree can add to the spirit of Christmas by filling your home with beauty and the scent of pine. But a real tree can also pose a fire hazard. Each year, more than 400 residential fires involve Christmas trees and tragically nearly 40 deaths and 100 injuries result from those fires.
- ✓ Try to select a fresh tree by looking for one that is green. The needles of pines and spruces should bend and not break and should be hard to pull off the branches. On fir species, a needle pulled from a fresh tree will snap when bent, much like a fresh carrot. Also, look for a trunk sticky with sap.
- ✓ If you buy your tree early and keep it outside, store it away from wind and sun, and keep the bottom in a bucket of water.
- ✓ Cut off about two inches of the trunk and put the tree in a sturdy, water-holding stand. Keep the stand filled with water so the tree does not dry out quickly.
- ✓ Stand your tree away from fireplaces, radiators and other heat sources. Make sure the tree does not block foot traffic or doorways.
- ✓ If you use an artificial tree, choose one that tested and labeled as fire resistant. Artificial trees with built-in electrical systems should have the Underwriters Laboratory (UL) label.

Tree ornaments

- Always use the proper step stool or ladder to reach high places.
- Read labels before you use materials that come in jars, cans and spray cans.
- Never place lighted candles on a tree or near any flammable materials.
- Avoid placing breakable tree ornaments or ones with small, detachable parts on lower branches where small children or pets can reach them.
- Do not hang popcorn chains and candy canes on the tree when small children are present. They may think that other tree ornaments are also edible.

Tree lights

- ❖ Only use indoor lights indoors (and outdoor lights only outdoors). Look for the UL label. Check lights for broken or cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires, or loose connections. Replace or repair any damaged light sets.
- ❖ Don't use electric lights on a metal tree.
- ❖ Also, use no more than three light sets on any one extension cord. Extension cords should be placed against the wall to avoid tripping hazards, but do not run cords under rugs.
- ❖ Turn off all lights on trees and decorations when you go to bed or leave the house.

This is true:

<http://www.snopes.com/critters/crusader/xylitol.asp>

Warning to all dog owners - pass this on to everyone you can.

Last Friday evening, I arrived home from work, fed Chloe, our 24 Lb. dachshund, just as I normally do. Ten minutes later I walked into the den just in time to see her head inside the pocket of Katie's friend's purse. She had a guilty look on her face so I looked closer and saw a small package of sugar-free gum. It contained xylitol.

I remembered that I had recently read that sugar-free gum can be deadly for dogs so I jumped on line and looked to see if xylitol was the ingredient. I found the first website below and it was the one.

Next, I called our vet. She said to bring her in immediately. Unfortunately, it was still rush hour and it took me almost 1/2 hour to get there. Meanwhile, since this was her first case, our vet found another website to figure out the treatment. She took Chloe and said they would induce her to vomit, give her a charcoal drink to absorb the toxin (even though they don't think it works) then they would start an iv with dextrose. The xylitol causes dogs to secrete insulin so their blood sugar drops very quickly.

The second thing that happens is liver failure. If that happens, even with aggressive treatment, it can be difficult to save them. She told us she would call us. Almost two hours later, the vet called and said that contents of her stomach contained 2-3 gum wrappers and that her blood sugar had dropped from 90 to 59 in 30 minutes. She wanted us to take Chloe to another hospital that has a critical care unit operating around the clock. We picked her up and took her there. They had us call the ASPCA poison control for a case number and for a donation, their doctors would direct Chloe's doctor

on treatment. They would continue the iv, monitor her blood every other hour and then in 2 days test her liver function.

She ended up with a central line in her jugular vein since the one in her leg collapsed, just as our regular vet had feared. Chloe spent almost the entire weekend in the critical care hospital. After her blood sugar was stabilized, she came home yesterday. They ran all the tests again before they released her and so far, no sign of liver damage. Had I not seen her head in the purse, she probably would have died and we wouldn't even have known why.

Three vets told me this weekend, that they were amazed that I even knew about it since they are first learning about it too. Please tell everyone you know about xylitol and dogs. It may save another life.

HOW TO STOP PEOPLE FROM BUGGING YOU ABOUT GETTING MARRIED

Old aunts used to come up to me at weddings, poking me in the ribs and cackling, telling me, "You're next." They stopped after I started doing the same thing to them at funerals.

Importance of Walking

Walking can add minutes to your life. This enables you at 85 years old to spend an additional 5 months in a nursing home at \$7000 per month.

My grandpa started walking five miles a day when he was 60.
Now he's 97 years old and we don't know where he is.

I like long walks, especially when they are taken by people who annoy me.

The only reason I would take up walking is so that I could hear heavy breathing again .

I have to walk early in the morning, before my brain figures out what I'm doing..

I joined a health club last year, spent about 400 bucks. Haven't lost a pound. Apparently you have to go there.

The advantage of exercising every day is so when you die, they'll say, 'Well, she looks good doesn't she.'

If you are going to try cross-country skiing, start with a small country.

Be sure to check the website www.bcsportsmansclub.com after Nov. 19 to see the total ballot. Nominations can be taken from the floor until the close of that meeting.

I bet many of us can relate to the following:

Scenario: Jack goes quail hunting before school, pulls into school parking lot with shotgun in gun rack.

1958 - Vice Principal comes over, looks at Jack's shotgun, goes to his car and gets his shotgun to show Jack.

2008 - School goes into lock down, FBI called, Jack hauled off to jail and never sees his truck or gun again. Counselors called in for traumatized students and teachers.

IDPA FINAL REPORT FOR 2008

Well, the IDPA season has come to a close here at the club. Over the course of the season, more than 60 different shooters put in excess of 15,000 rounds into our berms while solving simulated self-defense problems with tactical solutions. Even more important...we've made new friends and had a great time doing it.

I would like to thank all of you for supporting IDPA at Berrien County Sportsman's Club. This has been a great year and I couldn't be happier in the response our club has gotten. I hope to make things even better for next year's program.

I hope to see everyone next April...if not sooner at an IDPA match at one of the other clubs in the area.

Kevin Pounders

BCSC will be holding a Range Safety Officer Class on Saturday, February 21, 2009. You do not have to be a club member to attend. Class fee is \$25 for materials and there will be a cost to the NRA for your certification. You must also be a NRA member. If you are not a member of the NRA, you can apply for membership at this class for an additional cost. Anyone interested in obtaining their RSO certification should call Marty Prillwitz at 269-463-3472.

Berrien County Sportsman's Club
P.O. Box 325
St. Joseph, MI 49085

December 17 is Membership Meeting, Potluck, and Elections

OFFICERS AND BOARD

All area codes are 269 except Archie

President	Chad Sharkey	429- 5439
Vice Pres	Jim Walker	449 -5022
Secretary	Scott Gane	429- 9269
Treasurer	Gay Story	429- 3514
Director 3 yr.	Gary Brumbelow	465-6736
Director 3 yr.	Les Herrman	429-9963
Director 3 yr.	Delmar Lange	926-8221
Director 2 yr.	Al Foster	465-3069
Director 2 yr.	Bryan Dixon	422-1288
Director 2 yr.	Sherrie Nitz	422-1739
Director 1 yr.	Jim Howley	313-6450
Director 1 yr.	Jack Teuteberg	*428-2957
Director 1 yr.	Oscar Hnanicek	428-9089
Caretaker	Frank Halik	429-3792
Editor	Shirley Moeckel	468-3837
Membership	Sheryl Hausmann	208-1506
Camping Chair	Archie Foreman	(219)759-4033
CCW Registrar	Jason Grimm	927-1793
Building/Grounds	Dan Jennings	429-4656
IDPA / Nominations	Kevin Pounders	484-4881

Deadline for next newsletter: Dec. 29
Email: sdmoeckel@comcast.net

CALENDAR

November

19 – membership meeting/potluck
20 – Indoor Pistol
RSVP due for Christmas party
27 – Thanksgiving Day

December

1 – range safety briefing
3 – Jr. Rifle 7 – 9 p.m.
5 – decorate for party
6 – Family Christmas Party
10, 13 CPL class
17 – Membership Meeting, potluck and elections
25 – Merry Christmas

January (calendar incomplete)

4 – Youth Archery begins
5 – Traditional archery
6 – Compound archery
10- Organizational meeting CPL instructors