

Check out the SKSC web site for news and info about the club. The web address is: www.sksc.org or email us at info@sksc.org

MEMBERSHIP MEETING: Membership meetings are the 2nd Monday of the month at 7 PM. The BOD meeting will follow the membership meeting. Don't miss the December membership meeting where we choose the people who help lead SKSC. You'll also find great door prizes and two \$100 cash drawings. You must be present to win.

ANNUAL ELECTIONS: The annual SKSC elections will be held during the membership meeting, Dec. 10. The following BOD positions are to be voted on:

Vice President: Rich Corey

Treasurer: Todd Binz

Directors: Joe Steffler, John Schroeder, Dan Dial, & Doug Pastoor

If you are interested in running for any of these positions, please contact Randy Hammond at info@sksc.org or by phone at 616-538-0255

We are especially in need of someone who can do internet web page editing since our long time web page editor and training video creator and announcer, Joe Steffler, is not going to run again for office. Joe has been the person who has put together all of the excellent safety training videos. He created, organized, illustrated and narrated all of them. I'm sure you'll want to say thanks for a job well done for SKSC. We wish him and his wife Sue safe and happy travels throughout the US in their retirement. Thanks Joe!

Boy are we going to miss him!

John Schroeder will also not run again for the board. John has been in charge of the winter league trap and skeet. He also originated and continues to lead the annual youth Trap teams. John has been a key component of trap and skeet shooting at SKSC and has helped with equipment maintenance. He was responsible for conducting the famous Dirty Thirty skeet game, trap doubles, and many Annie Oakley trap shoots. Please thank John for a job well done. Your presence will be missed on the Board. Thanks John.

LAND:

Some great news! SKSC was able to acquire another key piece of property. The property is 10.2 acres directly downrange of the 500m range. Currently there is an uninhabitable home on it which we are working through the process to have demolished. The acquisition of this piece will ensure that no development or residences are put there in the future. More on how we will pay for the property is explained below.

New Membership Dues Structure (effective 2020):

The Board of Directors has unanimously approved some changes to our dues & fees structure. **The new dues will go into effect for the 2020 renewal.** This gives members all of 2019 to get work credits if they want to take advantage of the discount.

2020 Renewal for ALL memberships will be \$160. Seniors included. Discounts provided for work credits.

2020 New Memberships will be \$170 (\$160 + \$10 gate card deposit)

The fees break down like this:

\$60 Annual Membership (no change)

\$40 Land & Legal Fund (made permanent)

\$60 Work Fee assessment (valued at \$15 per hour)

\$10 Electronic Gate Card Deposit (if applicable)

EXCEPTIONS- There are two exceptions to the new dues structure- 1) Honorary Life Members. 2) Individuals who get exemption to waive the \$60 work credit through an appeal to the board of directors.

The rationale: First, the Land & Legal fund will be made permanent. The funds will be earmarked and not comingled with other accounts. In addition to paying off the new land purchase, it gives us the option to purchase key pieces of land as they come available in the future- hopefully before they become residential home sites. It will also serve as a rainy day fund in the event we need legal assistance. Second, the only rate increase over our current fee structure is the work credits. The value of work credits will change from \$10 to \$15 per hour and be made applicable to all members regardless of age. This is a fee that everyone can avoid with 4 hours of volunteer service per year... and not all volunteer work is physical labor. There will be several options available for people who can't or don't want to do physical labor- such as scoring Trap, helping with group sign ups, and monitoring ranges. Additionally, work credits can be obtained one hour at a time. There are individuals who are genuinely not able to volunteer 4 hours per year for good reason. Those individuals may appeal directly to the Board of Directors at any regular Board meeting to request an exemption. SKSC is a volunteer run, non-profit organization. Our club membership and our activities are growing. Our trash cans seem to be perpetually full, club activities are in need of support, buildings, grounds, & ranges need continuous maintenance, the list goes on... It takes all of the member-owners to pitch in to keep it a viable & enjoyable place to shoot –or- it has to be hired out. Letting the club degrade or become unsafe is simply not an option.

A quick (editorial) summary- If you currently volunteer 4 hours a year, what you pay out of pocket will remain the same as you're paying now. If you choose to pass on volunteer hours your \$60 will help us hire jobs out when our volunteer force is not able to keep up.

WORK DAYS FOR 2018:

We have two work day Saturdays left for 2018. These are on **September 29, and October 27.**

September will be for general range cleanup. We need to remove and clear brush from the road ways. Also read the barn cleanup notice later in the newsletter. October will concentrate on getting ready for winter. We start at 9 AM in the clubhouse and work until 1 PM. ALL RANGES ARE CLOSED UNTIL 1 PM!

RRR:

This is the **Range Refuse Removal** work detail. Members can sign up to collect and empty the refuse barrels on the ranges at their convenience and earn work credit. This project is being managed by David Washburn (Volunteer!). You can volunteer to work any day and time you choose.

Give David a call at 616 893 1427 to get your name on the schedule

Monday thru Friday 4pm to 8:30 pm

Saturday from 12 noon to 8:30 pm

I'm sure most of you have noticed how often those barrels are full and need emptying. Here is how you can help keep the place neat and clean and earn those valuable work credit hours and still keep your Saturdays free for those other important activities. We are working on more projects like this to give members opportunities to earn work credit during times other than the scheduled Saturday work days. Snow blowing the skeet and trap ranges comes to mind as does scoring/pulling trap lines.

PROJECT APPLESEED:

Rifle Instruction 2019

Project Appleseed is finishing up a successful second year at SKSC! We are looking to double the instruction weekends next year and are currently planning 2019. If you have a group that is interested in rifle instruction with Project Appleseed, please contact Amy at amysksc@gmail.com to set up future dates. We are also looking for any youth groups (like scouts, 4H, etc.) that would be interested in a youth (.22 only) instruction weekend. If you are part of a youth group that has interested participants please contact Amy at amysksc@gmail.com.

HUNTER SAFETY CLASSES AT SKSC:

If you'd like to learn more about becoming a certified instructor, please contact: Jimmy Jamieson -- 616 328-1942 or Lynn Siebers-- 616 457-1723. The next classes are Sept. 5 & 8, 2018. Check the web site calendar for times. Pre-register no more than 30 days before the first class session. Each class is limited to 50 students age 10 and older. Parents must accompany students 10 and under..

TRAINING AT SKSC:

Training for rifle, handgun, or shotgun shooting is available at SKSC. These classes are listed on the training page on the club web site. They are taught by Bill Lyons who is NRA certified. These classes are offered to members and nonmembers who wish to learn how to properly use a firearm. They are very nominal in cost and provide an excellent way to learn how to properly shoot any type of firearm. This is also an excellent way to initiate a youngster into the shooting sports. Bill is also available for specialized training. You may contact him at 616-862-0141 or bill@dtswestmi.com.

CPL CLASSES AT SKSC:

Jay Rankin is currently conducting CPL classes at SKSC. For class information please contact Jay at 616-890-5940. His email is: jayrankin357@gmail.com

TRAP AND SKEET CLOSED AT SKSC:

Trap and Skeet will be closed Thanksgiving, Thursday, November, 22nd, Christmas, Tuesday December 25, and New Years day, January 1. Please enjoy a happy holiday season.

SKSC ANNUAL TRAP AND SKEET LEAGUE:

The league will begin on Tuesday December 11th. Please sign up at the manager desk. Details and costs will be posted there as will the events planned for this year's fun. This is a great way to chase away those winter blues and get some great trigger time in.

POLE BARN CLEANUP SEPT. 29th AT 9 AM:

There will be a cleaning party on September 29th starting at 9 AM. Everyone who has “stuff” or is responsible for the “stuff” that is in the barn MUST be present or have a representative there because removal of any unclaimed items is planned. We are out of room so we need to clean out the house. Dale Vander Zee is heading up this project.