

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. You'll be able to make your voice heard by putting your request on the membership meeting new business agenda. If you wish to make a motion, please have it written out so we can enter it into the minutes. Join us to help guide SKSC through the coming months. Your input helps us move your club forward.

ANNUAL SKSC CLUB PICNIC:

The annual SKSC club picnic will be held at 12:30 on July 28th at the clubhouse. We furnish the roast pork and drinks (ice tea, lemonade, water) and you furnish a dish to pass, your table service and the desire to share a good time with many of your fellow club members and families. There will be shotgun shooting events and demonstrations of most of the different organized shooting activities available at SKSC. Most will provide the opportunity to try their activity using firearms and ammunition provided by the sponsors. Don't forget to bring eye and hearing protection. Here is your chance to enjoy the newly remodeled meeting room portion of the clubhouse.

LEAD MINING:

A professional lead recovery company is working on the trap and skeet fields over the next several weeks to extract the spent lead shot. Their equipment will be parked in the skeet field area during this time. Please refrain from throwing hand trap targets in the direction and vicinity of the equipment. They will not be working during club regular skeet and trap hours so no need to stay away.

ROAD REPAIR:

We got the message: Fix the D___ road. We have started the process of crowning and resurfacing the main road into the club from the main gate to the South range gate. We are hopeful that this time it will hold up over the winter. Our current budget doesn't allow us to pave it (yet). Please help keep the road surface intact by not spinning your tires when you drive on it.

RANGE INCIDENTS AND ACTIONS:

All members are strongly reminded that they are responsible for maintaining proper conduct while at SKSC. They **MUST** observe what is happening around them as well as monitoring their own behavior. If you see something that is not right, you **MUST** politely ask the individual(s) to stop that activity and correct anything that is not right. You **MUST** also obtain the name of the individual(s) who are committing the act. You **MUST** fill out an incident report putting as many details as possible on it. The report form is available in a box located on the front of the club house as is the receptacle for the completed form. Telling a board member about it isn't enough; you **MUST** file a report! The Bod cannot take action unless violations are documented. It is our club and we are all responsible for running it safely.

There have been three reported range incidents which have resulted in BoD actions. Two of the incidences involved a member shooting from outside the confines of a bunker. Both individuals were suspended from active shooting at SKSC and asked to re-attend the safety videos. All members need to observe proper shooting location and direction. There is never any excuse or reason to not do so. A third incident was observed where a member was found to be shooting at a target which was placed a great distance from the backstop. This individual will not only attend additional safety classes, but will be required to relate to class participants the reason for proper target placement and what proper target placement consists of. That individual will also serve as a range observer to help other members continue to use our club in a safe manner.

MICHIGAN STATE STEEL CHALLENGE MATCH THANK YOU:

To all the volunteers who braved the elements and helped SKSC put on a successful match, we shout THANK YOU! Without your help this match would not have happened. We want to thank each and every one of you for doing such an outstanding job. The BoD is very pleased with the outcome of this match and the presence of so many willing helpers. We feel proud to be part of your club.

SKSC SWAP MEET SATURDAY AUG 3:

A swap meet will be held at SKSC on August 3. Bring your own tables and anything related to shooting, hunting, fishing, or camping you want to sell. Setup will begin at 7 AM and we would like you to remain until at least 2 PM to give members a chance to see your goods. Setup will be inside or outside. For more details, contact Bob Commans at 269 793 7767 or email info@sksc.org.

CLUB HOUSE REMODEL:

We want to thank all the volunteers who have helped complete the clubhouse remodeling. The new painting and woodwork are outstanding. We will be touching up the trim and adding several wall protectors to complete the job. Take a moment to visit the clubhouse and see how wonderful it looks. Thank you all for your great and generous help!

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. Work credit is \$15/hr. up to 4 hours (\$60).

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 2019:

Here are the planned workdays for 2019. Remember that workdays begin at 9 AM and go until 1 PM. Check in at the clubhouse for work assignments. You may arrive later or leave before the 1 PM

finish. You will earn credit for the number of hours you work. Remember to have the board member in charge sign your membership card. It is important to note that work credit for 2020 renewal is \$15 per hour and there is no longer an exemption for seniors. All work days are on Saturday. July 27, Aug. 24, Sept. 28, and Oct. 26. ALL RANGES WILL BE CLOSED DURING WORKDAY HOURS! We will try to have specific work tasks posted before the workday so you may come prepared. Check the web site for a list of work tasks by workday.

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 (see next). Snow blowing the skeet and trap ranges comes to mind as does scoring/pulling trap lines.

WORK LISTS:

Can't make the scheduled work days? We have located a box on the front of the club house that has various work tasks that need to be done. These tasks can be completed during any time of the week. Look through the list of tasks and take the one you want to do. Perform the task and fill out the sheet then drop it in the return box. **IMPORTANT:** you must bring your membership card to one of the managers during normal skeet and trap hours to get your work credit. A manager will verify that your work was completed and give you credit on your membership card. Some of the tasks do not require physical labor such as being a manager helper during skeet and trap, or riding around and monitoring the ranges. Some other tasks which do require physical effort are; helping to paint, removing trash, weeding flower beds, etc.

DIRTY 30 SKEET:

A different, and very challenging, way to shoot skeet targets is now available to shotgun shooters. This game involves teams of two shooters stationed at posts inside the normal shooting positions on the skeet field. The challenge is to break as many as possible of the 30 birds that are thrown at random in a 60 second period of time. Teams are formed by random draw and are redrawn after each complete round. More details are available in the clubhouse. The shoots are held on Saturdays starting at 10 AM. The next shoot is on August 3. Do yourself a favor and attend. You'll have the time of your life.

MATCH BARN CONSTRUCTION:

Work has begun on a new pole building barn located in the special purpose bunker area. This barn will house all the equipment used by the disciplines that shoot their events in the match bays. These shooting sports have grown in popularity and size over the years to the extent that they now no longer fit in the current barn. Additional growth and activities are also demanding more space which could only be provided by enlarging our storage capability. Putting a new barn in the match bay area helps reduce the efforts needed to setup and maintain the shooting activities conducted in the bays. A significant amount of planning was conducted to ensure that this facility will meet our current and future needs.

FREE CLASS FOR SKSC MEMBERS:

The following announcement was furnished by the organization presenting the class. You will be offered the chance to purchase after the class. There is no obligation and SKSC does not encourage, nor discourage you to do so.

Our Board of Directors accepted a request from **Michigan Firearms ETS** to host a Law Seminar with **US Law Shield**, on Wednesday, September 4th, from 6pm to 8pm, in our clubhouse.

This Law Seminar is **FREE** to all SKSC Members. If a member wishes to take a friend along, it is only \$10.00 for your friend.

This seminar will be taught by an experienced attorney that will be providing a wealth of knowledge on topics such as:

- The Castle Doctrine
- Stand Your Grounds Laws
- The Justified Use of Deadly Force
- Where You Can Legally Carry in Michigan
- What to Expect When Law Enforcement Arrives
- and much more



This event will have a dedicated question and answer segment to ensure all attendees are able to get the information they want to know from a credible source they can trust.

Be On the Look Out for an e-mail, when the registration link is 'live' on the US Law Shield website. This e-mail will be coming to your e-mail mailbox in the next couple of weeks, and we do not want you to miss out on this opportunity.

The e-mail that you will be looking for, will have additional information and a link to get registered. **Remember** to get it on your calendar, Wednesday, September 4th, from 6 to 8pm, in our clubhouse.

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 AUG 7th & 10th, and SEPT 11th & 14th. 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 and are encouraged to do so for older students as well. Don't forget to pack a lunch for the long Saturday session.

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

CHANGES AND NEW EVENTS AT SKSC FOR 2019:

The NRA sanctioned Rifle Silhouette matches have moved to the 3rd Saturday of the month, May through October. This change was made to align our schedule with other clubs who also conduct silhouette matches. See the calendar for times.

Bench Rest Silhouette shoots at steel chickens located at 500 meters. Center fire cartridges that are not magnums may be used. Shooting is from a bench rest position with the rest being supplied. This match is on the 2nd Saturday of the month, May through October. See the web site for details.