

# Chief Okemos Sportsman's Club



**Volume 37 Issue 4  
April 2024**

**Greetings!**

**First, the serious stuff. We had a repeat of a serious safety problem at the range. Someone said something to someone else, who said something back, and we had a small completely pointless argument. This would be only dangerous and foolish, if both parties were not holding guns. If you say something perceived as threatening to someone else, while you are holding a gun, it is not a club issue. The gun immediately jumps this to the Sheriff's jurisdiction and the prosecutor gets involved. Just getting banned from the property is the least of your worries. If someone says something that you feel is a problem – walk away. Don't work on a snappy come back or on "giving as good as you got." Walk away. Resist the urge to turn back and get in one last comment. Keep walking and report it to a board member. The board seems inclined to just ban everyone involved with very little regard to who is more or less wrong. Please, just don't argue while carrying a gun. The board voted to replace the deck off the South side of the main building. The rails are not in good shape and the long straight run of stairs need updating. If you know anyone interesting in rebuilding that, please ask them to call or email me.**

**All of the committees are starving for volunteers. There is no specific time commitment or schedule. If you can spare some time, please volunteer. We have no paid staff, so if it gets done, it was a member stepping up.**

**It will be spring soon and we can get back to shooting!**

**The board voted to discontinue mailing paper newsletters starting with the July issue. This will allow us to publish the newsletter a bit closer to the first of the new month, making the information more current, and save the club close to \$2500 a year in printing and distribution costs. If this is a significant problem for you, please email me at**

**[DaleKHowe@dkhowe.com](mailto:DaleKHowe@dkhowe.com).**

**Dale K Howe, COSC President**

- COSC is a family-friendly gun and archery club in Dimondale, Michigan promoting the safe and responsible use of firearms and archery activities in the Mid-Michigan area.

[www.chiefokemos.org](http://www.chiefokemos.org)



chiefokemos

## **Mission**

To promote the safe and responsible use of firearms and archery activities in the Mid-Michigan area.

## **COSC Pledge**

I give my pledge as an American to save and faithfully defend from waste the natural resources of my country, its air, soil and materials, forests, waters, and wildlife.

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### **NRA MEMBERSHIP INFO**

When joining or renewing your NRA membership you can do so through COSC and here's how: As of Jan 7, 2021, the rates for one year and five-year NRA memberships have returned to standard recruiter rates. One year \$35 and five years \$125. Please send the following info: Your name, mailing address, NRA membership number (if renewing,) the NRA magazine you prefer (choose one: American Rifleman, American Hunter, 1<sup>st</sup> Freedom, Shooting Illustrated) along with a check for dues payable to NRA Membership Dues mailed to: Kirk Ginther 737 Brenneman Potterville, MI 48876.) A receipt for dues will be mailed to you. By renewing your NRA membership through the club, \$6 of that renewal fee is returned to the club to promote and support youth and ladies trap shooting.



### **7-YD RANGE**

*Please **DO NOT** let your children play in the sand at the 7yard range (electronic range.) It could be contaminated with lead. They should **NEVER** be in front of the firing line!!*

The 7-yard range orientation will now be conducted by Jerry Shihady, Duane Whaley, and Gary Kandler. They are at COSC frequently and you can locate them at the trap range on Thursday mornings at 9am, Thursday evenings at 5pm, and Sundays at 1pm, otherwise you can contact them by phone to set up an appointment: Jerry at 282-5097, Duane at 983-2637 or Gary at 646-7973.

### **WORK HOURS**

Anyone needing work hours? I can always use help on building, range, and ground maintenance projects. If you are interested, please text, or call me at 202-6000 or send an email to me at [qtmars@yahoo.com](mailto:qtmars@yahoo.com) Thanks! Mark Richardson

### **WEEZERS & GEEZERS**

What is Weezers and Geezers you ask? It's a group of mostly members that sit around, drink coffee, and occasionally even shoot something other than the bull!

Every Thursday, social hour starts at 730am for coffee and food is served at 830am. Breakfast is the cooks' choice and can range from sausage gravy and biscuits to omelets or blueberry pancakes and waffles. Breakfast is \$6 and the public is welcome, so bring your friends out to eat then do a little shooting on the range after.

If you can cook and would be interested in working in the kitchen, get a hold of me. Hope to see you there and no need to be a weezer to come.  
Mark Richardson 517-202-6000/[qtmars@yahoo.com](mailto:qtmars@yahoo.com)

### **NRA CLASSES**

The club will be running NRA Basic Pistol, Basic Rifle, Basic Pistol Instructor, Basic Rifle Instructor classes in March and April. The intent is to make this series of classes available to members of local gun clubs. The two basic classes are open to anyone, the instructor classes are intended for members of local clubs. Anyone interested in any of these should contact Dale Howe at [Dalekhowe@dkhowe.com](mailto:Dalekhowe@dkhowe.com).

### **COWBOY ACTION**

Once again, it's time to COWBOY UP! 2024 Cowboy Action shooting season will start on April 13. Shoots will be held on the second and fourth Saturdays of each month, April through October. Cowboy Action shooting is open to the public as well as club members though there is a \$5 charge for each contestant.

It consists of shooting with lever action rifles, single action handguns and either side by side double barrel shotguns (without ejectors) or Winchester model 1897 pump action shotguns. We will mainly be shooting at steel targets though we may occasionally shoot paper targets. Centerfire and rimfire rifles and pistols are acceptable. If you are short on having the proper equipment to start with, some members will be glad to loan you the proper equipment during the shoot.

The setup time is from 8am-9am. Shooting starts at 9am and is usually finished between 11am and noon. Shooting dates for 2024 are 4/13 and 4/27, 5/11 and 5/25, 6/8 and 6/22, 7/13 and 7/27, 8/10 and 8/24, 9/14 and 9/28, 10/12 and 10/26.

If you have any questions, please call or text Ken Ecker 517-983-9195 or Mike Rhoads 517-643-5989.

### **JUNIOR .22 RIFLE CLUB**

It's time for another exciting junior .22 rifle club for the 2024 summer. We will be meeting every Monday from 5-7pm starting on May 6.

Many participants earned NRA patches and awards last summer. Each student will be instructed on the safe handling and shooting of rifles on the COSC range.

The junior rifle club is for all 10-17 years of age. You do not have to be a member of COSC. All rifles, ammunition, targets, and safety equipment will be provided free of charge. Call me with any questions you may have.

If you would be interested in helping with the junior .22 rifle club this summer, please give me a call. All volunteers will need to be Range Safety Officer (RSO) trained. Training will be on May 4 2024. This is an all-day training. You will need to register but call me first for more information. Thank you.

NRA class registration website:

<https://www.nrainstructors.org/CourseDetails.aspx?Courseid=821668>

Randy Campbell 517-285-5727

### **JR & LADIES TRAP PROGRAM**

OK boys, girls, and all ladies: Are you tired of sitting at home doing schoolwork on your computer or working from home and missing your friends and workplace coworkers? Well, we have a solution for you!

Beginning May 7<sup>th</sup> at 5pm we begin our yearly Jr and Ladies trap program. We have the shotguns, ammunition, and clay targets to entertain you with, at no cost to you. The smell of gun powder will be in the air, and yes, some of those clay birds will be dusted.

Kids from 4-12 grade are welcome as well as Moms and ladies of all ages. Bring your friends and start enjoying being outside and having fun again.

P.S Dads bring the family along to watch the excitement!

### **RANSOM REST**

The club owns a ransom rest. This is basically a fancy bench vise used to hold a pistol steady while adjusting sights. Fairly expensive and very specialized. Very few members even knew we had one. We don't use it and the board has decided to offer it for sale. Package deal, all the parts we have. Probably will sell for around \$400. If you have any questions, please contact me at [DaleKHowe@dkhowe.com](mailto:DaleKHowe@dkhowe.com).

**RANGE**

**CLOSED**

Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup> the range will be closed for maintenance from 9am-3pm. If you would like some work hours, come on out. We will be rebuilding back stops and other miscellaneous work. General carpentry tools, battery operated hand tools, shovels, post

hold differs, heavy equipment, excavators, tractors with buckets would be helpful. Any questions you can email me at [qtmars@yahoo.com](mailto:qtmars@yahoo.com) or text/call 517-202-6000.

Thanks, Mark Richardson

### **LADIES LADIES LADIES**

Happy Spring ladies,

The weather is getting nicer and it's time to get ready for another season of Ladies Ladies Ladies. We will be having a planning meeting/gun cleaning for those of you who want to come and clean your guns on April 17<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. During the planning portion, we will decide on what night we will be shooting and the different disciplines we will be shooting this year. We have received a grant from the NRA supporting Ladies Ladies Ladies, which will help us this year.

### **2024 CAMP DINNER**

Thanks again this year to all who attended the dinner! We had a very nice turnout of people and managed to raise a profit of \$5000. My appreciation for the volunteers who make this dinner and raffle a success are beyond HUGE! I can't thank you all enough. Our MC for the evening was Mr Dan Reid who does a wonderful job of announcing raffle ticket winners. This year he also sold a resounding \$1040 in 50/50 raffle tickets! Mike Cripps helped with this effort with Dan started the raffle winners announcements. Thanks Gentlemen!

Jane Kandler and Sharon Whaley took care of the admissions table while Ann Nestle took care of the appetizer table. Mark Richardson kept the popcorn popping and available to our guests. Donation seekers were Holly Richardson, Kirk Ginther, and Dave Walter. Holly also helped sell raffle tickets with hubby Mark for the 450 Bushmaster. Kirk Ginther also sold raffle tickets for the Henry Golden Boy. Dave Walter and his son Austin were part of the team cooking for the dinner. Our third raffle seller for the 350 Legend was Bob Scriver who also loaned us his meat grinder. Another member, Tim Albrecht loaned us his meat grinder, while Bill DeNike loaned us his meat slicer. Thank you, gentlemen, for helping out with these much-needed items. Dennis Dann took care of a \$10 raffle this year for a reloading scale and Ben and Nicki Shirey and Mike Hornbeck sold \$1 and \$5 raffle tickets. Servers were Karen Czelada, Russ and Cindy Shinivar, Ben and Nicki Shirey, Mike Hornbeck, John Kandler, myself, and Dale Howe stepped in to help out as a few volunteers couldn't attend at the last minute. Thanks to the servers who always eat last! And a big Thank You to the wonderful bakers who donated their baked goods!

The hard-working crew who prepared the meal were Don Uramkin, Gary Kandler, Mike Carter, Dave and son Austin Walter, with helper Jim Southworth. This was Don's first year as Head Cook and we are grateful to him for stepping into this task. Our kitchen cleaner again this year was Mike Morey who does an excellent job of keeping the dishes washed and the kitchen clean. We had a wonderful response to our request for wild game. Thank you, gentlemen, for the many donations of venison and pheasant. Thank you also to the many individuals who donated to our raffle tables. Marty Rios arrived Sunday morning to vacuum rugs and dust and mop floors. Thank you, Marty! A group of members took down tables and chairs after the event was completed Saturday night and this helps a great deal, so thanks to all of you. So... as I mentioned earlier..... this fundraising event is the effort and success of many individuals, and I can't thank you all enough!!! I hope everyone that attended had a good meal and a good time! I hope to see you again next year!

Sincerely, Cathy Finn

**Executive Officers** \*all terms end 1/8/24

President – Dale Howe 616-485-3979

1<sup>st</sup> Vice – Richard Garza 230-3552

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice – Kirk Ginther 881-6022

Secretary – Holly Richardson 989-277-8181

Treasurer – Jane Kandler 646-7973

**Board Members**

*Past President - Mark Richardson*

Duane Whaley (1/13/25) 983-2637

Kay Lockwood (1/13/25) 332-2869

Jerry Shihady (1/12/26) 282-5097

Cathy Finn (1/12/26) 974-6178

Ken Ecker (1/11/27) 983-9195

Josh Ramy (1/11/27) 819-9644

Gary Radtke (1/11/27) 281-7704

**Communications/Social Media**

Newsletter – Ashley Wonnacott ([ashleymarie.wonnacott@gmail.com](mailto:ashleymarie.wonnacott@gmail.com))

Website – Nikki Goodrich ([nlgoodrich@gmail.com](mailto:nlgoodrich@gmail.com))

Facebook – Aaron Lopez ([lopez.aaron.m@gmail.com](mailto:lopez.aaron.m@gmail.com))

**Lost and Found**

[cosclostandfound@gmail.com](mailto:cosclostandfound@gmail.com)

There is no clubhouse phone.  
All area codes are (517) unless noted.

## Club Contact Info

### **Archery**

Mike Cripps [crippsmc@gmail.com](mailto:crippsmc@gmail.com)

### **Black Powder**

*Members Needed*

### **Club Maintenance**

Mark Richardson 202-6000

Mike Birsen 231-5491

### **Clubhouse Rental**

Mike & Cathy Finn 408-0015

### **COSC/NRA Membership Recruiting**

Kirk Ginther 881-6022

### **Cowboy Action**

Ken Ecker 983-9195

Mike Rhoads 643-5989

### **Falling Plates**

Clint Wells 974-4770

### **Junior .22 Rifle**

Randy Campbell 285-5727

### **Key Masters**

Mark Richardson 202-6000

John Gambill 646-0681

### **Ladies Ladies Ladies**

Kathy Reid 899-8434

### **Membership Volunteer Work Hours**

Sharon Whaley 896-8253

### **Membership (Applications, Records, Dues)**

Kirk Ginther 881-6022

[coscmembership@gmail.com](mailto:coscmembership@gmail.com)

### **New Member Orientation**

Sharon Whaley 896-8253

Don Uramkin 652-9894

### **Trap – Juniors & Ladies**

Gary Kandler 646-7973

### **Trap – Thursday PM**

*Members Needed*

### **Trap - Sunday**

*Members Needed*



Chief Okemos Sportsman's Club  
P.O. Box 375  
Dimondale, Michigan 48821

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