

**MICHIGAN STATE MUZZLELOADING
ASSOCIATION
NEWS LETTER
NOV/DEC 2016**

THE PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Tis the best time of year, hunting season. The reason many of us started shooting. We shoot to prepare our equipment and hone our skills to be better hunters. I know I started shooting for this reason. The shooting lead to new friendships and annual events that a part of our lives. I have annual hunting trips that are more about the people I am with than the game we may or may not get. Deer season is upon us and I am preparing to head to the Upper Peninsula again. This will be my 25th year at my friend Doug's camp. The two of us with the occasional help of a few others built the camp in 1991. The crew has varied over the years and now is just Doug, my brother Larry and myself. We have a quiet camp, no tv, no phones and not much night life. We hunt, visit, relax and eat very well.

We average a buck per year which isn't too bad for Luce County. We leave the spikes to grow up and hope someday they return as 8 points or bigger. The hunting is not as important as it once was but still the centerpiece of the week. We have been there rain or shine, snow or mud. We always look forward to it and hate to leave. Last weekend we were there to prepare our blinds and make

sure camp is ready for season. Some day we will be retired and be able to go to camp for all of season. Maybe we can be like friends of mine who spend thanksgiving at camp. Their whole family heads to McMillan to celebrate thanksgiving at camp. I know Diane would go in a heartbeat if our schedules would let us. Well, we can keep dreaming of that day.

Speaking of schedules, it's that time again. Get your shoot dates lined up for next year and get them to Ron. He is putting together next years' shoot Schedule and is ready for our date info. I recently sent him the dates for Bridgeport Gun Club so we will have ours set. The schedule gets to lots of potential shooters and many of them get it off of the state website. This is why having a club website or email address is becoming more important every year. This is the most advertising you can get for five bucks anywhere. We all are looking for more shooters and this is still the best way to get your club name and dates out there so encourage your club to list their shoot dates and list an email contact.

The holidays are coming, Thanksgiving, Muzzleloader Season, Christmas, and New Year's. Here is to a safe and happy holiday season to one and all. Time with family and friends, remembering the past, and looking forward to the future. Till I see you again, have a Merry Christmas and a happy deer season. Lyle

CANCELLATION

The January shoot at Bridgeport Gun Club has been cancelled but we look forward to seeing you at the Numb Skull Shoot, February 19, 2017. We will start at 11:00 and shoot till 4:00 pm. I don't know what is on the menu yet but there will be a hot lunch and lots of hot coffee. I am sure there will be lots of new stories to be shared also. Come on out and join in on the fun. I am sure Diane will pick all easy targets for the start of the year. I only get blamed for the hard ones. It's hard to second in command; she blames me for everything I do. See on the range, Lyle

Lyle and Diane

SHOOT SCHEDULE

It is time to be getting your shoot dates in for the year of 2017. Letters have been sent out to the contact people. There were some contact people that didn't send an address in to me so they didn't get a letter. If any of you know the contact people or see them let them know an address is needed to correspond. Those that didn't get a notification were: Larry Mullen, Clinton River woods walk: Tom Berry, Lapeer Gun Show: Carl Larsen, Columbiaville Pistol Shoot: and Tracy Violet Primitive Rendezvous Columbiaville.

PINE RIVER LONG RIFLEMEN

MUZZLE LOADING GUN CLUB

News from the Pine River Long Riflemen Muzzle loading Club. We had a good shooting year. We have fired 11 monthly shoots with one to complete Nov. 13 and that is a lucky day as that is Sunday. There has been real good participation in the monthly shoots. All members are looking to the Christmas party and awards for the year of shooting. There won't be much happening now, until the Middle of January. Several of the members are looking forward to deer hunting. We are wishing all a merry Christmas and a happy New Year



Missy Taylor of Union City is surely an outdoors woman. She does very well at shooting muzzle loading trap with both flint and percussion shotguns. She just

recently rigged up a primitive fishin pole along with some baler twine she had around the farm and barb wire for a hook. Even dug her own fishin worms to catch this monster. Way to go Missy, your doin it right.



Russ Anderson placed 1st in the Pistol Revolver Agg with Mike MacInnes placing 2nd and Michael Reece placing 3rd. Russ Placed 1st in the Trade Gun Line Agg and Keith Bazin placed 2nd and Serge Bourdeaux placed 3rd. Russ also placed 2nd in the Guy R Smith overall agg. 2nd in the Michigan State Championship Agg. He also placed 3rd in the Flint Championship Agg and 2nd in the Flint OH Agg. Russ also placed 2nd in the Old Timers agg and 3rd in the Lite Bench Agg.

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Wild Rivertree

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October 25, 2016

RE: Michigan Outdoor Writers Association Annual Awards

An open letter to MSMLA members:

I wish to extend my heartfelt thanks and deepest gratitude to the black powder clubs and their members across this great state of Michigan. Without your continued support and willingness to answer my questions and pose for pictures the blessings of the following awards would simply not be possible.

The summer conference of the Michigan Outdoor Writers Association (MOWA) convened in late September at Lake Gogebic in the western end of the Upper Peninsula. At the Excellence in Craft Awards

ceremony I received first place honors in four categories. What a thrill!

Founded in 1944, MOWA is a non-profit organization that includes outdoor writers, editors, photographers, broadcast journalists, lecturers and public relations specialists. MOWA members are dedicated to the preservation and conservation of the state's natural resources and the practice of stewardship and good sportsmanship in outdoor recreation.

The awards included the 2016 Cliff Ketcham Award: best hunting outdoor feature story (traditional black powder hunting), the James H. Hall Award: best outdoor feature highlighting non-hunting (black powder shooting sports), the James A. O. Crowe Award: best columnist (black powder shooting sports), and the Charlie Welch Award: best published black and white photo (living history).

In essence, the traditional black powder hunting adventures and the black powder shooting sports stories topped all other outdoor articles submitted to the MOWA Excellence in Craft competition. As MOWA president, Mark Sak, noted, "These are the Oscar Awards for the Michigan outdoor writers, the best of the best."

The black powder shooting sports community's message is getting out there, being heard and people are taking note! Again, this humbling accomplishment is not possible without the dedication and cooperation of the members of the Michigan State Muzzle Loading Association.

Several of this year's winning articles, which appeared in *Woods-N-Water News: Michigan's Premier Outdoor Publication* or *Muzzle Blasts: The Official Publication of the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association*, are posted in the "Portfolio" section of the navigation bar on the <http://dennisneely.com> web site.

And as an aside, viewership continues to grow for the <http://traditionalblackpowderhunting.com> web site, which is now read in 105 countries across the globe. Who could ever imagine a traditional black powder squirrel or turkey hunt, set along the banks of the River

Raisin in the Old Northwest Territory, would be popular among living historians in the Czech Republic?

I appreciate everyone's kind assistance and continued support. Thank you, again.

Keep promoting Michigan's black powder heritage, be safe and may God bless you all,

Dennis "Denny" Neely

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Bob Hill from Grand Valley Cap N Ballers purchased this trap thrower that fits on the back of this pick up. He sez that when he goes on vacation he can take it right with him. He tried it out on route AB4 going out west but the state troopers didn't think it was such a good idea. They didn't give him a ticket cuz they thought it was pretty neat. We ask him if he would set it up at our sporting clays course, he said, I think we can do that just as long it ain't a goin away shot.

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Deer hunting starts the 15th. Send your deer stories and pictures to me and I will get them in the next issue which comes out in January. I hope that you all voted and we get the right President that will make things better for the country. rbfern@triton.net



The Bench Championship Aggregate went to Richard Wiltse, 2nd went to Ira Thumma and 3rd went to Dick Thorn.



Matt Crum took the OH Championship agg with 2nd place going to Russ Anderrson and 3rd going to Serge Bourdeaux. Matt also placed 1st in the Roy Keeler Agg with Mat Magdic placing 2nd and 3rd went to Ken Thomasma. Matt placed 1st in the Lite Bench Agg and Ron Smith placed 2nd and Russ Anderson 3rd.

The Cross Stick Agg Championship went to Dick Thorn and 2nd was Matt Crum and 3rd went to Ron Smith



Wes O'Dell placed 1st in the Open Primitive Aggregate with Alan Pichan placing 2nd and

Marcie Anderson placed 3rd. Wess also placed 3rd in the Bud Thompson Trade Gun Aggregate.



Alan Pichan placed 1st in the Flint Primitive Agg with Marcie Anderson placing 2nd and Serge Bourdeaux placing 3rd. Alan also placed 2nd in the In Line Hunters Agg.

I failed to mention that Keith Bozin placed 2nd in the Bud Thompson Trade Gun Agg. Erin MacInnes placed 2nd in the Women's Championship Agg and Diane McGregor placed 3rd.

Congratulations to all that placed in the Rifle and Shotgun Aggregates and also in the individual matches. A big thank you goes out to Eric the computer guy and also all of our sponsors that sponsored a rifle or shotgun match.

SPONSORS

We are looking for sponsors for the 2017 Rifle and Shotgun Matches. Let's make it a goal this year to get them all filled. I have received 6 sponsors already from just mentioning it in the last issue. Getting Sponsors helps defray the cost of the events. Make checks payable to MSMLA or MSMLA Shotgun and mail to 16808 Peach Ridge, Kent City, MI 49330

ADVERTISING

As I have mentioned before if you would send me e-mail address' of your local newspapers, radio and tv stations and you send me your flyers of your events I will send them out and hopefully this will get more people to your events. E-mail to rbferrn@triton.net or snail mail to MSMLA, 16808 Peach Ridge, Kent City, Mi. 49330. I have a group mailing for advertising. Does it work, hard to tell, but if we can get any at all to mention or promote your activity it would be great.



CAPITAL AREA SPORTSMAN LEAGUE

Ken Hobday put on the 1st Annual Muzzleloading Shotgun Event at the Capital Area Sportsman League located at 7534 Old River Trail in Lansing. The event consisted of 20 Birds at trap, 10 birds at 5 stand and 15 birds at skeet. Each event paid 3 places plus 3 places for the aggregate. There were a total of 18 competitors from the Lansing Muzzleloading gun club, Grand Valley Cap N Ballers Muzzleloading Gun Club and also from the Capital area Sportsman League along with competitors not associated with a club. The lunch was provided by Team Hobday which went over very well and was delicious. Bob Mongon gave me a tour of the facilities and was very impressive. I am sorry to mention that I don't have who all placed in what event so I won't report who I know that did as I don't want to leave anybody out. Talking with Ken he is planning on having another one next year. I hope that he does as it was a fun shoot and worth the trip over from the west side of the state.

UPCOMING EVENTS

DEC 4 WOODS WALK Clinton River Muzzle Loaders ,
Detroit Sportsman Congress

DEC 31 "LAST BLAST OF THE YEAR"
BLUE WATER SPORTSMAN ASSN

XX

2017

JAN 7 - 8 FROSTED PAW COLUMBIAVILLE SPORTSMAN CLUB

JAN 14 WINTER WOODS WALK
LANSING MUZZLE LOADING GUN CLUB

JAN 22 BRIDGEPORT FUN SHOOT **CANCELLED**

FEB 10-12 HOG RENDEZVOUS TECUMSEH

ATTENTION MUZZLE LOADING GUN CLUBS

Please let your president and secretary know that they can send their club information to rbfern@triton.net on their activities and history of their club. What better way is there to get free advertising which is mailed out to over 200 families and is on the web [@msmla.org](http://msmla.org)



Our hard working registration worker sharing his vast knowledge!!!

lyle and diane

FOR SALE

Neil Speiser has a Joe Valentin, .45 cal. percussion, Hawken style gun with beautiful wood he would like to sell. Neil Speiser address is 10514 Caberfae Hwy. Manistee 49660. Phone number is 231-723-3288

Wood, bowls, plates salt & pepper shakers and some hunting powder horns. Bowls and plates finished in warm vegetable oil for 48 hours. Call Ron @616-836-5760 or e-mail to rbfern@triton.net

LOSS OF A LOVED ONE

Deo Freeman passed away 10/12/16. Please keep his wife, Wanda, and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

The showing for Dee was Sunday, October 16, 2016 at the following funeral home in Sheperd:

The funeral service were held on October 17, 2016 at the United Methodist Church in Sheperd.



**Good bye fall and welcome winter.
Ugggggggg**

Here is to wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Together as a team we will succeed

MSMLA
16808 Peach Ridge
Kent City, Mi.

