



NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2020



I hope everyone is healthy and doing well. This has been a very unusual and trying year. From the looks of things, it will not return to normal for a while. Some things are normal though. It's hunting season.

Archery season is in full swing as are small game and waterfowl. I hope you have had a chance to get out and enjoy the great outdoors. I have been out with a crossbow several times and managed to bring home a wayward deer. I am starting to pack for the UP. A week in the woods north of Newberry. No phones, no TV, no headaches, no deer, but lots of rest.

By now, many of you have received your

state schedule requests. I hope that everyone will get their shoot dates listed for next year. We can plan on them and with luck get to enjoy time at the range again. We will plan on spending time together again. Get your dates in to Ron as soon as you can. Our schedule is set out to shooters all around our great state and is great advertising for your club.

We are working on next year's raffle package. Joe Valentin is building a York style rifle for us. John Beard has made us a maple box to go with it. I believe we have a custom powder horn coming also. We will get pictures as so as we can and make raffle tickets available. This is looking to be a very special package. If you have something you would like to add please let me know. Be sure to get your tickets. You definitely will not want to miss a chance to win.

I want to thank the Grand Valley cap n ballers club for host the state shoot for the past three years. They have a wonderful facility. This year we move to the Lansing Muzzle loading club. We are their guests for the next three years. Another great club and excellent place to shoot. Be sure to mark your calendars for July. You will not want to

miss the fun.

Also, mark the state shotgun shoot in August. That will be at Grand Valley. Lots of fun and competition. I am proof you do not have to shoot a lot to go and have fun. I always have a great time there also. Want to try a shotgun but do not have yet, just ask and several will be offered for you to try.

Stay safe and have good luck hunting this fall. Have a happy holiday season. Merry Christmas and a happy new year. We look forward to seeing you soon. Lyle and Diane.

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What did you do HALLOWEEN 2020



Well, Jim Brotherton (State VP) and I got together about a week before Halloween and decided to get together to do a little work on the State trailer, the new one. I really had not planned to get it finished but, what the hell, what was left for us to finish up, we could do during some warmer weather.

I had gotten to Laingsburg (LMLGC) about 9:45am on Halloween morning. I think Jim had just crawled out of bed. However, that was OK. Jim introduced me to Steve Curtis, Ed Clark (John Clarks son) and Shanon Curtis. All three are members at the Lansing Muzzle Loaders. We moving the target rack that holds the targets to be issued, but had to remove empty shelves first. Otherwise, the rack would have been too heavy for the five of us to carry over to the new State trailer. After a short period (and a lot of huffing and puffing), we got it to the new trailer.

Steve and Ed got to unassembled the work table from the old trailer and figure out how to revamp it for the new trailer. Meanwhile Shanon, Jim and I had to figure out the layout for the shelving rack we had labored over getting it to the new trailer. Shanon had the pleasure of relocating all of the clips that hold the shelving and putting the shelves back in while Jim and I secured the rack to the floor. I got to do the little bit of electrical that had to be done. After Steve and Ed had recut the boards for the worktable, the five of us put the table back together, looked pretty good. Once Shanon was done with the shelving, we all got to separate the issue targets and put them back in the rack. The State storage truck had to be moved. None

of the work we have done up to this point has not been difficult, just tedious.

After the racks were installed and secured, we all got to empty out the old trailer and clean it out. Primitive target racks and target stands had to be moved into the new trailer. The old trailer had to be swept out so it would be presentable for its new owner (?????).

Now comes the hard work, putting on the winter cover for the new trailer that was very time intensive. Finished at about 5:30pm, needless to say, Ed nor Steve got to go deer hunting that evening.

All in all Steve, Ed and Shanon were the best to work with. "THANKS"

Jim was not too bad to work with either.

No Trick or Treating for me tonight.....

David Maddox

MSMLA Treasure

WE NEED NEWS

The state newsletter is in need of news from around the state. With the 30 plus clubs that we have we hardly hear from any of them. You can put your activities in the state newsletter, what the results are and even hunting and fishing activities. Send to rbfern@triton.net or MSMLA, 16808 Peach Ridge, Kent City, Mi. 49330

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REPORT FROM GRAND VALLEY CAP N BALLERS

I know many of you are able to read my article every month in our newsletter, even so I thought I'd write something this month in the state letter to reach even more of our state's shooters. To say this has been a difficult year for all of us is a gross understatement, not only for our shooters and clubs, but for us and for our families too. In March when the virus first hit and we were forced to shut down our club and cancel our first two events. I was worried at that point that we might have to cancel our entire program for 2020. At Grand Valley that is a big deal because, we have so many. This year we had 18 muzzle loading rifle and shotgun events scheduled in addition to that, we have our monthly club shoots on the first Sunday and traditional archery and air rifle on the Saturdays preceding the Sunday activities. Could we just say good-bye to all that so early in the year? Our Board of Directors decided we could not, we then made the decision to proceed as planned with due caution of course. In April we were still completely shut down so we moved our first event of the year Art Zimmerman Memorial Shoot to the end of June and for the first time ever, we canceled our Spring Shoot that was scheduled for early May. When June arrived the virus, situation had improved to the point where we could gather again to shoot and hangout with our friends, what a relief that was. Here in Michigan, most of us are outdoor people (we need to be to be able shoot) and as Americans, we are very social

people that is the combination we need to have a Muzzle Loading event isn't it? Fortunately, by June, we could and we did. The Zimmerman Shoot was held on June 30th, and was down a few from last year maybe from the rescheduling but we still had a great time and a successful event as well. In July the State shoot was here and surprisingly had the almost the same attendance as 2019. This was the last of our 3 years commitment to the association, so I am happy to see things went so well again. We know it would be a pleasure to have that shoot here again someday. Our Frontier Shoot was held again on the first weekend in August, and is our biggest event of the year. On Thursday evening we were getting a little worried there were not as many people here as in previous years, everything changed on Friday morning because people were actually waiting in line to register, and with that all our ranges were as busy as ever for the next two days. After the tallies were completed, we were surprised to find we had surpassed our expectations by a long way. At the end of August, the event was "Fun Tyme at the Range" a women only event. The covid scare hurt us a little in attendance, but there was certainly no shortage of fun. I hope more of you ladies can join us next year this is an event where you can just come and be you with no criticism and have fun. Our last event of the year was the Meat Shoot in early October and again we exceeded expectations even though the weather did not co-operate. It might interest you to know we have already begun planning next year's events and shoot

dates. Our calendar should be on our website within a week or so, for you to plan ahead. In closing I would like to thank all of you were able to shoot with us this past year our success truly depends on you, I hope this virus can be brought under control soon so we don't need to have it continue into the next year. Please be safe and until next time, Happy Thanksgiving everyone and Merry Christmas too.

Jeff Terrell
QVCNB

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SHOOT SCHEDULE

It is time to get your event schedules in. We have only received events from four clubs as of this writing. I will be sending out the second notification after the 15th of the month. Send your event schedule along with \$5.00/ event to get in the state schedule. I get many calls from areas for contact people on where they can join a club or shoot muzzle-loading rifles. Send your event with phone numbers, address, e-mail and contact person to MSNLA, 16808 Peach Ridge, Kent City, Mi. 49330

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LOSS OF A LOVED ONE

Tessman, Janet 8/25/1944 - 9/19/2020
Lawton Janet H. Tessman, 76, of Lawton, passed away peacefully on Saturday, September 19, 2020 at Rose Arbor Hospice in Kalamazoo. Arrangements have been entrusted to Newell Chapel in Decatur. Per Janet's wishes, cremation has taken place and there will be a memorial service in her honor at a later date. Memorial contributions in Janet's name may be made to the [American Cancer Society](#). Those wishing to leave an online condolence may do so at <https://www.starksfamilyfh.com/newell-chapel>. Janet was born August 25, 1944, in Jackson, Michigan to William and Dorothy (Franks) Pierce. She graduated from Lawton High School, the class of 1963. On March 21, 1964, she married the love of her life, Jerry Tessman in Lawton. Janet worked as a para-professional for Lawton and Paw Paw schools for many years. In her spare time, she enjoyed sewing, Indian bead work and living history. Janet loved Muzzle Loading and was the Michigan State champion in 2004. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her. Janet is survived by her loving husband, Jerry, and many cousins and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents and brothers, Bill Pierce and Robert Pierce.

