



Tuscola Co Conservation Club

Newsletter

October, 2018

Well - Hello October! We markedly greet fall while enjoying some cooler temperatures, watching the trees change into their bright colors, and hunting season is launched! Soon, we will be wrapping up a our range activities, *but not quite yet!*

We are very proud of the recent improvements at Tuscola County Conservation Club (TCCC) and not one of the improvements would have been possible had it not been for some very key volunteers. Some projects are complicated, and rarely happen as fast as we would all like to see them completed; *however, volunteers do not receive anything in return for their efforts other than the pride they feel to see their efforts obtain fruition.* We thank you, our Members, for your patience in seeing the completion of projects, and remind you that we are an organization of volunteers. We are *very thankful* to those people who have dedicated hundreds of hours of their time, money and equipment, for range improvements. Thank you very much to our wonderful volunteers!

We are also very thankful to our many, many sponsors, who have generously supported TCCC events – Gambles Gun Shop, Dick Williams Gun Shop, Precision Plasma Cutting, The Water Warehouse, Schriber Excavating, Whitetails Unlimited of Tuscola County and more <https://www.tcccmi.com/thank-you-sponsors--patrons>. Please keep sponsors in mind when meeting your shooting needs. ***A big Thank You!!*** to all who show unsurpassed dedication in supporting our organization.

We are very fortunate to have a Club with generous sponsors and dedicated volunteers making it possible to showcase a 300-yard range and accompanying building like what we have at TCCC. It is important to preserve what we have, and in this effort, please be reminded that there are rules of the range to be followed. Rules are posted everywhere on the grounds. As a Member, you have agreed to follow these rules. You have agreed to keep it clean also. Abuse of Club property or the use of unauthorized targets is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to: shooting the cement blocks, walls, structures, benches, glass, rocks, trees, cans, unapproved metal, milk jugs or anything that is not an intended target, and is subject to revocation of your Membership without notice. All shots are to be projected into a berm-not into the ground-not into the air-but into the berm. Rules are there for legal and safety reasons. Following them is mandatory. Rules are posted on the website www.tcccmi.com, and on the grounds. Thank you for your compliance.

To wrap up club rules and sportsman-like conduct at the club, 99.9% of the time, special shooting events happen on the weekend. Most of the time, setup for a USPSA or a 3-Gun match takes place the Thursday and/or Friday before the match. If you follow the calendar on the

website, you will always know when the weekends are free and not running into a special event. Normally, the bays have no paper targets, nor do they contain any “walls”, or special steel poppers, etc. On a normal day, do not have anything out that is portable – so if you visit the range, and you notice that there are wood stands, portable steels, Texas stars, anything that is NOT a permanent structure, then please-please leave the bay alone. It is set up for an event. Again, volunteers come in and set up when they have the time to do so for an event, and they do not have the luxury to be there the morning of to set up a match. It has to be done when the volunteers can do it – so your understanding in leaving the bays alone is appreciated. Again, please check the calendar, and if you aren't on the club email list you need to let us know so you get updates and reminders which are sent out on at least a monthly basis.

Continuing

Adjacent to the 300 rifle range is the long gun range, 25 & 50 yards, aka the old “bow bay.” The entire 50 yard range is surrounded by berms and cement barriers enabling a safe environment. On the Club's east side of the range, the old 100 range has been converted into a dedicated pistol-only bay. This is where the Club holds its organized Monday night pistol practices! Pipeline plans are to enclose the existing dormer-roof, forming a dedicated building on the pistol bay for foul weather shooting.

TCCC has skeet, trap and 6-stand sporting clays ranges. Our winter skeet league begins Feb. 1st. *Did you know??* TCCC offers free lessons ... yes...free....for those who would like to learn the sport of how to shoot Skeet. What is “Skeet” you ask? It is a shooting sport (for fun or competition) in which the participant takes turns shooting from seven positions on a semicircle, the eighth position is halfway between station 1 and station 7. The targets are launched by a device called the “trap.” The traps are able to launch the targets at around 15 feet above ground simulating a bird. So! just know that we recently received a whole new shipment of targets... so we're ready for a whole lot of Skeet shooting! If you'd like a lesson and see what it's all about, you can sign up on the website on the sporting clays page, or call Doug Kline @ 989-673-7938 ... or ... send an email inquiry to 1060gunclubrd@gmail.com! BTW...this is a great bachelor party or company outing event as the Club does allow for scheduling private parties 7-days.

On Saturday, September 29th, we hosted another USPSA match with some new shooters visiting from other Michigan Clubs which is always a pleasure to meet new people and show them around the range. USPSA shooting is a lot of fun, and always has been a great group of people experienced and novice alike. In the pipeline, will be Range Safety Officer training – so keep it in mind if you would be interested in participating. Bill Chunn came out the winner for September. Kenny Thorstenson won the match in August. Ming Qian was the winner of the July match. June match winner was Mike Tulip and the April match winner was Richard Seery! ***All first place winners need to pick up their prize at the Clubhouse.***

For those of you who subscribe to Woods-N-Water News magazine and read the September issue may have seen the article about our Club! A very nice writeup – there will be a copy at the Clubhouse.

New Membership Dues received October 1st or later are paid-in-full through 2019. A Membership with Tuscola County Conservation Club includes a spouse and your minor children and is the best bargain you will ever know: \$50 annually. That's it. No initiation fee, admin fee, or monthly dues –\$50 is your pass to shooting pistols, CPL classes, defense classes, state of the art 300 yard rifle range, enclosed and lighted pistol range, skeet, trap (free lessons too), 6-stand – and the kicker is a terrific friendly bunch of people! Have questions let us know. www.tcccmi.com/membership.

On the subject of memberships.... TCCC is now a part of The Civilian Marksmanship Program. TCCC's affiliation number is provided to **Members** of TCCC for Camp Perry activities. Their website www.thecmp.org allows members to sign up with an email address to receive current updates and learn about program opportunities, events, and competitions. Feel free to take advantage of this membership and if you have any questions, of course – ASK!

Pistol practice – Continues through October. **The next two practices will be October 15, and October 29 (and pistol shooters stay tuned, because there may be something special planned for the 29th!).** We have had a *fantastic turnout* for these practices! *Thank you very much* to our loyal volunteer leadership and helpers for dutifully organizing, setting up and taking down stages (most of the time there are 2-stages set) allowing for a quality practice with quick rotation for guest visitors and members alike. Participants practice moving while executing timely mag changes, concentrating on "shoot / no shoot" targets, with a "shoot'em as you see'em" strategy. All skill levels welcome - Pistol, strong side holster and at least two (2) magazines are suggested. (Perfect practice time for anyone who hasn't shot a USPSA match, but thinking they would like to try it – this lets you know what a match looks like!)

B.R.A.S.S. held their 3-Gun Championship Match "Top BRASS" on September 22, and a great time had by all! First place winners were: Ladies: Bonnie Brush, PCC: Scott Johnson, Factory: Justin Summers, Practical: Matt Koopikka, Open: Alan Ramsden. Congrats to all! B.R.A.S.S will be holding a Night Shoot Saturday, December 8th – stay tuned for more information! If you are interested in learning more about shooting 3-Gun, contact Bob Leavitt at carobrass@yahoo.com.

If you plan on having an event at the Club, please coordinate those arrangements by emailing 1060gunclubrd@gmail.com, or check with Betty, or Doug or Sue. It is important that we make sure that renting the hall is coordinated with range activities. No shooting allowed when the hall is rented.

Members are encouraged to attend our next Board Meeting which will be held Wednesday, October 17th. There will be no Board Meeting in November in lieu of Deer Season, and to wrap up our year, the final 2018 Board Meeting will be held Wednesday, December 5th, after our Annual TCCC Membership Steak Dinner! Soon, we will wipe the slate clean once again, and ring in the New Year with fresh ideas and a new organizational focus.

Please forward this newsletter to anyone you may believe would have an interest in TCCC and our activities.

Keep your powder dry!

Doug Kline, President

Tuscola County Conservation Club

www.tcccmi.com

"The right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed. A well regulated militia, composed of the body of the people, trained to arms, is the best and most natural defense of a free country."

- James Madison, *I Annals of Congress* 434, June 8, 1789