



WEST WALKER SPORTSMAN

P.O. BOX 141104, GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN 49514 (616) 453-5081

JANUARY

2003

Membership Information

Honorary	15
Charter	50
Associates	1053
Charter Apps	10

Just a friendly reminder that your Associate level membership includes yourself, your spouse, and your children age 17 and under. No other relatives or guests are allowed to use your membership. Eligible children 17 and under must be accompanied by an adult member while using the ranges. Thanks for your cooperation.

As always, if you have any questions about your membership, contact Rady Delgado, 735-2915.

New Building Update

Some hard work by the members has gone into finishing the interior. Tile has been laid in the kitchen, bathrooms, and wing, and the main room is being trimmed with woodwork. It looks like the project will come in right around the budgeted cost of \$160,000. One big hurdle yet to clear is to obtain the easement for the gas line. President Mark Thue is working feverishly to make that happen. If all goes well, look for an announcement in the February newsletter on an open house and other events.

CCW And You

Member John Speck, an NRA Instructor who conducts CCW courses at the club through Al and Bob's Sports Center, has offered to contribute articles from time to time on this subject. John has trained over 4000 people in his CCW classes since 1996, and would like to keep you up to date on this vital firearm issue. This month, John poses a hypothetical question

for the CCW license holder.

You leave your firearm in the car, and your wife drives to the grocery store. While driving there, she is involved in a minor traffic accident and the police see the pistol. What happens? Answer: She can be charged with carrying a handgun without a CCW (a 5-year felony) or, if she has a license to carry, by possessing a pistol registered to someone else, she has committed a misdemeanor and the firearm is confiscated. Definitely something to think about! Consider this similar scenario: Your wife is in the car with your firearm, and you are outside pumping gas. In the eyes of the law, it is the same as in the first case, and the same laws apply. We want to keep you informed. Next month, we will have information on the new CCW law just passed. See you at the range.

Scholarship Awarded

Chris Stone was selected as the first recipient of the Evan Boomstra Memorial Scholarship. Chris will receive \$500.00 to use for his college education. Congratulations!

Big Gun Raffle Winner

Lucky ticket number 118 belongs to **Don Parroh**, and it was drawn at the December Board of Directors Meeting. Don wins the December prize, which is **\$100.00 cash**. The January prize is a Browning BAR Autoloader with walnut stock in .338 Winchester Magnum. Sounds like a real BIG game gun! Good luck to all who bought a ticket. There are a handful of tickets available with eight great prizes still to be won. The drawing runs through August. Contact Mark Thue at 791-2128 if you are interested.

Range Safety

Just about everyone who has used the rifle or pistol ranges in recent years has had the pleasure of talking to charter member John Benson. John regularly patrols the firing lines checking membership cards and offering safety "guidance". John has asked me to remind all who use the ranges of our safety rules. We want all of our members to feel secure when using the ranges.

Eye and Ear protection are required

Keep all firearms pointed downrange

Use paper targets only

All firearms are to be open and empty when someone is downrange

Absolutely no handling of firearms while someone is downrange

We will be posting a schedule of daily shooting times for the year which correspond to the changing daylight hours. Also, watch the calendar for periodic range closures during matches or training classes.

1000 yard Shoots

by: Barry Anderson

With the first signs of snow come the first thoughts of the '03 Highpower rifle Long Range matches held in Michigan. Interested in a challenging game to play? Try a 1000 yard rifle (iron sight) match. Two types of rifles are used.

PALMA: The NRA defines the Palma rifle as one that is chambered for a .308 Win. (7.62mm NATO), with metallic sights. There are no weight, sight or trigger restrictions. The International standard however, requires the rifle weigh no more than 6.5 kg. (about 14.3

lbs.) with a trigger pull of at least 3.2 lbs. They also limit the bullets to the 155gr. Sierra Match King Palma. The NRA does not restrict bullet choice. Michigan matches mostly follow the NRA rules.

ANY: Just like you may suspect, this class has limited restrictions. The cartridge must fire a projectile of less than .338 and must be safe. Common cartridges for this competition are wildcats such as the 6.5/284, the 300 Winchester Magnum, and others having good performance at 1000 yards.

Course of fire:

600 yards: Typically 600 yard matches (the beginning of long range) are fired with three twenty shot courses. Each course is allowed two sighters. Commonly the first would be an any sight match (most, but not all, are fired with metallic sights). These are typically one-day events. In this area, Cadillac is the primary range.

1000 yards: Typically a 1000 yard match is held at Camp Grayling and is a two-day event. All matches are 20 rounds with unlimited sighters.

Palma: The Palma course of fire is 15 shots at 800 yards, 15 shots at 900 yards, and 15 shots at 1000 yards.

Sound like fun? It is! If you have an interest in getting involved, give me a call. I'll request permission from the WWSC Board to put on a short seminar in the clubhouse to answer all your questions. Barry Anderson 791-9378 (till 8PM) or barry45acp@aol.com.

(ed's note: Barry and other members have offered to help form groups within our club such as a Civilian Marksmanship Program, Junior Rifle Team, etc. If you have any interest or ideas along those lines, contact Barry by phone or e-mail.)

January

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
			1 New Years Day	2	3	4 Winter League Starts Trap & Skeet 10 to 3
5 Trap & Skeet 10 to 2	6 Deer Check 10 to 3	7	8 Trap & Skeet 9 to 12 AM 6 to 10 PM	9 Charter Meeting 7:30	10	11 Trap & Skeet 10 to 3
12 Trap & Skeet 10 to 2	13	14	15 Trap & Skeet 9 to 12 AM 6 to 10 PM	16	17	18 Trap & Skeet 10 to 3
19 Trap & Skeet 10 to 2	20	21 7 Yd. Range Closes 4:30	22 Trap & Skeet 9 to 12 AM 6 to 10 PM	23	24	25 Trap & Skeet 10 to 3
26 Trap & Skeet 10 to 2	27	28 Board Meeting/Gun Drawing 7:00 PM	29 Trap & Skeet 9 to 12 AM 6 to 10 PM	30	31	1
2 Trap & Skeet 10 to 2	3	4	5 Trap & Skeet 9 to 12 AM 6 to 10 PM	6	7	8 Trap & Skeet 10 to 3
9 Trap & Skeet 10 to 2	10	11	12 Trap & Skeet 9 to 12 AM 6 to 10 PM	13 Charter Meeting 7:30	14	15 Silhouette Shoot 10:00 "Iceman" Trap & Skeet 10 to 3

FEB

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Steele Clan Scores Big!

Charter member Leon Steele is posing in the picture below with three of the ten deer taken by his group in the first two days of the '02 gun season. The two 8-

pointers and the doe shown below were taken near Deer Park, Coopersville on opening morning. Leon had his "Good Luck" charm, his wife Pat, with him. Son Scott got his deer, and nephew Tim Steele got both an 8-point and a 7-point buck. Congratulations to all on a great hunt!

