

# Benzie Sportsman's Club

## Newsletter



Benzie Sportsman's Club

P.O. Box 352

Benzonia, Mi. 49616

[www.benziesportsmansclub.com](http://www.benziesportsmansclub.com)

Report Poachers Michigan DNR

1 (800) 292-7800

### Members

Remember to have your guests sign our liability waiver then, Place it in the back of the sign-in logbook

### SHOOTING HOURS

10:00 AM til DUSK



Hunter Ed – August 2021

## December 2020

### Club Officers

Deb McGraw	President	(231) 714-3423 <a href="mailto:gmcgraw@charter.net">gmcgraw@charter.net</a>
Ron Robinson	Vice President	(231) 499-6298 <a href="mailto:robinsonr@interlochen.org">robinsonr@interlochen.org</a>
Linda Hartman	Secretary	(231) 357-4605 <a href="mailto:ldscook@charter.net">ldscook@charter.net</a>
Connie Learnihan	Treasurer	(562) 599-9095 <a href="mailto:stevenskevin77@yahoo.com">stevenskevin77@yahoo.com</a>
Dwight Swisher	Membership Sec.	(231) 275-0187 <a href="mailto:dwight046@centurytel.net">dwight046@centurytel.net</a>

### Board of Directors

Jarrel Dell	Pistol Range	(231) 275-0335 <a href="mailto:jarreldell@gmail.com">jarreldell@gmail.com</a>
Mike Hartman	Shotgun	(231) 357-4605 <a href="mailto:michaelhartman@reagan.com">michaelhartman@reagan.com</a>
Jim Hooker	At Large	(231) 352-4267
Diane Mc Phall	Archery	(231) 946-2962 <a href="mailto:dcmcpfall@hotmail.com">dcmcpfall@hotmail.com</a>
Russell Signs	Rifle Range	(231) 409-6092 <a href="mailto:russell71@ISP.net">russell71@ISP.net</a>
Dan VanHaften	Muzzleloaders	(231) 352-6045 <a href="mailto:dvan0069@gmail.com">dvan0069@gmail.com</a>

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BSC MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

12/14/20

311 ---- Annual Members

23 ---- Life Members

12 ---- Guest, Honorary, Military & USCG

346 ---- Total Members



Concealed Pistol License Class

Contact Deb McGraw

(231) 714-3423

Contact the newsletter editor

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

## Presidents Column

A flourish of activity has been going on around the club despite a two week "pause" for firearm deer season. I hope all of you that took the opportunity to spend some time in the woods at least appreciated the beauty of our surroundings. I also hope several of you were successful in bagging your buck. I always enjoy hearing all the stories that are shared around the club after the hunt.

One of the ongoing improvements to the club is happening on the pistol range. It is now partially enclosed with the windows coming later this month. The post will be removed, and a gate installed in its stead. We are installing lights in the enclosure to make it easier to shoot. As these improvements take place, several safety procedures will be implemented and posted. If you get a chance, stop out and see how well it is coming along. If you see Jerry Dell or his son, Joe, out there, take a minute to say a big thank you for all their time to make this happen.

The pond is also getting some much-needed attention. The boards to the dam were rotting after many years and had to be pulled and replaced. Mike Hartman and Jim Hooker were gracious enough to take on this project and got the boards pulled and the pond drained. (Not an easy task) Several members are in the process of cleaning up the pond before we put the new boards back in place and dam up the pond. Many, many thanks to all of you.

As a follow up to some of the safety issues brought before the board, we are looking into installing a new gate system that will require a card to activate the gate. We are still looking at our options and what would best suit the club's needs. We are hoping to have more information soon so we can get something set in place this spring.

We have put our monthly potlucks on hold while our snowbirds head to warmer weather. We will resume them in March. We are also hoping to plan a St. Patrick's Day celebration of corned beef and cabbage in March, so mark your calendars. We will post the date on our website as soon as we make that decision.

I'm sure you're all getting tired of reading this, so I will close by wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and the start of a happy New Year. Stay safe

**Deb**

## Follow Up

Lately we seem to have many more active shooters on the Rifle, Pistol and Shotgun ranges than just a few years ago. With that in mind we would wise to take this following topic more seriously than we have been.

You should remember this list from our last newsletter.

1. If you see something that seems unsafe it is your duty to shout CEASE FIRE.
2. Leave your firearms in the rack until your squad is called to the firing line.
3. DO NOT interrupt anyone who is on the firing line.
4. We maintain a list of members, and guests' waivers to be checked when signing in.
5. Guests must be thoroughly briefed by an RSO about our club's safety rules & use of their firearm prior to filing waiver.
6. Members must accompany their guests whenever the guest is on any range.
7. Install a membership card activated entrance gate.
8. Hold safety meetings periodically with RSO.

The first three suggestions are just common sense so, not much need to be done other than to start following them.

The 4<sup>th</sup> would take a large overhaul to our club's operation. So, not recommended at this time.

Number 5 is something we should start right away. All it would take is a few members time.

Number 6 is another one of those common sense things we should enforce.

Number 7 will require an investment of approximately \$8000.00. Some day a serious incident will force us to do this if we don't choose to do it sooner.

Number 8 is something we should be doing now. There is no cost other than time.

Our club has a good safety record. Let's act now to keep it that way.

## Pistol Range

If you have been out to the pistol range, you will see our progress towards “semi-indoor shooting”. We have enclosed the pavilion; our windows and south side access door should be in later this month.

To improve safety, we are building a gate between the block retaining wall and the Pistol building and, installing fencing behind our storage building to prohibit entry to the range other than through the building.

This work has been financed thru CPL fees and donations made specifically to the pistol range.

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Here is an exercise that I found in NRA’s Nov. issue of Shooting Illustrated. Written by Richard Mann where he describes “The Placement Test” developed by SGM (ret.) John McPhee

“From the holster, you attempt to put three shots into a 3-inch circle, at 3 yards, in 3 seconds.”

Mann writes “The practicality of this drill – the common sense behind it – is that you should train the way you expect to fight.”

Several of us tried this the other day it’s not easy to pass. As we practiced, we got better – the key word PRACTICE.

## Jerry

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## Let’s welcome eight new members

Conner Bowlby	Jeffrey Bowlby
Kathleen Leister	Steven Leister
Paul Schwartz	Jeffrey Szpunar
Thomas Thompson	Linda Wilson

## Shotgun

The shotgun group continues to shoot from the porch Saturdays starting at 10:00 am We shoot until everyone has had a chance to shoot.

## Mike

## Muzzleloaders

The Summer Aggregate for 2020 finished up on September 1<sup>st</sup> and the annual Muzzleloader banquet followed up on the 16<sup>th</sup>. Dan VanHaften was the top scorer followed by Ron Robinson second, Alan Penny third, Russel Signs fourth and Jerry Dell fifth.

The Fall Aggregate is also now over with the last shoot on November 1<sup>st</sup>. Ron Robinson finished first, Alan Penny second, Dan VanHaften third, Russel Signs fourth and Tom Stoliecki fifth.

This year’s Turkey Shoot was held on October 24<sup>th</sup>. We had a total of nine shooters this year that braved the cold and pandemic. A lunch with was served after everyone had a chance to shoot. The top five scorers took home a nice frozen turkey breast and the top shooter also took home a coffee mug trophy.

A big thank you to the volunteers that helped set up the shoot including Russel Signs who hosted the shoot and Sue Signs who made that great lunch and scored the targets.

### The Top Five Shooters:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Joe Pelky
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Mark Rice
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Dan VanHaften
- 4<sup>th</sup> Ron Robinson
- 5<sup>th</sup> Jerry Dell

Jerry Dell won the 50/50 Tie Breaker again this year and promptly donated his winnings back to the club, again.

Don’t forget, Muzzle Loading deer season runs from December 4<sup>th</sup> through the 13<sup>th</sup> statewide. Good Luck.

The Muzzleloader shoot dates for 2021 are already posted on the BSC website calendar.

Keep your powder dry and your whistle wet,

**Dan**

If any of our members would like to send in anything for our newsletter, please do so.

We can also include advertisements, free to members.

Send to  
[jarreldell@gmail.com](mailto:jarreldell@gmail.com)

**Look at what a few hours of TLC can do.**

**We pulled a lot of brush out of the pond while the water level was down**



**Bob Sampson and Dan VanHaften**



**Bob Sampson and Kevin Stevens**



**Jim Hooker**



**You can see the pond**



**The bridge is cleaned up**