



The Smoke Pole

Official Publication of
Grand Valley Cap'n Ballers™
Muzzle Loading Gun Club

Visit us at: -
www.gvcnb.org.

May 2025

*****SPONSORS*****

We NEED sponsors for the Frontier Shoot. Get out and see your local business to see if they would be interested in sponsoring a match or two. Their names and/or business will be on the web until September of 2026. Look at what business's we have & do your best to support these businesses that have sponsored matches.

****ANNOUNCEMENT****

John Snyder announced at the that the Celebration of Life for his deceased wife Cheryl, will be June 14th at 2 pm.
All are welcome to attend.

GVC&B Club Officers 2024-25

President: Jeff Terrell
Vice President: Larry Horrigan
Secretary: Lee Patterson
Treasurer: Chelsea Fox
Range Officer: Roger Pierce
Newsletter: Jackie Armstrong

Board Members (Year Elected)

Dennis Priddy 2024
Bonnie Fernwalt 2024
Tom Verberg 2024
Leanne Pierce 2024
Neal Armstrong 2023
John Turner 2023
Ed Henson 2023

50/50 WINNER

Dawn Thurkettle

ATTENDANCE WINNER

Dawn Thurkettle & Neal Armstrong

CONGRATULATIONS

Jeff's Journal

OMG! Because of the Spring Shoot last weekend, we always postpone the newsletter until the week after that event is completed. I totally forgot to write anything, so now it's Thursday PM and I'm finally going to write my journal article. The fact is it took a text message from the editor to remind me of this obligation, or I might have drifted off to something else. First. Since Spring Shoot was just last weekend and I'll begin with that. Within a day or two everyone wants to know the details on



the shoot's success, well it takes more than a few days for a complete report, but I can tell you attendance was about the same as past Spring events. Financial details won't be available until the June meeting, so you will have to be there for that. One of my observations was that at times it seemed almost more like a rendezvous than a shoot. There were more campfires around the club and people around them re-connecting around them after the long Winter. Also. I was able to visit with a few Pilgrims and some who are just coming back to the sport, they observed and commented on how well the grounds looked, how helpful our members were and what we now have to offer our guests. There are many ways to judge success. I listed only a few, there are many more and they happen because of your effort. THANKS.

Continue...

I'll backtrack to the week before the S.S. event the Shoot and Meeting were well attended but as for official business there was not much to report. That is not unusual for an end of the month meeting instead of the beginning of one. That same weekend the Brother's of the Wind were camping in the woods around the cabin and shooting the woods walk. I've heard they had a wonderful time doing so and were glad to have them here and we certainly do appreciate their generosity. You are welcome to return anytime!

The future. Next Saturday the 17th we will be having our first annual Trade Gun event, that will take place here on the main range. It will consist of 20-line match targets and the Long Hunter range. We have some nice prizes headlined by a fine shooting bag, which was donated by our long-time member Larry Young. Oh! And lunch will be provided. I hope to see you there. We have lots of fun things and events happening here at Grand Valley in the future, check the web at gvcnb.org for details and of course like us on Facebook.

See you soon, Jeff

**A PATRIOT SPEAKS
on MEMORIAL DAY**

If you truly want to thank a soldier (veteran) be the kind of American worth fighting for.
Ronald Reagan

Air Gun

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Archery-Men

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Archery-Women

- 1.
- 2.

On the Firing Line

Line Matches—

Men's 25yd Rifle- Novelty-Rabbit

- 1. Jeff Terrell
- 2. Dennis Priddy
- 3. Dan Ray

Men's 25yd Rifle 3-Bull

- 1. Ed Henson
- 2. Jeff Terrell
- 3. Dan Ray

Men's 50yd Rifle-Opossum

- 1. Bill Barnum
- 2. Ed Hensen
- 3. Mark Smith

Men's 25yd Trade Gun Novelty- Circle

- 1. Ed Henson
- 2. Bill Barnum
- 3. Dennis Priddy

Men's 25yd Trade Gun- Large Black Square

- 1. Larry Horrigan
- 2. Drew Harrington
- 3. Dennis Priddy

Men's 50yd Trade Gun- Groundhog

- 1. Bill Barnum
- 2. Ed Henson
- 3. Larry Horrigan

Special shoot- Running Deer

- 1. Kurt Nienhouse
- 2. Ed Henson
- 3. Larry Horrigan

Men's 25yd Pistol-

- 1. Mark Smith
- 2. Todd Gomah
- 3. Leanne Piercse

Men's 50yd Pistol

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Women's 25yd Riffle Novelty- Snowman

- 1. Karen Barnum
- 2. Leanne Pierce
- 3.

Women's 25yd Rifle-5 Hearts

- 1. Leanne Pierce
- 2. Karen Barnum

Women's 50yd Rifle- Large Bull

- 1.

Woods Walk-Flint

Woods Walk- Trade Gun

- 1.
- 2.

Woods Walk Percussion

- 1.

FROM THE SHOTGUN CRIB

We had a very good turnout at our sporting clays event that was held on April 19th. We had a total of 66 entries which has been the largest single turn out day that we have had since we started back in 2020.

I want to thank everyone that turned out to man their stations, the ones that attended the week before to clean the area, the girls that served the refreshments and especially our gust's that attended the sporting clay's event.

SPONSORS

The club wants to thank those people and companies that sponsored a match(es). Members keep in mind that we need to support those that are supporting us. See the list of sponsors in the newsletter.

SHOTGUN SCORES

Saturday Scores

10 Yard	Ed Henson	6
16 Yard	John Turner	8
16 yard	Ed Henson	??

Sunday Scores

10 Yard	Bonnie Fernwalt	6
10 Yard	Ron Fernwalt	3
16 Yard	Garrett Porter	8
16 Yard	Ron Fernwalt	5

All I can say is the targets I broke are nothing to brag about, but it is the only 2 muzzle loading matches that I have shot since my accident, and I have a long way to get where I was.

RON



New Archery
Shooter

Spring Shoot awards



Dave & Drew's latest
Addition up at the
blockhouse!



GRAND VALLEY CAP n BALLERS™

**3506 – 26TH STREET
HOPKINS, MI.**

Each year the Grand Valley Cap n Ballers™ Muzzle Loading Gun Club has their annual Spring Shoot the first weekend in May and their Frontier Shoot the first weekend in August. This is a family sport which includes husbands, wives and kids as you can see by the matches that we have.

We draw competitors from Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Canada, Missouri, and Kentucky and as far away as North Carolina and California. The Spring Shoot is a 3-day event with competitors arriving a week early and setting up camp. The Frontier Shoot is a 4-day event with competitors coming in as early as the weekend before to set up camp for the event. A lot of the competitors come early and spend their vacation in the area prior to the event.

The shoots will be held at the Grand Valley Cap N Ballers™ Muzzle Loading Gun Club located at 3506 – 26th Street, Hopkins, Mi. which is Southwest of Dorr, Mi.

We are always looking for businesses and individuals that would like to sponsor a match or two. The cost to sponsor a match is only \$25.00.

Each month there are over 200 newsletters that go out and by getting your sponsorship in now will give you over 1000 hits plus the brochure that will be handed out at the events and also listed on the web at www.gvcnb.org for one year. If you have someone that has a business, we can put their web site and or their phone number on the sponsorship list. This helps defray the cost of the events, so we don't have to raise prices for registration etc.

Thank you very much for your support and stop out anytime and we will give you a tour of our facilities.

GRAND VALLEY CAP N BALLERS™

**16808 PEACH RIDGE
KENT CITY, MI. 49330**

Commitment

One match sponsor fee for Spring Shoot and/or Frontier Shoot 2024.

Amount-----\$25.00

Thank You for Your Support:

Make checks payable to:

Grand Valley Cap N Ballers
16808 Peach Ridge
Kent City, Mi. 49330

YES, I will sponsor match Number(s) _____, _____, _____, _____

2nd Choice _____, _____, _____, _____.

Check enclosed _____ (please circle Spring Shoot or Frontier Shoot)

Sorry, I can't this year _____

Name of Sponsor _____

By _____

If you are a business put your phone number and or e-mail address here

-----tear/cut off on dotted line-----

YOUR RECEIPT

DATE _____

MAILED CHECK TO: GRAND VALLEY CAP N BALLERS, 16808 PEACH RIDGE, KENT CITY, MI. 49330

AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

GRAND VALLEY CAP N BALLERS™

2025 SPRING SHOOT SPONSORS

RIFLE

MATCH 1	25 YARD OH AMS-----CHRIS LONGCORE
MATCH 2	50 YARD OH AMS-----
MATCH 3	100 YARD OH AMS-----
MATCH 4	25 YARD OH OS-----J & J TRADING-----269-299-0581
MATCH 5	50 YARD OH OS-----
MATCH 6	100 YARD OH OS-----
MATCH 7	25 YARD OH FLINT OS-----J & J TRADING-----269-299-0581
MATCH 8	50 YARD OH FLINT OS-----
MATCH 9	100 YARD OH FLINT OS-----
MATCH 10	25 YARD OH WOMEN AMS----
MATCH 11	50 YARD OH WOMEN AMS-----
MATCH 13	25 YARD OH NOVELTY AMS-----
MATCH 14	50 YARD OH NOVELTY AMS-----
MATCH 17	25 YARD OH TRADE GUN-----
MATCH 18	50 YARD OH TRADE GUN-----
MATCH 23	25 YARD SUB JUNIOR-----JEFF & PAM ADAMS
MATCH 24	50 YARD SUB JUNIOR-----
MATCH 25	25 YARD JUNIOR-----
MATCH 26	50 YARD JUNIOR-----
MATCH 27	25 YARD PISTOL/REVLVER-----GRAND VALLEY CAP N BALL FANATIC
MATCH 28	50 YARD PISTOL/REVOLVER-----GRAND VALLEY CAP N BALL FANATIC
MATCH 31	25 YARD YOUTH-----
MATCH 32	50 YARD YOUTH-----
SATURDAY PRIMITIVE	PERCUSSION --- WOMEN---- JUNIORS TRADE GUN-----

SHOTGUN

MATCH 1	15 BIRD TRAP OR SKEET-----JOHN & JUDY TURNER
MATCH 2	10 YARDS---MONTERAY PINES GENERAL STORE, 2730 - 136TH AVE, HOPKINS
MATCH 3	16 YARDS-----DAN LEPO
MATCH 4	20 YARDS-----CENTER SHOT GUN RANGE-centershotgunrange#range.com
MATCH 5	LADY'S 10 YARD-----BLACK GOLDT RANSPORT MILLING PAVING--616-896-1560
MATCH 6	LADY'S 16 YARD----- J K R COMPANIES,616-813-3400-----kskarlson@charter.net
MATCH 7	JUNIORS 10 YARDS-----CENTER SHOT GUN RANGE-centershotgunrange#range.com
MATCH 8	FLINT 10 YARD-----MYRNA HOLLOWAY
MATCH 9	NOVICE 10 YARDS----- BLACK GOLDT RANSPORT MILLING PAVING--616-896-1560
MATCH 11	TRANTHAM PROTECTION-----JOHN & JUDY TURNER AND DAN LEPP0
MATCH 12	SKEET SINGLES--- -----J K R COMPANIES,616-813-3400-----kskarlson@charter.net
MATCH 13	SKEET DOUBLES-----VACATION LAND SALES - 616-896-8371 -vacationandsales.com

GRAND VALLEY CAP N BALLERS™

2025 FRONTIER SHOOT SPONSORS

RIFLE

MATCH 1	25 YARD OH AMS-----
MATCH 2	50 YARD OH AMS-----
MATCH 3	100 YARD OH AMS-----
MATCH 4	25 YARD OH AMS-----FLINTLOCKS LLC ---317-933-3441
MATCH 5	50 YARD OH AMS-----
MATCH 6	100 YARD OH OS-----
MATCH 7 *	25 YARD OH FLINT OS-----
MATCH 9*	50 YARD OH FLINT OS-----
MATCH 10	25 YARD OH WOMEN-----
MATCH 11	50 YARD OH WOMEN-----
MATCH 13	25 YARD OH NOVELTY-----
MATCH 14	50 YARD OH NOVELTY-----
MATCH 17	25 YARD OH TRADE GUN-----CAL MEABON
MATCH 18	50 YARD OH TRADE GUN-----CAL MEABON
MATCH 19	25 YARD OH NOVICE-----
MATCH 20	50 YARD OH NOVICE
MATCH 23	25 YARD YOUTH X STIX AMS-----
MATCH 24	50 YARD YOUTH X STIX AMS-----
MATCH 25	25 YARD OH JUNIOR AMS-----JEFF & PAM ADAMS
MATCH 26	50 YARD OH JUNIOR AMS-----
MATCH 27	25 YARD PISTOL/REVOLVER-----GRAND VALLEY CAP N BALL FANATIC
MATCH 28	25 YARD REVOLVER-----GRAND VALLEY CAP N BALL FANATIC
MATCH 29	50 YARD PISTOL/REVOLVER-----GRAND VALLEY CAP N BALL FANATIC
MATCH 30	50 YARD REVOLVER-----GRAND VALLEY CAP N BALL FANATIC
MATCH 31	25 YARD FLINT PISTOL-----GRAND VALLEY CAP N BALL FANATIC
MATCH 32	50 YARD FLINT PISTOL-----GRAND VALLEY CAP N BALL FANATIC
MATCH 33	25 YARD CO-ED-----
MATCH 35	50 YARD X STIX AMS-----J & J TRADING----269-299-0581
MATCH 36	100 YARD X STIX AMS-----J & J TRADING----269-299-0581
MATCH 38	100 YARD X STIX OS-----J & J TRADING----269-299-0581
MATCH 38	100 YARD X STIX OS-----J & J TRADING----269-299-0581
MATCH 41	50 YARD BENCH AMS-----
MATCH 42	100 YARD BENCH AMS-----
MATCH 43	50 YARD BENCH OS-----
MATCH 44	100 YARD BENCH OS
MATCH 47	OLD TIMERS 25 YARD AMS-----

FRIDAY PRIMITIVE*
TRADE GUN-----

PERCUSSION
WOMEN'S----

FLINT
JUNIORS--

SATURDAY PRIMITIVE:
MATCH 3
MATCH 6
MATCH 9

MATCH 1
MATCH 4
MATCH 7
MATCH 10 --

MATCH 2
MATCH 5
MATCH 8

GRAND VALLEY CAP N BALLERS™

2025 FRONTIER SHOOT SPONSORS

SHOTGUN

- MATCH 62 GVCNB MENS CHAMPIONSHIP-----JOHN & JUDY TURNER
MATCH 63 GVCNB LADY'S CHAMPIONSHIP -----J K R COMPANIES,616-813-3400
kskcarlson@charter.net
- MATCH 64 GVCNB JR CHAMPIONSHIP---CENTER SHOT GUN RANGE--centershotgunrange#range.com
- MATCH 70 TRADITIONAL STYLE-----
- MATCH 71 NOVICE 10 YARDS-----BLACK GOLD TRANSPORT MILLING PAVING--616-896-1560
- MATCH 75 CO-ED PROTECTION----- DAN LEPPA & RON & BONNIE FERNWALT
MATCH 76 10 YARD TRAP-----MONTERAYPINES GVACATION LAND SALES - 616-896-8371
MATCH 77 16 YARD TRAP-----JOHN & JUDY TURNER
MATCH 78 20 YARD TRAP-----BLACK GOLDT RANSPORT MILLING PAVING--616-896-1560
AGGREGAT MATCH'S 76, 77, 78---
- MATCH 79 LADIES 10 YARD TRAP-----CORNER STONE CONTRACTING, 2606 142ND AVE., DORR
MATCH 80 LADIES 16 YARD TRAP-----MYRNA HOLLOWAY
MATCH 81 LADIES 20 YARD TRAP---VACATION LAND SALES - 616-896-8371 -vacationandsales.com
AGGREGATE MATCHES 79, 80, 81-----
- MATCH 82 JUNIORS 10 YARD TRAP-----DAN LEPPA
MATCH 83 OLD TIMERS 16 YARD TRAP-----J K R COMPANIES,616-813-3400
kskcarlson@charter.net
- MATCH 88 TRANTHAM PROTECTION-----
- MATCH 89 FLINT 10 YARDS-----JOHN & JUDY TURNER
MATCH 90 FLINT 16 YARDS-----MYRNA HOLLOWAY
- MATCH 91 SKEET SINGLES-----CENTER SHOT GUN RANGE--centershotgunrange#range.com
MATCH 92 SKEET DOUBLES-----JOHN & JUDY TURNER

GRAND VALLEY CAP M BALERS™



Our mission is to create, promote and encourage an interest in historical firearms; to preserve their histories, along with the crafts and traditions of our American heritage; to promote good fellowship and teach firearm safety; to purchase, hold and use the Club property, both real and personal for accomplishing these purposes, and to preserve our constitutional rights as to any and all acts permitted by the laws of the State of Michigan.

**GRAND VALLEY CAP n BALLERS
MUZZLE LOADING GUN CLUB™**