

SOUTH HAVEN ROD & GUN CLUB

<http://www.shrgc.org>

Supporters of Michigan Bow Hunters, MCRGO, NRA, and Pheasants Forever.

Paul Bruce, Editor (e-mail – pfbruce1@comcast.net)

OCTOBER 2006

3RD ANNUAL ROD & GUN CLUB BANQUET OCTOBER 21

This year we celebrate 90 years of service to the local community. On Feb. 24, 1916 the Fishermen's Union met with other local sportsmen and formed the South Haven Rod & Gun Club.

We are the oldest continuously running Rod & Gun Club in Michigan. We help support many other like-minded organizations in our community, and state, such as Ducks Unlimited, Pheasants Forever, National Wild Turkey Foundation, Michigan United Conservation Clubs, local Boy Scouts of America and 4H groups. The Club also sponsors Michigan DNR Hunter Education, NRA Firearm Safety courses, and 4H Shooting Sports. For the last 5 years we have hosted a free NRA Youth Day camp where we introduce about 60 new young shooters to Archery, Trap, Small Bore Rifle, Muzzle Loading and Cowboy Action shooting.

This year's banquet will be held on Saturday, October 21, 2006 at the MOOSE LODGE in South Haven, Michigan located at 1025 E. Wells Street just off of Blue Star Highway, 2 miles north of M-140. There will be a cash bar from 6:30 pm to closing. Prime Rib Dinner at 7:30 pm. The cost is \$50.00 membership/dinner

\$15.00 Spouse / Guest / Children.

\$15.00 All discounted Memberships.

The banquet will feature Auctions, Raffles and more. Raffle Packages will be available at the door \$10- 15 tickets, \$20 - 40 Tickets, \$50 - 120 tickets. An **Early Bird Package** costs \$120.00 and includes: Membership/Dinner, 200 Raffle Tickets, a Special Gun Raffle drawing, and a thank you gift. The Early Bird must be received by October 1, 2006. There is a limit of 20 Early Birds. See inside for a form.

We look forward to seeing you and thank you for your continued involvement in supporting the South Haven Rod & Gun Club for the past 90 years.

RIFLE SIGHT-IN DAY November 4

Each year the Club hosts a rifle sight-in session for the general public. We do this as a public service in the hopes that folks who go afield in search of game are able to hit what they are shooting at. It makes for a successful hunting trip and reduces the possibilities of stray bullets in the wild. This year it will be on November 4 at 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

So if you have a brand new scope mounted on your gun, or you dropped it, or drove down the railroad tracks while fleeing from the DNR, we'll see you Saturday, Nov. 4. Spotting scopes and targets are provided by the club, as are lots of advice. Some of the advice is even worth hearing. ☺

The people working on Rifle Sight-in Day are volunteers. If the turnout is light, they will not be staying past 2:00. So if you are one of those dudes who spends all morning packing the trunk of your Maserati with a bunch of rifles and hundreds of rounds of ammunition so you can come screaming into the Club at 1:59 PM... Well, don't be surprised if the gate is closed and the equipment put away.

BANQUET MAIL-IN ORDER FORM

Please make checks payable to:
South Haven Rod & Gun Club

QT	ITEM	COST	TOTAL
	Early Bird	\$120	
	Membership /	\$50	
	Life Member /	\$15	
	Spouse	\$15	
	Guest/ Children	\$15	
	TOTAL		

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Fill out and return to the Club with
the appropriate remittance.

Order form must be received by **October 14, 2005.**

DATE _____

Membership Type: NEW RENEWAL

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE/ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____

EMAIL: _____

SPORTING INTEREST _____

Mail Form to:

South Haven Rod & Gun Club
68611 8th Ave
South Haven, MI. 49090



Lake Michigan Chapter

Membership Information

Interested in joining? [e-mail Bob Linderman](mailto:Bob.Linderman@rwlinderman@yahoo.com) rwlinderman@yahoo.com or call him at 269-637-0534.

NEXT MEETING

October 9, 2006

The next meeting we will be looking for volunteers for Rifle Sight-in Day. It will also be a good time to sign up for the banquet.

We will also entertain nominations, volunteers, or Shanghais for club offices in December. If you would like to see things go more your way, here's your chance to be in charge. ☺

POLITICS

Our MUCC man, Dick Kriner forwarded a nice letter from Dick DeVos stating that he supported the Second Amendment and just about all the right things to get him a rating of A from the NRA. He also pointed out that the governor got an F four years ago.

Dick Kriner added a note to me that said, "This is news to me. FYI, I don't care who you vote for!" Yup! It is news to me, also.

The cynic in me says that Mr. DeVos is showing signs of desperation. I got this letter from Dick Kriner about the same time as I saw DeVos supporting the requirement to teach "Intelligent Design" in the schools.

As a general rule, be very careful about folks who start by saying they support the Second Amendment. Dick Schumer, Ted Kennedy, Hillary Clinton, and Carl Levin all support the Second Amendment -- **as they interpret it.** Meaning it only applies to the National Guard.

The other comment I'll make on the DeVos letter is that most of the stuff he supports is already law! He'd better support it. As governor, it is his job to support the laws of the state.

I don't think he has changed my vote, yet. We should have seen this letter six months ago. Some very recent information reinforces this letter. If he gets to be governor, let's hope the spirit of his letter is true.

HUNTER SAFETY

We had 45 students attend our last Hunter Safety class. 39 received their certificates. The test has been getting significantly more difficult with time. Considering that you can now study on line, and “test out”, perhaps this isn’t all that bad. Still I would think that having spent a whole week in class and then not passing the test would be a major disappointment. Maybe we should offer some “Pre-Hunter Safety” training?

FUN SHOOT

We had 14 shooters for the fun shoot. We had a nice windy day, and a good steak dinner. Dan Hogmire had high score with 38 (out of a possible 50). Dave Wiatrowski was high Duck with 33, Ben Welsh was high Turkey with 31, and Scott Vincent was high Pheasant with 30. As teams, the Turkeys shot best, followed by Ducks, then Pheasants. The NWTF put on a turkey shoot which was won by Dave Wiatrowski with 8 pellets in the kill zone.

We thank Walt Harry, Dan Hosier, Laverne Hosier, Dave Overhiser, Joe Acerra, Amber Hosier, and Pat Farrell for the help.

The low turnout is a concern. This is near our break-even point. We need to do something to get more participation. The low attendance by members of Pheasants Forever and Ducks Unlimited makes it appear that the local chapters of these organizations are experiencing a severe decline. One suggestion was to make it a friendly competition among the local clubs, like we used to do with weekly trap shoots. Maybe we need to invite Watervliet and Fennville for club competition? However we are getting good support from folks with the National Wild Turkey Federation. We need change. Ideas are welcome.

MORE POLITICS

I just got a package from the Republican Party. They sent out some “sportsman” questionnaires. I will drop these off at the club the next time I’m out. The rest of the package was hype for DeVos mostly. And it was much better slanted towards sportsmen.

Curiously there was only one flyer and one question about Mike Bouchard. I would have thought that the Republicans would be rolling out the heavy artillery to dump Debbie, but apparently not. His folder points out that Stabenow has not done much in six years. I think this is true, but Bouchard is emphasizing security more than anything else. I’m not sure that this is the way to represent Michigan. But then, we (as opposed to Detroit), haven’t been represented in the Senate in years. Maybe the Republicans think they can’t defeat Debbie?

And then there’s Fred. Congressman Upton has not proven to be very friendly to the shooter, but the opposing candidates all seemed worse. Kim Clark is the Democrat and Ken Howe is the Libertarian running against Fred, if you would like to cast a protest vote. But I think Fred is about as solid as Debbie. We are stuck for another session with each, I’m afraid.

Locally, our state Representatives are both keepers. Tonya Schuitmaker and Fulton Sheen are very supportive of shooting rights and both have been quite active at modernizing Michigan’s laws.

Our State Senators are Ron Jelinek and Patricia Birkholz. I can find nothing on these senate races. From memory, I seem to recall Senator Jelinek is a keeper. Senator Birkholz, as I recall, was not particularly a sportsman’s candidate. But having found nothing on the state senate races, I suppose there is no real contest. Here, the Republican usually wins.

Club Calendar for October 2006

New items on the Calendar are usually covered elsewhere in the newsletter.

1 Trap 10:00	2 4H	3 Pistol 5:00	4 Trap 6:00	5	6	7
8	9 Meeting 7:00	10 Pistol 5:00	11 Trap 6:00	12	13	14
15 Trap 10:00	16 4H	17 Pistol 5:00	18 Trap 6:00	19	20	21 Banquet @Moose
22 Hi-Power Rifle	23 4H	24 Pistol 5:00	25 Trap 6:00	26 Club Night	27	28
29	30 4H	31 Pistol 6:00	1 Action Pistol 7PM	2	3	4 Sight-in Day

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Detach, or don't, and return to the Club, or any officer, with the appropriate remittance.

NAME _____ DATE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE/ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____ SPORTING INTEREST _____

e-mail _____ NRA # _____ (or an application)
 Dues enclosed \$50.00

Next Meeting –October 9, 2006 7:00 PM

Gun Show – Kalamazoo Fairgrounds – September 30- October 1

Gun Show – Grand Rapids Delta Plex – October 28-29

SOUTH HAVEN ROD & GUN CLUB
 68611 8TH Avenue
 South Haven, MI 49090-8162

FREE