

Portage Lake Sportsmen's, Inc. (PLSI) Newsletter

October 2003

Reluctant Editor: John Gierke (jsgierke@yahoo.com)

Officers

President: John DePuydt (482-4107)

Vice Pres.: Dallas Bates (482-4365)

Treasurer: Larry Davis (482-5024)

Secretary: Lynn Gierke (482-5331)

Directors: Ed Glowacki, Carl Vilmann, Jim LaBeske, Laura Bulleit, Al Johnson

IMPORTANT NOTE ON E-MAIL ATTACHMENTS:

A recent attempt to use the PLSI e-mail as a vector for a computer virus has prompted some security measures to be implemented. We are setting up the e-mail list to "strip off" attachments to avoid inadvertent virus spreading. Viruses and virus hoaxes are spread many ways, and the susceptibility of computers to virus attacks vary depending on the type of protection software that is employed and how well it is maintained (updated). The recent event involved a hacker disguising himself as a Microsoft support technician claiming to have an update. Obviously, Microsoft would never send such an announcement to an e-mail list, so that should raise suspicion immediately. Messages sent to the plsimbrs@plsportsmens.org should contain only text with information about PLSI business and events. Documents, such as event posters and newsletters can be downloaded from the website (www.plsportsmens.org). Attachments should NOT be e-mailed to the list so that viruses are not spread.

Some e-mail programs can send mail automatically without a person's knowledge, so make it a habit of being suspicious of every attachment you receive.

Don't fall for those virus hoaxes, either. A common one is a message that says to check to see if you have a program on your computer and if you do, delete it. You might as well know, that program will be there as it is suppose to be. The virus in this case is the act of deleting it.

Ladies DU Dinner

Monday, Nov. 3rd, 6-9 pm, Ameerasia. Pre-adult girls are encouraged to attend and get to do so at a reduced price. Contact Judy Evert (njevert@aol.com, 523-4091).

Newsletter Information: *The Portage Lake Sportsmen's Club, Inc. is a non-profit organization promoting safe and responsible use of firearms for recreation and self defense, second amendment rights, and wildlife conservation.*

This newsletter is published sporadically. Submit announcements and information of interest to the editor. News and announcements from the Activity Chairs is expected, and any club member is welcome to contribute. Future issues may even be interesting.

Future Events (News Forthcoming)

- Friends of the NRA Dinner (Winter/Spring Sometime, Ed Glowacki)

Practical Pistol

The Practical Pistol Club started up their "Winter Season" on Thursday, September 18th, at the SDC range. The times are the same as last year: 8-11 pm Thursdays, and 1-6 pm on Sundays (may get out early depending on number of people). Costs are the same as last year: \$9.00/semester, and \$15.00/year, first time free. Contact Scott Gruenberg (sdgruenb@mtu.edu, 523-4335).

Sight-in Day and Booyaw

The annual PLSI Club Sight-In Day and Booyaw will be earlier than previous years. Saturday, Nov. 1, the public is welcome to visit the Club and sight their rifles under the supervision of rifle-shooting experts. Your participation as a sighter-inner or helper is welcome.

When: November 1 (Saturday); sighting in from 10 am – 3 pm.

Deer Information: Rob Aho, MDNR Wildlife Biologist, will speak and answer questions about Michigan's deer herd at the Club following the close of shooting (3 pm).

Fee: NONE, Open to the Public

Equipment Needed: (1) Safely functioning firearm, (2) appropriate ammunition, and (3) ear and eye protection. Targets will be provided.

Contact: Bob Keen (rekeen@mtu.edu, 523-4923)

Eligibility: Open to the public. This event is for promoting more responsible preparation for deer season and club membership (memberships will be available for 2003, these will go into effect May 1st, 2003).

Lunch: Venison stew (see note below) for a small donation, available from noon on.

Help Needed: (1) on the range, (2) in the kitchen, and (3) publicity (posters can be downloaded from: <http://www.plsportsmens.org>).

The Annual Venison Booyaw has been held for the last few years in February at our annual business meeting where elections are held for club directors and officers. Attendance has been low and a LOT of booyaw leftover. The Club Directors have *willed* that the booyaw coincide with the Sight-In Day and, furthermore, to punish the newsletter editor, they have *dictated* that he coordinate the booyaw preparation. The newsletter editor is not happy about this predicament and needs help (he plans to bowhunt that weekend). Help is needed in the following forms:

- 1) cleaner/peeler/chopper of potatoes (10-lbs)
- 2) cleaner/peeler/chopper of carrots (5 lbs)
- 3) preparation of meat (10 lbs)
- 4) cleaner/peeler/chopper of rutabega (2)
- 5) cleaner/peeler/chopper of onions (5 lbs)
- 6) babysitters of stew while cooking

About a dozen volunteers are needed for these jobs and all but the stew-watching can be done in the comfort of your own home while watching football. **YOUR HELP IS NEEDED, CALL OR E-MAIL JOHN GIERKE (482-5331, jsgierke@yahoo.com) TO OFFER YOUR HELP.**

Donors of meat and baked goods are also needed. Meat donations must be provided by October 25th. Venison and bear meat are welcome. Baked goods provided in a form where washing/returning of baking dishes is unnecessary are preferred. Bob Keen (523-4923, rekeen@mtu.edu) is coordinating the Sighting In. He could use spotting scopes and boresighters and general help with the sighting-in.

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Status of Some Projects

Club Website: The website is being kept up-to-date by Chelley Vician. Regular club activities (weekly events) and special tournaments, shoots, and dinners are posted often. Bookmark: <http://www.plsportsmens.org> and thank Chelley for a job well done. You can renew your membership via the web as well. Links to the PLSI Club's affiliations (NRA, MUCC, IDPA, CMP) are provided as well.

Club Logo: We would like interested persons to submit designs for a PLSI Club logo. Preferably the logo would not only reflect the character of the PLSI, but also should be easily copied/printed and it should be attractive for printed documents, decals, and patches. Send designs to Lynn Gierke (lgierke@chartermi.net)

Activity Chairs Needed

The majority of PLSI members utilize our facilities infrequently, on their own. Others attend regularly scheduled events, such as sporting clays, practical pistol, etc. A few do both, such as DePuydt, who has his mail forwarded to the clubhouse because he is more likely to be there than home.

There is certainly room in the activity schedule to allow for more regularly scheduled activities. We are currently lacking in archery and muzzleloading. We can also accommodate more shotgun shooting. If you are interested in chairing an activity, contact a board member or club officer. There are a few important things that need to be factored into a scheduling an activity regularly and so the planning must start early. Some activities generate money for the club and the activity, which helps in making improvements.

Clay Duck Shoot

Annual Ducks Unlimited Event

The 17th Annual Clay Duck Shoot was held on Saturday, September 13th. This shoot not only is used to benefit waterfowl and wetland habitats, but it also serves to commemorate the end of the sporting clays season at the PLSI and the start of the fall hunting season. There were 5 stations simulating hunting conditions. All stations consisted of 5 doubles. One station simulated settling geese, coming from over the berms on the 100-yd range into a spread of goose dekes while the shooter had to emerge from a coffin blind. Another station began with the shooter sitting in a blind while the birds crossed from right to left. Two stations were set up to simulate flushing grouse amongst trees. Of course the duck boat in Audette's pond with birds arriving from the large pond direction and another coming from behind, over the left shoulder after the report of the first bird.

Shooting began at 10:30 am. Scores were tallied a couple hours later, Chris Passerello claimed Top Gun honors for the third year in a row (score of 45/50). Jimmy LaBeske's intensive practice over the summer paid off with his claiming 2nd with a score of 44. Lynn Gierke held on to her women's crown for a 6th straight year with a score of 32. There was only one Greenwing shooter this year: Mike Gierke.

Ed Glowacki and helpers cooked up NY strip steaks and other things. Prizes were awarded, cleaning was performed, and we all said "great shoot, great season, see you all next spring," and it was over. Mark your calendars: next year, last Saturday before bird season.

Hunter Safety Course

Over 50 kids and 3 adults participated in the annual PLSI sponsored hunters' safety course. The course was organized by Dallas Bates and Ed Glowacki. Dallas and Chris Passerello were the lead instructors along with Dennis Gast from the MDNR. Professional trappers and club members, Dave and Jeff Caspary, provided trapping demonstrations. Dan Lloyd brought furs for all of the furbearers in Michigan and then some, and he gave the kids samples of various kinds to take home. John DePuydt provided the kids with hands-on demonstrations of muzzleloading. Allan Johnson and Dallas provided rifle instruction using PLSI .22s. Chris Passerello and Steve Baker lead the shotgunning instruction. Jon French demonstrated archery. Various club members popped in and out to help with various safety and conservation topics, including John Gierke (wildlife conservation and identification), Ed Glowacki (hunting with muzzleloaders and archery), Allan Johnson (rifle shooting), along with Dallas, Chris, and Dennis. DNR CO, Matt Eberly, provided instruction on survival skills.

Exams were taken and passed on Sunday afternoon. The bottleneck in the whole ordeal is the lack of certified instructors for the examinations. Dallas and Chris may be our only certified instructors, so it would be a big help to have more instructors.

Contact Dallas about becoming certified. The MDNR Conservation Officers recommend a spring offering to spread out the enrollment. Instructing 20-30 kids at a time would be much more effective and allow for more fulfilling hands-on training.

Activity Chairs

Sporting Clays: John DePuydt (482-4107)

Sunday Shotgunning: Ted Ricci (482-5858)

Women's Shooting: Lynn Gierke (482-5331)

Action Pistol: Scott Gruenberg (523-4335)

Rifle Shooting: Bob Keen (523-4923)

Archery: Chair needed

Black Powder: Chair needed

Grass Cutting: Carl Vilmann (482-8550)

Hunters Safety: Ed Glowacki (523-4690)

2nd Amendment/Refuse to be a Victim: Scott Gruenberg (523-4335)

Website (www.plsportsmens.org): Chelley Vician (plweb@plsportsmens.org)

Quality Deer Mangement

(QDM):

On Wednesday, Sept. 17., the PLSI Club hosted Perry S. Russo, North Central Regional Director of the QDM Association. The event was initiated by club member, Jim Manderfield. Mr. Russo discussed "Deer Management of the 21st Century."