



SAGOLA TOWNSHIP SPORTSMEN'S CLUB

P.O. BOX 6

CHANNING, MI 49815

January 2012

Well we made it through another year. This year we start off with Tip UP Town for two days, Feb 4th and 5th. And the Knife and gun show the following weekend.

Tip UP Town will be 2 days again this year. Fishing Contest will be Saturday on Sawyer Lake and Snowmobile races on Saturday on Eddy Lake. There possibly may be motorcycle races on Sunday. "Lock and Load" will be entertaining us on Saturday night. We have a Sportsman ATV that we will be raffling off on Sunday evening. See the included brochure for further information and tell all your friends to join us on this long traditional event.

We have a lot of our regular annual events again this year. To name a few: Hunters Safety training, Side by Side, Friday Sporting clays, Club Picnic in September, Hunters Breakfast, Buck contest and Sight in days.

A few new things including pistol range with certified trainers for CWP and Home protection. We also have a new website in progress and hope that all events will be posted there. The website address is stsportsmen.com

Anybody with ideas on new events or activities are always welcome and almost always excepted. The problem with any event's or activities is all help is by volunteers. Everybody wants things but not many people want to put in the time to, organize and run the activity. We had a lot of great ideas that we supported and invested in just to be terminated after a short period of time, because the same people were devoting all their time and efforts with no additional help from members. The 3D archery shoot is a prime example. The club paid for 3D targets, landscaping, and trailers to haul targets etc. And it was a great event until the same people running it got tired of doing it time after time.

February meeting will be January 29th at 11:00 A.M.

March meeting will be at 10:00 A.M. for Board member elections. There are at least one new board members term up this year that I now know of, which is mine. Anybody wishing to run for the board or vote for a different board member must be present at the annual meeting. Sometimes there is food served after the annual meeting depending on what is left from Tip UP town and the Knife and Gun show. Also there is usually a Smelt feed at the May meeting, depending on if we can get some smelt.

The future of Sagola Township Sportsmen's Club by Paul Polanski:

"I have belonged to quite a few sportsmen's clubs in my travels and the STSC is one of the best, hands down. To join a club for \$25 initiation fee and then \$15/yr. thereafter is a very rare bargain. The fantastic clubhouse, pavilion, sporting clays range, skeet, trap, rifle range for \$15/ year is almost unheard of in today's economy. All of this is possible by the many hard working volunteer members that spent many hours building the club into what it is today. It is time some of this work is more evenly distributed to some of the newer members. Part of the solution is to get

newer members to frequent the club and hopefully participate in helping the chairperson with various functions. I would like to propose some ideas that could be discussed and then perhaps brought before the membership at a meeting.

1# Put all current member names in a drum and draw a name at the end of a monthly meeting and if the member is present at the end of the meeting that member would receive \$50 cash. If the member is not present at the meeting, then \$5 would be added to the pot and the next meeting \$55 would be the prize for a member in attendance. This would continue until \$100 is in the pot and that would be the maximum prize until a members name is drawn. Member's names that are drawn would be published in the newsletter and internet.

2# Committee chairpersons are always looking for volunteers to help with various club functions and workbees. It appears that the same members step forward and get the job done. How can we get new members to volunteer and give the senior members a break? This is a major problem most clubs have and many have gone by the wayside because of lack of participation. (IE, Elks club Iron River) .No one wants to see this happen and as concerned members we need to reach out and solicit help from the newer members. Not an easy task, however new volunteer help will be the life-blood of the club as senior members eventually turn over the reins. I would appreciate any comments or ideas that you may have."

