

# Chief Okemos Sportsman's Club



**Volume 38 Issue 9  
September 2025**

**Greetings!**

I know it is hard to believe, but after the club meeting August 11<sup>th</sup>, we still had shooters making noise fifteen minutes before sunset. I have no idea left about how to get the word out that noise has to stop 30 minutes before sunset. Any suggestions would be welcome. Sunset is now about 8:30, by the end of September, it will be closer to 7:30.

The Old Guys breakfast on Thursday mornings is over. At least for now, we don't have enough cooks. Mark Richardson has been warning us for months that he was reaching his 6,000-egg mark and was going into retirement.

The club has an ongoing problem with volunteers. The people that put in the time to make things happen is a very small share of the membership. We have about 500 members, and the list of active volunteers is about 20. Our bylaws do not allow employees. We have no paid maintenance workers. You do not need to adopt an entire program to support the club with volunteer hours. The programs we have left have program leads. Every program could use some help. The pay is awful, but the hours are flexible. Please consider coming out to help with some area of the club you use. We have the lowest membership due of any club I know of. If we have to hire contractors to do some of the work, the dues have to go up.

Please find time to come out to the club and take advantage of our range.

**Dale K Howe  
COSC 2025 President**

- COSC is a family-friendly gun and archery club in Dimondale, Michigan promoting the safe and responsible use of firearms and archery activities in the Mid-Michigan area.

[www.chiefokemos.org](http://www.chiefokemos.org)



chiefokemos

## **Mission**

To promote the safe and responsible use of firearms and archery activities in the Mid-Michigan area.

## **COSC Pledge**

I give my pledge as an American to save and faithfully defend from waste the natural resources of my country, its air, soil and materials, forests, waters, and wildlife.

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### **NRA MEMBERSHIP INFO**

When joining or renewing your NRA membership you can do so through COSC and here's how: As of Jan 7, 2021, the rates for one year and five-year NRA memberships have returned to standard recruiter rates. One year \$35 and five years \$125. Please send the following info: Your name, mailing address, NRA membership number (if renewing,) the NRA magazine you prefer (choose one: American Rifleman, American Hunter, 1<sup>st</sup> Freedom, Shooting Illustrated) along with a check for dues payable to NRA Membership Dues mailed to: Kirk Ginther 737 Brenneman Potterville, MI 48876.) A receipt for dues will be mailed to you. By renewing your NRA membership through the club, \$6 of that renewal fee is returned to the club to promote and support youth and ladies trap shooting.



### **7-YD RANGE**

The covered range orientation is conducted by Jerry Shihady or Dale Howe. They are at COSC frequently and you can catch up to them at the trap range on Thursday mornings at 9am and Thursday evenings at 5pm, otherwise you can call them to set up an appointment. Jerry is 517-282-5097 and Dale is 616-485-3979.

The sand in the covered range is not play sand. For one, it is heavily contaminated with lead. For two, it is in front of the firing line on a gun range. NO ONE should be in front of the firing line on the covered range.

### **WORK HOURS**

Anyone needing work hours? I can always use help on building, range, and ground maintenance projects. If you are interested, please text, or call me at 202-6000 or send an email to me at [qtmars@yahoo.com](mailto:qtmars@yahoo.com) Thanks! Mark Richardson

## **COWBOY ACTION**

Once again, it's time to COWBOY UP! 2025 Cowboy Action shooting at COSC started April 12<sup>th</sup>. Shoots will be held on the second and fourth Saturdays of each month April through October. Cowboy Action shooting is open to the public as well as club members though there is a \$5 charge for each contestant. It consists of shooting with lever action rifles, single action handguns and either side by side double barrel shotguns (without ejectors) or Winchester model 1897 pump action shotguns. We will mainly be shooting at steel targets though we may occasionally shoot paper targets. Centerfire and rimfire rifles and pistols are acceptable. If you are short on having the proper equipment to start with, some members will be glad to loan you the proper equipment during the shoot. Setup time is from 830am – 9am. Shooting starts at 9am and is usually finished between 11am and noon. Remaining shooting dates for 2025 are 9-13 and 9-27, 10-11 and 10-25. If you have any questions please call or text Ken Ecker at 517-983-9195 or Mike Rhoads at 517-643-5989, [rhoads1976@comcast.net](mailto:rhoads1976@comcast.net).

## **JUNIOR .22 RIMFIRE**

Junior .22 Rimfire Club started this year on April 28<sup>th</sup>. We meet every Monday from 5:00-7:00pm. All children 10-18 years of age can attend. Rifles, ammo, and targets are supplied by COSC. Those who have their own .22 rifle may use them at their own risk upon the approval of the instructor and RSOs. Each club member can win a patch, medals, and certificates through the NRA Rimfire challenge program. Call me at 517-285-5727 with any questions you may have.

The Junior .22 Rimfire Club uses Range Safety Officers (RSOs) to help make sure our students are using the range and firearms safely. The primary purpose of the club is to educate in the safe handling of firearms and to recognize and resolve a possible unsafe condition before it becomes a major issue.

Randy Campbell

## **MEMBERSHIP**

Hello COSC Members,

The 2025 year is moving along quickly and starting this month, September 1 – December 31 2025, it is time to submit your membership renewal application for 2026. Please take time now and complete your renewal application. You can find our application on our website. <https://chiefokemos.org/membership-in-cosc/>

Please know that if you send in an incomplete application and dues we will send it back to you to fill out completely. If you have any questions, email us at [coscmembership@gmail.com](mailto:coscmembership@gmail.com) and we will be happy to answer your questions.

Thank you,

Kirk Ginther, COSC Membership Chairman

### **ARCHERY**

We will be holding 3D shoots open to the public every other Sunday. Schedule for the rest of the season is: September 7, 21. 9am registration and practice, 10am shotgun start. Cost is \$15 per shooter for non-members, \$10 for members, \$5 for 10 and under, free for spectators. There will be 31 targets and 3 classes.

Volunteers are needed to assist with this event and with range maintenance. Please contact Mike Cripps if you can give your time at 616-283-1886 or [crippsme@gmail.com](mailto:crippsme@gmail.com).

Mike Cripps 616-283-1886 or [crippsme@gmail.com](mailto:crippsme@gmail.com)

The 3D archery range is open!! The range fees will stay \$10 per member and \$15 per non-member. We've got 3 different stakes set up for levels of difficulty: Red for hardest with shots of 70 yards and in, Yellow for intermediate with shots of 40 yards and in, and Green for easy 20 yard and in shots. The two elevated platforms are out of play until further notice due to seeming quite rickety and in need of repairs.

### **LADIES LADIES LADIES**

This program is open to all ladies 18 years and older and you do not have to be members of Chief Okemos Sportsman Club. So invite your friends and come have fun. The cost is still \$5 and evening and if they don't own a firearm that is ok, we have firearms they can shoot. If you do have your own, I have ammunition for 22s, 380s, 9mm, and 38 special. Here is our schedule for the rest of the year:

Sep 10 - Pistols, skills and drills    Sep 18 – End of season dinner @ Tony M's (spouses are welcome)

Looking forward to seeing you on the range. If you have any questions please let me know.

Kathy Reid 517-899-8434, [kathyreid38@gmail.com](mailto:kathyreid38@gmail.com)

## **2025 GUN SHOW**

The next COSC Gun Show is Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025 from 9am to 3pm. If you have any questions please contact Mike Rhoads, Gun Show Manager, at 517-643-5989 (call or text.) Attached to this newsletter are forms to request a vendor table, rules for the show, and advertising for the show. If you can print out and post the ad for the show at gun shops, sportsman's clubs, American Legions, VFWs, etc, that you are affiliated with that would be a great help to the club. We had a good showing at the last show but can always use more attendees and vendors.

Please forward the table request and rules form to anyone who might be interested in being a vendor or have them contact Mike. Help will be needed with setting up the show, modifying, placing and picking up signs for the show and loading up after the show, take down tables, clean hall, etc. Please contact Mike at 517-643-5989 to volunteer.

**Executive Officers** \*all terms end 1/13/26

President – Dale Howe 616-485-3979

1<sup>st</sup> Vice – Richard Garza 230-3552

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice – Kirk Ginther 881-6022

Secretary – Kathy Reid 899-8434

Treasurer – Jane Kandler 646-7973

**Board Members**

*Past President - Mark Richardson*

Jerry Shihady (1/12/26) 282-5097

Cathy Finn (1/12/26) 974-6178

Ken Ecker (1/11/27) 983-9195

Josh Ramey (1/11/27) 819-9644

Gary Radtke (1/11/27) 281-7704

John Gambill (1/10/28) 646-0681

Mike Rhoads (1/10/28) 643-5989

**Communications/Social Media**

Newsletter – Ashley Wonnacott ([ashleymarie.wonnacott@gmail.com](mailto:ashleymarie.wonnacott@gmail.com))

Website – Nikki Goodrich ([nlgoodrich@gmail.com](mailto:nlgoodrich@gmail.com))

Facebook – Aaron Lopez ([lopez.aaron.m@gmail.com](mailto:lopez.aaron.m@gmail.com))

**Lost and Found**

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

There is no clubhouse phone. All area codes are (517) unless noted.

## **Club Contact Info**

### **Archery**

Mike Cripps                      616-283-1886      [crippsme@gmail.com](mailto:crippsme@gmail.com)  
Austin Walter

### **Black Powder**

*Members Needed*

### **Club Maintenance**

Mark Richardson              202-6000  
Mike Birsen                      231-5491

### **Clubhouse Rental**

Mike & Cathy Finn              408-0015

### **COSC/NRA Membership Recruiting**

Kirk Ginther                      881-6022

### **Cowboy Action**

Ken Ecker                        983-9195  
Mike Rhoads                      643-5989

### **Falling Plates**

Mike Carter                      285-4189

### **Junior .22 Rifle**

Randy Campbell                285-5727

### **Key Masters**

Mark Richardson              202-6000  
John Gambill                    646-0681  
Jerry Shihady                    282-5097

### **Ladies Ladies Ladies**

Kathy Reid                        899-8434

### **Membership Volunteer Work Hours**

Sharon Whaley                896-8253

### **Membership (Applications, Records, Dues)**

Kirk Ginther                      881-6022      [coscmembership@gmail.com](mailto:coscmembership@gmail.com)

### **New Member Orientation**

Sharon Whaley                896-8253

### **Trap – Juniors & Ladies**

Dan Reid                        719-0416

### **Trap – Thursday PM**

*Members Needed*

### **Trap - Sunday**

*Members Needed*