

# The Smoke Pole

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

Visit us at: -  
[www.gvcnb.org](http://www.gvcnb.org).

## October 2025

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Welcome to our newest members!

**Pat Banks**  
**Gerda Pritcher**  
**Susan Manes**

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### A PATRIOT SPEAKS

THE PRESIDENT'S OATH OF OFFICE

I do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the Office of President of the United states, and will to the best of my ability preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States from all enemies both foreign and domestic, so help me GOD.

#### GVC&B Club Officers 2025-2026

**President:** Jeff Terrell  
**Vice President:** Larry Horrigan  
**Secretary:** Ron Fernwalt  
**Treasurer:** Chelsea Fox  
**Range Officer:** Roger Pierce  
**Newsletter:** Jackie Armstrong

#### Board Members (Year Elected-2 year position)

Dennis Priddy 2024  
Bonnie Fernwalt 2024  
Tom Verberg 2024  
Leanne Pierce 2024  
Neal Armstrong 2025  
Dave Fox 2025  
Drew Harrington 2025

#### 50/50 WINNER

Lots-We raffled meat  
**ATTENDANCE WINNER**  
Ron Nanzer & Scott Siverman  
**CONGRATULATIONS**

### Jeff's Journal

Here we are seven days into October, and the weather sure changed after the thunder storms the other night. Last night for example I had no idea the temp was going to go down to 40. We woke-up to 64 deg. this morning and of course turned on the furnace to warm us up, that did not happen. I called the repair service, and he was quickly here in just a couple hrs. The problem of all things was a dead spider in the heat orifice, after a good cleaning and adjustment the house is warm enough for me to sit in the office and write this month's journal article. Last weekend was our annual Meat Shoot and Octoberfest Party. Thankful-



ly. We had near perfect weather for this year's event, in fact so far this year we have been very fortunate to have excellent weather conditions for almost every event on our schedule. We have one more to go on the 25<sup>th</sup>, let's all hope that trend happens too. On Saturday the weather cooperated, and the attendance was very good too. We had many familiar faces, but also had some new ones, and those will lead us to them being prospective members. Good news there, for sure. After the daily shooting awards were presented, we went right to preparation for the Octoberfest Dinner. Gathering was just before 6pm and dinner followed. The ham was delicious, and all the added pot-luck dishes caused many of us to overeat a bit, but I think that's OK now and then the food as always was fantastic. It gets dark so early now the party broke up an hour or so later and I headed home for a good nights rest

Continue...

Thanks to Jimmy Dautridge who took over for Sunday's registration so I good shoot the Long Hunter range, which I did but not good enough to place. That range is so much fun I was just happy I could do it. I know more practice better results, maybe another time I will.

At the meeting I reminded everyone of the newer targets and improved Squirrel Shoot on the 25<sup>th</sup> of this month, I requested lunch donations in the form on soups, stew chili etc. I have one donation so far for a chili pot, please let me know if you can help with that, I'd like to have 4 there for our guests to choose from. Also, Russ was concerned about hunting safety and location of hunters, please be sure to communicate with each other on this. We absolutely do not want any accidents. The last thing on the agenda was electing of officers for 2026 the results are elsewhere in this newsletter. Thanks to all of you who volunteered to work for your club next year. Working together we'll have another successful one. -Jeff

Sadly, I have to inform that our friend and fellow shooter, Ed Dennis has passed away. I received a call from his son on Saturday morning that his dad was in an accident on he was to the Meat Shoot. His son contacted me this morning to let me know he did not survive his injuries. I will remember him as a kind soft-spoken gentleman, but a fierce and competitive shooter as well. Rest in peace Mr. Dennis.

Last month a 40 caliber ram rod was left on the shooting line. Contact Roger Pierce if you think it is yours. 269-330-0265

**Air Gun**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**Novelty Archery-Men**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**Novelty Archery-Women**

- 1.
- 2.

**On the Firing Line**

**Line Matches—**

**Men's 25yd Rifle 2-BULL**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**Men's 25yd Rifle 1/2 BULL**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**Men's 50yd Rifle-**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**Men's 25yd Trade Gun—Buffalo**

- 1.
- 2.

**Men's 25yd Trade Gun**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**Men's 50yd Trade Gun-**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**Special shoot-**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**Men's 25yd Pistol-**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**Men's 50yd Pistol**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**Women's 25yd Riffle Hedgehog**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**Women's 25yd Rifle Split Bull**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**Women's 50yd Rifle**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**Woods Walk-Flint**

- 1.
- 2.

**Woods Walk— Trade Gun**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**Woods Walk Percussion**

- 1.

## FROM THE SHOTGUN CRIB

We have had a pretty good year so far this year and have 3 events to go at shotgun. We have the sporting clays on Saturday October 11<sup>th</sup> and 5 stand November 8<sup>th</sup> and December 13<sup>th</sup>. Yes, this is modern shotgun.

I want to thank everybody that has helped in the shotgun area from cleaning up to helping put on our events on. Your participation is more than appreciated. I am not going to name names as I will forget someone that helped.

Ron

Remember those that are plugged in whether you're there or not, the price is \$2.00 per day excluding the weekend days of an event that you were charged for. I know for a fact that it is cheaper here than at home. This allows us to keep refrigerated food when we are enjoying the club every weekend.

### THE GRAND VALLEY CAP N BALLERS AND MICHIGAN STATE CAMPING RULES

1. Each camper must keep his own campsite clean, neat and the grass cut.
2. There will be only one fixed fire pit on each campsite.
3. Use only existing cut wood or use dead fallen trees. No standing trees may be cut.
4. When the camping unit is not in use, it must be disconnected from utilities (electric and water) OR PAY THE \$2.00 ELECTRICAL FEE PER DAY. ANY GUEST CAMPING WITH THEIR UNIT IS REQUIRED TO PAY \$5.00/DAY FOR ELECTRICAL USE.
5. Additional electrical use, after the 20 days included in the annual fee, is to be paid for at the monthly meeting to Ron at shot gun and Jackie on the main campground

Thank you for your cooperation---The Campground Committee Ron, Jackie & Larry

## GVCnB 2026 MEMBERSHIP AND CAMPSITE RENEWAL FEE

Annual dues and campsite fees are payable no later than January 31, 2026. Payment must be made to treasurer FOR \$150.00 FOR THE CAMP SITE AND \$50.00 MEMBERSHIP DUES either at any meeting or postmarked no later than January 31, 2026. Make checks payable to Grand Valley Cap N Ballers. Fill out ahead of time to avoid confusion. Thanks. This form must be completed with payment.

IF YOUR CHECK IS NOT POSTMARKED BY JANUARY 31, YOU WILL LOSE YOUR MEMBERSHIP AND NEED TO START OVER AGAIN TO BECOME A MEMBER.

If you have a designated campsite and the fee is not paid ahead of time, FEE WILL BE DOUBLED AFTER JANUARY 31, 2026. If not paid within 30 days after January 31, the unit must be moved off club property, or it will be impounded by local law enforcement.

*REMEMBER THAT ALL MEMBERS WHO HAVE CAMPING UNITS ON CLUB PROPERTY ARE EXPECTED TO CARRY INSURANCE ON THEIR UNITS OR ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY DAMAGE THAT MAY OCCUR WHILE ON CLUB PROPERTY.*

Please fill out the following in very clear and legible print and return to GVCNB, 16808 Peach Ridge, Kent City, Mi. 49330

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Spouse \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

NMLRA Membership # \_\_\_\_\_  
Dues \$50.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
Campsite Fee \$150.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
Total Submitted \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Group \_\_\_\_\_  
Camping Area \_\_\_\_\_ or Lot Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Membership Status Regular \_\_\_\_\_ Life \_\_\_\_\_  
Year Joined GVCnB \_\_\_\_\_

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The \$150.00 a year camping fee reserves the campsite and includes 20 days of electric hookup without additional charges.

Anyone camping at Shotgun will pay the event fee, plus the additional current up charge for A/C use.

At major events, i.e.: Zimmerman, Spring Shoot, Family Rendezvous, Frontier Shoot, Ladies Fun Tyme at the Range, and October Fest/Meat Shoot, members are **REQUIRED** to pay the electrical charge for that event.

All members paying the event electrical fee will not have those days deducted against their 20-day limit.

**After a registered reserved campsite member has surpassed the 20-day electrical use limit, those members will be charged a \$2.00 a day electrical fee when plugged in.**

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ **REQUIRED**

# GRAND VALLEY CAP N BALLERS

## MICHIGAN STATE SQUIRREL SHOOT

OCTOBER 25, 2025



### MATCHES:

- 20 Shot novelty squirrel targets at the main range.
- **Lunch Break**
- 20 Shot Novelty Squirrel targets at the Long Hunter Range.
- All paper targets must be shot and turned in to be scored. Targets not turned in are subject to point deduction penalty.



### REGISTRATION

- **9:00am**
- Shooting starts at 10am through 2:30pm
- \$20 donation includes both rounds and lunch.



### CAMPING

- \$10.00 FOR PRIMITIVE & MODERN CAMPING
- \$10.00 ADDITIONAL FOR ELECTRICITY
- FIREWOOD AND WATER AVAILABLE
- PETS ARE WELCOME- OWNERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR CLEANING UP AFTER THEM
- THEY MUST ALWAYS BE ON A LEASH

**NMLRA RULES WILL BE USED UNLESS  
OTHERWISE NOTED**

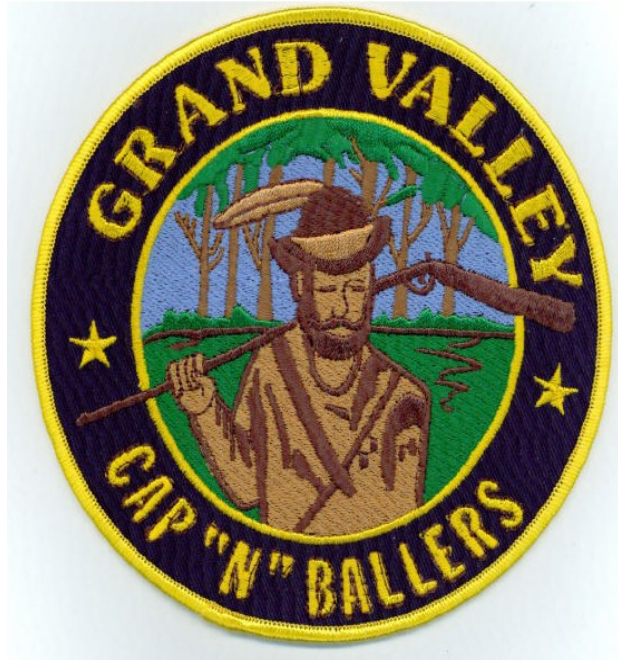
📍 3506 26th St, Hopkins, MI 49328

☎ 517-435-3752 - Dennis Priddy

🌐 [www.gvcnb.org](http://www.gvcnb.org)



# 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™**