



Flint Bowmen Newsletter

It's almost time!

The new year is right around the corner. That means it is almost time to renew our memberships at Flint Bowmen. Flint Bowmen's survival is controlled by it's members, so we hope everyone will take the time to send in your annual dues when the bills come in January.

We understand many members send in their dues every year even though they use the club very little, if at all. These members are important to our financial success. Financial success means we can pay the taxes and electrical bills! We can't THANK YOU enough for supporting Flint Bowmen!!!!

We also appreciate members who perform at least 20 work hours. Without you we would not be able to hold our shoots, run our leagues, or get any maintenance done around the Club.

It would be amazing if we received 100% renewals. If you did not use the Club much in 2023, let's make a New Year's resolution to get back to Flint Bowmen. Join a league and have a good time shooting your bow again. We have all kinds of leagues throughout the year, and there is nothing better than joining a league to make you shoot at least once a week!

If for some reason you don't continue your membership, we thank you being a member and hope you will renew your membership in the near future or at least come back and enjoy a league with us. Editor

We all Love to Shoot our Bows

If you are reading this newsletter, you enjoy shooting your bow. That means we have around 200 families who are members who enjoy shooting. The question is why don't these people shoot our leagues? That is the question this Editor would like answered.

I think it is because some people are intimidated. They think leagues are only for good shooters. Being good or not good at shooting should not be a deciding factor in shooting a league. When you shoot in a league, you should never worry about anyone else in the league. You should just shoot the best you can and have a good time doing it. You can't control how other people shoot, so why worry about that?

Personally, I shoot a league to make me shoot. When I join a league, I know I am committed to shooting that league once a week. If I want to shoot well in a league, I know I will need to practice a few times a week. I never shoot a league planning on winning. I just shoot it because the commitment of shooting works for me.



**Merry Christmas from
the Editor and all of the
Flint Bowmen Board!**

Another great thing about shooting in a league is shooting with the other shooters. There is no better way to improve than to network with others and learn how to shoot better. Don't be intimidated by the good shooters, learn from the good shooters how to improve your skills. Do you think those good shooters were always great shooters? Absolutely not. The Winter Leagues start January 8, find one that fits your schedule and have some fun with your bow! If you have a tight schedule, the Anytime league might be for you! Editor

President's Report for December

I have been working on putting the club calendar together for 2024. It is not 100% as I am waiting on some information from board members for events, workdays, and a few other things. Do you look at the club calendar? How can we make it better? The preparations for the annual membership meeting and Potluck dinner have begun. This year we will be reviewing and voting on proposed changes to the By-laws as they haven't been updated in roughly 7 years and with new technology some things are very out dated and in need of updates.

I also renewed the clubs ASA membership and we currently have 1 individual membership available for 2024 if anyone is interested in purchasing it. Overall, 2023 was a successful year for Flint Bowmen we made improvements to the grounds, and the facility, but there is still a lot of work to be done to continue improving the club.

Dec-23	
12th	Membership Meeting Tue 7pm
14th	* Beginners Lessons Thur 6pm
22nd-23rd	* SVAA FITA 450
24th	Christmas Eve
25th	Christmas Day
31st	* 3rd Annual New Year's Eve Smackdown 12pm
Jan-24	
8th	* Indoor Target League Mon 10am (12 wks)
8th	* Indoor Couples League Mon 7pm (12 wks)
9th	* Indoor 3D League Tue 4-7pm (12 wks)
10th	* Indoor 5 spot League Wed 7pm (12 wks)
11th	* Indoor Target League Thur 10am (12 wks)
11th	* Indoor 3 Spot League Thur 7:30pm (12 wks)
12th	* S3DA Practice Fri 5:30pm - 8pm
13th	* Indoor Winter Youth League 9am (9 wks)
13th	Annual Membership Meeting & Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser 5pm
14th	* Outdoor League Sun 10am - 3pm (8 wks)
23rd	Membership Meeting Tue 7pm
27th	Workday - All Outdoor ranges closed Sat 9am



Thanks,
Jeff DeWyse

The Winter League Sign Up

The winter league sign up sheets are in the hall by the rest rooms. Signing up for these locks in your spot for that league. If by chance a league fills up, those who have signed up on the sheets get first chance to shoot the league before people who just show up the first week. At this time, there is no need to prepay for these leagues, but we want the leagues to be paid in full by the 6th week of the league. These leagues will start the week of January 8th. For more information, contact Jeff DeWyse.

Help Needed With Filling Open Board Positions

The upcoming annual meeting on January 13 is when we will elect board members for the 2024 calendar year. The 2024 board will have a few vacancies to fill. One is the new position of Assistant Membership Coordinator and the other is the Webmaster position.

If you are interested in any board position, please feel free to inform Jeff DeWyse at (989)239-8577 or president@flintbowmen.com and you will be added to the ballot. Editor

Newsletter Contest

Once again in 2023, I am going to have a little lottery draw game to see who reads the newsletter. Each month I will ask a few questions about what is in the newsletter, and you will need to email me your answers at lealexander@comcast.net or text me at 810-240-1338 to be entered. Since everyone likes and can use cash, I will give away \$25 of my own money to the winner at the Annual meeting in January.

Rules are simple.

All questions for the contest must be answered correctly to qualify.

Answers must be sent to lealexander@comcast.net or text me at 810-240-1338 before the next issue has been sent out.

Only one person per family will be eligible each month.

A member can only submit answers once per month.

Every member with correct answers will have their names put in a jug with one winner drawn at the Annual Meeting in January. So, the more months you enter, the better your chances of winning.

I want to THANK all those who sent in your answers to last month's contest. Thanks for reading the newsletter!

December Newsletter Contest Questions:

1. When is the Annual Meeting?
2. Name one person who helped rebuild the wall?
3. What do members need to bring to the Annual Meeting BESIDES a dish to pass?

Flint Bowmen Winter Youth League

Pre-registration is required !!! (Only 28 spots available)

League dues to be paid the first day of league!!!

League starts - January 6, 2024

No league February 10, 2024

Banquet is tentatively scheduled for March 16, 2024

Warm up starts @ 8:30am, Scoring starts @ 9:00am

Members \$60, Non-members \$68

Pay by CC or PayPal add \$3 convenience fee

Bow Rental **NOT** available for this league!!

Registration begins December 1, 2023.

DO NOT TRY TO REGISTER BEFORE DEC. 1ST

To Register text Megan DeWyse @ (989) 529-8178 or

Email her @ mdewyse5@gmail.com

Meeting Minutes Oct. 10, 2023

Board Present: Jeff DeWyse, Juli Campbell, Paul Koczkodan, Cathy Akers-Jordan, Jason Birchmeier, Tim Kelly, Laurie LaLonde, Chris Prentice, Michaela Reason, Mike Alexander

Members Present: Steve Oakley, Tatiana Tyrll, John Tyrll

Meeting started at 7:00 p.m.

Secretary's Report:

Meeting minutes from September amendment: Fall Shoot wrap up: Fall Shoot sponsored by McLaren RN Union

Jason motioned to accept September minutes with the above amendment, Paul seconded. All in favor motion passed

President's Report: Jeff told neighbor baiting not allowed; behind her fence on our property. Working calendar, waiting on dates for shoots. Hope to be done by Dec. mtg.

Vice President: Fire ext. done, water test done
Will turn over to Dan next year

Treasurer's Report: Paul went over his report
Kids league squared away
Kitchen for kids league making money.
Juli made a motion to accept, Jason seconded
Laurie opposed motion
Motion passed

Coordinator Reports

Membership: Hour sheets up-to-date as of 10/2

Target: Dec. 22-23 (F-S) SVAA shoot
Jan. 6 IAA Indoor Spot Tournament
Feb. 9-11 Indoor IAA 3D Shoot
Shoots are now \$10/member as of 2024
Nov-Dec timeframe for wall upgrade

Bow Hunters: Absent

Kitchen & Asst. Kitchen: Fri night Kids league good
Sat Kids league could use help in the afternoon

Work: Absent

Rules: Absent

Legislative: Nothing to report

Public Relations: Nothing to report



FBIYC: Vacant
Special: Vacant
Editor: Hunters send pics! Send anything.
Steve Oakley on US Archery Team

Unfinished Business

By-Law Update: ready to print and mail
Megan can print mailing labels
Members can pick up printed packets in November, anything left December 1st will be mailed

Fall League Banquet input:
Bow holders needed
Back stops wanted (not just berm on other side of the creek)

New Business

Secretary

Alicia stepped down because of crazy busy life. Cathy volunteered.
Julie made motion to have Cathy Akers-Jordan join the board as secretary, Laurie seconded. All in favor,
motion passed

S3DA, Chris Prentice

Practice Dates
Nov. 10 and 17
Dec. 1, 8, 15
Jan. 12, and 19
Feb. 16 (tentative) – S3DA Indoor Regional Shoot

Paul re Dan Groth

Dan Groth, work coordinator, was issued a debit card instead of a credit card.
Paul will get him a credit card with \$750 limit to replace debit card

Juli re Annual Meeting

Board members need to write reports
Email to Julie so she can create packet

Juli re Ladies League

15 archers
Renting bows, some instruction

Mike re Email Updates

Members don't remember to let us know when they update email
Put in next mailing so all members know
Put on web site?
Need to keep web site updated



Juli motioned to adjourn, seconded by Michaela all in favor motion passed

Meeting ended at 7:59 p.m.

The Annual Meeting

This year's Annual Meeting is January 13, the second Saturday in January. Dinner will be at 5:00 P.M. with the meeting to start at 6:00 P.M. We hope all members will be there to enjoy the festivities. This year's dinner will be a pot-luck, so bring a large dish to share.

This evening is also a fundraiser with many raffles during the evening. We always have some interesting items on the raffle tables. We depend on the membership to donate items for the raffles. So, if you see a good buy on something that would be a good donation, pick it up and bring it with you to the meeting. Or if you have a talent and can make something, those donations are always welcome.

Besides raffles, we will recognize 2023 accomplishments. We will recognize all who shot a perfect score in competition. We recognize anyone who shot a Robin Hood. Those who had a successful bow season with a harvest will get a successful archer pin and so will anyone who won a tournament with their bow. We will also recognize the winner of the jug Meister contest at our Fall Shoot.

All of our 2023 Board members are expected to turn in a written annual report for this meeting. We will also elect the Board members for 2024. This year we have some bylaw changes on the agenda so please bring your copy of the bylaws we sent to you in December.

While Flint Bowmen meetings are not always exciting, this should be a fun evening. We will also recognize the Flint Bowmen archer who shot the biggest buck in Michigan. Remember, the rack and archer need to be present to be eligible to win. We will also be drawing the winner of newsletter contest.

Members get work hours for attending meetings. If the meeting lasts 2 hours, you get 2 hours toward your 20-hour obligation. We will also recognize members who worked over 100 hours in 2023.

So put it on your calendar for the second Saturday in January that you will be attending the Annual Meeting at Flint Bowmen. Don't forget to bring some cash for the raffles!

Newer Anytime League



NEWER indoor target league, perfect for the person whose schedule won't allow them to shoot our regular set time target leagues.

Shoot anytime, any day, Monday through Sunday.
(Score cards are picked up on Mondays)

Shoot with someone or by yourself
(We trust you!)

Shooting 5 arrows, shoot a single spot or a 5-spot target
(Blue Targets)

Non-members can shoot but they need to shoot with a member.

8 week League starts first week of January

(Can start league late with no penalty by the 3rd week)

Pre-registration needed, contact Mike Alexander at lealexander@comcast.net or 810-240-1338 or sign up on the sheets by the restroom



Arrows Needed

If you have full length carbon or aluminum arrows sitting around you are not using, we need them at Flint Bowmen for people who take lessons. We are in need of long arrows. We can fletch them if they need it!

Thank You Kids League Volunteers

We do quite a few activities at Flint Bowmen where we ask for help. One of these activities is the Monday kids league.

I run the Monday kids league that starts the second Monday in October every year. Now think about that! I ask for volunteers to help me during bow season. Volunteering people at that time is not at a premium, it is our club's lowest by far.

But every year we get a few volunteers to make this league happen. While luckily, some of my volunteers don't hunt, they are heavy snow skiers, so when the snow is on the ground, I half expect them to bale on me.

One of my bow hunters who has helped me for years is Tom Brasseur. He is very important to our Monday league due to his knowledge on shooting form. He is great with tweaking the kids' form to help them improve their scores. THANKS, Tom, for all your help and giving up your Mondays in the tree stand.

I also want to THANK three dads who bring their kids to shoot who also help with all of the other kids by helping keep the kids safe and by helping these kids shoot better. I want to THANK Laryn Butzler, Mike Bregand and Eric Carlson for helping. I'm pretty sure all three of these guys are bow hunters giving up their Mondays for the kids.

I also want to Thank my skiing crew who helps out in the kitchen, Jill Gillespie and Stephanie Jacob. They rock that kitchen every week to keep our group of Monday shooters and families fed. Thanks ladies!

I want to THANK another bow hunter, Tim Kelly who is there every Monday, very early to get the kitchen prep ready for the evening. He does an awesome job coming up with new ideas to test our flavor buds and working with the ladies. THANKS Tim!

I also need to THANK my right hand man in all of my group lesson endeavors, "The Bow Keeper", Mike Messer. He is the guy in charge of all of our Genesis bows and arrows. He takes care of all of that bow stuff and that frees the rest of us up to help with the kids. Once he gets the bows passed out, he helps with all of the kids, besides taking care of everything else that needs to be done every Monday.

I also could not do the Monday kids league without the help of my wonderful wife Maggie. She greets all the kids and parents, gets them signed in. She passes out info some weeks, assigns lane positions, sells 50/50 tickets and helps wherever needed like getting great raffle prizes for the banquet! THANKS, Babe, for all you do!

While we have a crew that works great, we could always use more help. Some weeks people are sick or have appointments they can't miss, so we need more help because missing just one person puts us at a great disadvantage when dealing with 42 kids and their parents every Monday for 8 weeks.

Once again, I can't THANK all of my volunteers enough for making the Monday kids league such a success and so much fun for the kids every year!

Mike Alexander

ATTENTION

There is a notebook behind the membership applications that needs to be filled out by anyone who signs up a new member. This will help the membership coordinator know when a new member joins.

Pay for your new targets!

If you get out a new target, you must pay for it. Used targets out of the bin are free to use. It is all members responsibility to pay for their new practice targets at time of use. It is best to pay when you get it so you don't forget.

We want to congratulate all of the successful bow hunters in 2023 on their time in the woods. We hope you had a great bow season whether you only shot a doe, a small buck or you were just lucky enough to spend some time in the woods with friends. While we always want a big buck, we should never measure out success by this. This Editor has had many successful hunts by being around friends in a deer camp or just enjoying an evening in a tree not killing anything.



Hunted my spot in Ohio for 9 days, on the last morning I had this guy on camera at a secondary set. Went in around 11am to pull the camera and bumped him with a doe. After seeing him in-person I knew I had to make another trip south to go after him. One week later to the day, I struck gold at 5:30 pm after sitting all day and not seeing any movement for over 8 hours. Jim Grubba gave him a conservative score of 152 1/2". Josh Borrow



The Editor got his second doe of the season with his bow in December.

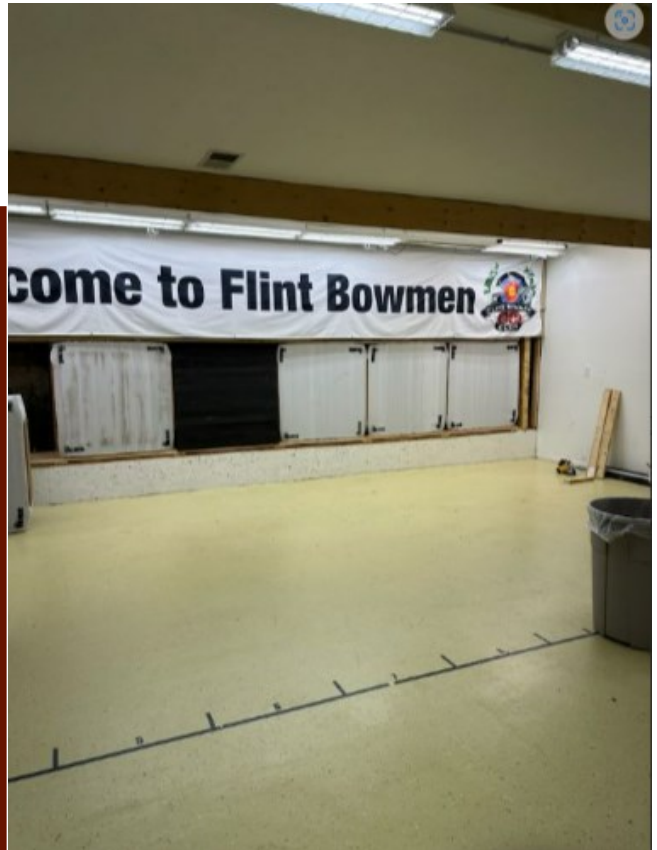




The guys were hard at it replacing the indoor shooting wall in November. Thanks Jason Birchmeier, Rocky Cummins, Jeff DeWyse, Doug Dunning and Frank Lechota for replacing the shooting wall!

Please remember to take care of your targets when you are done shooting the inside range. We do this because it makes the shooting wall last longer. It is important we move targets around so we don't shoot the same spots all the time. If the targets are kept in the same spot, it will create a hole, and that is not good.

If you find it hard to pull your arrow out of the new wall, use the white tubes on the red bow holders to lubricate the tips of your arrows and you will find it much easier to pull the arrow out of the bales.



Annual Meeting

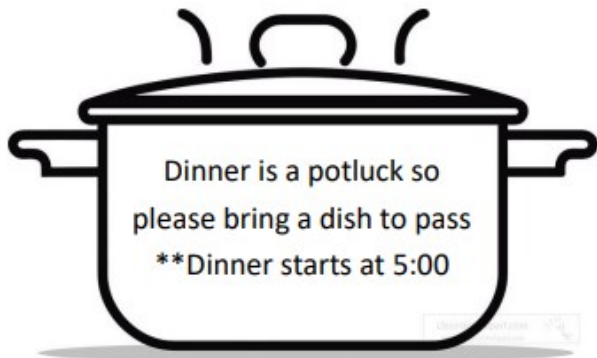
When: January 13th, 2024

Where: Flint Bowmen

5478 Belsay, Grand Blanc 48439

Guest Shooters

When you bring a guest out to shoot at Flint Bowmen, please make sure they pay the guest fee. Just inside the front door is a box to put the money in. Adults \$5 and kids \$2. Everyone must also fill out a waiver PLEASE!



Agenda
• Doors Open 4:30
• Dinner Starts at 5:00
• Annual Meeting 6:00
• Raffle and 50/50 7:00



Winter Leagues will be starting the week of January 8. Grab you bow and get ready to have some fun this winter.



Are you a Senior?

Are you paying senior rates?

Seniors age 62 and up, benefit from reduced dues at Flint Bowmen. Everything is cut in half! Your annual dues without any work hours are \$65; with your 20 work hours, your dues are \$25. If you are a senior, but you aren't getting a discount on your dues – then let me know. I won't ask anyone their age! To receive the senior discount on your dues, you have to be 62 as of December 31, 2023. This is not automatic – you have to let me know! If you already receive the senior discount on your dues, you don't have to do anything to continue receiving it. The senior discount is not retroactive, so be sure to tell me before the end of the year!

Megan DeWyse
Membership Coordinator
989-529-8178

2023 BOARD MEMBERS & CONTACT INFO

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Cell</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
President	Jeff DeWyse		(989)239-8577	president@flintbowmen.com
Vice-President	Juli Campbell		(810)282-8427	JCampb4264@aol.com
Treasurer	Paul Koczkodan		(586)295-7398	pkozco@yahoo.com
Secretary	Cathy Akers-Jordan		(810)877-4927	cathyaj@icloud.com
Membership Coordinator	Megan DeWyse		(989)529-8178	membership@flintbowmen.com
Target Coordinator	Jason Birchmeier		(810)577-4632	jbirch1981@yahoo.com
Bow Hunter Coordinator	Rocky Cummins		(810)397-0543	Rockycumminsgmail.com
Bow Hunter Coordinator	Adam Millard		(248)431-2133	Adamm614.am@gmail.com
Kitchen Coordinator	Tim Kelly		(810)241-4614	tkelly363@gmail.com
Asst Kitchen Coordinator	Laurie LaLonde		(810)893-0989	lauriel491@yahoo.com
Work Day Coordinator	Dan Groth		(810)-875-5354	Dan.groth129@gmail.com
Rules Coordinator	Bill McGlinchey		(810)922-2684	billogan2809@gmail.com
Legislative Coordinator	Chris Prentice		(248)212-4019	camper0414@yahoo.com
Public Relations Coordinator	Michaela Koontz		(586)719-1377	Michaelakoontz243@gmail.com
FBIYC Coordinator	vacant			
Special Coordinator	vacant			
Editor	Mike Alexander	(810)655-5670	(810)240-1338	lealexander@comcast.net
Webmaster	Jeff Smith		(810)569-7766	jeffreylsmith900@gmail.com

Aging Out of your Family Membership

Flint Bowmen memberships are family memberships and per Flint Bowmen Bylaws, you are considered to be a child through the age of 18. Children age out of the family membership when they turn 19. As of their 19th birthday, they must have their own membership to be at Flint Bowmen and receive all the benefits of a Flint Bowmen Membership.

In addition, children that age-out of their parent's Family Membership, have 1-year from the date of their birthday to join Flint Bowmen at a discounted rate of only \$50. That is a savings of \$80! After their first calendar year as members, they will be subject to the full current dues rate less any work hours performed up to the (20) work hours allowed for a discount on dues.

Of course, 19-year olds can still come to Flint Bowmen as a guest, but they will have to pay non-member fees. Letters will be going out soon to families with children that have or will age-out in 2024. If you have any questions, please email me.

Megan DeWyse
 Membership Coordinator
 989-529-8178



KEEPING THE MEMBERSHIP INFORMED

5478 S. Belsay Rd.
Grand Blanc, MI 48439

Phone: 810-695-1660

We're on the Web!
www.flintbowmen.com



Upcoming Events:

For more info, go to www.flintbowmen.com

December 2023

- 22nd *SVAA Shoot Fri 6 PM
- 23rd *SVAA Shoot Sat
- 31st *3rd Annual New Years Eve Smackdown 12pm

January 2024

- 1st *Anytime League Mon to Sunday, anytime (8 wks)
- 6th *IAA Spot Shoot
- 8th *Indoor Target League Mon 10am (12 wks)
- 8th *Indoor Couples League Mon 7pm (12 wks)
- 9th * Indoor 3d League Tue 4-7pm (12 wks)
- 10th * Indoor 5 spot League Wed 7pm (12 wks)
- 11th * Indoor Target League Thur 10am (12wks)
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- 23rd Membership meeting Tue 7pm
- 27th Workday-All Outdoor ranges closed Sat 9am

www.flintbowmen.com