

THRU THE SIGHTS

Fenton Lakes Sportsman's Club

Thru The Presidents Sights

Dear Members:

I would like to begin by thanking Larry Felch for all of his hard work over the past several years as sporting clays manager. It was Larry's wishes to step down and enjoy other aspects of his life.

Please welcome Dave Perron and Bill Hohloch, Jr. as Co-Sporting Clays Managers. Dave has been a member of the club for twelve years, served as chairman of the board in years past, and has been an avid skeet / trap and sporting clays shooter for well over 40 years. Bill Hohloch, Jr. has been a member for eight years, currently is Chairman of the Board, and shoots sporting clays as well.

"With new blood, come new ideas."

At some time in all of our lives we become stagnant. We run out of new ideas. Dave has implemented several changes, some have been severely criticized. One of the major changes being - instead of paying the desk help the desk will now be staffed by volunteers. A majority of the people that have volunteered are pistol shooters. It is encouraging to me to see that my fellow pistol shooters are more than willing to go above and beyond the call of duty to help their fellow sporting clay members. Please remember they have volunteered **their time** to help with the desk. Many of these members have for one reason or another never shot sporting clays in their life.

As sporting clays shooters, let's wel-

come the pistol shooters and show them why the sport is so much fun. Possibly even invite them to join you another day to shoot a round.

During the May 16th membership meeting, it was a unanimous decision of the membership, officers, and board members present to purchase 30 automated throwers for the Sporting Clays course. This is an expensive endeavor, but will enable us to be more competitive with other courses.

The estimated cost is \$85,000.00. With the elimination of paid desk help and pullers the savings per year is approximately \$18,000.00. We expect the return on investment to be 4.7 years.

(Continued page 11)

Volume 2, Issue 2
June 2006

President
Marla Lekarczyk
810-632-4975

VP Operations
Larry Felch
810-735-5493

VP of Finance
John Wiley Jr.
810-629-9514

VP of Marketing
Jeff Lane
810-750-0655

Secretary
Sue West
810-919-3724

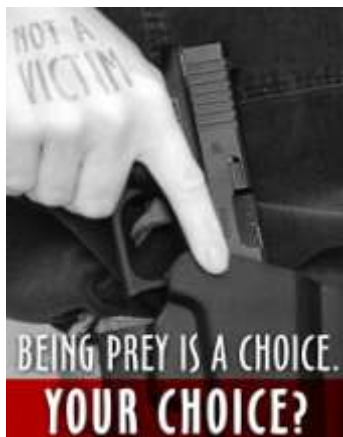
Board of Directors
Ray Durgan
Bill Hohloch Jr.
John Crews
Carroll Hogan
Chuck Delorge
Andy Fralick



Grandma Wears Combat Boots



"...my one fleeting thought was, I shot him, now there would be evidence of his shooting even if we both died."



There is nothing like a gunfight in a convenience store to make a person realize just how important the right to self defense is and how important training is.

I was a manager of a convenience store for 10 years and knew how vulnerable I and the other employees were to an armed robbery. The owners I worked for banned employees from being armed. During the months of late 1979 and 1980, there were several incidents of female clerks working alone at night in convenience stores being kidnapped, taken to a nearby wooded area, tortured and murdered. The response from the owners of our store was, "Don't let *them* take you out of the store; make them kill you in the store." His statement was the deciding factor in my carrying my S&W .38 5-shot revolver in the store. This was against store policy but not against the law as long as I didn't carry it

loaded outside of the store. Since I did night bank deposits, I applied for a Business and Banking CCW. Saturday, March 15, I received the letter to appear before the Gun Board on Tuesday morning. However, it was a little too late. It was that night Joseph Hartford, Jr. decided to do another armed robbery and kill two vulnerable women.

Just before closing, my very frightened female clerk came running into the small backroom office crying that a masked man with a gun was in the store. She slammed the door and as she attempted to lock it, the armed man shot through the door, knocking her back against the wall. I had no time to finish the call to the Sheriff. I grabbed my gun as he flung open the door and shot my clerk twice in the chest. As he poked his head around from the hallway, I shot a couple more times, hoping he would leave.

I ducked down under the desk to get away from the flying bullets. He came into the room, shot my clerk in the head and shot me with his last bullet.

As he stood there in the room dripping blood, my one fleeting thought was, I shot him, now there would be evidence of his shooting even if we both died. I survived to testify in court and he was convicted of 1st degree murder and sentenced to life in prison. The police never found the gun, so it was my bullet in his throat and his blood on the floor of the office that convicted him.

After this incident, I decided to get a semi auto pistol with more than 5 bullets and practice more. My gun fight gave me some "ammo" to continue the fight to get a better CCW law and to fight the gun bans that kept filling the evening news. (continued on page 3)

For twenty years, I appeared on TV Talk Shows, did debates with the ALCU and anti-gun groups, testified in Lansing and Washington D.C. (locking horns with Chuck Schummer was a thrill) and appeared at annual NRA meetings promoting the "Refuse to Be a Victim" program.

For the last 20 years my husband and I shot with the NSSA in black powder competition. I started with a 50 cal. Carbine, and then added a musket and .44 cal revolver to my competitive endeavors. I was also a crew member on the 6 pound original bronze cannons our Battery had.

Two years ago I decided I wanted to try something different in pistol competition. I found out some Oakland County Deputy Sheriffs were teaching PPC, so I coerced my husband into joining me on Monday mornings. I had never done anything quite like this before and I was reluctant to go alone. I needed

moral support. By the time I had finished shooting 2 targets, I was hooked. The adrenalin was pumping and I felt 40 years younger. I was on my way to becoming an adrenalin junkie. My husband now jokes with friends that he can't keep me out of the gun stores. I never held a



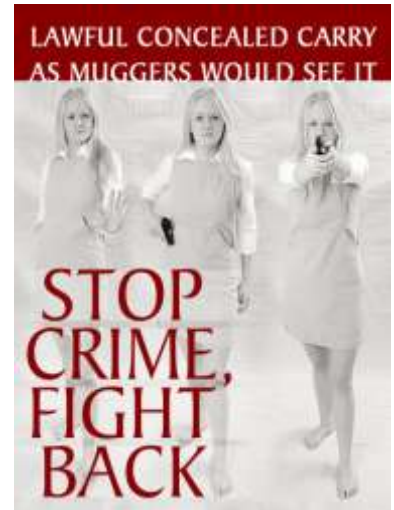
gun I didn't like and they have a habit of following me home! Hey, what can I say, a gal can't have too many guns.

During the two years of shooting PPC, I have shot with many wonderful, friendly, like-minded people, but never in a club with as many women shooters as I have encountered at FLSC. I think more husbands should encourage their wives and

daughters to learn to shoot so if a self-defense situation comes up, they will have not only the skill to defend themselves, but the mind set to do so. In a life or death situation, you don't have time to think. The adrenalin kicks in and you respond with your training. I know I never want to be a helpless, unarmed victim.

I am a wife, mother of 4, grandmother of 13 and great grandmother of 1, so it is never too late to start something new in pistol competition. I am looking forward to being an active club member and continuing with the PPC league at FLSC and entering in more matches. Maybe I will even try to shoot some Sporting Clays this summer!

Charmaine Klaus



"In a life or death situation, you don't have time to think. The adrenalin kicks in and you respond with your training. I know I never want to be a helpless, unarmed victim."





FLSC SWEEPSTAKES UPDATE

With the (very) successful conclusion of our annual PPC Match and Sweepstakes, it's once again time to begin our monthly-ish FLSC Firearm Sweepstakes drawings. So far, the club has awarded:



Springfield Loaded Champion
.45 ACP

- Benelli Nova 12Ga Shotgun- Chuck DeLorge
- Sig Mosquito .22lr Pistol- Gary Palombit
- Olympic Arms AR-15 .223 Carbine- Bill Stratton
- Remington 11-87 Sporting Clays 12Ga Shotgun- Chuck Marcotte

Prizes for the next Sweepstakes series include:

- Springfield Loaded Champion .45ACP Pistol
- Dillon Loading Press and Loading Bench (thanks Anson Cassavoy!)
- Stevens Model 200 Bolt Action .223 Rifle

We will conduct each drawing at the Membership Meeting immediately following sale of the last ticket. In order to keep the Sweepstakes fun and the odds good, we will strive to keep the total number of tickets sold low; we will print the total number of tickets for each prize on the ticket face.



Watch for details and buy tickets at the Clays Desk and Membership Meetings, or see PPC League Coordinators or your Club Officers.

Coming Events

Sporting clays course is now open on Tuesdays 3:30-7:30pm through September 26

Membership meetings: June 20, July 18, and August 15. All meetings are in the clays house.

Many thanks to all the RSO's and volunteers that contributed countless hours to the success of the PPC match.

FLSC FINANCIAL UPDATE

As of today, Friday 5-19-06, all bills are currently paid. The club has \$13,677 in cash reserves, and \$2600 in net Accounts Receivable (money owed to us). We owe \$127,645 on our mortgage to The State Bank, and \$21,344 on account to our attorney.

This financial snapshot is a bit of a watershed for FLSC, perhaps the best position in several years, although we should not be complacent as we face rapidly rising costs for energy, insurance, utilities and property taxes. Bright points have been Hall Rentals, PPC League, CCW Classes, Hunter Education and New Memberships, all leading to marked and continuing improvement in Ranges, Hall and Membership Divisions. This leaves Sporting Clays as a final area targeted by the Board of Directors for attention; more on that in a moment.

I wish to take a moment to clarify a misconception that I have heard from several Members, that "the Club is not a business". Every FLSC Member should have absolutely no illusion whatsoever about this point: FENTON LAKES IS A BUSINESS, AND MUST OPERATE AS ONE. It is true that we are classified as a 501(c)(4) Non-Profit Corporation, we do not pay dividends to our owners (the Membership), and we are privileged

not to be required to pay Income Taxes. All that notwithstanding, we must collect revenues, pay bills, keep books, and report to the IRS, and do it in exactly the same manner as a For-Profit Corporation does, with all the same ramifications for success or failure.

With regard to Sporting Clays, in 2005 the Division produced \$34,980 in Gross Revenues, offset by \$32,210 in Expenses, for a Net Margin of \$2,770, or 8%. The Division produces small margin but large cash flow, and is an indispensable component of the FLSC financial picture. Clays faces serious challenges in the form of competition from other courses in the area, declining participation, and rising costs- for example, our minimum wage rates will increase by \$2/hr in October. Should we do nothing about it, I project that the Division will operate at a loss in 2006, and the loss will be unsustainable in 2007.

The Board of Directors and the Clays Manager have been conducting extensive research, and have decided on several changes: the Clays Desk will now be staffed with volunteer labor, which will yield immediate cost savings annualized at about \$6400/year. Previously, desk workers had been paid \$8/hr. There will be several work bee days which will focus on cleaning up and organizing the course and grounds, to present a more appealing face to our non-member shooters (we cannot sur-

vive without them). A short course of fire (25 birds) will be available, to encourage new as well as veteran shooters. And most significantly, we will upgrade the Clays operation to current state of the art through installation of electric traps and an automated counting system; this action was approved by the General Membership at the 5-16-06 meeting. This will be costly, but not nearly as expensive as letting Sporting Clays die a lingering death.

If you have questions about financing these changes, please feel free to attend the next Membership Meeting on June 20, where I will have data and be available for answers.

If you want to help in making Sporting Clays more viable and FLSC stronger, consider volunteering some time to work the Clays Desk or help give the course a face lift. We are actively seeking interested members to volunteer just a little time; call Marla Lekarczyk 810-599-6403 or me 810-610-4567 to help out.

John Wiley
VP-Finance



Sporting Clays Update

To better serve the club membership as a whole we have initiated a process of change for the Sporting Clays operation.

There are four primary reasons for the changes:

The Sporting Clays division must become profitable and self-sustaining.

We need to encourage and welcome new shooters.

Time and level of difficulty in shooting a round needs to be adjusted to accommodate a wide range of skill and time available to meet the needs of all shooters.

This division needs to generate new members for the club.

One of the most significant changes is that we will staff the desk operation with volunteer labor from the club membership. *Volunteers will be compensated for their time and help through a limited program of **FREE** shooting.*

We need a total of 12 volunteers to fully staff the operation. With this number of volunteers each person will need to work only one day a month. As a token of appreciation each person will receive a card that will provide up to 100 targets **FREE** for each day worked.

Currently we have 8 volunteers. With their help we will only be able to be open on weekends. Only 2 more people need to join us in running the desk and we can be open on an evening mid week as in the past.

Thank you to the following individuals who have already volunteered to staff the desk. Bill Hinkle, Bill Holhlock, Bill Stratton, Chuck McQuillan, Dennis Kish, John Crews, Mitch Smolen, and Tim Wardlow. Jim Hope and Monte Cleary indicate they will be available to help with the midweek night once we have the other days covered. Thank you also to Al Stevens and Joe Poland for all of the work they are doing on the grounds clean up.

If you can help please contact Dave Perron 810-266-5681 for details.

Effective April 1, 2006 we have implemented a new rate structure, hours of operations and course shooting options that will help us meet our goals.

Sporting Clays (continued)

Hours of operation are Saturday and Sunday 10AM to 3 PM

New rates:

Members		Non Members	
25 Rounds	\$5.50	25 Rounds	\$9.00
50 Rounds	\$11.00	50 Rounds	\$16.00
100 Rounds	\$22.00	100 Rounds	\$32.00

Course Options:

Green, Yellow, and Red 5 stations each for a total of 15 possible stations.

25 targets over 5 stations. Choose the five you like Green, Yellow, or Red.

A good choice for those of you new to the sport or with limited time to shoot.

50 targets over 10 stations. Mix things up a little work on Green and Red for example.

For those of us with a little more time who want to test our skills.

100 targets over 15 stations

This is the best choice for the dedicated sporting clay shooter who wants the most challenging targets.

The important thing to remember in the course options is that it is your choice how many targets you want to shoot or how much time it will take.

If you have any ideas on how we can make our clays operation better, please share them with Dave Perron or Bill Holhlock. Some Ideas so far are: Turkey shoots, and a summer Sporting Clays league. Let us know how you feel about these two. We are looking forward to seeing many new faces at the clays house in the future.

Thank you all in advance for your support.



A Nation of Cowards

Jeffrey R. Snyder

OUR SOCIETY has reached a pinnacle of self-expression and respect for individuality rare or unmatched in history. Our entire popular culture -- from fashion magazines to the cinema -- positively screams the matchless worth of the individual, and glories in eccentricity, nonconformity, independent judgment, and self-determination. This enthusiasm is reflected in the prevalent notion that helping someone entails increasing that person's "self-esteem"; that if a person properly values himself, he will naturally be a happy, productive, and, in some inexplicable fashion, responsible member of society.

And yet, while people are encouraged to revel in their individuality and incalculable self-worth, the media and the law enforcement establishment continually advise us that, when confronted with the threat of lethal violence, we should not resist, but simply give the attacker what he wants. If the crime under consideration is rape, there is some notable waffling on this point, and the discussion quickly moves to how the woman can change her behavior to minimize the risk of rape, and the various ridiculous, non-lethal weapons she may acceptably carry, such as whistles, keys, mace or, that weapon which really sends shivers down a rapist's spine, the portable cellular phone.

Now how can this be? How can a person who values him-

self so highly calmly accept the indignity of a criminal assault? How can one who believes that the essence of his dignity lies in his self-determination passively accept the forcible deprivation of that self-determination? How can he, quietly, with great dignity and poise, simply hand over the goods?

The assumption, of course, is that there is no inconsistency. The advice not to resist a criminal assault and simply hand over the goods is founded on the notion that one's life is of incalculable value, and that no amount of property is worth it. Put aside, for a moment, the outrageousness of the suggestion that a criminal who proffers lethal violence should be treated as if he has instituted a new social contract: "I will not hurt or kill you if you give me what I want." For years, feminists have labored to educate people that rape is not about sex, but about domination, degradation, and control. Evidently, someone needs to inform the law enforcement establishment and the media that kidnapping, robbery, carjacking, and assault are not about property.

Crime is not only a complete disavowal of the social contract, but also a commandeering of the victim's person and liberty. If the individual's dignity lies in the fact that he is a moral agent engaging in actions of his own will, in free exchange with others, then crime always violates the

victim's dignity. It is, in fact, an act of enslavement. Your wallet, your purse, or your car may not be worth your life, but your dignity is; and if it is not worth fighting for, it can hardly be said to exist.

The Gift of Life

Although difficult for modern man to fathom, it was once widely believed that life was a gift from God, that to not defend that life when offered violence was to hold God's gift in contempt, to be a coward and to breach one's duty to one's community. A sermon given in Philadelphia in 1747 unequivocally equated the failure to defend oneself with suicide:

He that suffers his life to be taken from him by one that hath no authority for that purpose, when he might preserve it by defense, incurs the Guilt of self murder since God hath enjoined him to seek the continuance of his life, and Nature itself teaches every creature to defend itself.

"Cowardice" and "self-respect" have largely disappeared from public discourse. In their place we are offered "self-esteem" as the bellwether of success and a proxy for dignity. "Self-respect" implies that one recognizes standards, and judges oneself worthy by the degree to which one lives up to them. "Self-esteem" simply means that one feels good about oneself.

"Dignity" used to refer to the self-mastery and fortitude with which a person conducted himself in the face of life's vicissitudes and the boorish behavior of others. Now, judging by campus speech codes, dignity requires that we never encounter a discouraging word and that others be coerced into acting respectfully, evidently on the assumption that we are powerless to prevent our degradation if exposed to the demeaning behavior of others. These are signposts proclaiming the insubstantiality of our character, the hollowness of our souls.

It is impossible to address the problem of rampant crime without talking about the moral responsibility of the intended victim. Crime is rampant because the law-abiding, each of us, condone it, excuse it, permit it, submit to it. We permit and encourage it because we do not fight back, immediately, then and there, where it happens. Crime is not rampant because we do not have enough prisons, because judges and prosecutors are too soft, because the police are hamstrung with absurd technicalities. The defect is there, in our character. We are a nation of cowards and shirkers.

Do You Feel Lucky?

In 1991, when then-Attorney General Richard Thornburgh released the FBI's annual crime statistics, he noted that

it is now more likely that a person will be the victim of a violent crime than that he will be in an auto accident. Despite this, most people readily believe that the existence of the police relieves them of the responsibility to take full measures to protect themselves. The police, however, are not personal bodyguards. Rather, they act as a general deterrent to crime, both by their presence and by apprehending criminals after the fact. As numerous courts have held, they have no legal obligation to protect anyone in particular. You cannot sue them for failing to prevent you from being the victim of a crime.

Insofar as the police deter by their presence, they are very, very good. Criminals take great pains not to commit a crime in front of them. Unfortunately, the corollary is that you can pretty much bet your life (and you are) that they won't be there at the moment you actually need them.

Should you ever be the victim of an assault, a robbery, or a rape, you will find it very difficult to call the police while the act is in progress, even if you are carrying a portable cellular phone. Nevertheless, you might be interested to know how long it takes them to show up. Department of Justice statistics for 1991 show that, for all crimes of violence, only 28 percent of calls are responded to within five minutes. The idea that protection is a service people can call to have delivered and expect to receive in a timely fashion is often mocked by gun owners, who love to recite the chal-

lenge, "Call for a cop, call for an ambulance, and call for a pizza. See who shows up first."

Many people deal with the problem of crime by convincing themselves that they live, work, and travel only in special "crime-free" zones. Invariably, they react with shock and hurt surprise when they discover that criminals do not play by the rules and do not respect these imaginary boundaries. If, however, you understand that crime can occur anywhere at anytime, and if you understand that you can be maimed or mortally wounded in mere seconds, you may wish to consider whether you are willing to place the responsibility for safeguarding your life in the hands of others.

Power And Responsibility

Is your life worth protecting? If so, whose responsibility is it to protect it? If you believe that it is the police's, not only are you wrong -- since the courts universally rule that they have no legal obligation to do so -- but you face some difficult moral quandaries. How can you rightfully ask another human being to risk his life to protect yours, when you will assume no responsibility yourself? Because that is his job and we pay him to do it? Because your life is of incalculable value, but his is only worth the \$30,000 salary we pay him? If you believe it reprehensible to possess the means and will to use lethal force to repel a criminal assault, how can you call upon another to do so for you?

Do you believe that you are forbidden to protect yourself because the police are better qualified to protect you, because they know what they are doing but you're a rank amateur? Put aside that this is equivalent to believing that only concert pianists may play the piano and only professional athletes may play sports. What exactly are these special qualities possessed only by the police and beyond the rest of us mere mortals?

One who values his life and takes seriously his responsibilities to his family and community will possess and cultivate the means of fighting back, and will retaliate when threatened with death or grievous injury to himself or a loved one. He will never be content to rely solely on others for his safety, or to think he has done all that is possible by being aware of his surroundings and taking measures of avoidance. Let's not mince words: He will be armed, will be trained in the use of his weapon, and will defend himself when faced with lethal violence.

Fortunately, there is a weapon for preserving life and liberty that can be wielded effectively by almost anyone -- the handgun. Small and light enough to be carried habitually, lethal, but unlike the knife or sword, not demanding great skill or strength, it truly is the "great equalizer." Requiring only hand-eye coordination and a modicum of ability to remain cool under pressure, it can be used effectively by the old and the weak against the young and the strong, by the

one against the many.

The handgun is the only weapon that would give a lone female jogger a chance of prevailing against a gang of thugs intent on rape, a teacher a chance of protecting children at recess from a madman intent on massacring them, a family of tourists waiting at a mid-town subway station the means to protect themselves from a gang of teens armed with razors and knives.

But since we live in a society that by and large outlaws the carrying of arms, we are brought into the fray of the Great American Gun War. Gun control is one of the most prominent battlegrounds in our current culture wars. Yet it is unique in the half-heartedness with which our conservative leaders and pundits -- our "conservative elite" -- do battle, and have conceded the moral high ground to liberal gun control proponents. It is not a topic often written about, or written about with any great fervor, by William F. Buckley or Patrick Buchanan. As drug czar, William Bennett advised President Bush to ban "assault weapons." George Will is on record as recommending the repeal of the Second Amendment, and Jack Kemp is on record as favoring a ban on the possession of semiautomatic "assault weapons." The battle for gun rights is one fought predominantly by the common man. The beliefs of both our liberal and conservative elites are in fact abetting the criminal rampage through our society.



Selling Crime Prevention

By any rational measure, nearly all gun control proposals are hokum. The Brady Bill, for example, would not have prevented John Hinckley from obtaining a gun to shoot President Reagan; Hinckley purchased his weapon five months before the attack, and his medical records could not have served as a basis to deny his purchase of a gun, since medical records are not public documents filed with the police. Similarly, California's waiting period and background check did not stop Patrick Purdy from purchasing the "assault rifle" and handguns he used to massacre children during recess in a Stockton schoolyard; the felony conviction that would have provided the basis for stopping the sales did not exist, because Mr. Purdy's previous weapons violations were plea-bargained down from felonies to misdemeanors.

In the mid-sixties there was a public service advertising campaign targeted at car owners about the prevention of car theft. The purpose of the ad was to urge car owners not to leave their keys in their cars. The message was, "Don't help a good boy go bad." The implication was that, by leaving his keys in his car, the normal, law-abiding car owner was contributing to the delinquency of minors who, if they just weren't tempted beyond their limits, would be "good." Now, in those days people still had a fair sense of just who was responsible for whose behavior. The ad succeeded in enraging a goodly portion of the populace, and was soon dropped.

Nearly all of the gun control measures offered by Handgun Control, Inc. (HCI) and its ilk embody the same philosophy. They are founded on the belief that America's law-abiding gun owners are the source of the problem. With their unholy desire for firearms, they are creating a society awash in a sea of guns, thereby helping good boys go bad, and helping bad boys be badder. This laying of moral blame for violent crime at the feet of the law-abiding, and the implicit absolution of violent criminals for their misdeeds, naturally infuriates honest gun owners.

The files of HCI and other gun control organizations are filled with proposals to limit the availability of semiautomatic and other firearms to law-abiding citizens, and barren of proposals for apprehending and punishing violent criminals. It is ludicrous to expect that the proposals of HCI, or any gun control laws, will significantly curb crime. According to Department of Justice and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) statistics, fully 90 percent of violent crimes are committed without a handgun, and 93 percent of the guns obtained by violent criminals are not obtained through the lawful purchase and sale transactions that are the object of most gun control legislation. Furthermore, the number of violent criminals is minute in comparison to the number of firearms in America -- estimated by the ATF at about 200 million, approximately one-third of which are handguns.

With so abundant a supply, there will always be enough guns available for those who wish to use them for nefarious ends, no matter how complete the legal prohibitions against them, or how draconian the punishment for

their acquisition or use. No, the gun control proposals of HCI and other organizations are not seriously intended as crime control. Something else is at work here.

The Tyranny of the Elite

Gun control is a moral crusade against a benighted, barbaric citizenry. This is demonstrated not only by the ineffectualness of gun control in preventing crime, and by the fact that it focuses on restricting the behavior of the law-abiding rather than apprehending and punishing the guilty, but also by the execration that gun control proponents heap on gun owners and their evil instrumentality, the NRA. Gun owners are routinely portrayed as uneducated, paranoid rednecks fascinated by and prone to violence, i.e., exactly the type of person who opposes the liberal agenda and whose moral and social "re-education" is the object of liberal social policies. Typical of such bigotry is New York Gov. Mario Cuomo's famous characterization of gun-owners as "hunters who drink beer, don't vote, and lie to their wives about where they were all weekend." Similar vituperation is rained upon the NRA, characterized by Sen. Edward Kennedy as the "pusher's best friend," lampooned in political cartoons as standing for the right of children to carry firearms to school and, in general, portrayed as standing for an individual's God-given right to blow people away at will.

The stereotype is, of course, false. As criminologist and constitutional lawyer Don B. Kates, Jr. and former HCI contributor Dr. Patricia Harris

have pointed out, "[s]tudies consistently show that, on the average, gun owners are better educated and have more prestigious jobs than non-owners.... Later studies show that gun owners are less likely than non-owners to approve of police brutality, violence against dissenters, etc."

Conservatives must understand that the antipathy many liberals have for gun owners arises in good measure from their statist utopianism. This habit of mind has nowhere been better explored than in *The Republic*. There, Plato argues that the perfectly just society is one in which an unarmed people exhibit virtue by minding their own business in the performance of their assigned functions, while the government of philosopher-kings, above the law and protected by armed guardians unquestioning in their loyalty to the state, engineers, implements, and fine-tunes the creation of that society, aided and abetted by myths that both hide and justify their totalitarian manipulation.

The Unarmed Life

When columnist Carl Rowan preaches gun control and uses a gun to defend his home, when Maryland Gov. William Donald Schaefer seeks legislation year after year to ban semiautomatic "assault weapons" whose only purpose, we are told, is to kill people, while he is at the same time escorted by state police armed with large-capacity 9mm semiautomatic pistols, it is not simple hypocrisy. It is the workings of that habit of mind possessed by all superior beings who have taken upon themselves the terrible burden of civilizing the masses and

who understand, like our Congress, that laws are for other people.

The liberal elite know that they are philosopher-kings. They know that the people simply cannot be trusted; that they are incapable of just and fair self-government; that left to their own devices, their society will be racist, sexist, homophobic, and inequitable - - and the liberal elite know how to fix things. They are going to help us live the good and just life, even if they have to lie to us and force us to do it. And they detest those who stand in their way.

The private ownership of firearms is a rebuke to this utopian zeal. To own firearms is to affirm that freedom and liberty are not gifts from the state. It is to reserve final judgment about whether the

state is encroaching on freedom and liberty, to stand ready to defend that freedom with more than mere words, and to stand outside the state's totalitarian reach

To Be Continued Next Issue.



President's Letter Continued

With the clays course only making \$2000.00 last year, this advancement is required for the longevity of the sport at our club as well as our club itself.

Please support the many volunteers that are sacrificing their time for the advancement of the

club. During this transitional time be patient with the desk workers. They are there for the benefit of the clays operation! If you have an issue that needs to be addressed, please contact myself or any of the board members. We will be happy to address all of your concerns.

As always, stay safe and shoot straight.

Marla Lekarczyk,
President

"Please support the many volunteers that are sacrificing their time for the advancement of the club."



Fenton Lakes
Sportsman's Club
1140 Butcher Rd
Fenton, MI 48430

**There is a Workers Day Saturday, June 17 from
9:00am – 3:00pm
at the Clays
Course. Bring
gloves, chainsaws,
etc.**

*If anyone has any 2x4's
longer than 20" and would be
willing to donate them,
please drop them off by the
Rifle Range.*



WE'RE ON THE WEB
WWW.FENTONLAKES.COM