



THE MANUAL

The newsletter of the Fenton Lakes Sportsman's Club



Fenton, Michigan

April 2025

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FROM THE EDITOR

The Fenton Lakes Sportsman's Club logs "mission complete" upon another successful Police Pistol Combat Match!

On a more ambivalent note, long time member and current Membership Manager Jim Twesten is calling his own "mission accomplished", as he is moving out of the area, and so resigning as Membership Manager. We'd like to say "Happy trails, and thank you!" to Jim!

However, God provides, and we'd like to say "Hello, and thank you!" to Jason Hartell, who will be taking over from Jim.

And as always, we interested in improving this publication with member-provided content, so if you have any ideas, notes, rough drafts, finished pieces, etc... regarding the shooting sports, please don't hesitate to send anything and everything to us via email to ClubPresident@fentonlakes.com or Newsletter@fentonlakes.com. Finished pieces will be edited for grammar only, and all submissions will be attributed as requested.

Regards,
Paul Taylor
Editor – The Manual

CALLING ALL MEMBERS!

Our Club runs on our volunteer efforts, and the more members who donate their time and effort to running the Club, the easier the effort for everyone, and the merrier time we have doing so!

We have three specific volunteer events in the month of April: The setup for the Bowling Pin Fun Shoot; setup for the Cowboy Action Match, and setup for the Steel Challenge! See “Upcoming Events” below for all dates, and if you help setup for the Fun Shoot, don’t forget to bring your favorite .22 rimfire firearm and stick around for the fun!

There is always, of course, the recurring events, such as the cleanup of the Clubhouse, from 8:00AM-11:00AM, every Monday, and again, many hands make light work. So come on out, get to know some of your fellow members, and have a good time making our Club a great place to enjoy the shooting sports!

Finally, we are looking for members willing to manager two specific areas. We need an Archery Manager and a Volunteer Coordinator. Serving in either of these roles earns you the worker membership rate of \$60/year.

We also want to hear from you about your ideas for new Club events. Attending a business meeting is the best way to get an idea of what that looks like, and to bring up ideas for new Club events. So come to the next business meeting, see how we do things, let us hear your ideas for new events, and volunteer your time to help run our Club!

To volunteer for a specific task, you can just show up on the date and time, and we’ll put you to work. To volunteer generally, contact anyone on the Club on our [Contact Us](https://www.fentonlakes.com/ContactUs.html) page : <https://www.fentonlakes.com/ContactUs.html>.

Finally, you can earn a discount on your membership fee by volunteering. So come on out and lend a hand!

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Bowling Pin Fun Shoot

This fun and economical plinking event continues in April, on every other Thursday evening, in the indoor range in the Clubhouse’s lower level. Setup starts at 5:30PM, the plinking starts at 6:00, and runs to 8:00PM. Dates are 4/3, 4/17, and 5/3.

For more information see our page:

<https://www.fentonlakes.com/FLSC%20Bowling%20Pin%20Shoot>

Rules are found here:

<https://www.fentonlakes.com/BowlingPinShootRules>

...and you may register here;

<https://practiscore.com/bowling-pin-shoot-10-3-2024-clone/register>

Project Appleseed Clinic

This rifle clinic, which seeks to convey the skills, ideals and traditions of the Minuteman at Lexington and Concord of April 19, 1775, will be held Saturday and Sunday, April 5th and 6th, from 8:00AM-5:00PM, at the 50-yard outdoor range.

For more information, and to register please see the [Project Appleseed web page](#). The web address is <https://appleseedinfo.org/>.

FSLC Business Meeting

Our monthly business meeting will be held Tuesday, April 8th from 7:00PM-8:00PM, on the first floor of the Clubhouse. All Club members and the public at large are welcome to see how things get done and provide some input.

Junior Small Bore Rifle CMP Program

The Junior Small Bore Rifle Civilian Marksmanship Program will continue this month, on alternate Thursday evenings, from 5:45PM-7:30PM, in the lower level of the Clubhouse. Dates are 4/10, 4/24, and 5/10.

See the CMP's [Junior Small Bore Rifle](#) page for more information.

3 Bird Clays Shoot

This popular Clays format will be held again on Saturday, April 12th, from 9:00AM-3:00PM, at the outdoor Clays range. \$40 gets you 75 clays (25 true trios) and lunch.

Cowboy Action Setup and Match

The Single Action Shooting Society (SASS) will be holding its Cowboy Action Match on Sunday, April 13th, from 9:00AM-1:00PM, at the outdoor ranges. Setup is the day before, from 3:00PM-9:00PM, at the outdoor ranges.

The match is open to SASS members and select invitees. Spectators are welcome, but bring eye and hearing protection.

For inquiries, email The Cowboy Action Manager at clubcowboyactionmgr@fentonlakes.com.

New Member Orientation

For new members who have not received their key card yet, or prospective members, this is a short tutorial on the operation of the Club, and a firearms exercise.

The orientation will be on Wednesday, April 23rd, from 6:00PM-9:00PM, in the lower level of the Clubhouse. For more information, and to apply for membership, email Rachel DeSantis at racheladesantis@gmail.com.

Steel Challenge

If you haven't watched, or participated in a fun, challenging shooting competition, come on out to the Club's outdoor range Saturday, April 26th, from 9:00AM-2:00PM. Bring your eye and ear protection, and if you want to walk up and register that morning, bring appropriate firearms.

For more information, and pre-registration, visit <https://www.fentonlakes.com/SteelChallenge>.

The Steel challenge website is here: <https://scsa.org/>.

Contact Chris Sorgatz, our Steel Challenge manager to volunteer, or more information at SteelChallenge@fenteonlakes.com.

Spring Sporting Clays League

Calling all sporting clay shooters! Our Bob Fraser Memorial Sporting Clays League will start on Monday, April 28th at 6:00PM on the Clays Course. The league is open to members and non-members alike. The season runs 10 weeks to shoot 8 rounds of 50 clays. Cost is \$160 and includes an end of season dinner. Registration deadliner is 5/12.

FIRST LINE INTELLIGENCE

by Cole T. Jacobson
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Civilians are the "First Line Intelligence" in community security. It is crucial that the public is not dependent solely on government agencies or law enforcement for education on threat recognition and civilian response to active threats, whether foreign or domestic. The

author and playwright Lieutenant Colonel Scott Mann, Green Beret (retired) says "...we may be done with them, but they are not done with us."

With stretched first responder resources, along with challenges in recruiting, retention, and resiliency, it is imperative for civilians to step up and support our local responders. Civilians bear the responsibility of elevating their contribution to community security. Civilians educating fellow civilians is an excellent mechanism to build local social capital. This community capital is based on a set of shared values which allows individuals to work together in a group to effectively achieve a common purpose. Developing and investing social capital in community safety has a Return-On-Investment (ROI) that is not measured in dollars.

High-fidelity intelligence is critical for the effective deployment of limited resources. Self-education and training on threat recognition are paramount for maintaining an anticipatory state of alertness against potential targeted attacks. Staying "left of bang" in the protection domain means anticipating and preparing for threats before they occur. Civilians should be equipped to provide quality "First Line Intelligence" to investigating and first-responding agencies. Identifying and clearly articulating potential pre-event indicators and pre-event behaviors to authorities enhances source credibility...you the reporting civilian. Through training and a little practice, you can learn to identify pre-event indicators in various settings, such as public spaces, entertainment venues, retail environments, educational institutions, recreational areas, and during our daily activities.

Americans should enjoy their pursuit of happiness but must remain cognizant of existing security challenges. Remaining "left of bang" is challenging, yet facing an attack ("bang") or reacting to it ("right of bang") is far more tragic and devastating. Threat recognition is a skill that can be passed on to other family members and friends. Relying exclusively on authorities for education on threat recognition and response reflects a paradigm of unaccountability. Given the presence of nefarious actors, the public must embrace its role as the "First Line of Intelligence" concerning community safety. It is well worth the effort to self-educate and engage in training programs that develop threat recognition and response skills. In June 2024 the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) published the "Active Shooter Incidents in the United States 2023," report. In this report the FBI emphasized the importance of active shooter training and exercises for law enforcement, first responders, and civilians. The report went on to state; "...It is imperative that civilians recognize risks and access available resources to prepare, prevent, and survive an active shooter attack." Engaging in training programs which focus on enhancing situational awareness, real-time behavioral threat assessment, and responses to active threats aligns with the FBI's recommendation. If this learning path appears uncomfortable for civilians ...it should be... and that's o.k., you are on the right path. The most rewarding moments in life lie just beyond our comfort zone.

Gavin De Becker the author of "The Gift of Fear, (1997 & 2021)" would tell you go with your gut, if it does not feel right ...THEN IT'S NOT RIGHT! Avoid the situation or extricate yourself from the situation. Do not rationalize away this primitive brain response, it is there for a reason. How one responds to a perceived or realized threat is a very personal decision, each response has multiple variations of the desired outcome. Some jobs in life are well suited for On-The-Job-Training; active threat identification and response are not two of them. The

civilian threat response path, be it simple or complex, requires commensurate preparation. Invest time if nothing else in your preparation and training. Even better, do the training in groups to develop that local social capital.

You are encouraged to prepare, because victory loves preparation.

Amat Victoria Curam
(Gaius Catullus 84-54 BC)

Cole T. Jacobson is the owner of Jacobson Training And Consulting LLC

LEGAL NOTES

By Paul C. Taylor

Our Club's reason for being is the support of the outdoor sports of firearm and bow, and given that an integral feature of that is the ownership and use of firearms, and we are distinctly an *American* sportsman's club, it follows that the right to keep and bear arms and to self-defense via the use of those arms are vital to that purpose.

So in support of our Club's efforts, this column offers information, news and commentary relevant to the state of the law in Michigan, as it relates to the right to keep and bear arms.

While it would be inappropriate, and even sanctionable, for this author to offer advice as to any particular course of action without the appropriate attorney and client relationship, it is appropriate, and beneficial to share knowledge of the state of the law, pertaining to firearms, in Michigan. As the old saying goes, knowledge is power, and shared knowledge is king. Thus, please consider the foregoing, which will be a series of articles on the trend of bringing criminal prosecutions against the parents of minor children who use firearms in violation of the law.

While the subject of the October Legal Notes will be further explored in future editions of this newsletter, circumstances dictate that it will have to be continued in a later issue.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

[Senate Bill 857](#) and [Senate Bill 858](#), which were discussed in the July Legal Notes, have been passed into law, and they have significant ramifications for citizens who carry a firearm without a Concealed Pistol License. These amendments will be discussed in later editions of the Manual.

There will be discussion and commentary other court cases and laws in future newsletters, so in the meantime, keep your head on a swivel, [don't talk to the police](#) without an attorney, and have fun at our Club!

Paul C. Taylor is a member in good standing of the State Bar of Michigan.

RANGE RULE HIGHLIGHT

This month, we would like to cover one of the well-known, but very important rules general to our Club, which is General Rule #8, which may be found on page 3 of the Club handbook.

Rule #8 states that “All NRA safety rules are always to be adhered to.”, and we specifically want to talk about NRA Safety Rule #1: ALWAYS keep the gun pointed in a safe direction.”

Although well known, this rule cannot be emphasized enough, especially since current events have made poignant the reason for this rule.

What happened is that recently, someone was at a commercial indoor range in Southeast Michigan, was firing his semiautomatic pistol, and committed a double negligent discharge, in the direction of the floor. Fortunately, no one was injured.

The ND was caught on surveillance video, which can be viewed [here](#). How it occurred is that an ejected casing bounced off the shooting station partition, and went into the back of the shooter's hooded sweatshirt.

He first attempts to clear the hot casing out of his hoodie with his free hand, but then drops his shooting hand, still holding the pistol, with his finger still in the trigger guard, and tries to reach around his back in an attempt to free the casing.

That is when the pistol discharges twice, in the direction of the floor. A Range Officer was only a few feet behind him at the time, but his attention was elsewhere. Luckily, no-one was injured.

Here is the link to the video:

https://video.twimg.com/amplify_video/1860499327497412608/vid/avc1/720x752/D0ke6BIVrfe838cM.mp4?tag=16

The danger of negligent discharges is real, and so we must take the NRA *and* the Club safety rules to heart, and practice them always. The man in the above incident was probably very familiar with firearms, but the unexpected pain of the hot casing against his back caused him to forget one of the most basic safety rules for firearms: ALWAYS KEEP THE GUN POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION.

The safe thing to do in that instance is despite the pain, he should have first holstered the pistol, or placed it upon the table in front of him, with the muzzle pointed downrange.

Thank God no-one was injured, but the man could have easily shot himself in the leg, the rounds could have ricocheted off a concrete floor and struck any one of the other people nearby, or penetrated through to a lower floor.

The majority of the other rules have similar justifications. Please keep this, and the range rules in mind when you enjoy our Club's facilities.

So please remember the basic firearm safety rules, and if you have any questions regarding the range rules, please contact any member of the Club Board, or staff, but specifically, **Larry Andrykovich** is the indoor range manager, and he can be reached at IndoorRngMgr@fentonlakes.com or (810)240-8610; and **Mike Ligenza** is the outdoor range manager, and he can be reached at OutdoorRngMgr@fentonlakes.com or (586)718-4503.

So come on out to our Club with your friends, neighbors, co-workers, anyone that would enjoy some range time, let's all be safe, and have fun!

SPORTING CLAYS CHANGE IN PAYMENT AND PRICING

Our Club changed the Sporting Clays policy on payment, and pricing in November, with a notification emailed to everyone on the email list, and so here are the details for those who may not have received the email.

PAYMENT

Instead of paying for your Blue card *before* you head out to the range, you will be asked for your driver's license, or payment card in exchange for your Blue count up card, and payment will be tendered when you return to the Clays House *after* you shoot. The Target Tag system will total the number of targets, and the cost will be rounded to the nearest dollar.

This change has been made so that we may run all the stations on the Clays course, instead of how we used to close some stations in order to limit the course to 50 targets. This means more stations for you to use! Also, the new procedure eliminates the necessity to tender payment twice, if you have more targets thrown than you paid for.

PRICING

Members will pay \$0.34 per bird and non-members will pay \$0.50 per bird, with no deduction allowance for broken or show birds. Those costs are covered by the new per bird cost. This new price was necessitated by a significant increase in the cost of the targets, which were recently restocked.

On a final note, a reminder for Red Card holders. When you renew your membership annually you must go to the clays house on a Saturday or Sunday to have your membership expiration date updated on the Target Tag System. This is the only way you'll receive the discounted member price for clays when you reload your red card.

For more information, please contact the Clays Manager, Andy Shute, at ClaysMgr@fentonlakes.com, or (248)345-4944.

So grab your favorite shotgun, invite your friends, come on down to the Club, and have fun shooting clay pigeons!