



THE MANUAL

The newsletter of the Fenton Lakes Sportsman's Club



Fenton, Michigan

July 2024

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FROM THE EDITOR

You may have noticed that recent editions of this newsletter the "From the President" feature has been conspicuous in its absence.

This author has recently learned that the FSLC's intrepid President, Keith Morris, is currently working through a substantial personal challenge, which may or may not explain his absence from this publication.

Regardless, while we all need prayers, at every moment, this author asks that you keep Keith in your prayers.

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!

There is always, of course, the recurring events, such as the Monday 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 always looking for members to volunteer as board members. Attending a business meeting is the best way to get an idea of what that looks like.

So come to the next business meeting, see how we do things, 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 our Volunteer Co-ordinator Bill Tocco at Volunteer@fentonlakes.com.

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

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Sporting Clays Spring League

The FSLC Sporting Clays Spring League continues this month, Monday July 1st, and 8th, from 6:00PM-8:00PM, on the outdoor Sporting Clays course. Registration for the League is closed.

Medical Response Training class

The Medical Response Training class being offered again this year through the National Ski Patrol, will continue this month on Wednesday, July 10th, 17th, 24th, and the 31st, at 6:00PM-9:00PM, in the 1st floor hall.

Junior Small Bore Rifle CMP Program

The Program continues this month, on Tuesday, July 9nd, and Thursday, August 1st at 6:00PM-8:00PM, in the indoor range, in the lower level of the Clubhouse.

See the [Civilian Marksmanship Program's page](#) for more details.

First Steps Pistol training

This NRA sanctioned introductory class will be held Saturday, July 20th, from 1:00PM-5:00PM.

See our [NRA First Steps Pistol](#) page for more information, and registration.

New Member Orientation

The New Member Orientation will be Wednesday, July 24th, from 6:00PM-9:00PM, in the training room, in the lower level of the Clubhouse.

The Orientation is open to current and prospective members, and is required for access to FSLC facilities.

If you have not applied for membership yet, please contact Rachel DeSantis at racheladesantis@gmail.com to register for the Orientation. Non-members may complete the orientation by 8:00PM.

Line Dance Lessons

Line Dance lessons will begin on Thursday, July 25th, from 7:00PM-9:00PM, in the banquet hall on the first floor of the Clubhouse.

Steel Challenge

The Steel Challenge will be held on Saturday, July 27th, from 9:00AM-1:00PM, at the outdoor ranges.

Pre-registration is required. See our [Steel Challenge page](#) for more information, and the registration link.

3 Bird Shoot

The 3 Bird Shoot will be on Saturday, July 27th, from 10:00AM-3:00PM, at the outdoor Sporting Clays course.

Call (248)842-1356 for more information.

LINE DANCE LESSONS

Here's something you probably never expected to see at the Club – Line Dance Lessons. FLSC is more than just a place to shoot your firearms or bows. Beginning on July 25, 2024 we will offer line dance lessons. Line dancing is a lot of fun and is also a great way to get some exercise.

Our instructor, Tawna Rankin Martello, has been teaching line dancing since 2019 and has taught at several different locations.

Do you think you have two left feet? Not a problem. Line dance is not a partner dance so you don't have to worry about stepping on someone's feet or being stepped on. As long as you can move forward, backward, left and right you will be fine.



The class will be conducted over a 6 week period on Thursday evenings beginning on July 25 and continuing through August 29. Class will run from 7:00 to 9:00 pm in the club's main banquet hall. As the line dance steps build upon themselves it is necessary to pre-register for the entire 6 week session. The cost is \$80.00 per person and this covers all 6 lessons.

This is a great way to get out and have some fun, make new friends, have a date night and get some exercise.

RANGE RULE HIGHLIGHT

This month, we would like to address something that is not a range rule in itself, but something that anyone that uses the Club facilities should prepare for, and that is emergency preparedness.

The FSLC Range Rule Book does speak of "accidents" at the end of page 5, and "Emergency Information" on page 7, but it is worth considering, and planning for a potential emergency.

Emergency preparedness begins with each of us, and can run the gamut from researching first aid best practices, taking a CPR class, to taking the Medical Response Training class put on

by the National Ski Patrol, and more than likely held again next year at our Club. Such training can be made more effective by provisioning yourself with a first aid kit, simple or elaborate.

The next thing for members and visitors to our Club need is to at the very least discuss some sort of plan for when a medical emergency arises at the club. Read the Range Rule book and verify the location of first aid kits, Automatic Emergency Defibrillators, and the emergency phone in the indoor range.

In planning, please keep in mind several things:

While the red phone automatically dials 911 when you pick it up, it does not transmit your location to the operator. You should know by heart the Club's address.

You may not have a cell phone signal while in the Club house lower level.

Even if you use a cell phone which the operator may be able to locate via GPS, or you give the Club's address, that is not enough to get first responder's to the person in need of aid. You should have one person, with a member's access card, who can meet the first responders at the road, and direct them to the location of the person in need, as well as use the access card to open the gate to the outdoor ranges, or the Clubhouse door.

Emergency preparedness is like insurance: it may seem unnecessary, but when it's needed, there's no substitute! So let's all take some time, and prepare for emergencies!

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 **Jonathan O'Dell** 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 3 BIRD SHOOT COMES TO FSLC!

July will see a new Sporting Clays event: the 3-Bird Shoot! This challenging twist on the normal sporting clays event involves three clays in the air, in quick succession, simultaneously, or a combination of both.

Call (248)842-1356 for more information.



LEGAL NOTES

By Paul C. Taylor

Our Club's reason for being is the support of the outdoor sports of Firearm and bow 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.

This month, pending legislation in the Michigan legislature will be discussed, in light of recent relevant opinions of the United States Supreme Court, and other significant court decisions.

[Senate Bill 857](#) and [Senate Bill 858](#) would prohibit the carry of firearms, even with a Concealed Pistol License (CPL) in the Michigan Capitol, Senate Office Building, House of Representatives Office Building, and the surrounding grounds, not including any parking lots, unless the person is a Michigan State Senator, or Representative.

Firearm regulation laws after [New York State Rifle & Pistol Association, Inc. v. Bruen](#)

In 2022, the United States Supreme Court (SCOTUS) issued a significant decision in the field of firearm regulation law, in what is commonly known as the "Bruen" decision.

The bare facts are that prior to 2022, New York State required anyone that wished to possess any firearm, anywhere, to first obtain a license. To carry any firearm, anywhere, required a permit, and the applicant needed to convince the New York State Police that they had some special need to carry the firearm. In common parlance, this was a "may issue" carry permit law, since the issuing authority had complete discretion in issuing such carry permits. The practical effect was that few carry permits were issued.

Two members of the New York State Rifle & Pistol Association, which is a state analog, and associate of the National Rifle Association, brought suit, which eventually ended up in front of the Supreme Court.

The *Bruen* decision did not originate the legal principle that firearms regulation laws must be analogous to laws in existence in 1791, when the 2nd Amendment; and 1868, the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution were ratified. The 14th Amendment is significant in that it applied the 2nd Amendment to the laws of the various States. The principle was notably first put

forth in SCOTUS' 2008 decision in [*District of Columbia v. Heller*](#), and later in 2010 in [*McDonald v. Chicago*](#).

These decisions of the Court sufficiently set the standard for determining whether or not a firearm law violates the 2nd Amendment, but since those two decisions, many lower courts had held that even though a law might not be analogous to those extant at the ratification of the Amendments, it would still stand if the State was able to put forth a legitimate interest that outweighed the interest of a citizen to keep his civil rights intact.

Bruen put an end to the additional “means-end”, or “interest balancing” test leaving only the standard of laws existing at the time of the Amendment’s ratification: whether the challenged law is comparable in its burden on a person’s civil rights, and the justification for the burden. The Court went on to state that the rationale for this standard is that an individual’s right to self-defense is the “central concern” of the 2nd Amendment.

***Bruen* applied to SB 857 & SB 858**

The parts of *Bruen* and other cases relevant to the proposed legislation deal with the idea of “sensitive” places: where the carry of firearms may be categorically banned. It is notable that *Bruen*’s list is far shorter than that of Michigan law.

Bruen states that laws at the time banned the carry of firearms in schools, legislative assemblies, polling places, and courthouses. It goes on to explain that the justifications for these categorical bans were legitimate, and the ban addressed the concern underlying the justification. The justification for a ban on firearms in legislative assemblies is that it was considered unacceptable for citizens to possibly use firearms to intimidate lawmakers.

Thus, given that the *Bruen* decision apparently considers a ban on the carry of firearms in a legislative assembly to be justified by concern and practice that existed at the time of our country’s founding, it is reasonable to say that the proposed legislation’s ban on the carry of firearms in the Michigan State Capitol building would *not* violate the 2nd Amendment, the same ban for the Senate and House buildings would violate our 2nd Amendment rights.

There will be more discussion and information 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.

STEEL CHALLENGE:

A SUNNY SATURDAY OF “PING! PING! PING! PING! PING!”

by Paul Taylor

The dawn of a Michigan day in June brought promise of clear skies, warm temperatures, and the sound of bullets striking steel plate targets!

Arrival at the outdoor ranges of the Fenton Lakes Sportsman's Club discovered the usual suspects well along in the process of placing target bases, inserting lumber in the bases, and hanging the steel plate targets on the lumber, in anticipation of the friendly competition to come.

Shooting positions were marked by squares made from PVC pipe, and the aiming point for the ready position was a white spot, spray-painted on the gravel in front of the shooting positions.

The Range Safety Officers who had volunteered for the event were briefed, and then the participants signed in as they arrived.

There were the regulars who told stories of steel challenge matches from around Michigan, the U.S., and the world; there were the families with young boys and girls, and even younger siblings; and then there were the relative newcomers, looking to hone their shooting skills, or have a Saturday of fun. Their firearms ranged from the basic .22 LR & 9mm pistols and .22 LR rifles, to highly modified versions. They were all briefed on what they could expect in the next three hours.

The Challenge would use all four outdoor ranges, with groups of participants moving from one range to another. The Range Officers would time them at each range, and record their times, which would ultimately be uploaded to a central database.

All in all, it was the biggest turnout the Fenton Lakes Steel challenge had ever seen, and while the day was warm and sunny, everyone was dressed for the weather, and the Club had provided a cooler stocked with cold bottled water at each range.

The participants were divided into groups, paired with Range Officers, and off they went. The steel challenge veterans this author accompanied were a somewhat serious, but jovial group. There was the intensity of the competitor, showing satisfaction at a good run, to wry acceptance of a bad run. The banter was dwelt mainly upon the sport, with discussion of best practices, interspersed by encouragement for their fellow competitor to do their best.

The progression of the match quickly settled into a groove, the competitors shifting their focus from the mundane procedure, to the meat of the matter: shaving that fraction of a second off their time, each effort being invariably summed up with either a small, satisfied smile, or a wry dismissal of the results.

The last team finished at 1:30 in the hot, sunny afternoon, due to the good turnout. Promises to meet at the next challenge were exchanged, along with handshakes, before the competitors headed off into the afternoon.

All that was left was for the volunteers to disassemble the targets, discuss the event, and go their separate ways, with similar promises to gather for the next challenge.