

# Franklin County Sportsmen's Club



## *August Newsletter*

August 6, 2025

### **President's Notes**

August is here!

We had a very eventful July with a successful Rimfire Challenge, a "Shoot the Smorgasbord" event before the last members' meeting, completed repairs to the Trap machine, and a final club vote on new replacement Skeet machines, just to name a few.

As we head into August, we're looking forward to newly scheduled Trap shoots, another Rimfire Challenge, and some much-needed berm maintenance and brush clearing. All upcoming events will be posted on the club calendar.

A big thank you to all the volunteers and participants who made July such a success. Your time, effort, and enthusiasm are what keep our club running strong!



Mark Brennan, Club President

### **Clubhouse Security**

When you visit the Club, you are welcome to use the clubhouse, but please remember to turn off the lights, lock the building and set the alarm system when you leave. If someone else is using the building when you leave, make sure that person understands that they must lock up and set the alarm when they leave.

Larry Kleinschmidt

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### **Mentoring Program!**

The next mentoring meeting will be on Tuesday, August 12 at 6PM. If you would like to be a mentor or a mentee, please me know at [bobgoss64@gmail.com](mailto:bobgoss64@gmail.com) .

Bob Gosselin

### **We Need Your Help**

As you know, the FCSC is operated *completely* by member volunteers. We have no paid help! As we endeavor to maintain our club as one of the top ten clubs in Western Massachusetts, it is necessary for all of us to help out. Please volunteer your time to help us keep our club in top shape.

Steven Podlesny

### **The Welcome Wagon**

In July we welcomed the following new members: Sean Ward, Steve Shumway, Ryan Murphy, Sadie Shurberg, Ray Dew and Kim Dew.

We hope that our new members will enjoy our facility and our fellowship. Come join us at the general meetings and get involved. Watch our website calendar for upcoming events:

<https://fclsc.org/calendar>. Get your target rifles ready and come out and compete for the Champion's Cup. We have a great Practical Handgun Group to help you improve your pistol skills. Shotgun is fun! Our skeet program is great. Come to the monthly membership meetings and get involved! Please remember to wear your badge when visiting our club, follow all safety rules, and pick up your brass when you shoot. Welcome!

Larry Kleinschmidt



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### **Maintenance Updates**

- We need help with weeds on the berms, so feel free to bring your weed whacker and take care of some of those weeds.
- We have a contractor coming to estimate the cost of improving the height of the berms.
- Trees by the Conex container have been removed.
- Steve Podlesny, Paul Choiniere, and Mike Winn have been doing the mowing, and the place looks great.
- The septic tank was emptied, and a fence will be placed on top of it to prevent vehicles driving over it.

Notes taken from the July Members Meeting report.

Bob Gosselin

### **Skeet & Trap News**

We shoot skeet on Thursday, Saturday and Sunday mornings this time of year.



Please come over and check it out.

The club has approved the purchase of two new Atlas Trap machines!

Shotgun is fun! Come out and give it a try. The new machines will enhance the experience! The cost of a round of skeet or trap is five dollars.

Larry Kleinschmidt

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### **We need a writer to cover the Shotgun scene!**

If you are a shotgun aficionado we could use your help! We have an active shotgun program, but no one to report on it. We need someone who participates in that program to write about the shotgun activities at the club. If you are interested, please contact me (larrykleinschmidt@comcast.net).

Larry Kleinschmidt

### **Email Address Reminder**

Have you been receiving email from the club regularly? No? Have you changed your email address recently? Remember that your FCSC email is being sent to the last address you recorded with the club. If you change your email address, please be sure to notify the club. Send an email from your new email addressed to <[steven.podlesny@gmail.com](mailto:steven.podlesny@gmail.com)> to be sure that the club updates your email address, and you will continue to receive the Newsletter and other FCSC communications.

Steve Podlesny

### **Range Reminder**

Please remember the ranges are for use by everyone. If you bring items to shoot, please clean up after you are done. I'm sure you've seen the signs, "PICK UP YOUR BRASS." Please take the time to police your brass and targets. The people who come after you shouldn't have to pick up your brass and take down your used targets. We have a beautiful facility; please pitch in to help us keep it that way. Thank you.

Steve Podlesny





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### **The Search for a New Newsletter Editor is Over!**

We have a volunteer to take on the Newsletter Editor job! Holly Lee has agreed to take over the Newsletter over the next few months. I will advise as required during the transition. I intend to give up the responsibility for the Newsletter completely at the end of December, 2025.

I want to express my appreciation to all those who have contributed to the Newsletter effort over the past two years. Thanks again.

Larry Kleinschmidt

### **Coming Events**

Please mark your calendar for the Fall FCSC Picnic next month, on Saturday. September 13 at 1PM. Burgers, dogs, and sides promise to make it a great family event. We have Skeet & Trap on Wednesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays. UMASS will be on the 50-yard range on Monday, August 4, and on Thursday, August 28. The Practical Handgunners will be meeting on Saturday, August 9, and again on Saturday August 30, starting at 12:30PM. Holly will hold the Rimfire Challenge on Saturday, August 23 starting at 8:30AM. Bring your .22s out and enjoy the competition (you will need a semi-auto rimfire rifle and a semi-auto

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rimfire pistol to compete). Tracey will hold her Basic Home Firearms Safety Course on Saturday, August 9. The Board of Directors will meet on Thursday, August 14 at 7PM. The Members Meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 20, at 7PM. The pistol and rifle ranges are open for your enjoyment daily. Keep up with our events on the FCSC website calendar: <https://fclsc.org/calendar>. Remember to follow our safety rules and pick up your brass.

Larry Kleinschmidt

## **Thanks to Contributing Writers! (Update)**



Items from Kris Walter, Justin Sessions and Holly Lee are appreciated. A big thank you to Holly for assuming the responsibility for the News Editor job. And to the Newsletter Team, thanks for your ongoing monthly efforts.

Larry Kleinschmidt

## **Hunters Corner**

We are still looking for a volunteer writer to focus on the hunting scene in MA. If you are interested, please contact me ([larrykleinschmidt@comcast.net](mailto:larrykleinschmidt@comcast.net)).

Larry Kleinschmidt

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### **Rimfire Challenge Update**



Our first Rimfire Challenge event was held on Saturday, July 12, 2025. It was a great success with eight competitors participating. Tim Hausler came up from CT and ran the event for us. Tim has over ten years of experience with the Rimfire event. He also brought some Ruger and Tandemkross hats and other hand-outs for us. We learned a lot and had a great time. We have the next Rimfire Challenge scheduled for Saturday, August 23, starting at 8:30AM.

It is important that we have an accurate headcount for our planning, so if you want to participate, please email Holly ([hollingtonlee@gmail.com](mailto:hollingtonlee@gmail.com)) to let us know. Please send your phone number so we can notify you if things change.

Holly Lee

### **Concerns over Sig Sauer P320 Safety**

Recently, there have been safety concerns regarding the Sig Sauer P320 pistol. Here's a link to their website that describes the issue and what Sig Sauer has done to address it. <https://www.sigsauer.com/blog/p320-information>

Gary Braff



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### Shoot the Smorgasbord



Our “Shoot the Smorgasbord” event took place on Wednesday, July 16, at 6PM.

We had nine pistols, five rifles and one shotgun available for test firing. We had a lot of interest in the M1 Carbine and the new Henry Lever Action Supreme.

At the 50 Yard Range for

“Shoot the Smorgasbord”, we had mostly new shooters who were able to benefit from time and attention with a variety of firearms. We had a good time shooting a wide range of guns from a scoped 10-22 rifle to a Sig P365 to a 45 Long Colt revolver and a bunch more besides. We all

thought that 45 LC revolver was going to kick like a mule, but it turned out to be one of the smoothest and most accurate shots of the evening. Just goes to show, you never know until you go live. Thanks to all who turned out, and to Gary, Steve, Larry, Miles and Kris for volunteering their time to set up and run the event.





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Kris Walter

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### **Rifle Events Results**

The .22 100-Yard Match was held on Sunday, July 20, at 10:30AM. It was a sunny day, with winds strong and variable enough to affect the scores. We had 10 competitors. Lynn Graham took the Champions Cup, with Greg Isles taking the Reserve Champion position. Overall, the scores were about 25 points lower than usual because of the winds.

Larry Kleinschmidt



Well, the rain on Sunday, July 26 didn't deter three rifle shooters from competing for the coveted silver cup awarded for winning the 100-yard .223 event and the 200-yard center fire rifle event. The winner in both events was Steve Podlesny with a score of 142 out of 150 at 100-yard .223 event, 185 out of 200 possible points for the 200-yard event. Close behind were Lynn Graham and Paul Choiniere with a three-point separation. If

you want to test your skills, we welcome all members to come to the shoots. Check the club calendar for dates and times.

Steve Podlesny



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### **Practical Handgun Group**

Huzzah, Practical Hand Gunners Group!

We gathered at the 50-yard range on Saturday, July 26 for a round of practice.



We practiced on paper targets and had six to ten targets in each course of fire, each target getting at least 2 scoring shots.

We talked briefly about the problems with the Sig Sauer 320 pistol. Anyone who uses one in our course of fire will have it remain unloaded until on the line and will not draw it from holster, as it may be hazardous to the shooter. Many other firearms groups have banned them but I still feel comfortable with any practiced shooter using it

from low-ready downrange direction only.

All firearms remain unloaded until on the firing line for these drills.

Thank you for all your support!

Gary Braff



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### **August Rimfire Challenge Event!**

Date: Saturday, August 23, 2025

Time: 8:30 am for Safety Briefing (must be present to participate)

We expect first shots by 9 am, done by 12 noon.

Our first Rimfire Challenge event on Saturday, July 12 was a great success. We had 8 participants. Tim Hausler came up from the Mystic Rod and Gun Club (CT) and ran the event. He has over 10 years of experience running these events. He also brought some merch - Ruger and Tandemkross hats, T-shirts, and sweat wipes from his past RI Regional Rimfire Challenges. We all learned a lot, had a great time, and are now going to run the next event ourselves.

*\*\*\* I'm looking for 2-3 volunteers to help during setup and takedown. \*\*\**  
Thanks in advance for volunteering! 😊

It's important that we have an accurate head count for our planning.  
Please email [hollingtonlee@gmail.com](mailto:hollingtonlee@gmail.com) to volunteer and/or reserve a spot and include your mobile number so we can notify you of any issues or changes.

For the event, you must have both:

- A .22lr pistol, a minimum of 5 magazines and ammo (~200 rds) *AND*
- A .22lr rifle, a minimum of 5 magazines and ammo (~200 rds)

(Each must be in a separate case -- soft cases preferred)

- Always wear your badge (the event is open to FCSC members only)
- Always wear eye and ear protection, of course
- We will have 3 stages set up

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*Please read on if you'd like more info about Rimfire Challenge...*



*So what is Rimfire Challenge all about?*

It's a speed-shooting event using 22lr semi-automatic pistols AND rifles.

Here are the basics:

- Typically 3-5 Courses of Fire (COF)

*A course of fire consists of 5 to 7 steel plates. The competitor will shoot 5 strings. The 4 lowest-timed strings will be totaled as the score.*

- Plates are repainted for each competitor
- The match is shot with both Pistol AND Rifle, .22LR ONLY
- The match score is the combined Pistol and Rifle time.

Here's the rulebook if you'd like to learn more:

<https://www.rimfirechallenge.org/rule-book/>

Here's a link to a Youtube Video of the 2024 World Championships.

[The 2024 World Rimfire Challenge Championship sponsored by Ruger](#)

There are lots more videos available on Youtube. Search on "Rimfire Challenge". Look out for more news in the coming weeks. We hope you'll join us!

Holly Lee

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### **Fall FCSC Picnic**

**Club Picnic – September 13 at 1 PM (Saturday)**

Join us for the annual **Franklin County Sportsmen's Club Picnic** on **Saturday, September 13**, starting at **1:00 PM**, right after the Skeet Shoot!

The club will be providing **free burgers, hot dogs, and soft drinks** for all attendees. Come enjoy a relaxed afternoon with fellow members, family, and friends.

We're asking members to **bring a side dish to share**, and we could also use a few **volunteers** to help with **cooking, setup, and cleanup**. You can let us know what you're bringing or how you'd like to help on the form.

To help us plan, please RSVP below:

<https://forms.office.com/r/8t6g8rDh4Y>

Completing the form helps us estimate how much food to buy, organize side dishes, and coordinate volunteers. It only takes 1 minute. If you have any questions, please reach out to Justin Sessions at [JUSTN700@GMAIL.COM](mailto:JUSTN700@GMAIL.COM)

Thank you!

Justin Sessions



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### GET A **FREE** AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION ON THE DODGE TRAILBLAZER SPECIAL PICKUP.

THAT'S \$247.70 OFF THE MANUFACTURER'S SUGGESTED RETAIL PRICE.

The Trailblazer Special is a specially equipped D200 pickup designed for campers.

When your Dealer orders a Dodge Trailblazer Special, we throw in a free automatic transmission. The special equipment includes the following items:  
■ Special trim on the seats ■ Door pocket  
■ Color-keyed floor mat ■ Radio ■ Tinted glass ■ Cigar lighter ■ Undercoating  
■ Extra moulding and exterior trim  
■ Dual bright 5" x 7" rearview mirrors  
■ Dual electric horns ■ 60-amp alternator  
■ 70-amp-hr battery ■ Increased cooling  
■ Brake booster ■ Oil pressure gauge  
■ Camper electrical package ■ Quick-removal tailgate ■ 4,500-pound-capacity

mechanical jack ■ Camper special emblem. Act now! Offer is for a limited time only.

**Optional extra-heavy-duty package, a Dodge exclusive.**

This extra-heavy-duty package boosts the GVW rating to 8,500 pounds (the highest rating you can get for a ¾-ton pickup).

The package includes: 525-pound-capacity auxiliary springs ■ 9.50 x 16.5-D 8 PR tubeless front and rear tires ■ 12" x 3" front and rear hydraulic brakes ■ 3,800-pound front axle ■ Heavy-duty front and rear shock absorbers.



#### BONUS OFFER

Get *The Complete Book of Motor Camping* at your Dodge Dealer's. This 160-page camping guide is full of helpful information about campsites, equipment, maintenance, and other outdoor living hints. Written by Lyle Kenyon Engel, noted authority on camping and sports activities, this useful book regularly sells for \$2.95. But there's a FREE copy waiting for you at your Dodge Dealer's. Simply bring in this coupon and your local Dodge Dealer will be happy to give you a free copy of *The Complete Book of Motor Camping*.



## Sports Afield

September, 1970

(The price of the New Dodge pickup was approximately \$5,000, in 1970.)