



## January 2026 Newsletter



### President's Note

Dear Members,

As I step aside from my role, I want to take a moment to sincerely thank the many

people who make this club what it is.

First, thank you to the Board of Directors and Ad hoc committees for your leadership, collaboration, and steady guidance. Serving alongside you has been both an honor and a privilege. Your commitment to the long-term health of the club does not go unnoticed.

To all of our volunteers, the club quite simply does not run without you. Your time, effort, and willingness to step up, often behind the scenes, are the foundation of everything we accomplish. I am deeply grateful for the work you do and the pride you take in this place.

And to the general membership, thank you for trusting me to serve as a steward of the Franklin County Sportsmen's Club. It has been a privilege to represent you and to work on behalf of a club with such a strong history and active membership.

We accomplished a great deal this past year, and the club is well positioned for continued success. I am confident that 2026 will be a great year, and that the club is in very good hands moving forward.

*With sincere appreciation,  
Mark Brennan, Past President*

### 2026 Elections & Potluck Dinner

On January 6, we held our 2026 Elections along with our Potluck Dinner and Raffles. It was a evening of good food and good company!

**There will not be a Board of Directors Meeting or a Members Meeting in January.**

Here are the election results: President: Steve Podlesny, VP: Mike Jasinski. Secretary: Scott Conti, Treasurer: Rachel Katz. Board of Directors: Stephen Crowningshield, Paul Choiniere, Bill Taylor, Larry Channel, Cliff Wilkinson, Pat O'Bryan, Bob Gosselin, Larry Kleinschmidt, Mark Holley and Nelson Bernard.



### Welcome to the Club!

Welcome to our new members: **Beth Wichowski, Garrett Mecking, Nikolaos Villani, Camilla Novo, Richard Vincent, James Asbel, Strother Purdy, John Crafts, Sue Crafts, John Czarick, Jeff Young, Mike Roche, Ron Moore. Art Pero, Bill Greene, Luke Dejnak and Lian Scanlon.**

Please enjoy our facility and our community. Join us at the member meetings and get involved. Watch our website calendar for upcoming events: <https://fclsc.org/calendar>.

## Rimfire Challenge Update

by Hollington Lee



We had a great finish to our inaugural season. Nine participants enjoyed a brisk but beautiful November morning. The cold didn't dampen our spirits and we had a great time.



(L to R) Mark Holley, Mark Walker, Miles Palmer-Young, Mike Jasinski, Sadie Shurberg, Ed Cialek III, Paul Choiniere, Hollington Lee, Ed Cialek Jr (not pictured). Thanks to Bil Taylor for taking the photo.

We also had a post-season event on December 13. It was cold but a few of us made it out there. As always, we kept each other going as we cheered each competitor on.

We'll be doing this again next year so watch for updates in the newsletter and club emails. We have three stages set up on the left side of the rimfire range so you can practice at any time.



(L to R) Mike Jasinski, Bill Taylor, Mark Holley and Hollington Lee.

This is a fun shoot, not a serious competition. It's so much fun to hear those targets *PING* and shooting fast is a blast! Please consider joining us, meet some new people and enjoy our amazing community. Please send your questions to **Hollington Lee** at [hollingtonlee@gmail.com](mailto:hollingtonlee@gmail.com).

## Shotgun Clay Shooting Update

by Pat O'Bryan

So far this Fall, skeet shooting has been active with the regular shooters. The cold and the wind adds to the challenge. Sometimes the wind will accelerate the bird from the high house and then the low house bird may be slowed by the headwind and almost hover or takes an erratic flight path. Giving a proper lead and determining where the bird will be when the shot column gets there is the trick.

On November 25th we received a full 18-wheeler load of clay birds which are now stored in the clubhouse. We are still working through the last shipment which was a couple years ago. Although we expected a price increase it was virtually the same price as the last shipment. I expect this load will last through 2027.

The old skeet machines that were replaced have been refurbished by a factory tech. Once the wiring is all set, they will be going into the lower field houses and those machines which are extremely old will be liquidated. This work should be done by Spring by club members.

The Trap field has always been closed during the winter months but there has been some interest in continuing to shoot Trap so we will keep it plowed off. Trap is still on Saturday at noon. Wednesday afternoon Trap is suspended as it gets dark too early. There was some interest in shooting at night with blacklight and fluorescent targets but it would be very expensive. Sounds cool though, each hit would be like a fireworks display.

*Correction: Last issue I congratulated Bob Crowley shooting 25/25 multiple times and once with a .410. My mistake: It is John Crowley. Sorry John!*

Keep up with our events on the  
**FCSC website calendar**  
<https://fclsc.org/calendar>

## John Moses Browning, American Arms Wizard

by Larry Kleinschmidt

John Moses Browning was born one of twenty-two children to a Mormon father with three wives. Browning's father, Jonathan, was among the pioneers of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, who left Nauvoo, Illinois, and moved to Utah. Jonathan established a gunsmith shop in Ogden, Utah, in 1852.

John began working in his father's shop from the age of seven, where he was taught basic engineering and manufacturing principles, and experimented with new concepts. He made his first firearm, a single-shot falling block action rifle, at age 13 and was awarded the first of his 128 firearm patents on October 7, 1879, at the age of 24.



In 1878, at the age of twenty-three, John co-founded the John Moses and Matthew Sandefur Browning Company, in partnership with his younger brother. The company was later renamed the Browning Arms Company. By 1882, the company employed four of John's half-brothers, Jonathan, Thomas, William and George.

Oliver Winchester evaluated the Browning Model 1878 Single Shot Rifle and bought the design for \$8,000. This began a partnership with Winchester which, beginning in 1883, resulted in many Winchester rifle designs including a series of rifles and shotguns, like the lever action Winchester Model 1887 and the Model 1897 pump shotgun, the falling-block single-shot Model 1885, and the lever-action

Model 1886, Model 1892, Model 1894, and Model 1895 rifles.

John is one of the most successful firearms designers of the 19th and 20th centuries. Many of his designs were exceptional, such as the Colt M1911, which was in service in the military for 74 years! That design is still in production by almost every major arms manufacturer today.

Another famous design, is the Browning M2, a .50 caliber machine gun, known in the Army as the "Ma Deuce". This design was completed in 1918, and is still in military service today. This weapon has many forms, from a single, tri-pod mounted machine gun, to a quad-mounted anti-aircraft weapon in World War II, to nose machine guns in many different military aircraft. This is still the primary machine gun for many NATO countries.

Browning's most successful designs include the M1911 pistol, the water-cooled M1917, the air-cooled M1919, the heavy M2 machine guns, the M1918 Browning Automatic Rifle, and the Browning Auto-5, the first semi-automatic shotgun. Some of these arms are still manufactured today.

John did not retire in his later years. He dedicated his entire adult life to pursuits of new designs. On November 26, 1926, while working at his bench, in the design shop of his son Val A. Browning, he died of heart failure. The 9 mm semi-automatic pistol he was working on at the time of his death, a self-loading design for FN Herstal, was eventually completed in 1935, by Belgian designer Dieudonné Saive. It was released as the FN GP35, and is more popularly known as the Browning Hi-Power pistol.

Throughout his lifetime, Browning designed many both military and civilian small arms for his own company, and for Winchester, Colt, Remington, Savage, Stevens, and FN Herstal. Browning firearms are still produced, both licensed and unlicensed, by hundreds of arms companies around the world. The Browning Arms Company, established in 1927, was acquired by FN Herstal, in 1977.

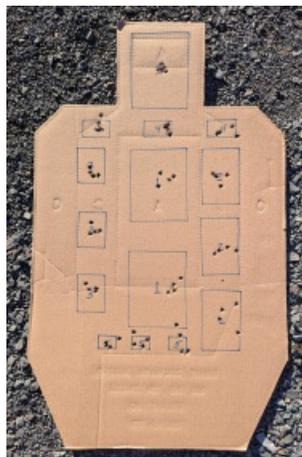
John Browning is truly a firearms design wizard!

## Practical Handgun Group Updates

by Kris Walter

**11/8/25** We focused on accuracy drills today. At 5, 7 and 10 yards, we shot four strings of 5 shots at a group of progressively smaller boxes labeled 1 - 5, using different box groups for each distance to keep the results tied to that distance. Once we shot that yardage free-style, we moved back to 5 yards and shot a few strings each strong hand and support hand.

It was a beautiful day to be outdoors, the company was fine and the shooting was pretty darn good.



**11/22/25** We had a beautiful afternoon and a fun and challenging stage setup. The setup: the start line is at 5 yards from a paper target



framed by stacked barrels in front and to either side forming a doorway. Put 2 shots into that visible target, while stationary or on the move, then approach the doorway to place 2 shots each into a paper target on either side that is about 3 yards away and only visible once you're close to the doorway - the hidden target on the left had a no-shoot across the better part of the lower target. From there, move to the right of the stacked barrels to put one shot each on a string of 4 steel targets ranging a distance of 10 - 20 yards away.



The course is a total of 10 shots. All mags are loaded with 10 rounds. All targets must be hit, so if you have a miss, you have to reload somewhere. Good times were had and good shooting was done.

## Skeet & Trap Reminder

We shoot skeet on Thursday, Saturday and Sunday mornings. Please check the calendar. The fee is \$5.00 per round.

## Current Email Address Reminder

Remember that your FCSC email is being sent to the last email address on record. If you change your email address, please be sure to notify us. Send your new email to [steven.podlesny@gmail.com](mailto:steven.podlesny@gmail.com) so we can update our records and you will continue to receive the Newsletter and other communications.

## Range Cleanup Reminder

Remember, after you are done shooting, **please pick up ALL OF YOUR EMPTY SHELLS (including brass, steel and aluminum)** and put them in the recycle bin and remove your used targets.

We have a beautiful facility. Please pitch in to help keep it that way. Thank you.

Keep up with our events on the **FCSC website calendar**  
<https://fclsc.org/calendar>

## FCSC Recruitment for 2025

by Larry Kleinshmidt

Just a note to recognize all the effort which goes into recruiting members for FCSC. Bob Gosselin works about two days each month reading and verifying applications. Then meeting with potential members to get acquainted and answer questions. And finally notifying each one of their approval. Then he spends one Saturday morning per month presenting the new members orientation. Also, we'd like to recognize Gary Braff and Sandy McGill, who help out with the meetings and with the evaluation of new applicants. In 2025 Bob recruited 65 new members, up from the prior year of 52 new members.

A big thank-you to Bob, Gary and Sandy, for this ongoing effort on behalf of FCSC! Our club maintains membership at an average of about 370 people due to their efforts!

### Clubhouse Security

When you use the clubhouse, please turn off the lights and set the alarm system when you leave.

If someone else is in the building when you leave, make sure that person understands that they must set the alarm system when they leave. Thank you.

### 2026 FCSC Board of Directors

**President:**  
Steve Podlesny  
**Vice-President:**  
Mike Jasinski  
**Secretary:**  
Scott Conti  
**Treasurer:**  
Rachel Katz  
**Past President:**  
Mark Brennan

**Directors:**  
Nelson Bernard  
Larry Channel  
Paul Choiniere  
Steve Crowningshield  
Bob Gosselin  
Mark Holley  
Larry Kleinschmidt  
Pat O'Bryan  
Bill Taylor  
Clifford Wilkinson

Hollington Lee, *Newsletter*

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### Temporary Suspension of the Sig Sauer P320

Effective immediately, the use of the Sig Sauer P320 (all variants) is temporarily suspended at the club. This decision is based on ongoing federal investigations and safety reviews of the P320, including by the U.S. Air Force, following recent incidents under review. Several agencies and shooting organizations have taken similar precautionary steps.

This is not a permanent ban. It is a temporary pause while we await further information. Once the results of these investigations are released, we will revisit this decision.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. Safety is our highest priority, and we appreciate everyone's commitment to maintaining a responsible environment.