

FACTORYVILLE SPORTSMEN'S CLUB NEWSLETTER

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NOVEMBER 2023 EDITION

For over 75 years, the Factoryville Sportsmen's Club in Wyoming County, Pennsylvania, is an organization founded on the principles and values of Sports men & women. Easily accessed from Rt. 6, many sporting recreational activities are continued to be practiced at the club's 350 acre facility. The responsible and safe use of firearms for shooting sports, hunting, defense and the ethical stewardship of our natural resources is at our core, and we welcome those that hold the similar heritage and values. In addition to the comradery among it's over 500 members, the contributions made to the community, various charities donations and scholarship offerings, law enforcement, and the promotion of the shooting sports for future generations makes FSC the premier sportsmen's club in the area.

FSC offers shotgun (trap, 5 stand, skeet, & sporting clays), rifle (CMP, NRA Silhouette, Rimfire & Long Range sporting events), pistol (Steel Challenge & USPSA), Muzzleloader and an Archery 3-D course and tower. Other scheduled activities include Horseshoes, Darts, Hunter / Trapper Education classes, Adopt a Highway, various firearm & range officer Certifications, Youth activities, along with many other special shooting events and fundraisers though out the year.

Communications, Information, and Instruction

FSC Monthly General Membership Meeting – held the last **Wednesday of every month at 7:30 PM**, (2nd Wednesday in Nov. and Dec.). An opportunity to see & hear in person to what's happening at the club, or to bring to the floor any concerns, suggestions, or improvements that you may have in mind to make *your* club the best that it can be. There is no smoking and the bar is closed during the meeting, but allowed before and after. **If voting (elections in October) you need 6 meeting attendances, 9 meeting attendances to run for an office.**

FSC Board Meetings – held **1st Monday of the month at 7:00PM** to hear your concerns or suggestions. If you want to hold an event or have an issue to get resolved, or want permission to do any improvements or assist in anyway, please do not hesitate to attend. – you have a voice that will be heard.

Membership - Marti Shafer-Callahan - Dues are **\$200.00** for 2023, must be an NRA member (\$30.00 through the club), \$35.00 new member initiation fee and must be present at the meeting they are getting voted in on. Dues collected November thru February without late fee, Dues prorated for new members during the year. Please update / confirm mailing and email address information at this time. Gate access card not issued until confirmed New Members have attended Orientation.

Member Orientation (MANDATORY FOR NEW MEMBERS recommended for existing members) – **George Fornwalt** – get familiar with the club grounds, events held, and the history of FSC. For new members, scan card isn't issued until orientation is completed, you also receive event vouchers for a free round. Preregister sign-up sheet in the club house, or call George at 570-290-1323 so George can plan appropriately.

CLUB MEMBER ORIENTATION HELD AFTER MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS AND ON SPECIAL NEW MEMBER EVENTS

FSC Hotline (570-378-CLUB or 570-378-2593) – any event additions / subtractions for the FSC hotline, or leave a message on the hotline to have your event updated.

FSC website – <https://fscshooting.org/> take a moment to view scheduled & special upcoming events, **range closures**, descriptions of the events held at FSC, and other pertinent links at FSC on our website.

Facebook – Check out what's happening at the club, and like us on Facebook. Find sub groups for FSC events such as Event calendar, SCTP, Horseshoes, Archery, Silhouette, Long Range and more in the "Groups" section at: <https://www.facebook.com/factoryvillesports/>

FSC Schedule Card – this brightly printed hard copy of the premier events are available at the club. Please refer to the FSC schedule dates, times, fees, and contact information for questions.

FSC Newsletter – **Walter Rohan** – available each month on the FSC website. For addition of any additional topics, upcoming events, or event chairperson results Email FSCNEWSLETTER2@GMAIL.COM

Event Chairpersons Scheduling Meeting – meeting in October to set schedules and chairpersons for existing and new events for the upcoming year.

Hunter Trapper Education – **Bill Kozuck** – Registration is through the Pa. Game Commission website. Students must be 11 years old on the date of the class. Always Looking to add additional instructors, if interested please contact us or the PGC.

FSC license plates, patches, and hat pins are available at the Membership window. HATS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY.

Getting involved...How you can help

Our bigger fundraising & scholarship events need more volunteers to help at the events, even for an hour is a great help and is appreciated to help make **your** club events the best they can be. Dinners & raffles help to keep club dues low. Most of our regular scheduled events could use help in setting up, running, and taking down of the courses, feel free to contact any of our event chairpersons on how to participate. There's also a need for volunteers for grounds & range maintenance and further property development. If you have any time, skills, or resources to offer, please contact a board member or event chairperson on how you can get involved. There's always a need for Adopt a highway volunteers, Hunter / Trapper Education instructors, and scorers for our larger state shoots. Other available turnkey events can use chairpersons and ideas for new events are always welcome

Highlights from the June Membership meeting

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance, a moment of silence for sick, injured, or departed members, and for those serving our country in harm's way, followed by the reading of any previous meeting minutes by **Recording Sec. Walter Rohan & Treasurer Dave Woodyatt** reported the monthly financial statement, offering any member to view the calculations, balance, and receipts. Any questions, comments or corrections made.

Chairman's report – Bruce Weisenfluh – Barry Ruane is going to build a deer hunting rifle to put up for a raffle like we do with the muzzleloaders. On the Muzzleloader raffle, the more tickets sold the better to help with what was unusually short on supergun (weather related). / land fund, put entries for next drawing in after the meeting. Christmas party on Saturday Jan 6 2024. food catering, should be \$30 a couple, bring some appetizers, BYOB. Another reminder that 1st day of rifle season ranges are closed, along with 1st day of late muzzleloader season. Maybe expanding to a few more muzzleloader days. There's now a camera monitoring the front gate watching for the next person that breaks the gate. Turkey dinners are available if you or someone you know needs help with Holiday Feasts please contact me.

Publicity report – Paul Zbegner – No report.

Pa. Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs – William

Kalinauskis—HB1300 - concerning using Game Commission Funds for general fund purposes - I visited Rep. Baker's office - they apologized for voting for that bill, was voted on as it was attached to another bill. Thanks for the people that did contact her office to show solidarity.

Membership report – Marti Shafer-Callahan – currently we are at 562 adult members (includes 129 life members), 47 junior members. 0 adult and 0 junior applications made as of the meeting. For those that re-enrolled in NRA membership through the club (a \$5-\$10 discount) please be patient for your re-enrollment to be validated by the NRA as we send them out. Just to note last year at this time we had 528 adult and 58 Jr members

Land Use Management – Customizable brick orders being taken, to installed as firing line markers. \$70 cash, \$75 credit card. Bricks can also be purchased for memoriam.

Chairpersons of Events reports

Refer to the FSC Website for event dates, times, fees

Details are as follows from Chairpersons that reported:

Adopt a Highway - George Fornwalt - due to weather conditions, the October pickup was canceled. Next pickup will be spring 2024.

Calendars – George Kessler - a few calendars are still available, 929 sold so far, which is a record year. **2024 calendars are available.** Calendars are \$35.00 each, with tie-ins to the Daily Number drawings. NOTE: if you send in payment for calendar with your membership dues, please include the info slip that comes with the calendar so we know your calendar #'s.

Dogs and Darts - Ralph Gilpin - Dogs and Darts starting January 4.

Hunter / Trapper Education – Bill Kozuck - our last class of the year held on Nov 4th had 40 students

Knife Sharpening Service - Paul Zbegner - will be sharpening knives at meetings (or if you can catch him along the way) up to 6" to hair shaving sharpness. \$1.00 per knife, with proceeds going to Youth Events.

Muzzleloader - Muzzleloader Mondays - Rick Valent - the shoots have wrapped up for the year, doing a form of Rendezvous May 25-26 including some camping. Looking to form a planning committee as there will be camping etc that needs to be planned for. Will need range officers too. May do some sort of shoot in December in prep for late M.loader season.

Smallbore Silhouette - Walter Kierzkowski - shot our last match of the season in October, see you next year starting in April.

Sporting Clays / 5 stand / Skeet – Rick Valent – still shooting, Wednesday nights, along with our Sunday shoots, winter league signup sheet is out, \$40 includes a tee shirt, prizes, and the banquet. Leagues will be 1st and 3rd Sundays starting in January. Friday nights may now be coming to an end for the season.

Steel Challenge – Barry Ruane – 2023 Season is over.

U.S.P.S.A – Barry Ruane – we had 37 entries previous match. 2nd Sunday of the Month, setup and registration at

9:00, match begins at 10:00. shooting throughout winter as conditions allow. The new storage shed is really nice.

General Meeting open forum / old and new business / good of the order

FUTURE VACANCIES, see a Board member or current Event Chairperson for details if interested:

1) Trap - Chairperson / Match Director

Hunting safety meeting to be held Oct 19th at Noon

Suggestions / discussions had on how to get more youth involved with hunting and shooting sports

Eli Matioli - Won the Spring Turkey contest.

The only bear remembered to be taken on club grounds was taken during this year's bear muzzleloader season by member Cole Vagenas.

Had a volunteer to chair future long range shoots, more to come as info becomes available.

NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING IS ON DECEMBER 13TH, DUE TO HOLIDAYS

Applications for new members - no new applications were received this month.

RAFFLES:

MONTHLY 50/50 - was drawn along with a winner for the Calendar drawing being **Butch Schwartz**.

Land Fund 50/50 was drawn, **Mike Frizillini** was picked but had no sign in. The \$336 pot rolls over to next month. Sign in on the sheet, put your sign in number on the little envelope w/\$2.00 enclosed and insert into drop box at membership window anytime after the meeting to be entered for next drawing.

Muzzleloader raffle - gun is completed and pictures displayed on facebook and the website. 20ga Pa. Fowler has a choked barrel and can also shoot round ball. Tickets \$10 ea, Raffle will be open to the public.

Motion to adjourn was made & accepted, with the meeting concluding at 8:19PM, next general membership meeting December 13, 2023 @ 7:30PM.

This month's FSC Event Spotlight: **HUNTING ON CLUB GROUNDS**

FSC has always had hunting on the premises, and with the additional property added in 2016, the grounds have grown to nearly 350 acres. Among that acreage, the habitat itself varies greatly from open areas, to dense brush, to flats and rocky ledges with many types of coniferous and deciduous trees adding to the diversity of the landscape.

Several fruit trees, berry bushes, and other natural mast is available on the grounds that act as nutrition for game, along with other crops planted throughout the year, with even more proven crops / supplements on the plan for the future. This diversity adds as prime whitetail deer, wild turkey, squirrel, rabbit, and other game species. Part of being a member is the ability to harvest game on the grounds.

When it comes to the regular deer season, FSC closes all the ranges during the first week for hunter safety and provide a peaceful setting for deer hunting. In order to promote a deer management program, only 1 deer (buck or doe) is permitted per member per year.

There is a mandatory safety meeting before the opening day so as to keep hunter safety in mind, to coordinate any hunting party plans, and to try to not encroach on any posted hunters.

A sign in sheet is available at the club house, simply sign in before and sign out after your hunt so we know you are there and have safely returned from the day afield.

There's also the annual favorite Flintlock hunt in the late season, where even more stories and smiles are shared and even a tag or two filled along the way. All ranges will be closed December 26th for the first day.

The future of the property as pertaining to game and habitat conservation is still ongoing, however many fantastic opportunities for junior and handicapped hunters are on the drawing board. Ideas for easier access for all while still keeping the integrity of privacy in mind.

So if you haven't taken the opportunity to hunt your club grounds, take the opportunity to see what you are missing. The scenic views are worth the walk alone!