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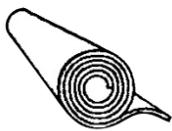
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Fruitport Conservation Club news

By Greg Weaver

The FCC trap shooters have yet to determine the winning team for the summer trap league. Currently, there are three teams tied for first place. Team 1 includes Mike Bredin, Ken Wolfe and Eric Schave. Team 2 includes Dick Shafer, Kim Cooper and Dave McNiff. Team 3 includes Dale Stapel, Juan Cuellar and Cody Gillette.

The big news at the club is that with a lot of hard labor, FCC now has two trap ranges available for members to use for league shooting. The second range will speed up the flow of trap shooters, especially during league shoots. The club is currently open and providing trap shooting every Tuesday and Thursday evening from 5 to 9 p.m. The cost is \$4 per round for members and \$5 for non-members. Twin Lake and Fox Lake gun club members pay FCC member price. The winter trap league is scheduled to begin on January 3 and will run 16 weeks.

All trap shooters, listen up and mark you calendars. The Fruitport Conservation Club in conjunction with the Amateur Trap Association (ATA) will be holding ATA registered shoots in 2013. There will be two different events offered. On Saturdays March 16, April 13, and May 11, the ATA will shoot 100 single, 100 handicap and 50 pair doubles. Starting time will be 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. there will be a Big 50 shoot on Tuesday nights March 26, April 23, May 28, June 25, and September 24. The Big 50 consists of 50 singles, 50 handicap, and 25 pair doubles. Starting times for the Big 50 will be 5 p.m. Food and drinks will be available. For additional information, contact Jeff Russell at (616) 638-0579.

Congratulations to Emily Erffmeyer, who entered the Lee Ann Martin's 50K Ladies' Challenge at the Grand America and finished in second place. This was quite an accomplishment for this young lady.



With over 400 members now, and hunting season upon us, I know that quite a few members will want to be sighting in their deer guns. Hopefully, there's plenty of room for all members to shoot safely. First, please remember to use the safety lights whenever going down range to set or check targets. There is a set of 3-way switches that turn these lights on and off. One switch is mounted on the east post of the rifle range, and one switch is mounted on the west post of the pistol range. Don't be bashful. Please inform others using the range if you wish to go down range rather than just turning on the lights and expecting all others to see them turned on. For safety reasons, while anyone is down range, all firearms must be unloaded and placed in one of the gun racks provided. Or, in the case of pistols, unloaded and placed on the shooting bench. Second, keep all targets and target stands set near ground level and directly in front of the sand berms provided. We would like to keep all of the bullets that you may fire in the sand bunkers. Third, please use a little common sense while using the club ranges. To keep the children that frequent the club grounds from getting access to something that they should not have access to, please do not throw any live, misfired, or any other unexploded ammunition into the trash or leave it lying around the shooting benches. If your cartridge did not fire, pick it up and take it home with you and dispose of it properly. Lastly, paper targets, boring as they are, are the preferred things to shoot at. Chunks of concrete, laptop computers, or anything other than cardboard or paper are not allowed for safety reasons.



On September 22, FCC held their first fund raising banquet at the Fruitport Auditorium with the proceeds to benefit youth shooting sports and the club's range improvements. Thanks to all of the businesses and members who made donations for this event and to all who attended.

The Fruitport police will be using the FCC range on October 9 and 10 from noon until they are finished for the day. During this time, all of the FCC ranges will be closed to members.

Starting Sunday, October 21, the long range 22 rifle shooters are going to try out a new shooting format. We will be shooting at targets placed at 50 feet using plain old 22 rifles that you might use for squirrel or rabbit hunting. The new twist to the event is that a shooter will have to be accurate shooting while standing or sitting using only a sling for support. To start with, there will be paintballs and paper targets used to tally scores. The FCC members setting this fun shoot up are interested in getting sons and dads, grandsons and granddads to come out and have some quality time while honing their shooting skills. The cost is \$4 per round for members and \$5 for non-members. Sight in will start at 9 a.m.



The pistol shooters have also changed the shooting events offered on Wednesday evenings. The guys still have the NRA Bullseye courses available, but now have a new event in which the shooter must hit spinner targets placed at various ranges. It's a challenge to say the least. Grab that old six-shooter or that new auto and come out to see what it's all about. It never hurts to warm up the barrel on one of your handguns. Wednesdays are a good time and FCC is the right place to do just that.

Currently, a yearly membership at the Fruitport Conservation Club is \$45.00. After July 1, a membership is \$67.50 for 1 1/2 years with the term ending December 31 of the following year. Persons wanting to join may visit the club on Tuesday through Thursday evenings at which time there should be a club officer available to sign up new members. A membership allows usage of the ranges from 9 a.m. to dusk seven days a week unless another event is taking place. Members may also rent the club for parties or receptions for \$150. Range usage is not allowed while the club is rented. This includes those who rent the facility.