

THE GEM CITY GUN CLUB BULLET TEN



Gem City Gun Club, Inc. 8865 Donlin Rd. Erie, PA
*Published for the Club Members—who together comprise one of the
largest and most diverse gun clubs in the tri-state area.*

COMMENTARY

Ben Jendruczak

SAFETY IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY at the gun club. It has been observed that some people are using logs and rocks as targets on the ground between the firing line and the permanent target frames. This is inherently dangerous because of the likelihood of a ricochet leaving the range. Also, leaving large rocks on the grass is a "booby trap" for the lawn mower and would certainly cause damage to it. Also, two "popper" targets were damaged by high power rifle fire on the pistol range after the range had been set up for a match. These will have to be replaced at considerable cost to the club. If anyone has any information on these occurrences please contact any board member and this will be addressed. One more item, a reminder that shooting hours are from 8:00 AM to published sunset. We need to be considerate of our neighbors. Be safe and good shooting.

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GEM CITY GUN CLUB OFFICERS

President . . Ben Jendruczak
Vice Pres Doug Staaf
Secretary . . . Joe R. Paradisi
Treasurer . . . Joe J. Paradisi
Membership . Joe R. Paradisi
Director Chris Hanes
Director Jim Wright
Director Bill Matrogran
Director Jacob Hicks
Director Mark Hess
Editor Dave Hanes



PA Constitution, Article 21: "The right of the citizens to bear arms in defense of themselves and the State shall not be questioned."

PRACTICAL PISTOL

Jim Johnson

GREETINGS FROM YOUR CO-MATCH DIRECTORS, BRIAN AND JIM JOHNSON. Before we get into this season's report, we would like to invite all members to try our sport! If you enjoy shooting your pistol we highly recommend that you get involved in Practical Pistol shooting. It is fast paced fun with a gun! Please contact Brian or Jim for further information or check out USPSA (our sanctioning body) on the web.

This season saw plenty of good weather and good attendance at our monthly matches. Many of our old faithfuls returned and we saw many new faces joining the ranks (but we still have room for many more). Our matches will resume for the next season in January of 2024. Matches will be held indoors through March and will be held on the first and third weekend of the month. You can register for the matches on "Practiscore" at your preferred date and timeslot. The outdoor season will start again in April of 2024 and run once a month on the first Sunday weekend of each month. Look for our always popular "Shooters Appreciation Match" In August.

Set-up help is not only appreciated but necessary to keep our sport alive! We set up on Fridays before each outside match starting at 4:30 in the afternoon. Anyone that helps set up may shoot for free all weekend.

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS: We respectfully remind you that the barrels are not targets or target backers! They are the property of Gem City Gun Club and are meant to be used for Practical Pistol matches only. Shooting the barrels or any of the props may result in the revocation of your membership! Please keep in mind that ranges 5, 6, 7, 8 are closed at 4:30 on Friday and do not re-open until everything is cleaned up and put away on Sunday.

We look forward to meeting you at the range!

Brian Johnson
Jim Johnson

814-449-4160
814-897-5799

TRAP SHOOTING

Ben Jendruczak

THE TRAP SHOOTING PROGRAM AT GEM CITY GUN CLUB RAN STRONG IN 2023. We had very good attendance with the increase in shot shell availability. There were several "25's" shot this season, so shooting regularly definitely improves your score. We would like to encourage all members to bring a friend and come by on Monday afternoon to bust a few birds. You do not have to be a member to shoot. As it has been, the trap program is operated "by committee" consisting of Joe Lander, Rick Bush and myself. Anyone interested in getting involved in trap shooting need only contact one of us. Shooting begins at 4:00 PM every Monday and we will continue to shoot as long as there are shooters present or it gets too dark. Please note that on Mondays when we are trap shooting, the rifle range (R2) closes at 3:00 PM. The season runs from the first Monday in May to the last Monday of October. We would like to encourage anyone who has an interest to bring young shooters to experience trap shooting and get involved in the sport. The club has both 12 and 20 gauge shotguns available for use at no charge. Shooters will have to bring their own shells or purchase them at the trap range.

Ben Jendruczak

814-969-1859

HUNTER SAFETY TRAINING

Jim Wright

There were two classes held in 2023: April (48 students) and September (38 students). All passed and were given their cards.

Current Hunter Safety Instructors are Jim Wright, Bill Matrogran, Ben Jendruczak, and Dave Hanes.

Our next Hunter Safety Class will be held in the spring of 2024 at a date to be determined. All registrations are now done online. To register, go to www.pgc.state.pa.us/ (after Jan 15, 2024).

There is no fee for the in-person course. HTE is just one of the several public service functions which Gem City Gun Club is involved in, providing both the facility and the volunteer instructors.

Jim Wright
Ben Jendruczak

814-790-3994
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US Constitution, Second Amendment: "... the right of the citizens to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed."

GEM CITY HIGH POWER RIFLE

Joe J. Paradisi



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GEM CITY X-MEN COMPETING IN THE NATIONAL MATCHES AT CAMP PERRY

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR JUNIORS WHO SHOT AT THE NATIONAL MATCHES HELD AT CAMP PERRY THIS YEAR. Returning shooters were **Zack Fritz, Alex Brendlinger, Wyatt Wilcox, Josie Hicks, James Farrar, and Sabrina Smith**, who all participated in the Advanced Shooting Clinic, and **Katherine Raines and Melanie Campbell** who participated in the Marine Clinic. They all shot in the President's 100 and the NTI matches along with the 2- and 6-person team matches.

New Juniors attending the Small Arms Firing School and participating in the SAFS EIC matches, and who also competed in the 2- and 6-person team matches, included **Rob Doerr and Grace Sweet**.

In the President's 100 Match **Scott Smith** finished 71st.

Congratulations to **Jim Wright, Bill Matrogran, Jake Hicks, and Steve Slomski** who shot on the Hearst Doubles Team after coaching and pulling pits for the Juniors.

Jim Wright, Bill Matrogran, Scott Smith, Steve Slomski, Ben Jendruczak, and Doug Staaf all participated in the M1 Garand matches.

Scott Smith, Doug Staaf, and Ben Jendruczak also shot in the Springfield and M1 Carbine matches.

Long Range Competitors were **Zach Fritz and Joe Paradisi**, along with **Mike Orlandi**, who shot his first Long Range Nationals Match. **Zack Fritz** finished High Junior.

A special thanks to the support people helping to keep Juniors in line at Camp Perry this year goes to **Mark Hess, Bill Matrogran, Scott Smith, Scott Campbell, Rob Doerr, Keith Sweet, Jim and Christi Wright, Amy and Matt Wilcox, and Jake and Julie Hicks**. This program would not be able to continue without their support.

At the State Service Rifle Championship match **Wyatt Wilcox** became the 2023 Junior Service Rifle State Champion for the 4th straight year! **Amanda Wright** won Midrange High Service Rifle. **Zach Fritz** took High Junior in Long Range. **Josie Hicks** won High Junior Lady for Mid-Range. Also participating in the State Match were **Alex Brendlinger, James Farrar, Josie Hicks, Katherine Raines, and Mel Campbell**.

On September 9th and 10th 2023, the Solon Sportsman Club hosted a duel EIC/ CMP match. **Jim Wright** picked up his first 6 leg points on Day-1 and **Alex Brendlinger** picked up his first 6 leg points on Day-2. Congratulations to all the adults and juniors who participated in this high-power season. Hope to see you all back in the Spring.

Joe Paradisi jjgun@jjgun.com or 814-873-6048

JUNIOR RIFLE

Joe J. Paradisi

I would like to take this time to thank the parents for involving their children in the shooting sports. We have had a steady Monday night full of kids, and our program is one of the best in the county. This program begins in January and runs through the end of April. Anyone wishing to shoot with the Juniors can meet us Mondays from 6:00 to 9:00 pm.

Our awards night is set for May 20th. The awards earned by the Juniors, too numerous to mention, range all the way from Pro-Marksman up through Expert and Distinguished Expert. Three Juniors, **Mychael Krahne, Mel Campbell, and Sabrina Smith** are currently working towards their Distinguished Expert Badges at our club. As of now the club has graduated 23 Distinguished Experts since 2001.

A special thanks to **Amanda Wright**, former Junior and High Power Junior, and currently shooting for the National Guard All-Guard team, who has helped immensely with the training of these new shooters. We would like to thank her for serving our country and making us able to excel in the sport we love. Also, thanks to the committee running the program, namely, **Jim and Chrissy Wright, Bill Matrogran, Doug Staaf, and Mark Hess**, and thanks for all the help from the parents.

In closing, we hope that all our Club members will come out and help support the Juniors by attending the Gun Show on 30 March, 2024.

Joe Paradisi jjgun@jjgun.com or 814-873-6048

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WE'RE ON THE WEB
www.gemcitygunclub.org

For information on pending gun-related legislation and to sign up for automatic updates go to: www.nraila.org

For membership information go to www.gemcitygunclub.org or contact J.R. Paradisi at membership@gemcitygunclub.org

GUN SHOW

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Dave Hanes

ON SATURDAY, 30 MARCH, 2024, we are hosting our 20th Annual Gun Show. This is an annual event we hold the Saturday before Easter, so mark the date on your calendar. Show hours are **9:00 AM to 4:00 PM**. **I suggest to everyone that they get on Joe R. Paradisi's email list so we can keep you updated on Gun Show status and other important information.**

Donations of anything to do with the shooting sports, hunting, fishing, or related items will be placed for sale on the Junior Rifle Team table to help their cause. If you have anything to donate, contact **Joe Lander** at **725-3354** prior to the show. Thank you to everyone who has donated items to support this worthy effort.

Admission is still just \$3.00.

M1 GARAND TO BE RAFFLED AT 3:00 PM—SEE A BOARD MEMBER FOR TICKETS (after January 15th)
(Tickets also available at the door)

For more Gun Show information, contact: **Ben Jendruczak 814-969-1859**

Thanks to all of you who have supported us in the past—we appreciate your support!

OPEN INDOOR RANGE

THE INDOOR RANGE is open to all club members and their guests (not open to the public) for handgun and .22 rifle shooting from **11 AM to 2 PM** and from **5 PM to 8 PM** every **Thursday, November thru April**.

If you are currently a Range Safety Officer, or would like to become certified as one, and would like to help out, please contact:

Jim Wright 814-790-3994

FRIDAY NIGHT UNDER THE LIGHTS

JOE PARADISI

- October thru April, the first and third Fridays
- AM squads 10 am to noon
- PM squads 6 pm till last shooter is done (around 8PM)
- Cost: \$4.00 range + \$4.00 per division (per gun) + \$2 Non-club members
- Course of Fire is two IPSIC-style challenging stages.
- This is a perfect opportunity to prepare for IPSIC shooting.

Don't forget about our annual Toys For Tots match November 17th 18th and 19th

For more info contact: **Joe Paradisi** jgun@jgun.com or 814-873-6048