



Rich Davenport, 2012 ECFSC Recording Secretary

Erie County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs
January 2012 General Meeting Minutes

Meeting Time: 7:00 PM – 1/26/2012
Location: Elma Conservation Club, Elma, NY

Meeting call to order: 7:30PM

Pledge to Flag: Completed

Excused: Dave Barus, Joe Fischer, Frank Miskey, Sr, Don Davis

Quorum: Yes

Rose Barus has been appointed after volunteering to become the treasurer
Thanks Rose

Reading of the Minutes:

Not out yet

Secretary's Report – Rich Davenport

None

Membership Report – Antoinette Grote

Received some renewals back, had a couple come back.
14 of 25 clubs responding back sent in incomplete forms
2 did say they will update the info by April
25 clubs have renewed - \$1,695.00 in thus far

Treasurer's Report – Steve Aldstadt/ Rose Barus

Complete statements have been filed with President and Secretary
Motion to accept Dave Wharton
2nd Hope Melnyk

Motion carries

Joe Jemiolo is doing the 50/50

Steve Aldstadt - Motion to purchase Quick Books for Rose
2nd Antoinette Grote

Motion carries

Law Enforcement – Provided by ECO Mark Mazurkowicz

Several retirements have hit the ECO ranks

replacement in the interim, Frank Lauricella, acting Capt

Law enforcement conference this AM

Discussed promotions and filling vacancies, and it doesn't appear as anything is coming from Albany

ECOs down 45 position statewide

Article in the paper stated that there may be a contract for ECOs, been working without one since 2003

Will know if the ratification happens by the end of the month - long overdue

Hunting season was good. Overall harvest up 10% v 1 yr ago, Officers were able to get out more in the nicer weather and also handle some waterfowl and big game enforcement as well.

Do not know what the budget outlook will be, but now is business as usual until different instructions

Any comments about the officers being switched to CF?

Back when first hired, many positions were paid out of CF. Believe under Pete Grannis the shift was made

Due to the need to pay additional duties from GF, and the lines for enforcement have become a little blurry

Article 11 Section 13, Section 15, Section 24, recoveries fines and penalties land in the F&W fund, and was good to know. Does not know whether this is still true today due to some of the lines being blurred. Unknown.

87 total officers have been moved back to the Conservation Fund over the past month.

Specific to region 9, what is the deficit of officers?

R9 is better than most in terms of staffing. Still down 45 statewide, and with new contract could make that figure grow, due to retirement incentive potentials

Still no plans as of yet to hold an academy.

Did DEC join the UB police union? Always part of the union, which encompasses Conservation, University Police, Parks Police, Forest Rangers and more. Parks is also moving in to DEC office next month

Could see some streamlining of DEC and Parks?

Changes will be gradual, no timeline...

Correspondence Report – Dave Barus

None

President's Report – Chuck Godfrey

Committee Reports - 5 minutes or less, please

Crossbow, meeting tomorrow night at Allied Sportsmen, 6:30-8:30, Sen Gallavan

Panel discussion, several members here are on the panel

Limited audience participation

Being run as a structured event.

Bob Church - will there be minutes taken? Should Gallavan be called to ask if anything on the meeting be made to the public

Good idea to ask

Also soliciting public comments in writing

Mark Ryman is Gallavan's aide, suggested some other folks to attend or be on the panel

Will be hoping to provide good solid information

Meeting is open to the public

Paul Stoos motions to ask Gallavan to include a survey on crossbow preference

CFAB - Receiving minutes of meetings from R9, having meetings with the Senate EnCon Committee (twice), but Assembly is refusing to meet with CFAB

Also the budget had language change to "protect" the conservation fund, however, it appears the language may not meet USF&W demands, and requested they check with USF&W legal to make sure it meets the demands. Should have been done before putting in the budget.

Next Meetings

| Date | | BM Time | | GM Time | | Location |
|------------|---|---------|---|---------|----------|--|
| 2/23/2011 | - | 6:30 | - | 7:00 | Gen Meet | George Washington Club, Buffalo, NY |
| 3/22/2012 | - | 6:30 | - | 7:00 | Gen Meet | TBD |
| 4/26/2012 | - | 6:30 | - | 7:00 | Gen Meet | East Aurora Fish & Game, East Aurora, NY |
| 5/24/2012 | - | 6:30 | - | 7:00 | Gen Meet | Erie County Conservation Society, Chaffee, NY |
| 6/28/2012 | - | 6:30 | - | 7:00 | Gen Meet | GlenCoe Conservation, Glenwood, NY |
| 7/26/2012 | - | 6:30 | - | 7:00 | Gen Meet | Niagara River Station, Grand Island, NY |
| August | | | | | | No Meeting |
| 9/13/2012 | - | 6:30 | - | 7:00 | Gen Meet | Springville Field & Stream, Springville, NY |
| 10/11/2012 | - | 6:30 | - | 7:00 | Gen Meet | Hawkeye Bowmen, Marilla, NY |
| 11/8/2012 | - | 6:30 | - | 7:00 | Gen Meet | Boston Valley Conservation Society, Boston, NY |
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Joe Jemiolo will check/ confirm BVCS for November meeting

Iroquois Refuge Meeting

Meeting on Jan 12, up at Iroquois Wildlife Refuge, about the issues at Tonawanda WMA, concerning water levels, and such. Was told there was a rotation of water levels across the ponds but can get messed up with high rains and such. Disagreement over appropriate water levels for hunting vs ideal depths for puddle ducks

Would be better communication - not cooperation - to inform. The schedule is available for public consumption, but not readily accessible.

Paul P. - Dan Tone should be commended for getting the meeting and conducting the meeting. Difficult issues to deal with. Believe th DEC and managers have a heightened awareness of hunters interests. Biologists claim the depth was optimal for feeding ducks. Feed is good for hunting. Better communication will be happening. Management will not necessarily change... We should do what is best for the ducks.

George Rockey says Heidi Kennedy is now well aware of the sportsmen in this area (Erie Niagara and Orleans)

Shooting ranges - problems as these are not formal shooting ranges. The berms that are there were originally built for dog trials. People began using the mounds as backstops, and it became a danger, so higher mounds were built as a precaution. General use of the WMAs for shooting range is permissible. Trouble is many slobbs bring everything under the sun to use as targets, and then leaves the garbage behind. No more dog trials due to broken glass everywhere. Also leaving spent shells and cartridges.

In order for charges to be leveled against dangerous shooting or littering, and catching them doing it, there must be rules officially there to actually be able to level charges.

Looking into all kinds of possible solutions, but short term would be difficult to get something done. Not looking to ban target shooting entirely, just trying to get regs to control and keep it safe so people can still use the area as a range. State level examining WMA rules governing use of WMAs as ranges. However, some immediate regulation is no shooting until after noon.

Still, could be very unenforceable because no law or regulation to refer to. Budd Schroeder is also involved concerning the range issue

Third Pheasant stocking - stocking practices are a problem, could be changed as it has been acknowledged to be a problem

Archery & Bowhunting – Jim McCann

Nothing

Crossbow – Frank Miskey, Jr

Covered

Fish – Dave Barus

Paul Stoos - did a presentation on the trip to Ontario and the commercial fisheries practices

Small Game – Dan Tone

Grant paperwork is being finalized for pheasant program
Day old chicks program moving forward

Gabby - ratio of predators and game is becoming terrible
Habitat shift is real big cause, DEC focuses estimates on deer, bear and beaver

Big Game – Paul Stoos

NYSCC Committees are taking shape, changes made to reduce the stacking of the deck
Will advise when the meetings are

Alternative ammunition discussions being held by Big Game Chairs and Albany
Firearms committee is involved, so is SCOPE
NO LEGISLATIVE OR REGULATORY INITIATIVES ARE IN THE WORKS, but
could be soon

Looking to be proactive and find ways to educate about the choices, without any
misconstrued acknowledgements that lead is bad, or we prefer to use alternative ammo.
Please take back to the clubs and get some ideas
Have lots of data which is attached.

Conversations on alternative ammunition were limited to the performance of the bullets,
including ballistics, down-range energy, round expansion, etc. Some discussions on the
cost of these projectiles also touched on, and Batcheller indicated a willingness to offer
up some field-testing ammunition to some hunters if that would be a helpful thing.

Down sides to the alternative ammunition is caliber availability and cost. The majority of
firearms calibers and shotgun gauges appear to not offer an alternative material, typically
copper w/ bronze soft tip for expansion. Further, depending on caliber and gauge, costs
are ranging from between 30% to 300% more for said ammunition. We also must
consider older firearms that may not have hardened barrels capable of using the newer,
harder projectile material.

Exam conducted by Firearms Committee included all ammunition, not just for big game.
Additional information will be made available as conversations move forward. Please
take the time to review the materials and pass along to your clubs.

Trapping

Will Elliott mentions trapping licenses are up. Interest appears to be on the upswing
People, young folk, are looking to get into trapping, need to take a course.

Waterfowl - Covered

NYSCC – Dan Tone

Council is hurting for money again.

Cushing does a good job but not a good fund raiser

Received a donation from Greene County \$3000

SCI - \$1000

West Falls \$600 on BAM

Trying to get a grant from GE for new computer systems (\$4K, no guarantee)

Also, Veridian Gas supply, for every member that the council signs up for the green energy, council gets \$1 for every sign up.

NYSCC will not rock the boat on the 22 ECOs moved to CF. That was before the 65 more moved, and a letter will be written now. Came from Governor

BAM program - some clubs do participate, let's get more clubs to participate please....

Also hired a lawyer who is available to clubs for use - retained by NYSCC, and of course payment would be on the user of the service. Good for range issues, etc.

Shows and Expos – Dave Wharton

March 8-11, 2012 at the Fairgrounds. Sign up sheet for working the show is going around, please sign up now, as Feb meeting Chuck will be in Mexico.

Contract is signed and everything is good.

Environment & Pollute - Tom Marks

Eagles and the story of the juvenile from Tenn. in Buffalo area

Asian Carp - West basin of Erie very suitable for Asian carp establishment

Army Corps taking too long on their studies and they have to move faster.

Hydro-Fracking - Learning more and more, moratorium on fracking in NYS for now.

Big talk is water impacts, both pollution and withdrawals. Briefing on this was not water-related but the VOC (volatile organic compounds) and air quality issues. exhaust fumes from chemicals, from substances coming out of ground with reclaimed water, trucks idling, etc, etc. Lots of issues above and beyond the water.

Lots of articles on algae concerns in Lake Erie, has much to do with water quality in the runoff, due to nutrient loading from lawns, farms, loss of wetlands to contain waters and filter out contaminants, push for faster drainage, washing into lake very quick. Not allowing the wetlands to do their job. Creating new wetlands when existing is being lost to Thruway development and we're effectively compounding the nutrient loading

Wind turbine fire in Weatherfield about a week ago. Actually quite common. Vestes is laying off people worldwide due to demand dropping. In Europe they are finding that wind turbines aren't that good after all, and opposition is growing. Economic factors are also impacting the subsidies that go to wind turbines, and nowhere is a wind turbine built without the tax \$\$

Capacity is what is "sold", not production. Also Capacity-value, which is never talked about with wind turbines, as it has none.

What is the take on hydro-fracking (from Bob Church) - we already heard it

Legislation

Steve Aldstadt - Repeal of the COBIS system in NYS could be a reality

Has done nothing to solve or prevent any crimes. Governor put in the budget to eliminate COBIS in the Budget

Heard about the arrests, NYC, several high profile cases of people from other states believing they are legal with the guns, only to see arrest when they try to do the right thing.

Legislative Awareness Day - March. Looking for donations to help fund the buses

Pistol permits last year got backed up due to layoffs of 3 of 4 processors, and then the last remaining one died.

Some changes for back ground checking to streamline the process would be to turn over the investigations to the counties, and not the state

Will send onto me the position papers on upcoming legislative actions.

Everyone heard of the gun show arrests. To date, \$1000 has gone to defend the Niagara Frontier Arms collectors, the ones that run the shows around here. They are continually getting subpoenaed. Although have done everything right, the legal costs may put them out of business. Need to rally to help.

Dan Tone - its too bad the NYSCC and SCOPE/ NYSRPA and Brian Kolb couldn't coordinate the efforts better, as the impact would be more effective.

Perhaps the council should reach out to Kolb to find out when this is being done in the future and have some better coordination....?????..... Legislative meeting

Resolutions

None

Membership Outreach

Discuss with Chuck if clubs want him to come to a meeting

Sportsmen's Ed – Frank Miskey, Sr.

Covered - posters about ready - will be out for February meeting

Nominations

Done

Awards

Frank Miskey, Sr. Due by Feb 1, only by US mail, to arrive on Feb 1.

Banquet and Fund-Raising

Had committee meeting last week and addressed many of the things that go on at the banquet. Still looking for Volunteers for the following:

Door, President Raffle ticket sales, games The more the better

Finalizing the prizes for the games

Baskets - Debbie Godfrey is still accepting baskets. If you are go to make a basket for the banquet, please furnish the following information: Basket Theme, who it is from, weather it is male or female specific. This helps Debbie keep it organized

Silent Auction: Dan tone getting some prints and Chuck Godfrey getting some Turkey Feather Art. Also have an item that belonged to Norby!. If you have an item that you would like to have for the Silent Auction please inform Dan Tone.

Ads for the Booklet – Cutoff for the Ads is the February meeting – Feb. 24. Ads prices are Full Page \$100.00 and Half Page is \$50.00. Have Ad forms with me. Please Contact Dave Smyczynski or Dan Tone for Details.

General Donations – We are always looking for general donations Door prizes, Table items, Silent Auction, etc. I have donation request letters for those who would like some. Also available by email if you would like. See me to give me your email address and I will send it out to you.

Presidents Raffle Tickets:

I have the President's Raffle Tickets. Tickets are still \$1.00 each. This year you are responsible for the tickets that are given to you. I will be taking down contact information and the tickets given to you. Please turn in all Money and Stubs, and unsold tickets to me so I can keep track. Tickets and money can also be turned in at the banquet and at the outdoor expo.

The Drawing is on March 11,2012 after the Outdoor Expo.

Please donate a basket for the banquet - theme, complete, report the theme, please!

Drawing will be at the outdoors expos. Turn in the unsold tickets too.

Banquet tickets available now. Feb meeting is the cut off for that as well.

Web Site

Antoinette provided some stuff concerning updated info on the clubs

Educational Opportunities – Chuck Godfrey
Received one scholarship application - qualified
Will award

FWMB – Paul Stoos
Had meeting in December, nothing new came up.

NHFD – Rich Davenport
Elma is the venue
Thank you Elma

Committee members - last year folks still interested? Yes, please sign up

WNYEF – Rich Davenport
Details read
Hope to get more than 1 DEC official at these meetings
Q - H/A Stamp anything happening? Pins, etc.? No
Dedicated fund has nearly \$200K, they will not spend the money, despite it having to be spent for the specific projects
Tom suggests we should write a letter to continue to push on this.

City Limits Feb 23 at 8PM, will be on again.
Also runs on Sundays at 1PM, most likely 2 weeks later...

Motion to Pay the Bills
Rich motions to pay the bills
Hope Melnyk 2nd

Motion carries

Receipts and checks to hand in (Dave S) - with the transition, who gets this - Steve until banking stuff is changed

New Business
President wants a motion for TU banquet
Joe Jemiolo motions to buy four tickets to the TU Banquet
2nd Tom Fischer

Motion carries

Hawkeye archery shoot schedule will be submitted for publication

Dan Tone Motions to oppose the move of 87 ECOs to CF
2nd Tom Fischer

Motion carries - Send to Governor, copy the Dept

Tickets for gun raffle to support TSA - \$5.00/ ticket, for Savage 25-06
Back of every ticket \$5 coupon at Gander Mountain
Also info sheets on corner of table for the classes upcoming
Start Feb 20 (shotgun & rifle)
8 2.5 hour classes
Monday night
Pistol and Rifle at Mohawk, shotgun at West Falls

Good & Welfare

None

50/50

\$28.00 to winner

Hamburg R&G

Thank You Elma - Great Food

Motion to adjourn Dave Wharton

2nd Hope Melnyk

Meeting adjourned



Rich Davenport, 2012 ECFSC Recording Secretary

Erie County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs

February 2012 General Meeting Minutes

Meeting Time: 7:00 PM – 2/23/2012

Location: George Washington Club, Buffalo, NY

Meeting called to order: 7:14PM

Pledge to Flag: Done

Quorum: Yes

Attendance: Chuck Godfrey, Joe Fischer, Gabby Cronin, Dave S are excused

Reading of Minutes

Jan is up, but no links yet on the site, working on it.

Dave Wharton to approve December's Minutes
2nd Tom Fischer

Motion carries
December minutes accepted

Secretary Report: Rich Davenport
None

Membership Report: Antoinette Grote
Evans and Crow's Nest came back undeliverable
36 paid thus far

Treasury Report: Rose Barus
Report given

Tom Fischer motion to approve
2nd Dave Wharton

Motion carries unanimously

Correspondence Report: Dave Barus
FEB 2012 Correspondence Report, D. Barus
ECFS Messages Received:



Friends of Reinstein Nature Preserve, Inc.

93 Honorine Drive
Depew, New York 14043
(716) 683-5959

RCVD 2/7/12

Erie County Federation of Sportsman,

The Friends of Reinstein Nature Preserve would like to thank you for your generous donation of fishing pole packages. We used them as a raffle for our "Winter Wonderland in the Woods" event on Saturday, January 28th. The winners will have the opportunity to enjoy a lifelong sport and the great memories that come with that. I remember fishing with my grandpa when I was 6 years old and catching my first sunfish. I also remember being poked by the dorsal fins only moments later. Those are the memories I will have forever.

We had over 200 people that attended the event despite the weather. We initially planned on doing ice fishing demonstrations, but there was a severe lack of ice on the ponds. We had to resort to a fishing game and showing visitors ice-fishing equipment. The kids loved the fishing game nonetheless. Thank you again for your donation.

Sincerely,

Michael Adriaansen
Liaison
Friends of Reinstein Nature Preserve

ECFS Messages Sent:

Jan. 15, 2012

The Honorable Andrew Cuomo, Governor
Executive Chamber
Albany, NY 12248

January 15, 2012

Dear Governor Cuomo,

NYS fish and wildlife advocates are deeply concerned with recent reports that the United States Fish and Wildlife Service may declare New York State ineligible to receive over \$20 million dollars in federal aid through the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration funds due to a provision included in the enacted FY 2011-2012 State Budget.¹ We respectfully request that your administration work expeditiously with the Legislature to rectify this situation and ensure the state remains eligible to receive these vital federal dollars.

These federal funding programs provide critical support to protect and restore wildlife and natural resources that are important for New York's environmental quality and economy. In particular, the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Fund provides resources for the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to maintain and enhance Wildlife Management Areas and their facilities for the benefit of both game and non-game bird and wildlife species. The Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Fund provides support for the Department to enhance our economically important sport fishing industry, including wetland habitat restoration and delineation, and research into the health of our fisheries. With recent cuts to the DEC's non-personal service budget, the Agency relies more heavily on this federal aid to advance conservation of wildlife and fish species which are important for tourism and recreation in New York State.

USFW data shows that in New York over 5 million people hunt, fish or watch wildlife, contributing well over \$3 billion to the state economy each year, supporting tens of thousands of jobs across the state. NYS must remain eligible to receive federal funding to support this work.

In your Fiscal Year 2012-2013 budget proposal, we strongly urge you include language that would ensure New York remains in compliance with the federal government's matching requirements for these programs and ensures that the Conservation Fund revenues are utilized for their intended purposes. Thank you for your urgent attention to this important conservation matter.

Sincerely,

David L. Barus
Erie County Federation of Sportsmen, Corresponding Secretary

The Erie County Federation of Sportsmen represents 56 organized conservation groups in Erie County where 104,000 sporting licenses are sold each year, the highest county license tally in NYS.

¹ S.2808 and A.4008 Section 12-a "Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, and in accordance with section 4 of the state finance law, the comptroller is hereby authorized and directed to transfer, at the request of the director of the budget, up to \$38 million from the unencumbered balance of any special revenue fund or account, or combination of funds and accounts, to the community projects fund."



Erie County Federation of Sportsmen, Inc.

Member of the New York State Conservation Council
PO Box 560, East Aurora, NY 14052



Feb. 18, 2012

Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor of New York State
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Subject: Concern for NYS Conservation Fund Allocation

Dear Honorable Governor Cuomo,

While we respect the job your office is doing in dealing with the state of financial chaos that is apparent in NYS economy and finance, the Erie County Federation of Sportsmen wish to express our opposition to the transfer of salaries and benefits of 87 Environmental Conservation Officers from the General Fund to the Conservation Fund.

With over \$30M in the Conservation Fund at this time, what is worse, this transfer comes at a time when the "surplus" in the fund is not being used to fill the many open positions that we are aware already exist within the NYSDEC. Many skilled and experienced professionals have retired and their positions have not been rehired.

In a recent cursory review, NYS Legislature rules state the Conservation Fund is officially designated as a "Special Revenue Fund." Further review shows that Special Revenue Funds are governmental fund types and are divided into two classifications in New York State. The Conservation Fund is part of "Special Revenue Funds – Other." From definition in NYS law, the *Conservation Fund is to account for hunting and fishing license fees and related fines and penalties that are dedicated to fish and wildlife programs.*

Such specially designated funds are to account for state receipts from specific revenue sources and are *legally restricted to disbursement for specified purposes.* ECO salaries are not apparent to be included per the definition. Has the definition changed? Quite honestly, it is not a good situation when the very audience you are serving with such specific rules, the sportsmen, have cause for additional concern when they are already feeling cheated by a clearly apparent lack of services. Sportsmen participation is responsible for a huge economic engine in NYS!

Your explanation and thoughts from your office would be appreciated and will be shared with all 56 Erie County Federation conservation organizations affiliated with us. Please feel free to contact me at any time

Respectfully submitted,

David L. Barus

Corresponding Secretary, Erie County Federation of Sportsmen, Inc., (cell: 716-597-4081)
Member of Outdoor Writers Association of America (OWAA), syndicated since 1983
Cornerstone member Professional Outdoor Media Association (POMA)

Background: The Erie County Federation of Sportsmen, Inc., is a consortium of 56 organized conservation groups representing Erie County, the single New York State county with the largest number of licensed sportsmen (>104,000). Our member organizations represent anglers and hunters of all sorts, archery, crossbow and muzzleloader enthusiasts, campers, canoeists, kayakers, firearm ownership policy, legal use of firearms, trap and skeet shooting, licensed trapper activities, conservationists and many other groups in support of the New York State Conservation Council.

CC – next page

CC:

Honorable Senator Mark Grisanti
Chairman, NYS Env. Conservation Committee
65 Court St., Rm. 213
Buffalo, NY 14202

Ms. Patricia Rixinger
Director, NYS DEC Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-4750

Ms. Abbey Snyder
Director, Region 9, NYS DEC
270 Michigan Ave,
Buffalo NY 14203-2915

Mr. Paul McKeown
Natural Resources Manager, Region 9, NYS DEC
178 Point Drive North
Dunkirk, NY 14048

Mr. Donald W. Einhouse
NYS DEC Lake Erie Supervising Aquatic Biologist
178 Point Drive North
Dunkirk, NY 14048

Mr. Joseph Fisher, Chairman
Erie County Fish Advisory Board
17 Kingston Ln.
Cheektowaga, NY, 14225

Mr. Zen Qlaw, Chairman
Chautauque County Fish Advisory Board
Office of the County Executive, Gerace Office Bldg,
3 North Erie St.
Mayville, NY 14757

Mr. Chuck Godfrey, President
Erie County Federation of Sportsmen
29 Yvette Dr.
Cheektowaga, NY, 14227

Mr. David Woodworth, President
Southtowns Walleye Association of WNY, Inc.
4932 Clark St.
Hamburg, NY 14075

Mr. Daniel Tone, Chairman
Western New York Environmental Federation
1829 Davie Rd.
West Falls, NY, 14170

Mr. Will Elliott, Outdoors Editor
The Buffalo News
9777 Bernd Rd.,
Pavilion, NY, 14625

Bob Church loved the letter on the federal funds, but should have copied some of the other organizations, copied many but forgot about several.

Rich interjects that if we represent the club, we should not be copying our own members, but writing our own letters as well

President's Report

Paul Stoos donated 450 lapel pins

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Special Guests - Tea Party Reps

Waterfowl – Paul P.

Reports on waterfowl season, mixed, some was good, some was not so good
 Varied by area hunted

Task force meeting coming up in April - County folks with input give Paul the ideas so he can take them back

Special Canada goose season starts soon

For those interested swans are at Iroquois

How about the snow geese in Barker?
 Haven't heard much, some are coming further west than normal

10,000 in Barker this year

NYSCC – Dan Tone

Legislative meeting coming up just prior to Legislative Awareness Day
Then follows the Sportsmen's Legislative Awareness Day (March 20)

If anyone has particular interest in a specific bill and we will see what we can do lobby for or against

Council - Fred Neff was removed from H/A Committee, and trying to kick him off the Dove Bill work, which is his

We have recommended we write the Council in support of Neff being restored -

Dan Motions to write
2nd Tom Fischer

Motion carries unanimously

Federation has voted to support the Buck-a-Member program.
West Falls supports this and matched.
Safari Club donated to NYSCC

Need the buck a member support

What is the treasury state like?
They are getting by, but barely

Harold Palmer reformed the council's expenditures, and resolved the issue, but Howard is not the best fund-raiser

Environment & Pollution: Tom Marks

1) NY Ballast Rules May End soon says U.S. Seaway Head, as reported by Times reported Jaegun Lee.

Background...NYS DEC has set ballast water regulations that are 100 time more stringent for ships built before 1/1/2013 and 1000 times more stringent for ships built after 1/1/2013, than the current International Maritime Regulations requires.

NYS did not just set the high impossible standards just to be difficult these standards were going to be the US standards required for all shipping in US waters under the National Aquatic Invasive Species Act, which congress has never been able to pass into law. It is believed that these standards are achievable. There are various techniques and equipment however the shipping industry is balking at installing and implementing new technologies, saying it is going to be too expensive or difficult for older ships in service. The industry says that the NYS regulations could shutdown the Seaway impacting 72,000 jobs with a \$14 billion economic impact.

The shipping industry claims there are no technologies available to achieve the NYS ballast standards. Contrary to industry claims Jennifer Chaddick, executive Director of Save the River, Clayton says the real problem is that the industry is reluctant to invest the cost \$2 million to \$3

million per ship is a failure to acknowledge the value of protecting the states drinking water. The industry's failure to comply will not only impact water quality for human consumption but it jeopardizes a multi-billion dollar fishery. There have been studies to achieve the NYS ballast standards could be less than \$500,000 per ship.

It is imperative that the NYS Ballast regulations stay in place. We are protecting a priceless ecosystem and the health of residents in the Great Lakes basin. Ballast water is known to not only contain animals and plants, it also contains harmful pathogens. The World Health Organization said that in 1999 over 10,000 people in South America died as a direct result of ballast water discharges that contained vibro Cholera.

Link to the Article

<http://www.watertowndailytimes.com/article/20120203/NEWS03/702039885>

2) Today, February 23, 2012 the Obama administration released the 2012 Asian Carp Control Strategy Framework.... **All 165 pages.** Since 2010 the Obama administration has spent \$150 million to control the Asian Carp. Prior to 2010 (the previous 10 years \$25 million) were spent to control Asian Carp.

“2012 Asian Carp Control Strategy Framework (2012 Framework) outlining 58 new and continuing actions that build upon the proactive efforts to protect the Great Lakes from Asian carp undertaken in the 2010 and 2011 Frameworks. The Framework focuses on sustainable, long term controls while permanent solutions are developed.

Asian Carp and the Great Lakes

Aquatic nuisance species (ANS) have significantly degraded the Great Lakes food web in recent decades. Today, the most acute ANS threat facing the Great Lakes is Asian carp (silver and bighead) through the Chicago Area Waterway System and 18 other potential pathways that can connect the Great Lakes and Mississippi River basins. Asian carp are voracious eaters and heavy breeders. Some varieties can grow to more than 100 pounds and are capable of eating 20 percent of their body weight in a day, stripping the food web of key food sources for native species.”

The previous two paragraphs are from the 2012 Framework introduction. Language is important in discussing the Asian carp they are referred to interchangeably as “nuisance species” and “invasive species”. Depending what the Asian carp is determines the level of intensity addressing the problem. These are legal terms I believe in the eyes of the federal government Asian carp are a nuisance species, this explains the long timetable for actions. An invasion requires by law immediate action.

The link to the Asian Carp Control Strategy <http://www.asiancarp.us>.

3) We know there are a lot of issues regarding extracting natural gas from the Marcellus shale formation. We also recognize the importance to have access and utilize our natural gas energy reserves, it is important to the economy and our quality of life. With that said our environment is also critically important to our economy and quality of life. Energy is a dirty business no matter what source we use be it coal, natural gas, or wind, it is all dirty. Each has its issues, however natural gas when burned is much cleaner for the environment and the amount of the reserves makes it a very cost effective energy source. We have to recognize the economic and social benefit of natural gas it has to be recovered with minimal impacts to the environment and natural resources such as clean water and the critical habitats for fish and wildlife.

The Sportsmen's Alliance for Marcellus Conservation is an affiliation of sportsmen and women working together to identify and mitigate the impacts of Marcellus Shale gas development.

Should we join the alliance to add strength and support to their effort to make sure natural gas development is done safely in our state and region?

Link to the Sportsmen's Alliance www.sportsmenalliance.org

4) N.Y.S. Conservation Council --- Action Alert---- Save 224 Heartwood Forest Land (Champion) Camps --- Save historical use of easement lands and sporting traditions

Good afternoon:

On September 30, 2011 four environmental groups, Protect the Adirondacks, the Sierra Club, Adirondack Wild and Atlantic States Legal Foundation directed a letter to N.Y.S. Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman and N.Y.S. State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli asking them to halt the N.Y.S. Conservation Departments plan to allow 224 Camps to remain on Heartwood Forest Land (former Champion Lands) in St. Lawrence and Franklin Counties . These requests have been made even though the land owner and the D.E.C. have approved the plan and the A.P.A. has issued permits.

The camps in question have been used by sportsmen and women and their families for well over 50 years with no discernable negative environmental impact. The plan does not change the historical use of the area, nor the plan for the public at large to use these lands; these camps provide a lifblood to small businesses in our local communities as families enjoy nature, snowmobile, ATV, view nature and hunt, fish and Trap. The action by these environmental groups comes after many years of efforts by the sporting community, the D.E.C. and our elected officials to develop a plan to accomodate the historical use of these lands. It is recognized the sporting community and their families have been good stewards of these lands and contribute significantly to conservation efforts in N.Y.S.

All groups supporting and involved in the traditions of hunting, fishing, trapping, enjoying the outdoors as families snowmobiling and A.T.V.ing must step to the plate on this one. We must speak with one voice and draw a very deep line in the sand!!

Please forward to everyone who has a stake in this and please weigh in!

Walt Paul

Howard Cushing

Access and Land Use Specialist

President

5) Nomination to the Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council..... My term expires at the end of 2012 and I would like to be nominated for another term 2013 –2014, I need a letter of nomination from this organization sent by email to glsfc@msn.com if you will support me for another term.

6) **WIND** Sen. Alexander: Statement on Production Tax Credit (\$27 billion over 10 years is enough!)

In a speech last Wednesday on the floor of the United States Senate, Senator Lamar Alexander (R- Tenn.) called on Congress to reject any efforts to add a four-year extension of the Production Tax Credit.

His learned statement brings out a number of facts that contribute to the debate—and explains why ‘subsidy fatigue’ has set in with windpower. Alexander also explains why the future belongs to the energy efficient, not dilute forms of energy that carry a large environmental footprint.

Link to the full article <http://www.masterresource.org/2012/02/sen-alexander-ptc/#comment-20543>

7) Climate Change Debate.... My opinion...It probably does not matter what my opinion is on the subject however because “my town” has created an unpaid position with the title I thought it just maybe time to bring my perspective to the subject. Take it with a grain of salt, I am certainly not an expert on weather or climate, I can not tell you how many times I have been caught out in the rain without a rain coat how I over prepared for heavy snow this winter. TM.

Climate Change Commissioner, really?!

I have been involved in an on going debate over climate change due to my opinion on industrial scale wind and solar energy projects. Often I am "attacked" because my opponents think I do not "believe" in global warming or better described “Global Climate Change” (GCC). They are correct, I do not "believe" in global climate change.

Beliefs are faith based, like religions and have no hard scientific data to support the claims. For example, I do not have hard scientific data to prove that heaven exists yet I have faith and I believe that it does. When trying to solve a problem or discover the truth it is necessary to use data. Good data will often point to the right solution or truth. In the debate over GCC there are some questions about the data and especially the way you look at it. I have temperature data... Monday it was cold in the twenty's all day long, Tuesday it is much warmer. Is it GCC? Obviously it is much too short of a time frame to determine a trend for climate. Climate is a weather pattern over very long time span. What is a good time frame; 10 years, 20 years, 50 years, 100 years, a 1000 or longer? If you were to ask Al Gore, the inventor of the Internet, he would have you to look at a short time span in global history. Gore would point out that in the last 50 years there has been a significant warming trend (the last ten years it has actually trended cooler, globally). Unfortunately for Al Gore we have found out that there was a lot of manipulation of the temperature data he used to promote “his” agenda (Climate Gate). Funny, when you ask the question, “Is global warming being caused by humans?” It turns out that it is ... the data was manipulated to support the theory. Scientists lost accreditation, and jobs for falsifying records. However, the faith-based theory persists. Today more and more scientists are

trying to distance themselves from the global warming "belief". Unfortunately the "faith based science" of global warming makes many fearful of speaking out. There is no correlation between climate and CO2 levels in the atmosphere; there is lots of data to support this claim.

The reality is, we have been in a global warming trend for over 10,000 years and it is certain that humans had nothing to do with the onset. The earth has been in warming and cooling cycles that have been going on for millions of years. The climate trend ironically is not much different than week to week weather trends. It is not unusual, during this warming trend for relapses into very long cold patterns as well as accelerations into warm weather patterns.

Climate is influenced by solar activity cycles, orbital fluctuations, and geologically processes. The solar influence to our climate is seen in the number of sunspots, magnetic solar storms, we can see traversing the solar disc. There are short-term solar cycles of about 11 years to much longer cycles. We are headed towards what is referred to a solar minimum, which is part of a long solar cycle. This minimum in the current solar cycle is predicted to be similar to one observed back in the later half of the 1600's, the Maunder Minimum. The period was known as the Little Ice Age, during which Europe and North America were subjected to bitterly cold winters. A correlation has been found between low sunspot activity and cold winters using data from the from NASA's Solar Radiation and Climate Experiment, and observations of sunspot activity from earth over the last 400 years. A correlation between the earth's climate and sun spot activity was first postulated in the 1800's. Scientists keep track of the solar cycles by assigning them a number currently we are in Solar Cycle 24. The solar maximum in solar Cycle 24 is extremely weak and fading. The Solar Cycle 23 maximum was not as active as the average cycle. Sun spot activity is on a decline and the predictions are that the next active period will likely be delayed and that Cycle 25 may not start until 2022. The next solar maximum could be decades away and this could have huge impacts on the earth's climate.

I am very suspicious when it comes to the motives of the "Human caused GCC" clan. Their followers, I call the "chicken littles", who are the believers. There is lots of money to be made by trading carbon credits, taxes on emissions, and subsidies for "green energy"... so it is greed that drives the agenda to make sure there are lots of "believers". In the global warming clan panic is good. They do not want any science, data or critical thinking by the "chicken littles" when it comes to climate change; it jeopardizes their mission to make billions and billions of dollars. I do not think that the people pushing this agenda "believe" that the warming

GOOD SCIENCE

Good hard scientific data as I refer to is usually a result of using the Scientific Method, however not in this case.

The scientific method is the best way yet discovered for winnowing the truth from lies and delusion. The simple version looks something like this:

1. Observe some aspect of the universe.
2. Invent a tentative description, called a hypothesis that is consistent with what you have observed.
3. Use the hypothesis to make predictions.
4. Test those predictions by experiments and modify the hypothesis in the light of your results.
5. Repeat steps 3 and 4 until there are no discrepancies between theory and experiment and/or observation.

When consistency is obtained the hypothesis becomes a theory and provides a coherent set of propositions, which explain a class of phenomena. A theory is then a framework within which observations are explained and predictions are made.

Unfortunately, with Global Climate Change we can not experiment to test our hypothesis and make predictions to develop a theory. We can gather data from ice cores, tree rings, and the

trend is caused by human activity, they do not even care if it is. They are driven by greed; on the other hand the "chicken littles" are mostly suckers who can not or will not think for themselves; they will buy or believe anything. They are too lazy or just not smart enough to ask questions or to take nothing at face value. The "chicken littles" keep the belief alive despite the scientific data. Unfortunately, there are a lot of "chicken littles" throughout our society, some are members of environmental groups, or work for state or federal agencies, some even have achieved elected offices at the highest levels of government. We will all pay the price however, because of these believers who dare not to use critical thinking, examine the real data and will not seek the truth. The solar zealots who frequent our meetings are "chicken littles", believers who do not use critical thinking. They support government subsidies for solar energy on their homes they are leeches looking for handouts. Solar energy is fine at their expense but not mine.

I am not certain we really have any energy crisis. I am of the opinion that a lot of the concerns are promoted by the various energy producers in an effort to make their products the "energy" of choice. They are only protecting their self-interests. I think reducing the use of fossil fuels is good on several fronts, less mining, or drilling. Fewer pollutants such as sulfur dioxide (smog), particulate matter, mercury, volatile organic compounds, ash, carbon monoxide and the least of which is carbon dioxide. It is good that we reduce all of these through conservation (reducing demand) and the evolution to a clean dense energy source. I suspect when I say clean energy wind or solar come to mind, hardly the case because neither replaces the use of fossil fuels. The evolution of energy throughout history has been to cleaner and more energy dense fuels. Someday we will utilize a fuel that is very energy dense and does not pollute and will not need to have fossil fuels as a back up like wind or solar. We can speed the arrival of that day by not wasting resources chasing the wind and solar folly. It hurts me to say this because I own stock in a solar cell company.

So, Climate Change Commissioner.... I am afraid to ask whose idea? What is the role or function of a Climate Change Commissioner? What need is there for a Climate Change Commissioner? Is the "Commissioner" a "Chicken Little"? I am doubtful that he or she engages in critical thinking or uses the Scientific Method. I almost see an Orwellian aspect to this, ludicrous I know. However, are we headed to a point where we will have "CO2 Police" running around putting out backyard grills because they pollute the atmosphere with CO2? I know I am politically incorrect but isn't the role of these volunteers to advise the Board and Supervisor? Climate Change Commissioner... Dear Town Board, it is getting too warm... turn off the CO2... Pass ordinances to limit residential CO2 output... I just do not see the point.

Obama Spent \$110 Mil on protecting the lakes from the carp
Prior is \$10 MIL was spent

Surprising that for that much money spent nothing still has been done

Dan Tone Motions we send motion to keep access open
2nd George Rockey

Motion carries unanimously

Bob Church - lots of discussion in the gossip column that no one seems to have much concerns of pollution on Lime, Silver and Cuba Lakes - runoff sewage very bad
Lower level of Lime Lake is very bad - sewer systems being worked on but this will take years

Tom states he Hasn't heard about this but will investigate

TV News station running a feature on the Asian Carp - tonight Channel 7
WBFO Radio - Tom Marks on radio talking Asian Carp

Legislation: John Susz
No Report

Mark Alessi - Last month Alden passed the hat for the bus transport for March 20 SCOPE bus to Albany
\$400.00 for the cause
THANK YOU ALDEN!

Resolutions

Should we re-submit the back tag resolution?

Tom Fischer motions to resubmit
2nd Dave Wharton

Motion carries

Resolution shall be resubmitted

Hunter's Education: Frank Miskey, Sr.
Posters are here - thank you Joe McAdams

Paul Stoos - did Joe donate these again?
Yes - round of applause for Joe

Crossbow: Frank Miskey, Jr
Last month crossbow meeting at Allied with Senator Gallavan
Very informative, reps from Erie, Niagara, Wyoming Counties, NYB, SCI, Disabled Bowhunters, NYSCC

From the clubs themselves, they were all very direct as desiring to see the crossbow through all seasons
Disabled had objections, as did the NYB of course, with the usual tactics and rhetoric

All are supportive of DEC regulating its use, not legislated, just make the crossbow legal
Objections from disabled was more National and there are other devices to use

Dan Tone - in his opinion, did not see this as bringing the sides together at all,
Frank Jr - wasn't supposed to, just to let people air their opinions, and also allow the Senator to see the support for crossbows

NYB sent letters slamming the meeting, and told some untruths, Sen Gallavan also got a copy of the letter. His reaction was "what meeting were they at?"
Meeting was to educate the politicians more than the sides in the fight.

A few elderly hunters who spoke broke down in tears over not being able to hunt the good weather anymore
One spent \$5K/ yr to travel to a place

Banquet: Dave S.

Tickets coming back, quite a few legislators coming
Grisanti, Ranzenhofer, Gallavan, Corwin, Gabryczak

Kids tickets are only \$14, but have to state it

Joe McAdams has not received info yet, Dan Tone may be able to help out (for banquet program

Fund-Raising: Dave S

None

FWMB: Paul Stoos

March 1 next meeting
Last meeting was very limited

Shows & Expos: Dave Wharton

3 hours open on Sunday March 11 at the Expo needing coverage, if anyone is interested
Joe McAdams is interested

Also need Sunday 1-Close at 5PM Gabby will most likely not make it
Joe taking the whole day, need some help

NHFD: Rich Davenport

March meeting
7th, 14th, 21st at Elma

Southtowns Walleye will be there this year

DU

Messinger Woods

Retrievers

NY Walleye

Volunteers

will be needed as well

<break for dinner>

Joe McAdams - Friends of NRA discussions

Will be getting an emailing on underwriting for the Friends of NRA

They are allowed to purchase at a discount for their raffles, but still expensive

They have awarded to a variety of efforts

They will be asking for clubs to underwrite the prizes. Will allow for the Friends of NRA to use more funds for the programs, will allow for 100% to go to the efforts, please support

One prize per club

Do clubs have to be members of NRA to support this?

No - Friends of NRA is different than NRA, although endorsed by NRA
NFFNRA

WNYEF: Dan Tone

Next meeting is March 11 at Hoak's 1:00PM

Budget & Finance: Rose Barus

All checks coming in for tickets and dues and such, will be

Motion to Pay Bills

Dave Wharton

2nd Don Davis

Motion carries unanimously

Question - Have we been audited lately? No

Perhaps we should, nothing against Rose.... But maybe we should see

We will look into it

Good suggestion, when Chuck gets back we will discuss and put a committee together

Web Site: Dave S

Needs updating very badly

Law Enforcement

Nothing from Chuck

Frank Miskey, Jr - 2012 Raffle tickets from conservation officer association

has 15 tickets now, \$20/ ticket

Archery and Bowhunting

Jim McCann - nothing

Crossbow - Done

Fish: Dave Barus

For Release: IMMEDIATE

Thursday, February 16, 2012

Contact: Rick Georgeson

(518) 402-8000

DEC ANNOUNCES PROPOSED CHANGES TO FRESHWATER SPORT FISHING REGULATIONS

Changes to the current freshwater fishing regulations designed to enhance fishing opportunities and protect the state's freshwater fisheries were announced today by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). DEC will accept public comments on the proposals through April 2, 2012.

“New York provides some of the best fishing in the nation and every two years DEC modifies existing freshwater sportfishing regulations and proposes new regulations to help ensure this remains the case,” said Assistant Commissioner for Natural Resources Kathleen Moser. “We encourage anglers to review these proposed changes and provide DEC with comments.”

The proposed regulation changes are the result of careful assessment of the status of existing fish populations and the desires of anglers for enhanced fishing opportunities. Several of the changes being considered are to remove special regulations that are no longer warranted.

In order to receive input early in the process, changes under consideration for this proposal were available on DEC’s website earlier this year for comment. This feedback, in addition to comments received from angling interest groups, provided essential input to the development of the regulation changes that are now being formally proposed. Below are highlights of the proposed changes.

Draft regulation changes that pertain to walleye:

- Establish a special walleye regulation of 18-inch minimum size and three per day in Lake Pleasant and Sacandaga Lake (Hamilton County) to aid restoration of the walleye populations in these waters.
- Prohibit fishing in the following stream sections from March 16 until the first Saturday in May (opening day for walleye) to protect spawning walleye: Lake Pleasant outlet to the mouth of the Kunjamuk River (Hamilton County); Little Sandy Creek (Oswego County) from the intersection of the channelized area next to Koster Drive downstream of the State Route 3 bridge to the lower boundary of the public fishing rights section located upstream of the State Route 3 bridge; and Catskill Creek (Greene County) from the Route 9W bridge upstream to the dam in Leeds.
- Remove special walleye regulations (18-inch minimum size and three per day) and apply the statewide regulation (15-inch minimum size and five per day) for Lime Lake (Cattaraugus County) and Bear and Findley lakes (Chautauqua County) because these populations no longer require the added protection provided by the special regulation.
- Change the walleye daily limit for Lake Erie and the Upper Niagara River to six per day to harmonize limits with bordering jurisdictions.

Draft regulation changes that pertain to black bass:

- Eliminate the special black bass closed season for Oneida Lake and implement statewide regulations to create additional fishing opportunities and expand statewide consistency, as continuance of this special closed season is not warranted.
- Apply statewide black bass regulations for Allen Lake (Allegany County) and Cassadaga Lake (Chautauqua County) as recent surveys have shown stable bass populations in these waters.

Draft regulations that pertain to trout and salmon:

- Extend the catch and release only regulation for brook trout into tidal streams in Suffolk County to provide additional protection to brook trout populations that spend part of their life in marine waters and offer a unique angling experience.
- Eliminate Suffolk County tidal trout regulations and apply freshwater stream trout regulations to these sections because the anticipated sea run brown trout fishery did not develop.
- Change minimum length for salmonids in the Upper Niagara River to “any size” because the current 12-inch minimum length is no longer necessary and this will also eliminate the need for special tributary regulations.
- Change the trout regulations for the Titicus Outlet (Westchester County) and Esopus Creek, Shandaken tunnel outlet to Ashokan Reservoir (Ulster County) to a daily limit of five fish with no more than two trout longer than 12 inches to increase catch rates of larger trout.
- Delete the 12-inch size and three fish per day limit for kokanee salmon in Glass Lake (Rensselaer County) because DEC no longer stocks this species.
- Open Lake Kushaqua and Rollins Pond (Franklin County) to ice fishing for lake trout as these populations are considered stable enough to support this activity.
- Open Blue Mountain Lake, Eagle Lake, Forked Lake, Gilman Lake, South Pond and Utowana Lake (Hamilton County) to ice fishing for landlocked salmon and reduce the daily limit for lake trout in these waters from three per day to two per day. Combined with an existing regulation this change will create a suite of nine lakes in Hamilton County that will have the same ice fishing regulations for lake trout and landlocked salmon.
- Delete the catch and release trout regulation for Jordan River from Carry Falls Reservoir upstream to Franklin County line (St. Lawrence County) because this regulation is considered inappropriate for this remote stream section.
- Implement a 12-inch minimum size for brown trout in Otisco Lake (Onondaga County) to increase the opportunity to return more brown trout to the creel.
- Reduce the limit of rainbow trout from five to one in the western Finger Lakes and three to one in the tributaries to provide further protection for this species. Western Finger Lakes include Seneca, Keuka, Canandaigua, Canadice, and Hemlock Lakes.
- Remove the restriction of no more than three lake trout as part of the five trout limit in the western Finger Lakes to foster harvest opportunities and reduce competition with other trout species and impacts on the forage base.
- Eliminate trout catch and release section for Ischua Creek (Cattaraugus County) in the village of Franklinville to enhance angling opportunities by allowing beginner and young anglers to use the section of stream and keep fish.

- Change the minimum size limit for rainbow trout in Skaneateles Lake (Onondaga, Cayuga and Cortland counties) and Owasco Lake (Cayuga County) from nine inches to 15 inches. This would create consistency with the other Finger Lakes as most of these lakes have environmental conditions that support excellent growth of trout and would provide angling opportunities for large fish.
- Add the tributaries of Beaverdam Brook (Oswego County) from their mouths to the upstream boundary of the Salmon River Hatchery property to the current Beaverdam Brook fishing closure (which also currently prohibits fishing within 100 yards of any DEC fish collection device). This addition of the tributaries would make oversight and enforcement of this area more effective in safeguarding fish returning to the hatchery.
- Delete the special trout regulation for Palmer Lake (Saratoga County) to match the statewide regulation. This minor adjustment would extend the season 15 days.

Draft regulations that pertain to pickerel, muskellunge and tiger muskellunge:

- Institute a catch and release only regulation for chain pickerel in Deep Pond (Suffolk County) to allow the pickerel population to recover from over exploitation and increase needed predator control over panfish.
- Implement a 40-inch size limit for muskellunge and tiger muskellunge in the Chenango, Tioughnioga, Tioga and Susquehanna rivers (Chenango, Cortland, Broome and Tioga counties) and a 36-inch size limit at Otisco Lake (Onondaga County) to increase the trophy potential of these species in these waters.

Draft regulations that pertain to ice fishing and baitfish:

- Delete special ice fishing regulation for Square Pond (Franklin County) because this water will no longer be managed for trout.
- Eliminate the existing ban on the use of tip-ups in Crumhorn Lake (Otsego County) because this is an unnecessary regulation.
- Allow ice fishing on stocked trout lakes in Allegany, Niagara, Wyoming, Chautauqua, Erie and Cattaraugus counties unless otherwise stated. These lakes are managed for put and take trout fishing and they contain warm water fish species that should be available to anglers during the winter months through the ice.
- Open specific waters to ice fishing currently deemed as trout waters in the counties of Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis, Oneida and St. Lawrence Counties as ice fishing can be allowed for at these locations.
- Provide for ice fishing at a privately managed water in Hamilton County (Salmon Pond) that is stocked with trout by a private party, as requested.
- Include Cayuta Lake (Schuyler County) as a designated water from which baitfish may be taken as the commercial harvest of alewife should have no negative effect on the alewife population or the lake's ecology.

Draft regulations that pertain to gear and angling methods:

- More clearly specify that attempting to take fish by snagging is prohibited.
- Permit the use of multiple hooks with multiple points on Lake Erie tributaries to provide additional angling opportunities.
- For the Salmon River (Oswego County) allow a bead chain to be attached to floating lures. The distance between a floating lure and hook point may not exceed three-and-a-half inches when a bead chain configuration is used. This was determined to be an effective angling method and was not considered an attractive snagging device.
- For the Salmon River (Oswego County) implement a “no weight” restriction (i.e., only floating line and unweighted leaders and flies allowed) from May 1 – 15 for the Lower Fly Area and from May 1 – August 31 for the Upper Fly Area to provide further protection to vulnerable fish.
- Explicitly and clearly indicate that the catch and release requirement for New York City waters does not apply to snakeheads and that any snakeheads caught while angling are not to be returned to the water.

DEC is proposing additional regulation changes to remove special regulations that are no longer relevant, to provide more clarity in the current regulations and to make minor adjustments to current language. The full text of the draft regulation as well as instructions for submitting comments can be found on DEC’s website at: www.dec.ny.gov/regulations/propregulations.html.

Comments on the proposals can be sent via e-mail to fishregs@gw.dec.state.ny.us, or mailed to Shaun Keeler, New York State DEC, Bureau of Fisheries, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-4753. Hard copies of the full text can be requested from Shaun Keeler at the same addresses listed above. Final regulations, following full review of public comments, will take effect October 1, 2012.

Dan Tone motions to support the Ischua Creek regulation change
2nd Dave Wharton

Clarified
Motion carries unanimously

CHAUTAUQUA LAKE TRAWLING SURVEY

Region 9 Fisheries Staff (M. Todd, J. Zanett, E. Stratton, and J. Brewer) finished the 2011 Chautauqua Lake trawling survey in mid-October. This survey occurs annually, depending on staffing. Trawl sampling occurred twice per month in September and October of 2011. Each time, a bottom trawl was fished at 14 standardized locations, seven each in the north and south basins of the lake. The survey is done to evaluate relative abundance of certain age 0 and older forage species in Chautauqua Lake. Lengths and scale samples were collected from a subsample of Percids and Centrarchids caught. Over the next month, scale samples will be aged and data will be

analyzed to determine abundance trends for yellow perch, white perch and various sunfish in this popular warmwater fishery.

SOURCE: NYS Bureau of Fisheries, Michael Todd, 716- 851-7010



LAKE

ONTARIO TRIB CREEL SURVEY

October proved to be far busier than September, with 585 angler interviews collected during the month. Not only were Lake Ontario tributaries graced with the presence of hundreds more anglers, but they were also graced with large packs of Chinook salmon. Angler interviews indicated Chinook fishing peaked around the middle of the month, eventually slowing toward the end as kings began to complete their seasonal run. The few kings remaining in the streams by the end of October showed signs deterioration and decay. Although brown trout had not yet appeared in large numbers, interviews conducted during the last week of October showed an increase in brown trout catches and harvests. Particularly, anglers near Burt Dam, located on Eighteenmile Creek, had begun to land decent sized browns. October interviews also indicated that anglers on charter trips had been reeling in some steelhead on the Lower Niagara River. Interviews from the first two weeks of November showed numerous brown trout being harvested. Particularly, Burt Dam, located on Eighteenmile Creek, proved to be a hotspot with anglers landing good numbers of brown trout. Along with brown trout, angler interviews indicated that steelhead have been moving into Lake Ontario streams. Most notably, steelhead numbers have been increasing along Eighteenmile Creek, the Lower Niagara River and Oak Orchard Creek. Interviews also indicated a shift in angler behavior. Numerous anglers targeting brown and rainbow trout partook in a local practice known as “leave’er rights” (leave her right where you catch her). When compared to interviews from the month of October, those collected throughout November indicated that anglers released the majority of fish caught.



SOURCE: NYS Bureau of Fisheries, Amanda Wagner, 716-851-7010, Michael Wilkinson

FISHING HOTLINES

Two regional fishing hotlines are updated every Friday to provide area anglers with current fishing information. Together, the hotlines cover the



major fishing waters of Region 9 and the western half of Region 8. Each fishing hotline is available on the DEC website at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/fishhotlines.html>. Recordings of the fishing reports can also be heard at (716) 855-FISH. The Lake Erie Fishing Hotline page had 6,631 visits during October and 61,598 visits year to date, an increase of 10% over same span in 2010. The Western New York Fishing Hotline page had 5,769 visits during October and 42,917 visits year to date, an increase of 17% over same span in 2010. The automated phone line received 1,301 calls in October and 14,186 calls, year to date.

SOURCE: NYS Bureau of Fisheries, Michael Todd ,716- 851-7010

2010-2011 ANNUAL NYS FISHERIES REPORT

The *2010 Annual Report of the Bureau of Fisheries* can be downloaded at www.dec.ny.gov/docs/fish_marine_pdf/fshannrpt11.pdf. It includes a summary of significant activities that occurred during the 2010-2011 fiscal year in the Bureau of Fisheries' 9 regional offices, 2 research stations, 12 fish hatcheries, 1 fish disease laboratory and the DEC Central Office in Albany.

WNY SMALL STREAM SURVEY for Wild Trout

From June to November 2011, two seasonal DEC Fisheries technicians completed the second year of surveying small streams for wild trout populations across WNY. As part of the Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture Project, the primary focus of this survey is to locate undocumented wild brook trout populations or other wild trout species in streams that have never been assessed before. Furthermore, based on these assessments, water classifications will be upgraded to provide legal protection for trout species wherever wild trout populations are found.. Additionally, streams will be prioritized for future habitat restoration and perhaps brook trout reintroduction efforts. After two seasons, the entire upper Genesee watershed (286 surveys), most of the Erie-Niagara watershed (419 surveys) and a portion of the Allegheny watershed (222 surveys) have been surveyed. Of all the streams assessed, 86% were never surveyed before. Wild brook trout were found in 90 streams, wild brown trout in 120 streams and wild rainbow trout in 21 streams. Of the streams containing wild trout, 90% need upgraded water classifications to offer maximum protection. Wild brook trout in these streams face threats, such as competition with brown and rainbow trout, elevated water temperatures and poor land-use practices that should be addressed. Furthermore, artificial barriers (mainly road culverts) that create potential impassable areas to trout and other fish were identified on 158 streams. On the positive side, several surprisingly large specimens of both wild brook and brown trout were found. Fisheries staff will continue to survey streams in western New York through 2012. SOURCE: NYS BUREAU OF FISHERIES, SCOTT CORNETT, 716-372-0645

HABITAT RESTORATION – UPPER NIAGARA RIVER

The Niagara River is classified as a Great Lakes Area of Concern (AOC) due to several beneficial-use impairments, including loss of fish and wildlife habitat. Structural aquatic habitat is needed in this area, as much of the aquatic ecosystem has been lost due to dredging of navigation channels and development of near-shore areas. Fortunately, creating structural aquatic habitat to provide shelter and cover for fish can be done through the design and strategic placement of large rocks and pieces of wood that help break up river currents. In 2008, the New York Power Authority (NYPA) constructed four fish-attraction structures to meet obligations established in the Niagara Power Project federal re-licensing agreement. This project is the largest New York State hydropower

system that harnesses the energy of moving water to create electricity. Furthermore, in 2011, DEC's Region 9 was awarded \$210,000 from the Niagara Habitat Enhancement Restoration Fund, established by NYPA for addressing ecosystem impacts due, in part, to Niagara Power Project operations. This new funding source will aid in constructing five more fish-attraction structures at popular sportfishing sites along the Niagara River, which are expected to be complete in fall 2012.

SOURCE: NYS BUREAU OF FISHERIES, TIM DEPRIEST, 716-851-7010

LAKE ERIE TROUT SPAWNING ACTIVITY SURVEY

The DEC Lake Erie Fisheries Unit conducted its fourth consecutive year of late fall surveys on spawning lake trout populations in Lake Erie. So far, efforts from this survey have shown no concentration of spawning lake trout and no documentation of natural reproduction despite more than 30 years of stocking efforts to restore this native species. Earlier survey efforts indicate that lake trout are no longer using Brocton Shoal, a historical spawning site just west of Dunkirk. Additionally, underwater camera surveillance adjacent to stocking sites at shore break walls and rock piles near Dunkirk and Barcelona revealed that the rock piles are covered by invasive Dreissenid (zebra and quagga) mussels and exhibit extensive sedimentation. Furthermore, survey efforts revealed that lake trout frequent near-shore areas during spawning seasons. These areas are believed to be unsuitable for successful reproduction due to lack of protection from winter storms. The 2011 survey was conducted at locations away from trout-stocking sites having rocky habitat relatively free of mussels and sedimentation. Gill nets set overnight in two areas off the mouth of 18 Mile Creek near Hamburg, NY caught 18 lake trout, including 6 adult females. This indicates lake trout use this site despite its distance from lake trout stocking sites. Furthermore, these observations are consistent with earlier findings that spawning-phase lake trout appear in areas with clean, rocky habitats. This is a significant observation as it determines the types of habitat that attract and concentrate spawning lake trout in Lake Erie, information that will be used to guide restoration efforts.

SOURCE: NYS BUREAU OF FISHERIES, JAMES MARKHAM, 716-366-0228

ALLEGANY STATE PARK - Wild Brook Trout Stream Surveys

In August 2011, DEC Region 9 staff and angler volunteers sampled trout from McIntosh and Beehunter Creek's in Allegany State Park. This was the third year of post-habitat improvement evaluation in McIntosh Creek after the installation of trout habitat structures in summer 2008. Beehunter Creek did not have habitat improvement work done to serve as a "control" stream for comparison. In DEC's sampling efforts, substantial numbers of adult wild brook trout were found in both streams, mainly yearling and two-year-old fish from very good reproduction in 2009 and 2010. On the other hand, low numbers of young-of-year brook trout were found in both streams. This is likely a result of high water-flow conditions after a



heavy rain event in Decem2010, which destroyed trout eggs incubating in the gravel. There has been a significant increase in the adult trout population in McIntosh Creek since before habitat improvement work, and the population in Beehunter Creek has similarly increased. This indicates that population changes have not been due to habitat work but rather to natural fluctuations in trout populations. These fluctuations are likely driven by weather conditions that

affect spawning success and survival from year to year. DEC is planning another year of evaluation on both streams in 2012.

SOURCE: NYS BUREAU OF FISHERIES, SCOTT CORNETT, 716-372-0645

NIAGARA RIVER MUKSY MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

During the reporting period, Region 9 Fisheries Unit personnel collaborated with SUNY Environmental Science and Forestry staff preparing a paper on the history of muskellunge

management on the Buffalo Harbor and Niagara River. The paper will summarize efforts to

manage and study muskellunge in the Niagara Corridor, including the Buffalo Harbor.

SOURCE: NYS Bureau of Fisheries, Michael Wilkinson, 716-851-7010

NIAGARA RIVER PLANNING ACTIVITIES

Region 9 Fisheries Unit staff and the Niagara River Habitat Restoration Biologist participated in two meetings to protect and restore fish and wildlife habitat in the Niagara River Area of Concern. The first event was a working meeting of the Niagara River Conservation Technical Advisory Committee and the second event was a meeting of the Niagara River Remedial Action Committee. DEC staff provided technical assistance on aquatic resources for both these meetings.



SOURCE: NYS Bureau of Fisheries, Michael Wilkinson, Tim DePriest, 716-851-7010

FUNDING FOR AQUATIC HABITAT RESTORATION UPPER NIAGARA

The Niagara River is classified as a Great Lakes Area of Concern (AOC) due to several identified beneficial use impairments, including loss of fish and wildlife habitat. Structural habitat in the aquatic ecosystem has been lost due to such activities as dredging of navigation

channels and development of near shore areas. Fortunately, structural aquatic habitat is fairly

simple to create through the strategic placement of large rock and pieces of wood that break

up river currents to provide shelter and cover for fish. In 2008 the New York Power Authority

constructed four fish attraction structures (FAS) to meet their obligations established in the

federal re-licensing agreement for the operation of the Niagara Power Project. The recently

funded project, FAS Phase II, will build upon that success. Five locations that are popular sport

fishing sites have been selected for creation of the structures with the goal of improving angling

success. The project award of \$210,000 to DEC Region 9 comes from the Niagara HERF, which has recently been established by the NY Power Authority to address

ecosystem impacts to the Niagara River and is expected to be completed in the fall of 2012.

SOURCE: NYS Bureau of Fisheries, Tim DePriest, 716-851-7010

GRASS CARP STOCKING PERMITS

The Region 9 Fisheries Office issued 583 Triploid Grass Carp Stocking Permits in 2011. This is the lowest amount of permits issued in three years, but near the long term average. Triploid grass carp are used for aquatic vegetation control in private ponds that have a secure outlet restricting escape of fish. Triploid Grass Carp are also sterile so they cannot reproduce. Suppliers that sell grass carp are required to report the number of fish sold to each licensee by the end of the year. In 2010, suppliers reported selling 4,511 grass carp to 627 licensees in Region 9. SOURCE: NYS Bureau of Fisheries, Jim Zanett, 716-372-0645

NYSDEC Region 9 Fish and Wildlife Staffing 2012

Region 9 Natural Resources

Paul McKeown Natural Resources
Supervisor

Robert Lichorat Fish & Wildlife
Technician II

Greg Ecker Fish & Wildlife Technician II

Region 9 Fisheries Staff

Mike Clancy Regional Fisheries
Manager

Ryan Rockefeller Seasonal Fish &
Wildlife Technician

Mike Koch Seasonal Fish & Wildlife
Technician

Mike Wilkinson Fisheries Biologist

Matt King Seasonal Fish & Wildlife
Technician

Scott Cornett Fisheries Biologist

Michael Todd Fish Promotion Biologist

Jan Baldwin Seasonal Clerk, Sportsman
Education

Tim DePriest Niagara River Habitat
Improvement Specialist (Natural
Heritage Trust)

James Zanett Principal Fisheries
Technician

Vacant Items

Fisheries Habitat Biologist

Robert Roth Seasonal Fish Technician

Fisheries Biologist (2) positions

Eric Stratton Seasonal Fish Technician

State Wildlife Grants (Rare Species)

Justin Brewer Seasonal Fish Technician

Ecologist

Tobias Widger Seasonal Fish
Technician

Wildlife Biologist

Amanda Wagner Seasonal Fish

Senior Fish & Wildlife Technicians

Technician (Lake Ontario creel survey)

Principal Wildlife Technician

Region 9 Wildlife Staff

Mark Kandel Regional Wildlife Manager

Ken Baginski Wildlife Biologist,
Sportsman Education

Emilio Rende Wildlife Biologist,
Stewardship & Land Mgt.

Tim Spierto Wildlife Biologist

Connie Adams Wildlife Biologist

Kenneth J. Roblee Wildlife Biologist

Anne Rothrock Wildlife Biologist-
Wetlands Program

Chuck Rosenburg Wildlife Biologist-
Ecology, Wetlands Program

Gary Klock Fish & Wildlife Technician II

Small Game - Dan Tone

Informational meeting in March on the 4-H Pheasant program

Last year Dan was the only guy from EC Small Game Committee there

Would like a few more committee members

Thanks to Rose we finally got our cancelled checks back from the NRA grants

One check did not go out last year. Found that out and addressed it. Issued new check

When checks are sent out in the future, Dan will get a copy. For 4-H program costs

Any update on direct dealings with Gordon Batcheller and Coyote Resolution

Big Game

Consensus was another good year, few more weeks the final harvest will be released

Crossbow meeting was impressive room was SRO

Have to get EnCon Law changed in 9C to big game hunt in this WMU (Erie County)

Send the encon law prohibiting big game hunting in 9C

Old Business - none

New Business - Paul gets award for best shirt!

Joe Jemiolo brings the new youth raffle for the banquet and this is approved

New program for youth - free youth raffle for a lifetime NYS sporting license of their choice

Youth has to live in Erie county, be under 16 by March 13, 2013.

Costs \$235-\$460

License fees vary according to age of winner

Sign ups will be made available on website, all member clubs, expo, any Federation event, fisheries advisory board, also will solicit sponsors to give away related starter packages based on what the license winner chose.

Could expand to other counties as well

funding from youth raffle to be used for the license. Winner will get a check made out to DEC for the cost of the license they chose. Can only chose one, and one entry per child only

Lifetime sportsmen for under 5 is \$380

Dave Barus motions to do this

2nd Tom Marks

Motion carries unanimously

Joe adds later in the year we could purchase a Federation plaque for the winner's name each year to be put on this for display at the expos and their fair, etc

For the banquet, Sassafrass Charters has donated a full-day charter for 4, whimsical birdhouses, and some other sponsors will donate for the youth raffle. Tickets are \$5 each or 3/ \$10, at the banquet.

Meeting BOD for NYSOHOF, last Saturday, Joe Fischer will be inducted, Steve Aldstadt, Scott Cornett, Randy Offerbach, all getting inducted. 9 from whole state, we are getting 4.

Tickets for the HOF available. (\$2.00 per ticket)

New Delegates

Ken taking over from Jerry Cumbo

CFAB voted to roll back the license fees due to failed promises
Big fight coming

Good & Welfare

2012 Sportsmen Leg Awareness - March 20, SCOPE getting a bus, will get two if the first fills.

SCOPEny.org

Grass Roots news gave a breakdown of license sales

H/A Stamp raised \$17K

50/50

Winner is - Bison City

Motion to Adjourn

Dave Wharton

2nd Dave Barus

Motion Carries meeting adjourned

Thank You George Washington Club!

Erie County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs

July 2012 General Meeting Minutes

Meeting Time: 7:00 PM – 7/26/2012

Location: Niagara River Station, Grand Island, NY

Call to order – 7:00

Pledge to Flag: Completed

Moment of silence for the passing of Tony Scime's father

Dave and Rose Barus celebrating their 43rd anniversary

Hope Melnyk's B-Day

Roll call – Officers and Directors:

Excused: Bob Church, Tony Gonnello, Gabby Cronin, Joe Fischer, Steve Aldstadt, Dave Smyczynski

6 Officers, 13 Directors, 24 Delegates and 2 guests in attendance

Quorum of member clubs – Yes

Sign up sheet going around on a clipboard

Approval of previous month's minutes - Minutes not out

Board Meeting minutes sent

Secretary's report – Rich Davenport

Briefly summed up Grisanti meeting

Asked a club submit a resolution officially opposing mandatory AR in Region 9

If clubs are in a senator's district this carries a bit more weight

Membership report – Antoinette Grote

Letters sent out and some have been answered

Treasurer's report – Rose Barus provided, and submitted electronically

Motion to approve - Rich D

2nd Frank Sr

Motion carries

Correspondence report – Dave Barus

No letters received

Couple letters sent

Capt. Frank Lauricella, congrats on official promotion to R9 Capt. Serving for 24 years

Letter to Darcy Daugherty for National NWTf recognition as NY ECO of the YEAR
 Response letter sent to Rails to Trails in support of West Falls to Governor Cuomo
 Trail would shut down the club shooting ranges. We oppose the rails to trails, but have not heard back from them yet

Dan Tone noted 45 kids and 20 adults shooting archery one night at West Falls, should take a picture and include in the letters

15lbs of dogs going to NHFD, 15lbs to Summer Youth Camp

Huge things at stake with this rails to trails stuff

Other letters sent to oppose Sweeney bill, etc will be in Sept minutes

President's Report – Chuck Godfrey

Request \$500 for TSA. Dave and Paula have dropped out of TSA, Bob continuing.
 Rich motions to support TSA
 2nd Hope Melnyk

Motion carries

Need to find out where it goes and who it is made out

Next Meetings:

No Meeting in August

| Date | | BM Time | | GM Time | | Location |
|------------|---|---------|---|---------|----------|--|
| August | | | | | | No Meeting |
| 9/13/2012 | - | 6:30 | - | 7:00 | Gen Meet | Springville Field & Stream, Springville, NY |
| 10/11/2012 | - | 6:30 | - | 7:00 | Gen Meet | Hawkeye Bowmen, Marilla, NY |
| 11/8/2012 | - | 6:30 | - | 7:00 | Gen Meet | Boston Valley Conservation Society, Boston, NY |
| 12/6/2012 | - | 6:30 | - | 7:00 | Gen Meet | Bison City Rod & Gun, Buffalo, NY |

GUESTS: David Mariacher, candidate for the 147th Assembly District

Wyoming and S Erie counties
 No political background
 Age52, 3 sons, in construction business, also NYS licensed taxidermist for many years
 member SCI since early 1980's
 Hunting, fishing and trapping careers, 37 years
 District has been redrawn

Make sure that you get to know him

GOP Primary - coming up
 Fund raisers coming up, Holland Speedway

Drumming up sportsmen support

August 24, \$20/ head, at S&S

What is the stance on funding football teams? \$200 MIL for stadium
Has to take a hard look at this before answering, but it does concern if they can stand on
own two feet they typically should

Thank you, let's break for dinner.<7:30>

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Law enforcement – Chuck Godfrey

No academy scheduled to get more ECOs

Archery & Bowhunting – Jim McCann

Nothing new except Oct 1 change

Crossbow – Frank Miskey, Jr.

Crossbow bill

Sweeney/ Marcellino extends existing crossbow law through end of 2014

Prohibits the youth hunt firearms for deer

Passed and is awaiting governor signature

Normal circumstances bill hits desk, and if not signed in 10 days, it becomes law.
However, if the bill hits the desk while legislative session is over, 30 days and no
signature it is vetoed

Many Federations are opposed, including SCOPE

Has not hit his desk yet. not understood why not, passed three weeks

Motion to write to urge Governor to veto the bill

Frank Miskey

2nd Dave S

Motion carries

Fish – Dave Barus

Walleye bite is awesome everywhere

Best since 1980's

Fish Clinics

Tifft - 91 kids, 18 volunteers

174 in attendance, 6 learning stations

Chestnut Ridge

143 kids, new fishing pier was a HUGE hit

6 station format

21 volunteers
Hawkeye did the cooking
310 in attendance
Sponsored Fishing with Heroes weekend
12 made the trip out of 17 that signed up

All had a blast, caught 74 fish in 6 boats, up to 10.5lbs walleye, 14lb lakers
No trouble talking about their injuries.
Sunday 9 fishing guides took more guys out on Chautauqua
Takes \$4,000 to run this, Willy Sieber gets it done with several organizations
VIP Day in Dunkirk, two-county effort, outdoors writers, business people and legislators
from both counties
Getting hotspot map done, and doing a video on promoting lake erie fishing for tourism
Reaction from Chautauqua County very positive
24 in attendance, plus reps from FABs

Small Game – Dan Tone

Spring 2012 turkey harvest, 561 in youth hunt, up 40% from last year's spring youth
turkey season
8,000 bird is 3% increase over last year
1 HRSI during spring season, record low

Concerns about populations being down, but harvest seems up.
Reduced season being hinted at. But DEC is not doing anything until turkey study is
completed.
Youth pheasant hunt is Sept 15
Spots are paid for at 3F hunt. said on application a cost, but federation paid the bill
already
4 apps coming in
Grant from NRA helps to fund pheasant program, along with other donations, Must
submit for NRA grant in Sept of this year
May need help in submitting electronic grant application again, Chuck will help out

Big Game – Paul Stoos

Licenses go on sale next month (Aug 13)

Trapping – Patti Wattengel

None

Waterfowl – Paul Pietraszewski

George Rockey - DU greenwing day for youth Aug 25 at Elma, need any help? Nope all
is done

Conservation Council - Dan Tone

Annual convention coming up Sept 14-16 in Ilion, Commissioner Martens will be there
Need some new blood

The Federation has decided to promote the voluntary “Buck A Member Program” proposed by the Council. This, if successful, will insure a reliable source of income to meet the future needs for our only “conservation rights” lobbying organization in our state.

For those clubs who feel this is a worthwhile cause, please make checks payable to - “New York State Conservation Council” and send to – NYSCC, 8 East Main St., Ilion, NY 13357.

To those clubs that donated last year, we hope that your commitment will carry on. Please don’t wait until the Council solicits for your help. They need the resources now to fund the year’s budget needs.

Also, to those clubs who chose not to participate, please consider what the Council is asking for: “a dollar a member.” A buck doesn’t buy much these days, not a beer at a bar, not a pack of cigarettes or a good cigar, not a decent fishing lure, or even a couple dozen worms. Perhaps it’s time we sportsmen and women consider putting this all in perspective!

Clubs wishing to receive the Council’s “Grass Roots News” monthly publication, which gives updated information on state legislation and conservation issues, should contact the Council at 315-894-3302 . You can also e-mail them at - nyscc@nyscc.com with the information.

Clubs can send their “club’s news” for publication to - NYSCC, 8 East Main St., Ilion, NY 13357 - or e-mail them by the 2nd Monday of the month. The Council also has a policy of not arbitrarily giving or selling private club information.

Finally, there is an ongoing new member/renewal drive for individual Council memberships, with prizes available. Contact the Council or visit their website for details.

Environment & Pollution – Tom Marks

No real report - Asian carp in the news quite a bit.

DNA from Asian carp has been discovered in Lake Erie

Eastern end is ideal for walleye, perch, etc. Western end is getting nutrient loaded from farms and other runoffs (non-point) Need to address sewage overflows big time

Related note, Lake Erie commission meetings on percid management coming up again

Question - on Canadian water traversing from Hal Lawrence

Frank Campbell forgot to call in when crossing the line, in lower river, and he got fined
If you go through Canadian waters, no call, but if you fish or anchor, you have to call in

Recommend writing the Canadian customs folks and getting the process in writing
Dan Tone motions the Federation write to Canadian officials to get a written explanation
2nd Hal Lawrence

all but one in support, motion carries

Legislation – John Susz

To keep in touch with what's going on with firearm legislation in New York, check out SCOPE's website at - www.scopeny.org
Hand outs on the table on incumbent President
UN Treaty slated to be submitted tomorrow

Resolutions – OPEN -

Spoken on AR resolution request
Think about resolutions now

Membership Outreach – The membership secretary would like all club presidents to consider attending at least one regular Federation meeting a year. This might not only prove to be a learning experience, but may also provide a better insight as to the importance of having representation on behalf of their clubs. If any club would like a visit from a Federation spokesman, please contact president Chuck Godfrey at 440-6995 or steelheader@roadrunner.com . The president will also try to visit one club or so per month.

IF ANYONE KNOWS OF AN ERIE COUNTY CLUB WHICH IS NOT A MEMBER,
PLEASE LET THE PRESIDENT KNOW SO HE CAN CONTACT THEM ABOUT
MEMBERSHIP

Sportsman/woman Education – Frank Miskey Sr.

Sept is banquet for Hunter Educators

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nominations – Paul Stoos

Nothing yet

Awards – Frank Miskey Sr.

Nothing yet, start thinking about it
Change going to try accepting email nominations, if they are on the proper form
Form will be on the minutes starting September

Banquet – Dave Smyczynski

March 2, 2013 all booked up awaiting the contract
Starting in Sept a sign up sheet for volunteers

Educational Opportunities – Chuck Godfrey

Scholarship application will start this month, in the back of the minutes
Also on the website you can download from there

Fund Raising – Dave Smyczynski

Calendars this year will go up to \$5.00/ calendar has not received anything in writing yet from the calendar company. Get the website on the calendar Raffle to help fund the youth lifetime licenses - tickets being printed soon

FWMB - Paul Stoos

Nothing new as of yet

Shows – Dave Wharton

We still need help manning the Federation booth at the Erie County Fair, 8/8-8/19 need to sign up, coming up quick still have 9 open shifts Taxidermy entry deadline is tomorrow, but will be extended 649-3900 to enter, ask for exhibits Parking like last year

National Hunting and Fishing day – Rich Davenport

Reviewed in detail, confirmed all but 6 on list, still have 6 slots open, flyers will go out soon, the press release is out ADs scheduled and set Road sign quote and Penny Saver Ads still up in air Reloading will be demo only Punch card format to get all to visit every exhibitor

WNY Environmental Federation – Dan Tone

Sept 9, 1PM Hoaks WNYEF minutes to go in Federation minutes

Youth Lifetime Fishing Licenses – Joe Jemiolo

Tickets coming awaiting some corporate sponsors Chuck Godfrey donated a turkey gun for next year's drawing

Budget and Finance – Rose Barus – (motion to pay bills)

Mike Yates needs a check for his efforts, 19th of August

Website – Dave Smyczynski - erictyfsc.org

Bunch of updates will be done shortly

Old Business: None

New Business - any new delegates present?

None - Ken Bittner - alternate from Hawkeye

Good and Welfare of the Organization:

EAF&G NRA sportsfest this Saturday. \$20 gun raffle tickets

SCOPE annual picnic Sunday at EAF&G

Free for members, can join as well at picnic, raffle for marlin rifle, cash and prizes

Apps for SCOPE also available

VIP fishing trip, NCCC donated the costs for it all.

Paul Stoos motions to donate 10 rods & reels for NCCC kids derby
2nd Dave Wharton

Motion carries

License sales for fishing is up, looking very good, state and national as well. Testament to our efforts at outreach, but also some cyclical factors may be in play
Hard updated numbers should be available soon

Rushford camp discussed

Niagara County selling raffle tix to support the Rushford camp

50/50 Raffle

Winner - Southtowns Walleye

Motion for Adjournment

Motion to adjourn - Rich D 2nd – Frank Sr

Thanks to Host Club

Niagara River Station

Meeting adjourned 9:50PM

ERIE COUNTY FEDERATION OF SPORTSMEN'S CLUBS INC.

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

As part of the Erie county Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs efforts to enhance our environment and wildlife appreciation, we award up to five \$200 college scholarships yearly.

To qualify for a scholarship you must be a high school senior enrolled in an accredited college, or attending an accredited college with your major in any one of these areas: environmental conservation, law enforcement, or environmental pollution **and must be a resident of Erie County.**

Scholarships are awarded based upon need and the area of study. To be considered for one of these scholarships complete the form below and return with a short essay telling of need, any projects you have **engineered or participated in**, your future goals, and proof of enrollment (i.e., course enrollment, course schedule, report card, etc.) to the address below prior to **December 15.**

**SCHOLARSHIP CHAIRMAN
29 YVETTE DRIVE
CHEEKTOWAGA, NY 14227**

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ COUNTY: _____ NY ZIP: _____

HOME TELEPHONE: _____ OTHER: _____

COLLEGE: _____

GRADE LEVEL: _____ MAJOR: _____



Rich Davenport, 2012 ECFSC Recording Secretary

Erie County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs

September 2012 General Meeting Minutes

Meeting Time: 7:00 PM – 9/13/2012

Location: Springville Field & Stream, Springville, NY

Call to Order: 7:07PM

Pledge to Flag: Completed

Reading of minutes

Frank Sr Motion to accept
Antoinette Grote 2nd

Motion carries

Treasury Report – Rose Barus

Rose is excused, we have the electronic copies
Electronic reports are not on the site or in the minutes but if anyone needs to see it can
request an electronic report

Membership report – Antoinette Grote

49 clubs all paid
Nothing new

Correspondence Report - Dave Barus

Letter from USSA thank you for the donation we sent

Addressed to Rose

Received Cert of Appreciation from 3rd Battalion 85th Mountain Infantry
for outstanding support of fishing w/ heroes weekend
Fort Drum, 8/8/2012
For donation of \$200.00 in support

Chuck Godfrey sent letter to USSA concerning problems at the Expo and the raffle not
being run, etc., asking what happened with the raffle, as no one came to the show to work
on Sunday

State trappers asked, followed by Erie county trappers

Day he received letter, president called and gave Chuck name of the organizer
National organizer gave name of local organizer
Found out late that coverage was not there
Raffle was held
Miranda McKeown won
Apologies extended

Hageman case in Wyoming County, found guilty on 4 charges
Turned over to judge in Warsaw to review
Sentencing going forward on Monday night
Chuck Godfrey will be there, Gary Huber will be there
Letter sent seeking maximum sentence for the violations he was convicted of

Wrote to DEC for max punishments well

Charges against him detailed, but we do not know which 4 were successful and the balance tossed

Dave S. Need an updated list for the website of member clubs and organizations

Guests

DEC Personnel
Mark Kandel
Paul McKeown
Tim Spierto
Mike Clancy
Don Einhouse
Emilio Rende
Russ Biss - Retired
Jim Snyder - Retired

Paul McKeown – Natural Resource Supervisor
Patty Rex came up and Asst Commissioner Kathy Mosier visited on Niagara River and on Lake Erie (PRex) for gill netting work

1st Opportunity to have supers at that level to region 9 and in field to see the resources we have

Kathy Moser took Chris Amato's position

Still dealing with the challenges with vehicles and travel.
CF in pretty good shape, but money not being released and it is impacting work done
Tough to go across to other states, even with day trips
Great Lakes having challenges to make meetings with neighbors
Bear research
the list goes on how this is impacting all

Mark Kandel – Regional Wildlife Manager

Licensing - Governor asked Martens to restructure the sporting licenses to "simplify" the licensing system

Youth hunt and crossbow bill - Governor has asked for this not to be delivered, and have Sweeney come to a compromise

Reg is in place for youth hunting, but the crossbow bill will kill it

Coming right down to the wire

If there is movement info will get out asap

Media fury concerning beavers in Amherst

Town hired a nuisance trapper, had the proper permits

Chewing up memorial trees, Town gets permit every year to keep flooding problems

Exaggerated what went on

Current Admin in DEC has allowed the DEC to extend and educate, when in years past it was stay out and let them go

Weathered the storm, message is trapping is a management tool, necessary tool, provides recreation, provides income for trappers, and sometimes nuisances happen outside the season, at that point it is management of the animal individual

Gordon Batcheller and article on alternate ammo in hunting regs

Some study has been done on the use of non-lead ammo

Getting word out to educate on availability

Encouraging the voluntary use of this

Monolithic copper rounds are just as effective or even more effective than lead?

Fine dust and fragments from lead vs. near zero fragmentation from copper

Connie could not make it tonight, but the cormorant control continues

removed 50-60 adult birds, eliminated the nests on motor island

stomach contents were gobies and emeralds, only two yellow perch out of 50 guts checked

Waterfowl - brochures online, but not printed yet, soon.

Annual info Meeting is Sept 20 at Iroquois, at one of the storage buildings near the under construction visitor center

Q - how many beaver were taken in Amherst?- just one not 50

How many beavers have been taken in Erie County - 52, was reported as 52 beaver were taken, and not told where

Q - youth hunt and what else needs to be done?
Nothing, the law on crossbow needs to be killed
Youth hunt is with the tag the kid already has to take one deer
Not issuing new tags or special tags

Antoinette Grote Seminar and demos on non-lead bullets to get information to attend
Video conference is available, if you want to come in and watch
Power point info will be up on the web

When you buy a lifetime license, you get tags for current license year at the store
They will mail the tags once the license was processed
Hasn't gotten his tags for ML and bow
DECALS issue

Contract is running out, working on a new system, eLicensing
Could be better could be worse, the devil you know

Tim Spierto – Regional Big Game Biologist
Tore ACL in Feb, in physical therapy
Back to work
Unit 9P - no DMP without preference points, sorry, 2 bucks per Sq Mile. Hope it is temporary
Develop new objectives, or continue to get issues
1 or 2 points no guarantee, 3 yes
Fawns everywhere
Habitat flip premier in North no longer in South
As Rich had alluded to over the past few years, habitat seems to have shown a change
9A will have more tags issued, lots of them
Albany has asked to discontinue CTFs until aggregates are developed
Get better handle on this, no more task force meeting so work isn't re-done...

AR

Licensed hunter is by far the biggest harvester of deer in NYS
Bear - doing real well out here, record set last year, doubled the old one
Concurrent opener and expanded range - 44 harvested that first weekend

Rest of State is experiencing severe bear damage complaints and having to destroy bears breaking into buildings and cars. Have not experienced this here, we have good summer food sources, better than out East.

Bob Church read that the climate prediction is for a harsh winter this year, have you seen anything concerning bears and denning etc.

Has more to do with lack of food, not weather conditions

Adult males will den last, if at all

Hyperphasia, bears consume in fall up to 20,000 calories per day to prepare for winter denning

Road kills is 11, down from LY, ave is 25/ yr

Could indicate the lower numbers from harvest sustainability

Moose season in ADK?

We just may at some point have a hunt on them in the not too distant future

SAK - deer management not used

Employed to estimate numbers, but not in management decisions on that data

Known that years of work when changes in restrictions, etc, current data changes

Emilio Rende - land manager, upland bird manager

Habitat management, 20,000 acres managed in Region, timber management used

Extensive timber management in some areas

Recently through some Federal - hired forestry tech to conduct timber mgmt, inventory and sales agreements

Current forestry staff has to manage the state forests, rather than on WMUs.

Updating some of the other areas,

Nicholas Brown - updating inventory on Genesee Valley WMA.

The Carleton Hill

In house also do some field work in planting for grassland birds.

Smaller equipment being purchased in small areas where the larger machines cannot go

Belleville area - is there something going on in that area?

Hanging Bog is between two state forests, sometimes they do run into cases of timber theft, they stay on top of that

Any forestry work on WMU - where do the proceeds go? % of minimum bid goes to in kind service, then the balance goes to CF!

State Forest lands go to Natural resources account in the general fund

Mowing perennial grasses

Past few years reports coming in regarding turkey numbers in region

lots of factors that can inhibit population

Lots of predators, avian, ground and nest, today, depending on weather what is most prevalent

Habitat changing, etc

Lots of changes have happened

<insert>

will be doing another turkey trapping study, focusing on hens, and include some tracking
gps units as well to know where they go

Landowners who are interested in letting DEC do some turkey trapping, let them know

Gabby - birds of prey, too well protected

Concentrating on one predator, doesn't mean the population will be good

Predator - prey - good habitat provides cover for the turkey

trying to encourage landowners to start engaging in succession stage management

Private landowner workshop at hanging bog (insert in the report)

A few years ago DEC was talking about land management machine

machine is secured, and its R9's turn to have it, cuts trees up to 5" in diameter, getting it
on the 20th

Use to create some open fields

40 acres open field in hanging bog in 1970's, less than half that today, hence the work on
management

Using some of these machines can cost upwards of \$1200/ acre to cut and clear

Mike Clancy - Fisheries Manager

Inland fisheries resources

16 lakes in R9, Chautauqua biggest

Spring electro-fish in June, checking bass and walleye, report of findings, next spring

Healthy bass factory, people coming from everywhere, PA had their State

Championships there last year

Walleye stocking Cuba and Lime, not doing well, bass doing great

Silver done prior, report available

Lots of inland stream work with Scott Cornett

Cataloging more wild brook trout streams, and these streams, literally hundreds, are
showing wild trout reproduction, looking to get protections

Opportunity now to reclassify the streams, or wait another 25 years

<insert report>

Stocked fish seemed to be at least holding over moreso

New Regulation changes Oct 1.

C&R section off Ischua Creek

Changes on Lake Erie

Lime, Rushford and Silver - blue green algae, no sewage - complaints

Issues, call division of water for this, human septic issues

South Park Lake - dredging project, etc. ECFAB was involved, not going to happen, and now reclassified as wetland so cannot be dredged, even though its a manmade lake
Chautauqua get slots in September, spreading to other lakes, lots of organizations looking at it, been around 100 years in NY, caused by nutrient loading
non-point liquid fertilizers running off fast and building nutrients again
not all are poisonous, but cannot tell by looking at the algae.

Does this impact edible quality

One study linked BGA and yellow perch in CA, but no major impact seen, just really digging into this.

Goes away when cold.

But pollution sources continue, and work now being considered to address the runoff with settling areas, etc

Great conditions for Chautauqua BGA.

Don Einhouse - Lake Erie Fisheries Unit

Travel out of state is difficult for the Great Lakes unit and inter-agency cooperation.

Fish passage happening at Westfield Dam, for the spawning steelhead

Lake Trout stocking program, Allegheny Fish Hatchery down for repairs

Vermont hatchery, hurricane flooded rearing ponds, fish had to be destroyed, could not meet disease-free standards

Allegheny is back online

6 fish walleye limit on Erie is standardized across all 6 jurisdictions

Trib regs with broad recognition on the confusion stream regs bring

Eliminated single hook restriction during Oct-March

Will be evaluated

Treble hooks are on lures, not using treble hooks for bait or other methods

outreach Spring state of lake meeting, but in addition a fisheries workshop was hosted as well. Bring some of the other partners, like Ontario, etc, to discuss these things as well as second types of outreach

Survey work, sturgeon netting to learn about the population, little effort, caught 15, tagged measured, and healthy hope to continue this

In the middle of warmwater netting, lots of 2yr old fish from 2010 class

Next class was not as strong, but 2010 is excellent

Creel surveys show excellent fishing

What about the sturgeon found on beach at Sturgeon Point? Took skin sample to send for age determination, plus report on age of fish caught in spring (all caught sturgeon in spring were released unharmed)

Jim Snyder appreciates coming back, interesting work, misses the people but not the job, it has certainly changed.

Russ Biss echoes the comments

Great staff remains, but conditions have certainly changed!

Chuck been in contact with Management and Budget, asking about h/A and CF money not being spent

You have to understand the state has a cash flow problem

Understood, but these are dedicated funds, not the same thing what does the state cash flow problem have to do with this?

Same answer, etc

Mindset needs to be changed

Meeting Will be done by 9:20 or sooner dinner afterwards

President's Report – Chuck Godfrey

SCOPE Banquet

Oct 26 at Lucarelli's

\$400 for table of 10

BOD recommends to support

Steve Aldstadt motions to buy table

2nd Tom Fischer

motion carries

Get with Chuck on who is going

follow normal procedures

Next Meetings:

<insert>

Next month will start looking for clubs to host

Committee Reports

NYSCC – Dan Tone

Meeting this week

Chuck sent letters to Cushing requesting reporting on resolution voting in a roll call manner

No answer back from Howie

Dan Tone will bring up at the board meeting

This should not be a problem
Used to be standard procedure

Will insert the vote into minutes
Meeting starts tomorrow morning

Would like to help trappers on cable restraint bill, DEC for it, NYSCC for it, will try to push this.

Trying to get sign for Hall of Fame and Wildlife Museum
They will give the sign on the Thruway

Environment & Pollution - Tom Marks

Invasive Species the Cost and Damage

Emerald Ash Borer, EAB

The first detection of EAB in New York was in the town of Randolph, Cattaraugus County, in June 2009. Since then, infestations were later discovered in seven other counties in Western New York and five in the Hudson Valley. Nineteen counties in New York are under state and federal EAB quarantines.

The EAB is a small but destructive beetle that infests and kills North American ash tree species, including green, white, black, and blue ash. DEC adopted a strategy, Slow Ash Mortality (SLAM), to slow the spread of EAB within the state and its devastating economic and environmental impacts. SLAM encompasses a variety of approaches to address EAB infestations including removing infested trees, defining and monitoring infestation boundaries more precisely and researching insecticides and organisms that kill pests. The purple detection trap that was placed in Kenneth L. Wilson campground is part of DEC's ongoing SLAM initiative, which enables DEC to detect new EAB infestations in high-risk locations, such as campgrounds.

Since it was first discovered in Michigan in 2002, EAB has been responsible for the destruction of 70 million trees in the United States. New York has more than 900 million ash trees, representing about seven percent of all trees in the state, and all are at risk from EAB.

Communities face particular risks, as ash is a common street and park tree. Green ash, in particular, has been widely planted as an ornamental tree in yards. Recent research papers have reported that the potential costs to municipalities from EAB could exceed \$12 billion over the next 10 years. Efforts like DEC's SLAM initiative can significantly delay the loss of ash trees and the subsequent costs to communities for their removal and replacement.

West Nile Virus

Discovered in 1999 in West Nile Virus is believed to have arrived in ballast water carrying infected mosquito larva or through an infected imported bird. In 1999 there were 62 cases of human infection (7 fatalities) in NYC; by 2001 the disease was reported in

every state east of the Mississippi River except Minnesota, South Carolina, West Virginia and Vermont. By 2005, every state in the continental US and Canada reported West Nile Virus, with 3000 cases and 119 fatalities that year. Up to Sept 11 of this year there have been 118 fatalities, since WNV was first discovered there have been 1381 fatalities. They stopped counting dead birds from WNV in 2000; tens of thousands of birds have died from the disease.

The Northern Snakehead

The northern snakehead is an invasive fish native to China, Russia and Korea. Other snakehead species are native to parts of Asia and Africa. Two populations of this air-breathing predator have been identified in New York State; one in two connected ponds in Queens, NYC and one in Ridgebury Lake in the Town of Wawayanda, Orange County. While the Queens population is confined, the Ridgebury population, situated in the Wallkill River drainage, has the potential to infest the entire Hudson River drainage and beyond to the Great Lakes and continental US. DEC plans to eradicate the Ridgebury population using rotenone.

Snakeheads are highly invasive and have the potential to disrupt recreational and commercial fishing, harm native fish and wildlife, and impact our economy. New York State prohibits possession, sale and live transport of snakehead fish and their viable eggs. Importation and interstate transport of snakeheads is prohibited under federal Lacey Act. Northern snakeheads are top predators capable of growing to at least three feet long and surviving throughout the continental US in a variety of habitats. With teeth similar to our pike and walleye, they are superb predators. They feed voraciously, primarily on other fish but also eat frogs, crayfish and aquatic insects. While they prefer weedy shallow waters, they can inhabit virtually any of our lakes and streams. They tolerate a wider range of oxygen levels than our native species. When oxygen is insufficient to support most of our native fish, snakeheads can breathe air and they may survive for days out of water in damp conditions. Young fish can move across the ground to access water. Snakeheads spawn multiple times each year with females releasing tens of thousands of eggs each time. Eggs hatch in one to two days during the summer and parents guard the young until they begin to feed. Upon hatching, snakeheads feed on zooplankton then begin consuming other fish larvae when they are less than an inch long.

In 2008 Rotenone was applied to Catlin Creek and Ridgebury Lake, the treatment failed to kill all the snakehead fish.

Summary

These are just three examples of invasive species threatening our environment. The significance of invasive species should not be underestimated. The greatest threat to an ecosystem by these invaders is the loss of biodiversity however it should not be forgotten there is often an economic and human toll as well. We should continue to make every effort possible to stop the spread or invasion of non-native species in the environment.

Recognize that all products, packaging, containers, ships, animals and humans could be vectors for invasion.

Youth Lifetime Licenses - Joe Jemiolo

Procedure was emailed today, next meeting hope to get board approval
Stack of applications/ entries, those will have to be split into piles for lookup
will need people to help organize these
Antoinette and Tom Marks have volunteered, will bring to next meeting what has been entered into the spreadsheet

Will need over 1000 tickets separated for the drawing
Raffle tickets for Lifetime License support - tickets available
Drawing is on 9/22 NHFD
Get a hold of Dave or Joe, must have the tickets on 9/22 drawing at 4:01PM!!!!

December Henry Rifle, .22 MAG
100 tix, \$20.00, tix on sale
Moneys are separate
If any clubs would like to donate funds towards licenses, please feel free
Deer Search is donating \$250 towards the youth licenses, through buying \$50 tix for the raffle

Apps on table
and on Website

Legislation – John Susz, Jr.

SCOPE Meet the candidates night
6PM, Thurs Sept 27

Resolutions – Need a chairman

Alden Paul Stoos
No AR Copy already received

Rich will get balance of region on board

Sportsmen Education – Frank Miskey, Sr.

Banquet last weekend, thanks for supporting
137 people attended

Classes this year, for some reason are bookin' over-booking and filling FAST

Nominations

Not needed until October

Awards – Frank Miskey, Sr.

Start thinking about and nominating folks to receive awards

Will try to accept nominations via email. Follow format or else

Banquet/ Fund raising/ Website

Taking orders for calendars this evening - see Dave
Some on order by October meeting, rest in November
Order with Dave

Banquet - contract sent to Dave, March 2, 202, next month committee members will get rolling

Website - updates made to the website reflecting NHFD and such

Fund raising
\$5/ per calendar

Educational Opportunities – Chuck Godfrey

Scholarship app will be in minutes
Due date is Dec 15

FWMB - Paul Stoos

Had meeting last week Thursday. ok attendance. did not do tons due to low attendance.
Focusing on what to do to get motivated and get things done again
Lots of guys do not get a lot of info, so re-hashing of things happening

Shows & Expos – Chuck Godfrey

Fair was a success
Thank you to everyone who worked

Expo coming up in March, Oct-Dec looking for volunteers

National Hunting and Fishing Day – Rich Davenport

Updates made/ given

WNYEF

Minutes will be available

Pay the Bills

Motion to pay Bills Frank Miskey, Sr
2nd Tom Marks

Motion carries

Law Enforcement - Chuck Godfrey

Robert Hageman being sentenced Sept 17
found guilty on 4 counts

Archery – Jim McCann

Oct 1 opener

Crossbow – Frank Miskey, Jr

Covered

Fish – Dave Barus

Dave says covered

Thank you to Doug Zeller and Rich Zymark for sampling at tourneys and such

Small Game – Dan Tone

600 pheasant released so far, another 100 to go, at \$4./ bird

grant submitted again for next year

Got a call today about a banded bird - she got a barred owl, died on 219, when cremated, one of the pheasant bands was in the stomach

Pheasants only live for 3-4 years, band was @ 10 years old.

Wants to know more

cool story

Big Game - Paul Stoos

None right now

Trapping – Patti Wattengel

None of proposed changes passed, so regulations will remain the same in this part of state

Youth training camps ready to rock thank you Federation for support

Old Business

Last few years donation to shoot fest with boy scouts charity shoot chaired by Tim

Howard

none

Steve motions donate \$200 to BSA

2nd Tom Fischer

Motion carries

New Business

Food on, come through or to the front

beverages, raffle tickets, may remember Stan Spisiak, freeze acorns plant in spring. his tree!

Fantastic acorn year, English white oak.

New delegates?

no

Good & Welfare

none

50/50

Winner Hawkeye Bowmen

Rich motion to adjourn

2nd Tom Marks

Motion carries meeting adjourned

9:18PM

**ERIE COUNTY FEDERATION
OF SPORTSMEN'S CLUBS INC.**

***COLLEGE
SCHOLARSHIPS***

As part of the Erie county Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs efforts to enhance our environment and wildlife appreciation, we award up to five \$200 college scholarships yearly.

To qualify for a scholarship you must be a high school senior enrolled in an accredited college, or attending an accredited college with your major in any one of these areas: environmental conservation, law enforcement, or environmental pollution **and must be a resident of Erie County.**

Scholarships are awarded based upon need and the area of study. To be considered for one of these scholarships complete the form below and return with a short essay telling of need, any projects you have **engineered or participated in**, your future goals, and proof of enrollment (i.e., course enrollment, course schedule, report card, etc.) to the address below prior to **December 15.**

**SCHOLARSHIP CHAIRMAN
29 YVETTE DRIVE
CHEEKTOWAGA, NY 14227**

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ COUNTY: _____ NY ZIP: _____

HOME TELEPHONE: _____ OTHER: _____

COLLEGE:_____

GRADE LEVEL:_____ MAJOR:_____

ERIE COUNTY FEDERATION OF SPORTSMENS CLUBS

NOMINATIONS FOR AWARDS FOR 2013

List of Categories:

- Valerie E. Gonnello Sportswoman of the Year
- Sportsman of the Year
- Youth of the Year
- Club of the Year
- Volunteer of the Year
- Public Servant of the Year
- Public Relations of the Year
- Dedicated Service Award
- Lifetime Achievement Award
- Stanley Spisiak Conservationist Award

Name of Candidate

Address

Contact person if applicable

Person's history and why they should be chosen

Greatest Achievement

Submitted by:
Phone Number:

Send to: Frank Miskey Sr.
62 Boll Drive
Elma, New York 14059

DEAD LINE 2/1/2013
E-MAIL WILL BE ACCEPTED
CANDIDATE CAN ONLY BE NOMINATED FOR ONE AWARD



Erie County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, Inc.
Member of NEW YORK STATE CONSERVATION COUNCIL



Sept. 10, 2012

Honorable Judge John R. Proper
POB 183
Silver Springs, N.Y. 14550-0183

Subject: Robert V. Hageman case of Environmental Game Violations

Dear Honorable Judge Proper:

It has come to our attention that Robert V. Hageman, sr, has been found guilty of four counts of wild life violations in your court and that sentence will be passed on him by you Monday Sept. 17. I would refer you to our letter of 2/6/11 on this matter if you have a copy available. Our thoughts on appropriate sentencing for him has not changed since then. As a former president of the Wyoming County Wildlife Federation, former member of both the WNY and Finger Lakes Chapters of Deer Search, and a Hunter Education Instructor of long standing he needs to be held to the highest possible standards of behavior when it comes to fish and game regulations. He has egregiously violated the public trust placed in people who hold these posts. We at the Erie County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs feel that he should be punished to the fullest extent possible under the Law.

Again, we hope he would receive the harshest judgment possible, as we feel he has violated the public trust in how sportsmen conduct themselves in the worst way possible.

Sincerely,

Chuck Godfrey – president
29 Yvette Dr.
Cheektowaga, NY 14227
716-440-6995
steelheader@roadrunner.com



Erie County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, Inc.
Member of NEW YORK STATE CONSERVATION COUNCIL



August 31, 2012

NYS DEC
Division of Law Enforcement
Assistant Director of Operations
Colonel Walter G. Heinrich
625 Broadway, 8th Floor
Albany, NY 12223-2500

Col. Heinrich,

I'm writing to make a request in the case of Robert Hageman, who has been found guilty of four counts of wild life violations. As a former president of the Wyoming County Wildlife Federation, former member of both the WNY and Finger Lakes Chapters of Deer Search, and a Hunter Education Instructor of long standing he needs to be held to the highest possible standards of behavior when it comes to fish and game regulations. He has egregiously violated the public trust placed in people who hold these posts. We at the Erie County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs feel that he should be punished to the fullest extent possible under Conservation Law. We understand that this could include losing his certifications as a hunter ed. instructor and tracker. Hopefully this would be forever. We would also like to see him lose his right to hunt and fish in NYS for whatever maximum time is possible. I know that in a court of law, other violations that have been committed but not prosecuted cannot be considered when sentence is passed. I don't know whether that is the case for the judgments you will be rendering, but we would like you to keep in mind that the prosecuting attorney chose to pursue only 4 counts in one town, rather than the 8 counts committed in two towns, that he actually committed.

Again, we hope he would receive the harshest judgment possible, as we feel he has violated the public trust in how sportsmen conduct themselves in the worst way possible.

Sincerely,

Chuck Godfrey – president
29 Yvette Dr.
Cheektowaga, NY 14227
716-440-6995
steelheader@roadrunner.com



Rich Davenport, 2012 ECFSC Recording Secretary

Erie County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs

October 2012 General Meeting Minutes

Meeting Time: 7:00 PM – 10/12/2012

Location: Hawkeye Bowmen, Marilla, NY

ECFS General Meeting 10/12/12

Call to Order: 7:20 PM

Pledge to American Flag, moment of silence for Fred Kokot and Ray Gwarek grandson (Jason)

Attendance: 31 on hand. Excused: Rich D, Tom, F, Dave W, Dave S

Membership: Antoinette Grote; 48 clubs paid for 2012

Treasurer: Rose Barus, balance statements reported, on file with officers and board, no new bills to pay, copies of financials available upon request, no report for web viewing

Correspondence: D. Barus, letters written to 3 Ontario sources requesting proper process to follow upon crossing into Ontario waters of Upper Niagara or Lake Erie. No response yet.

Future Meetings: C. Godfrey, Boston-Nov; Bison-Dec; Elma-January; Feb-open; Mar-open, Apr-open; Erie Con Club-May;

Special Committees:

Nominations; Paul Stoos chair: 7 positions on Board of Directors; GeorgeR- Y; TomF Y ; JohnS–Y; Tony G- Y; Tom M- Y; Hope M- ??? need to contact; 1 more- open; Officers: President: ChuckG- Y; 1st Vice nominated by George Rockey as Frank Miskey Sr. – accepted; Joe F declines 1st Vice; 2nd Vice: Joe F nominated by George Rockey, accepted; Treasurer, RoseB – Y; Recording Sec: RichD – Y by e-proxy; Correspondence Sec: DaveB- Y; NYSCC: Dan Tone- Y; Joe Fischer- Y; nominations closed.

Banquet: Dave S, absent

Fund Raising: Dave S, via email, calendars due to be shipped to ECFS 10/12/12. ; Raffle, Steve A., Henry Golden Boy .22LR, 100 tix only, \$20 ea, drawing at Dec 6 ECFS meeting at Bison, 20 sold, need to sell 80 more.

Education: Chuck G, see website for application, must include essay; 1 rcvd so far

FWMB: Paul S, next meeting in 6 weeks

Shows: Chuck G, EC Fair: Income \$308.61 (including \$69 donation jar), plus \$276 shotgun shell liites to Alden R&G

Expo: Chuck G, set for Mar 7-10, 2013

WNYEF: Dan T, Rich D to put minutes of last meeting on website; new president as of January will be Zen Olow, Dan T says thanks to Zen; Next meeting Jan 13, 2013, 1 PM at Hoak's Restaurant, Route 5

Youth Lifetime License Raffle: Joe J, 850 applications rcvd and loaded, approx. \$1500 rcvd so far from donations to pay for program, West Herr, Deer Search, others contributed; Check to be payable to NYSDEC only, not to parents; Chuck G proposal for how to handle license distribution based on age: motion to accept - Steve A, Tom M, passed. Joe F reports that NYSCC commends this idea and wants to copy for other programs and organizations.v Joe J rcvd thank you from group.

Budget & Finance: Rose B, no bills to pay at this time

Law Enforcement: Chuck G, Hageman from Wyoming County found guilty on 4 wildlife law counts, sentencing set for 10/22, 5:30 PM in Perry Court.

Archery: Jim M absent

Crossbow: Frank Miskey Jr, absent

Fish Committee: Dave B, DEC luncker-bunker and tree replanting /erosion control work on N Branch Wiscoy Creek complete with brown trout surveys in progress shows successful program; DEC musky survey of Upper Niagara shows lowest young of year since 2007 – warm weather may have been factor in poor sampling; Thank you to all volunteers at all Teach-Me-To-Fish events, over 1500 kids discovered the fun of the outdoors through fishing this year through support from 15 events, all serviced by ECFS rod/reel donations. Joe F reports that Erie County may fund 2013 program as a regular budget iitem, returning funding to \$20 too ECFAB and for distribution to promote fisheries. Bill Hilts Sr email requesting position on potential farm raised bass for retail sale, new idea, would need DEC approval – game fish, not funded by conservation funding, but by private funds, seems ok since trout are raised for sale to restaurants now too, same idea, opposition from Rochester area bass club – ECFS takes no position, personal responses suggested.

Small Game: Dan T, turkeys, many more birds east NY, WNY is poor, DEC concerned with continuing downward trend, hen tagging study by Emilio Rende group to be conducted, call him at 372-0645 with concerns or comments; Pheasants: NYS grant money was big help, all birds banded, approx 900 birds released, successful program (4H). Coyote Bill, discussed with Senator Grisanti, Gordon Batchellor, others, by Dan, Rich, Joe to classify coyote as an unprotected species, passed by other federations, but will be difficult to find a sponsor to stand for this one due to anti-response from NYS legislators; motion to talk with legislators to find a sponsor: 1st Dan T, 2nd George R, passed. Discussion Paul S thought trappers would be opposed to idea, all agreed. No trappers present.

Big Game: Paul S, 1st special season NYS Youth firearms hunt Columbus Day weekend, so far, 486 deer reported taken by youth hunters 14 and 15 years old during special 4 day season. No injuries to youth hunters or anyone else in woods, appears to be very successful youth hunt event. Discussion, comparison to Ohio and Pennsy similar programs, are far more advanced, but this is start in NYS.

Trapping: Patti, absent.

Waterfowl: George R, discussed recent dog field trials at Iroquois Refuge, multi states attendance, no issues, recently kids or foul play started fires in mounds area, suggests meeting to be held with manager "Heidi" in near future to handle issues.

NYS Council: Dan T, 4 resolutions voted, 3 passed, 1 no; increased fines for hunting over bait, air gun for big game failed; now: roll call vote on all issues, passed. Was 30 minute battle, Howard opposed, but now Howard is succeeded as president by Chuck Parker, new secretary is Don Sage. Seems new energy now, should be good news. Need funding: Dan T suggests fund raiser to be held by Region 9, will be event Dec. 15, 2012, 3:30-6:30 pm, location tbd – SWA hall considered high possibility, tickets \$15, includes food, cash bar. Joe F: DEC provided "state of affairs" for 2012-13, noted 5% increase in fishing licenses, 7% increase in hunting licenses, good news. DEC has particular concern for feral swine, if 75 go wild, then in 1 year the population would be 7,500, serious issue – DEC suggest shoot on sight, but do not pursue. Fish hatchery personnel, have 10 new people, good news. Conservation fund now at \$40M++, looking to potentially fix fish hatcheries that need repairs.

Env & Pollution: Tom M, Algae fighters get \$16M boost in Ontario, study to be conducted in Lake Erie, phosphorous loading from Maumee River from outflow of Grand Lake non-point sources. Prelim shows would take 40 years to clear up if stopped now, serious issue. Carp: if 3 tests show DNA positive, then reaction process will be enacted. Scientists say if DNA exists, as shows now, then live carp also exist in that tested water area, but no proof so far...big lake, small fish, time will tell.

Legislation: John S, none

Resolutions: need chairman, no resolutions proposed at this time

Sportsmen Education: Frank M Sr., all classes have record attendance, all filled to capacity.

Legislative candidates Q/A: Tom M/Rich D, may be too late for this year

NHF Day report: Dave B, over 400 in attendance, 22 learning stations, DEC, NYWA, SWA, EAFG, TU, DU, etc. held at Elma CC, see newsletter report to follow in website. Steve A reports SCOPE not there due to conflict with SCOPE conference held in Orlando on same date. Frank Miskey Sr. delivered CD of NHF Day pix by professional photographer Bob Watroba, complete with picture album for ECFS records. \$150 fee, paid by ECFS. Motion Chuck G, Frank M, approved.

New Business: SCI, spring or fall event for ECFS attendance, Bob to review and report back; John S, general elections are Nov 6, please be sure to vote;

Old Business: none

Meeting motion to adjourn: Antoinette G, Willie S, approved MTA.

50/50: \$27 Alden R&G

Adjourned: 9:12 PM

Respectfully submitted by Dave Barus for Rich Davenport

Dinner was served at 7 PM, tasty pulled pork on hard rolls, hot sauce, salt, pepper, with Ray Gwarek's famous grilled potatoes and home-made sauerkraut. Enjoyed by all.

ERIE COUNTY FEDERATION OF SPORTSMEN'S CLUBS INC.

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

As part of the Erie county Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs efforts to enhance our environment and wildlife appreciation, we award up to five \$200 college scholarships yearly.

To qualify for a scholarship you must be a high school senior enrolled in an accredited college, or attending an accredited college with your major in any one of these areas: environmental conservation, law enforcement, or environmental pollution **and must be a resident of Erie County.**

Scholarships are awarded based upon need and the area of study. To be considered for one of these scholarships complete the form below and return with a short essay telling of need, any projects you have **engineered or participated in**, your future goals, and proof of enrollment (i.e., course enrollment, course schedule, report card, etc.) to the address below prior to **December 15.**

**SCHOLARSHIP CHAIRMAN
29 YVETTE DRIVE
CHEEKTOWAGA, NY 14227**

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ COUNTY: _____ NY ZIP: _____

HOME TELEPHONE: _____ OTHER: _____

COLLEGE: _____

GRADE LEVEL: _____ MAJOR: _____

ERIE COUNTY FEDERATION OF SPORTSMENS CLUBS

NOMINATIONS FOR AWARDS FOR 2013

List of Categories:

- Valerie E. Gonnello Sportswoman of the Year
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- Youth of the Year
- Club of the Year
- Volunteer of the Year
- Public Servant of the Year
- Public Relations of the Year
- Dedicated Service Award
- Lifetime Achievement Award
- Stanley Spisiak Conservationist Award

Name of Candidate

Address

Contact person if applicable

Person's history and why they should be chosen

Greatest Achievement

Submitted by:
Phone Number:

Send to: Frank Miskey Sr.
62 Boll Drive
Elma, New York 14059

DEAD LINE 2/1/2013
E-MAIL WILL BE ACCEPTED
CANDIDATE CAN ONLY BE NOMINATED FOR ONE AWARD



Rich Davenport, 2012 ECFSC Recording Secretary

Erie County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs

November 2012 General Meeting Minutes

Meeting Time: 7:00 PM – 11/8/2012

Location: Boston Valley Conservation Society, Boston, NY

Call to order: 7:30PM

Pledge to Flag: Completed

Quorum of Clubs: Yes

Attendance:

Excused – Tom Marks, Tom Fischer, Don Davis, Gabby Cronin

Reading of Minutes

Dave S motion to approve

George Rockey 2nd

Minutes approved

Correction to Minutes

ECFAB potential funding \$20,000, not \$2,000 or \$200

Secretary's Report – Rich Davenport

WeLoveOutdoors change announced in top line

Email address is changing to .org

Too much spam among other things

Membership Report – Antoinette Grote

48 members

Letters going out to membership for next year

Post it notes will be attached to the letters needing updated info, with last update time frame to remind them how long it has been since we have gotten updated info from them

Please complete the paperwork

Treasury Report – Rose Barus

No statement yet

Report will be sent out after the statement for reconciliation

Balances given

Hope Melnyk motion to accept
2nd Paula Wharton

Motion carries

Correspondence report - Dave Barus

If you are traveling up the river, into Canadian side, you need to make a call, even if you are not fishing

Basic rule, upon entering Canadian waters, CBSA must call right when you cross!?!

Call - 888-226-7277, and tell them when you are crossing

When you come back, call USA CBP 877-227-5511

Randy Tippin - Ontario Enforcement Manager for Fisheries & Wildlife - they do not enforce the border rules
905-931-0982

Does Customs have patrol boats? Ontario and USA do. yes

Should we send a letter of congrats to state assembly and senate districts

Joe Jemiolo motions to write congrats on election winners for State Assembly and State Senate, plus Maziarz, Collins and Higgins

2nd Paul Stoos

President's Report – Chuck Godfrey

Last Saturday Steve Aldstadt, Dan Tone, and Chuck Godfrey had meeting with Pat Gallivan, plus Larry Becker (Wyoming County), Bob Keicher, Zen Olow (Chautauqua), Bill Gibson, Ken S

Very productive meeting - but may not be as productive anymore due to changes potentially in the Senate

Crossbow issue, have some creative ways to get this done so this is not the last year for it. Executive decision - releasing money from conservation fund, surplus is over \$40 MIL.

Send out report to Federation for R9

They are at half staffing, and still getting the job done

PR calls no longer can go through region, have to go through Albany

NYSOWA conference, DEC was there presenting, Connie Adams made perregrine presentation

Anti movement is in progress. Upside down

Marine fishing license is a legislative decision, and this year is when review comes up on the suspension

refunded lifetime saltwater funds, kept the annuals

Enforcement of marine fisheries comes from CF. yet marine contributes nothing to this

Safari Club Big Game Dinner, December 14, recommending getting a table of 10, \$400.00

Paul Stoos question, is one cheaper? No they are the same cost

Frank Miskey, Sr motion buy table

2nd Al Bauer

Motion carries unanimously

Upcoming Meetings

| Date | | BM Time | | GM Time | | Location |
|------------|---|---------|---|---------|----------|--|
| 12/6/2012 | - | 6:30 | - | 7:00 | Gen Meet | Bison City Rod & Gun, Buffalo, NY |
| 1/24/2013 | - | 6:30 | - | 7:00 | Gen Meet | Elma Conservation Club, Elma, NY |
| 2/28/2013 | - | 6:30 | - | 7:00 | Gen Meet | George Washington Club, Buffalo, NY |
| 3/28/2013 | - | 6:30 | - | 7:00 | Gen Meet | Open – TBD |
| 4/25/2013 | - | 6:30 | - | 7:00 | Gen Meet | Open – TDB |
| 5/23/2013 | - | 6:30 | - | 7:00 | Gen Meet | Erie County Conservation Society, Chafee, NY |
| 6/27/2013 | - | 6:30 | - | 7:00 | Gen Meet | Open – TDB |
| 7/25/2013 | - | 6:30 | - | 7:00 | Gen Meet | Open – TBD |
| August | | | | | | No Meeting |
| 9/12/2013 | - | 6:30 | - | 7:00 | Gen Meet | Springville Field & Stream, Springville, NY |
| 10/10/2013 | - | 6:30 | - | 7:00 | Gen Meet | Open – TBD |
| 11/14/2013 | - | 6:30 | - | 7:00 | Gen Meet | Open – TBD |
| 12/12/2013 | - | 6:30 | - | 7:00 | Gen Meet | Open – TBD |

December 6 next meeting at Bison City - Erie County Clerk Chris Jacobs will be our guest for us to ask questions on pistol permits, etc. Will also ask him to draw the youth lifetime license winners

Procedures for drawing set up by the board will be included in minutes, and posted on the website

Law Enforcement – Chuck Godfrey

Hageman case finally settled

Found guilty of 4 game violations, fined \$700, losing sporting priv, tracking certifications and hunter training, unknown for how long, and there are reciprocal consequences as well Big loss, but still does not stop poaching

Archery & Bowhunting – Jim McCann

Nothing new

Crossbow – Frank Miskey, Jr.

Bill will be introduced as clean bill again in both houses

Passed legislation sitting in Assembly extending season, but killing the youth hunt, as Governor has not called for the bill.

Fish - Dave Barus

Nov. 2012 ECFS Fish Report – Dave Barus

Fish Attraction Structure Installation

Large concrete blocks that were removed from Motor Island were beneficially re-used to create aquatic habitat to attract sport fish in the Niagara River near a popular shore-fishing area. Instead of hauling the blocks to a land-fill, they were transported by barge to an area off shore of Aqua Lane Park in the Town of Tonawanda, saving fuel and disposal fees while providing material for aquatic habitat improvement. Approximately 150 blocks were placed in deep water in an area of high current to create cover for fish close to the area that is universally accessible by shore anglers with the goal of increasing angling catch rates.

SOURCE: Bureau of Fisheries; Tim DePriest 716-851-7010

DEC Fish Sampling

Region 9 Fish staff successfully collected a sample of freshwater drum from the Upper Niagara River this spring for analysis for selected chemical contaminants. Unfortunately, a portion of the sample was lost during a freezer failure in the Allegany Office during the summer. Consequently, fish staff made another attempt in August to collect sheepshead to replace the lost samples, and was successful in this effort.

SOURCE: Bureau of Fisheries; Michael Wilkinson 716- 851-7010



DEC Musky & Northern Pike Meeting



Region 9 Fish staff attended a work group meeting held in Clayton to discuss management and research needs for northern pike and muskellunge in New York's Great Lakes waters. Biologist Wilkinson prepared a PowerPoint presentation updating results of collaborative research on muskellunge in the Niagara River. Young of the year hybrid

muskellunge (top) and pure muskellunge (smaller) caught in same seine haul during summer 2012. Notice the large size difference between these two fish, both hatched in spring 2012.

Bureau of Fisheries; M. Wilkinson/M. Clancy 716-851-7010

Fishing Hotlines

Two regional fishing hotlines are updated every Friday to provide area anglers with current fishing information. Together, the hotlines cover the major fishing waters of Region 9 and the 8 western half of Region 8. Each fishing hotline is available on the DEC website at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/fishhotlines.html>.

A recording of the fishing reports can also be heard at (716) 855-FISH. The Lake Erie Fishing Hotline page had 8,436 visits during September and 61,024 visits year to date, an increase of 10% over same span in 2011. The Western New York Fishing Hotline page had 7,625 visits during September and 44,113 visits year to date, an increase of 16% over same span in 2011. The automated phone line received 2,225 calls in September and 14,090 calls, year to date.

SOURCE: Bureau of Fisheries; Michael Todd 716-851-7010

Motor Island Habitat Improvement Project

A major Habitat Improvement Project, located on DEC's Motor Island Wildlife Management Area in the Niagara River, began in earnest on August 16th. The project goal, which is a collaborative effort with the NY power Authority, is to restore shoreline and near-shore habitat that had been impacted by concrete, rock and log cribbing for many decades while the island existed as a private resort. The newly created shoreline features are designed to support a diverse plant community and provide complex structure in the aquatic environment, while at the same time provide long-term stability for the shoreline, which is exposed to extreme levels of ice and wave scour. The restored habitat will benefit the nesting colonial water birds that utilize the island, by providing shallow water for stalking prey and newly planted trees that ensure future nesting habitat. The near shore shallow water habitat is also designed to serve as spawning and nursery habitat for a variety of fish species as well as food and cover for waterfowl and other semi-aquatic vertebrates found in the Niagara River.

SOURCE: Bureau of Fisheries; Tim DePriest 716-851-7010

Rare Fishes Monitoring in Upper Niagara River

Region 9 Fisheries staff assisted NYSDEC Rare Fishes Biologist Doug Carlson during seining activities in the upper Niagara River to monitor for several species of black-lined shiners, a group of minnows that are relatively uncommon in New York. Biologists managed to find one blackchin shiner and a number of blacknose shiners at the shallow, vegetated sampling site in the West Branch of the Niagara River.

SOURCE: Bureau of Fisheries M.; Wilkinson/D. Carlson 716-851-7010

Regional Visit by Division Director and Deputy Commissioner

On August 14th and 15th, DFWMR Director, Pat Riexinger and Deputy DEC Commissioner, Kathy Moser visited DEC Region 9 offices in Buffalo and Allegany to update staff on current state-



wide issues and initiatives as well as learn firsthand about various Fish and Wildlife issues in the region. The Buffalo visit was highlighted by a boat tour of the Buffalo Harbor and Niagara River to view recent and on-going fish and wildlife Habitat Improvement Projects and learn more about important coastal natural resources. While visiting the Allegany office, Ms. Riexinger and Ms. Moser along with Regional Director Abby Snyder, had the opportunity to learn more about regional efforts to conserve rare species by assisting in releasing Eastern Hellbenders raised from wild eggs by the Buffalo Zoo. They also assisted Fisheries staff with the Allegany Fish Community Survey, they kicked seine and electrofished for darters in the Weston Mills area, eleven of the twelve known species were captured including the endangered and rare Blue breast darter.

Travelling Lake Erie & Upper Niagara River by Boat

Rules to know:

All recreational boaters (private) are required to present themselves upon their arrival in Canada. Arrival in Canada occurs when the pleasure craft crosses the international boundary into Canadian waters.

Upon entering Canadian waters private boaters must call the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) at 1-888-226-7277 and report your trip. You will receive a call report number.

For questions regarding Ontario Fish & Wildlife regulations and Ontario Lake Erie law enforcement, contact Randy Tippen (Lake Erie Enforcement Manager for Ministry of Natural Resources) at his desk (519 825-4297) or his cell at (905 931-0982).

For information regarding return to the United States, contact U.S. Customs & Border Protection at 1-877-227-5511 or 1-703-526-4200, or online at <http://www.cbp.gov>.

OTHER INFO: Contact Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) for latest changes at: <http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/media/facts-faits/096-eng.html>

OTHER BORDER INFORMATION: Contact the Border Information Service (BIS) by calling 204-983-3500 or 506-636-5064.

SOURCES: compiled by Dave Barus

Why are they doing this with all of these restoration of strange species? Federal money! Chautauqua County wants to join Erie County in buying the rods, need \$1,000 worth of rods, may get bigger discount

Church said NYS Hatcheries are infected, only Rome Hatcheries, will impact Brown trout stocking next spring

Article in NY Outdoor News

Big Game - Paul Stoos

Regular Season opening next weekend

Permits 9F and 9A, 9F closed yesterday

8G open for Alabama Swamp

Small Game - Dan Tone

Pheasant 4 stockings this year

Youth hunt

3 adults stockings, today was #2, one more upcoming

Adult pheasant stocking program

Allegany County has a program, contact person Dennis Raspuchen

Frank Sr was impressed with what is set up just outside of Belfast. Huge field segmented corn, open field, brush, woodland, and it is open to the public, but the county may buy the birds

Mile Block road in Evans, last property in Erie County open to public, owner made parking area for hunters at his own expense

Met with Keicher along with George Rockey, for Attica Prison program birds, no money this year, but is for next year

Would like to see more of these birds on the state lands

4-H program talks concerning rolling this into other programs ran by SCI? Discussions underway, but not this year as the grant from NRA is done, and it is separate and cut and dried

Meeting on coyote, getting the protections dropped will be suicide for legislators with anti's

Cable restraint bill is exactly what we need

Perhaps trappers, Patti and Rick can get bill numbers so we can write to support

Trapping – Patti Wattengel

Thank you for support for the Youth Trapper Camp

3 of 4 returned from last year (Erie County) becoming very popular, to become mentors
A-6203, S-4213 Cable Restraint bills, will be re-numbered next year if nothing happens this year

NYSCC – Dan Tone

People wanted change at the council, we got some change, new President and 1st VP
Chuck Parker and Dan Owens

Everyone very supportive of his term

Raffle to raise money as council may not have enough to get through end of year. Fund raising banquet on Dec 15, 3:30-6:30, SWA, \$15.00 includes RB sandwich, and more.

Please buy some tickets tonight, board voted to buy 10

Waterfowl – Paul P

Robert Felber sent email concerning Iroquois Refuge, guy has stopped hunting there due to shooting at the range, difficult to hunt ducks in evening with the shooting going on. Looking into having another meeting in March with Iroquois Refuge people

Chuck will respond and let this individual know of the next meeting with Refuge personnel

Environment & Pollution - Tom Marks

Nothing new - Tom Excused

BNRK having advisory council meeting Wed morning at 10AM for Buffalo River cleanup detail

Moving full steam ahead

Where are they having the meeting - may be listed on the website. May not be an open meeting

Great Lakes Basin Report - October 11, 2012 Special Report – Asian Carp surveys intensify

Crews again intensify monitoring in Chicago Area Waterway System eDNA Results shows three consecutive eDNA rounds of positive results

CHICAGO - The Asian Carp Regional Coordinating Committee on October 9th announced intensive monitoring action will begin in the North Shore Channel of the Chicago River on Tuesday, October 16th, after three consecutive rounds of Environmental DNA (eDNA) sampling yielded positive results for Asian carp DNA in the North Shore Channel.

Just last month, 17 of 57 samples revealed positive detection of silver carp. The samples were taken from the Chicago River near the downtown area. DNA evidence of the carp's presence is detected from things a fish sheds, such as scales, mucus and feces

The full report is attached in PDF; please forward to other members & friends

Dan Thomas, President
Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council

glsfc@comcast.net
glsfc444@gmail.com

Lake Erie was sampled again this summer and returned three positive eDNA samples.

Legislation – John Susz, Jr.

Obama was re-elected, platform calls for reinstatement of the AR ban. Big killer is Supreme Court appointments

State Senate - at the moment it is down to absentee ballots for 63rd - new district, unless GOP hangs onto that seat, will lose the Senate
Down to absentee ballots

Resolutions - Rich Davenport will chair in the interim

Whereas Erie County Federation resolves to pursue no expansion of mandatory AR in R9
2nd Reading (1st reading was in September)

Get the resolutions in to Rich before end of November
AR resolution in its entirety is found in the back of this newsletter

Membership Outreach

Any club want Chuck to visit, he will

Sportsmen Ed – Frank Miskey, Sr.

Hunter training program winding down this fall, one class left. Coast Guard wants a private class for the service people due to duty schedules

Classes are down, 46 - last year 50,

30 TY, Bow LY 37

Waterfowl 5, 5

Trapping 4, LY 5

Each class overwhelmingly full

Questions - went from 50 to 46, how did this drop? Instructor shortage in numbers and time, not an interest issue at all

Nominations - Paul Stoos

We have a full slate of officers and directors

All have agreed to run,

nominations are open for anyone who is interested

Officers nominations closed

Directors, everyone has agreed to run again

George Rockey

Tom Marks

John Susz

Hope melnyk

Tony Gonnello

Open for nominations

Open for Nominations

Open for Nominations

Nominations for directors closed

Council delegates have agreed

Closed

Paul Stoos requests Secretary casts the ballot to approve the slate – at next meeting

Awards - Frank Miskey, Sr

Looking for awards nominations

Accepting nominations for awards via email with use of the form

Attached to email, do not just send the list, attach a file

One form per nomination (form is found in back of the newsletter)

Banquet - Dave S

Soliciting committee members - to help out, get with Dave S if interested, some of the same members last year will help again, but looking for new blood, as always, start meeting in December.

Dan Tone has done the tickets in the past, not doing this year, Dave will need help with getting these printed

Contract is already squared

Need donations, ask local stores, etc

Baskets from the clubs!

Next meeting a donation letter will be available

Great responses from the clubs, mentioning this again now for this year's banquet, need baskets, please let us know what the basket will be if the basket is being donated. Do not want same theme baskets, why? unknown.

Big expensive baskets could be best split into two or three cheaper baskets

Anything on a President's Raffle yet? Looking to get some ideas on this to freshen this up

Fund raising – Dave S

2013 Calendars now available, \$5/ each

Website – Dave S

No updates - summary for NHFD Dave Barus is working it up, but not yet done

FWMB - Paul Stoos

Next meeting Dec 13

Asked Gallavan to support going to FWMB meeting and have the expenses covered - get the funding restored, and it is.

Kathy Moser brought up the wind mills up and thought it was a good idea, Dan Tone told Kathy that is not a good thing for this area at all.

Rich will write to Kathy Moser for WNYEF
ECFSC - Tom marks will send the letters of opposition
Parks and DEC sharing same office building - good thing
Open Space committee reviews projects

Habitat program funds are not being spent, but we have nearly \$300,000 in the subaccount

Feral swine is becoming a huge problem in NY
need to complete the feral swine study

Allegany swine were released intentionally by a hunter

CWD in PA - Emergency Regs in place
Some PA hunters along the border use NY processors, cannot do anymore
Unclear to the regulations

Educational Opportunities

Scholarship apps have a one complete app and essay, and another app, awaiting essay

Due Dec 15

Shows & Expos – Dave Wharton

Outdoors Sports & Recreation at Fairgrounds Expo is March 7-10, 2013, we are reserved
Looking for volunteers starting next month

WNYEF

Jan 13, 2012 meeting at Hoak's 1PM

NHFD – Rich Davenport

Rich reviewed
Air rifle range was a huge hit
Received Congressional Recognition (image in back of this newsletter)
Visit from Grisanti
Attendance reviewed
Went through all hot dogs
Great time – Thank you to all who helped make this event the success it was!

Budget & Finance

Motion to pay bills
Frank Miskey Sr motions
2nd Rich Davenport

Motion carries

Old Business

Joe Jemiolo asked how many pheasants were released, 510
She counted every one of them
Grant was for \$2,068.00, spent \$2,022, have to send \$40 back
If any clubs would like to donate some funding to the cost of the Lifetime license raffle,
more money we get the more licenses we get

New Business

In Outdoor News this month - considering a 2013 ECO academy
Through attrition, they will lose 39, and the academy will be for 32 officers, money
crunch

ECO costs also come out of the GF, at the whim of the Governor
CFAB meeting to try to break the surplus logjam, and also the academy

Paul McKeown mentioned that the vehicles are also getting very old and falling apart

Report from NY Sportsmen advisory council
Meeting coming this Saturday in Frankfort, NY

Will have two vacancies, Cushing resigned, NYSCC would like Dan Owen to take his
place. Will need to be formally approved

End of November (27-30) will be 6th Annual Legislator-Sportsmen Summit, National, in
Myrtle Beach, SC

New Delegates

None

Good & Welfare

Kent Kruse and wife pass along their best wishes.

50/50 Raffle

Winner is SCOPE - \$24.50

Hope Melnyk motion to adjourn
2nd Dave Wharton

Motion carries meeting adjourned at 9:30PM

ERIE COUNTY FEDERATION OF SPORTSMEN'S CLUBS INC.

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

As part of the Erie county Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs efforts to enhance our environment and wildlife appreciation, we award up to five \$200 college scholarships yearly.

To qualify for a scholarship you must be a high school senior enrolled in an accredited college, or attending an accredited college with your major in any one of these areas: environmental conservation, law enforcement, or environmental pollution **and must be a resident of Erie County.**

Scholarships are awarded based upon need and the area of study. To be considered for one of these scholarships complete the form below and return with a short essay telling of need, any projects you have **engineered or participated in**, your future goals, and proof of enrollment (i.e., course enrollment, course schedule, report card, etc.) to the address below prior to **December 15.**

**SCHOLARSHIP CHAIRMAN
29 YVETTE DRIVE
CHEEKTOWAGA, NY 14227**

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ COUNTY: _____ NY ZIP: _____

HOME TELEPHONE: _____ OTHER: _____

COLLEGE: _____

GRADE LEVEL: _____ MAJOR: _____

ERIE COUNTY FEDERATION OF SPORTSMENS CLUBS

NOMINATIONS FOR AWARDS FOR 2013

List of Categories:

- Valerie E. Gonnello Sportswoman of the Year
- Sportsman of the Year
- Youth of the Year
- Club of the Year
- Volunteer of the Year
- Public Servant of the Year
- Public Relations of the Year
- Dedicated Service Award
- Lifetime Achievement Award
- Stanley Spisiak Conservationist Award

Name of Candidate

Address

Contact person if applicable

Person's history and why they should be chosen

Greatest Achievement

Submitted by:
Phone Number:

Send to: Frank Miskey Sr.
62 Boll Drive
Elma, New York 14059

DEAD LINE 2/1/2013
E-MAIL WILL BE ACCEPTED
CANDIDATE CAN ONLY BE NOMINATED FOR ONE AWARD

NYSCC RESOLUTION 2012 - 2013

FROM: ALDEN ROD & GUN CLUB

RE: OPPOSITION TO ANTLER RESTRICTIONS and QDMA

Whereas: in recent years the NY State DEC has instituted Antler Restrictions in certain WMU's, and;

Whereas: The NY State DEC has expanded the number of WMU's that have Antler Restrictions, and;

Whereas: The NY State DEC originally instituted Antler Restrictions with a pilot program clause with the understanding that they would use scientific evaluations to see if the Antler Restrictions would help the overall stability and health of the herd, and;

Whereas: The NY State DEC has increased the number of WMU'S without waiting for or establishing the effect of the Antler Restrictions, and;

Whereas: The NY State DEC has gone on record to state that implementation of mandatory AR severely compromises the abilities of wildlife biologists and managers to accurately estimate whitetail deer populations, and;

Whereas: The NY State DEC has gone on record that mandatory AR is not a necessary wildlife management program in New York State, and;

Whereas: According to the precepts of the North American Wildlife Conservation Model implementation of any program, restriction, et. al., must show as a necessary to improve the management and health of the wildlife based on science, not opinion, before implementation may occur, and;

Whereas: Continued statements from the professionals within the NY State DEC indicate time and again that mandatory AR is not necessary for improved herd health or the future of the herds clearly indicates this effort does not meet the muster of the North American Wildlife Conservation Model, and;

Whereas: The Erie County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, The WNY Environmental Federation, and other Federations and Clubs in Region 9 have taken votes and the overall Majority of them opposes mandatory Antler Restrictions, and;

Whereas: A majority of Alden Rod and Gun Club members opposes Antler Restrictions;

THEREFORE be it resolved that the NY State Conservation Council “oppose” any form of mandatory Antler Restrictions in all counties constituting NYS DEC Region 9 with the NY State DEC and any legislation, regulation or rule that would institute mandatory Antler Restrictions for the counties Region 9.

Respectfully submitted,
Alden Rod and Gun Club

President:
Frank Bermel, Jr

Alden R&G Club Delegate to the ECFSC
Contact:
Paul J Stoos
1845 Clinton Street
Buffalo, NY 14206
Ph: 716-563-9258



*Certificate of Special
Congressional Recognition*

Presented to the

Erie County Federation of Sportsmen

*in recognition of the 41st Annual National
Hunting & Fishing Day and your commitment to
enhancing our understanding of nature and our diverse wildlife
and waterways.*

September 22, 2012
Date

Kathleen Hochul
Kathleen C. Hochul
Member of Congress
26th District of New York



Rich Davenport, 2012 ECFSC Recording Secretary

Erie County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs

ECFSC December 2012 General Meeting Minutes

Date: December 6, 2012

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Bison City Rod & Gun Club, Buffalo, NY

Dinner preceded the meeting

50/50 winner: Bison City Rod & Gun Club

ECFSC Youth Lifetime License Drawing

Erie County Clerk Chris Jacobs draws the numbers

1 - 615

2 - 533

3 - 419

4 - 634

5 - 916

6 - 539

7 - 682

8 - 396

9 - 829

10 - 367

11 - 3009

12 - 537

Congratulations to the winners!

Call to Order: 7:48 PM

Pledge to Flag: Completed

Quorum of Clubs: Yes

Attendance:

Excused: Frank Miskey, Sr.

6 Officers, 14 Directors, 28 Delegates, 6 Guests in attendance for the December 2012 meeting

Guest Speaker - Chris Jacobs - Erie County Clerk

Concerning the clerk's office, Deeds and mortgages were first priority as this had fallen behind

Lots of bank transactions of mail - 6 months worth. Most envelopes had checks in them. Deposited over \$3 MIL worth of checks that had been sitting there for over 6 months. Poor management was cause and this is being corrected

Enjoyable aspects of clerk's office is the diverse things they do, and of course one of these is the pistol permit

Mike Chekany, Martina Mahoorick, Alan from the pistol permit division

Role is the administrative entity that interacts with all the ones involved with the process

Personally strongly believes in the 2nd Amendment

If the process itself slows the issuance, in my mind that is infringement on the 2nd amendment right, and this must be streamlined to avoid such infringements

If anyone has gone through trying to get the PP in the last year, the biggest hold up is the mental health aspect, due to cuts in Dept of Health in Albany, slowed the process significantly

Not an overly complicated thing, check a secured DB for whether an applicant has been institutionalized. Changes will be to use the Sheriff's office locally. Two from clerk's office will be deputized by Sheriff's to do this, and receive the proper training. This is a test, along with Monroe and Suffolk counties.

Hochul did very well taking the office out to the people, like at the largest gun shows in the area, and that is continuing.

Would like to come out frequently to this organization and the members to listen and learn and improve the process and service.

Auto Bureau is an agent of the State, yet receives no funding from State or County. Albany should be a partner, but competes with the localities, through the mail-in renewal process. Albany gets most of the registration fees already, but mail in Albany gets 100%. Currently the clerk is not a burden to taxpayers, in fact they return \$2 MIL to the county through their own self-sufficiency. Keep the money local, do not mail in the renewals.

Also working hard on the veteran's discount program. Clerk is charged with keeping the honorable discharge papers, and this is important. Always will be a copy for any need of these papers. Will be providing the vets an honorable discharge card, and local businesses are offering discounts to vets using this card.

Dunkin Donuts giving 10% discounts Erie County wide.

Q - In Erie County what is the average length of time to obtain the pistol permit? About 6-8 months

Mental Health is biggest delay, followed by reference follow up by local police

Q - A business owner applied for CCW, due to carrying large amounts of cash due to business. Was turned down by the judge, why?

A - We would have to look at the paperwork, as business records, other paperwork is required, if judge gets the application, Judge Boller, who is an avid hunter. As a gun community we are blessed. Very meticulous on the paperwork being correct for what you are looking for so you avoid being turned down. You should apply for everything up front, as doing things piece mail will cause some issues.

Erie County has 21 police chiefs/ departments and each one of these departments conducts their own process and investigations, doing things differently. Erie County clerk has to deal with all of them.

Smaller counties have a much easier time using the sheriff, solely, but these processes go to the town charters and the right of each town to investigate the citizens in their towns, or they can defer and allow the Sheriff do conduct this work.

Q - Mental Health checks - is this just the mental health checks for Erie County?

A - Yes, right now we wait to get this information back from Albany, and with the test program now we can move forward more quickly, as currently we have a double delay due to the challenges mentioned earlier.

Q - What chunk of time would this local check knock off? A couple months?

A - Yes, should be at least two months if not more.

Fingerprinting was another thing that has been streamlined, through digitizing the fingerprint.

That process is streamlined through technology, but now the mental health dept cuts added time, even more than what was saved in other areas

Q - When is the pilot program starting? - Within weeks

Q - Still have a paper permit, is there an advantage to the new credit card style?

A - Credit card style is better for fishing and not damaging the permit due to weather or light wear and tear, but if you have a paper one, so long as it isn't decimated, it is valid. If you want the plastic card, \$18 one-time fee to move from paper to the credit card-type permit

Q - Unrestricted permits - a permit holder just got that after going to court, and won that no restrictions can be applied.

A - No, another court decision upheld the charters of the issuing counties

Q - Veteran's discharge papers - if you were discharged living in Erie County, then clerk should have the papers. Transient soldiers moving into the county, what about them?

A - If you are a veteran and have your discharge papers and now live in Erie County, bring a copy on down.

Also doing outreach, going to American Legions, like the one in Eden to help veterans out

Q - Why do counties have different course requirements,

A - Time, or what needs to be taught, as some elements may vary based on county by county desires, some counties require you have fired the pistol before the permit is issued, and NYS has no live fire NRA courses.

Q - If a person goes for an unrestricted permit for personal protection and other lawful purposes, that is ok?

A - So long as you have lawful reasons, supportable, you will be ok, but you have to make the case at time of application,
The judge has heard more than 2500 this month. Also doing trials and such for murders, rapes, all of that. Apply for everything you can.

Thank you Chris Jacobs and team!

Drawing for the Golden Boy - Winner - Patty Young, Amber Street, Buffalo - Congrats

Sign-up sheet for committee member volunteers, please sign up.

Gloves that were donated, from Chris Gerling of Collins Center, Hoot's Furs and Trapping Supplies

Reading of Minutes

Dave Wharton motion to accept

2nd Hope Melnyk

Secretary's Report – Rich Davenport

Cut over to new email completed

2012 meetings saw good attendance

Membership Report - Antoinette Grote

Still currently at 48 clubs, letters going out shortly. Antoinette will have a sticky note for the applications for clubs that have not updated their info in a while

Treasurer’s report – Rose Barus

No reconciliations from the bank, statements usually come in @ the 10th
No report until this information is received. Will send out to officers and directors once bank statements have arrived and records are updated.

Correspondence report – Dave Barus

One outgoing letter - all of Erie County Election winners were sent congrats letters

President’s Report – Chuck Godfrey

Joe Jemiolo brought up in the news classified sporting equipment section, prohibiting pistols from being listed by private sellers. Board moved to have Chuck write a letter, and also encourage other clubs to write as well.

Upcoming Meetings

I’m working on sites for the 2013 meetings. We will put out announcements as soon as we confirm dates. - Chuck

| Date | | BM Time | | GM Time | | Location |
|------------|---|---------|---|---------|----------|--|
| 1/24/2013 | - | 6:30 | - | 7:00 | Gen Meet | Elma Conservation Club, Elma, NY |
| 2/28/2013 | - | 6:30 | - | 7:00 | Gen Meet | George Washington Club, Buffalo, NY |
| 3/28/2013 | - | 6:30 | - | 7:00 | Gen Meet | Open – TBD |
| 4/25/2013 | - | 6:30 | - | 7:00 | Gen Meet | Open – TDB |
| 5/23/2013 | - | 6:30 | - | 7:00 | Gen Meet | Erie County Conservation Society, Chafee, NY |
| 6/27/2013 | - | 6:30 | - | 7:00 | Gen Meet | Open – TDB |
| 7/25/2013 | - | 6:30 | - | 7:00 | Gen Meet | Open – TBD |
| August | | | | | | No Meeting |
| 9/12/2013 | - | 6:30 | - | 7:00 | Gen Meet | Springville Field & Stream, Springville, NY |
| 10/10/2013 | - | 6:30 | - | 7:00 | Gen Meet | Open – TBD |
| 11/14/2013 | - | 6:30 | - | 7:00 | Gen Meet | Open – TBD |
| 12/12/2013 | - | 6:30 | - | 7:00 | Gen Meet | Open – TBD |

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Waterfowl – Paul Pietraszewski

Nothing to report

Conservation Council - Dan Tone

The Federation has decided to promote the voluntary “Buck A Member Program” proposed by the Council. This, if successful, will insure a reliable source of income to meet the future needs for our only “conservation rights” lobbying organization in our state.

For those clubs who feel this is a worthwhile cause, please make checks payable to - “New York State Conservation Council” and send to – NYSCC, 8 East Main St., Ilion, NY 13357.

To those clubs that donated last year, we hope that your commitment will carry on. Please don’t wait until the Council solicits for your help. They need the resources now to fund the year’s budget needs.

Also, to those clubs who chose not to participate, please consider what the Council is asking for: “a dollar a member.” A buck doesn’t buy much these days, not a beer at a bar, not a pack of cigarettes or a good cigar, not a decent fishing lure, or even a couple dozen worms. Perhaps it’s time we sportsmen and women consider putting this all in perspective!

Clubs wishing to receive the Council’s “Grass Roots News” monthly publication, which gives updated information on state legislation and conservation issues, should contact the Council at 315-894-3302 . You can also e-mail them at - nyscc@nyscc.com with the information.

Clubs can send their “club’s news” for publication to - NYSCC, 8 East Main St., Ilion, NY 13357 - or e-mail them by the 2nd Monday of the month. The Council also has a policy of not arbitrarily giving or selling private club information.

Finally, there is an ongoing new member/renewal drive for individual Council memberships, with prizes available. Contact the Council or visit their website for details.

Many have forgotten and taken for granted what the NYSCC is all about. Very few understand who is looking out for those enjoying hunting and fishing. Prizes for silent auction, split club, chinese auction. Roast Beef and fries or chips.

NYSCC is 80 years old, and many have forgotten about the works and the importance of this organization for our passion and the future.

Environment & Pollution – Tom Marks

Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations

Press Release: The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYS DEC), as lead agency, has accepted a Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed Rulemaking to Amend 6 NYCRR Parts 750 and 360 Regarding Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations.

Public hearings on the Draft EIS will be held on January 4, 2012 at the NYS DEC Central Office, 625 Broadway, Albany; NYS DEC - Region 5 Ray Brook Office, 1115 NYS Route 86, Raybrook; NYS DEC - Region 8 Avon Office, 6274 East Avon-Lima Road, Avon and at the NYS Fairgrounds, Martha Eddy Room, 581 State Fair Boulevard, Syracuse. Written comments will be accepted for 45 days following publication in the New York State Register on December 5, 2012. The [Draft EIS](#) is available from the contact person listed below and on line at: www.dec.ny.gov/permits/6285.html.

The NYS DEC has filed with the Secretary of State its Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and supporting documents to amend 6 NYCRR Parts 750 and 360. The amendments clarify requirements of the Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO) Program, relieve non-discharging medium CAFOs with 200 to 299 mature dairy cows from regulations, and eliminate duplicative regulatory requirements under Part 360.

This rulemaking will apply statewide in New York State.

Contact: Erica Cruden, NYS DEC - Division of Water, 625 Broadway, 4th Floor, Albany, NY 12233-1550, Phone: (518) 402-8102, E-mail: cafoinfo@gw.dec.state.ny.us.

Short Environmental Assessment Form...

http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/water_pdf/shortformcafo.pdf

Summary: The action could potentially result in adverse impacts to ground and surface water because medium sized CAFO's (200-299 mature dairy cows) would not be required to prepare and implement Comprehensive Nutrient Management.

Description of Action:

The action involves a rulemaking to revise 6 NYCRR Part 750 (Part 750) to clarify at what size-threshold a *non-discharging dairy farm* would be required to obtain Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) State Pollution Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) permit coverage. The Department regulates CAFOs under the Clean Water Act (CWA) and the Environmental Conservation Law. CAFOs that discharge are required to obtain coverage under the CWA CAFO General Permit or an individual SPDES permit, while CAFOs that do not discharge can seek, in the alternative, SPDES permit coverage under the ECL CAFO General Permit, based upon the creation, use and maintenance of a point source (a CAFO is considered a point source pursuant to ECL Section 17-0105[16]). The Department currently requires CAFO permit coverage at the minimum threshold of 200 mature dairy cows. The proposed change would raise the minimum threshold for required permit coverage to 300 mature dairy cows for a non-discharging dairy farm. To implement this proposed change, the Department would maintain the size-threshold of medium dairy CAFO farms that discharge at the current minimum of 200 mature dairy cows, but exempt from permit coverage those farms between 200-299 without a discharge. For the purposes of ECL 17-0105(16), these non-discharging medium CAFO dairy farms would no longer be considered a point source. This proposed change would allow the Department to continue to require SPDES permit coverage for those dairy farms at the minimum threshold of 200

mature dairy farms that discharge (which is consistent with current federal law), as well as permit coverage for medium dairy farm CAFOs between 300 and 699 that do not discharge. Furthermore, as part of this action, the Department will issue a new proposed ECL CAFO General Permit that will incorporate the proposed regulatory changes described above.

In addition, the action involves proposed rulemaking to update outdated CAFO references in Part 750 and revise Part 750 to clarify the Department's authority to issue a CAFO General Permit for non-discharging CAFOs. Finally, the rulemaking would also include changes to the Department's Part 360 (solid waste) regulations that impact CAFO farms.

SEQR *Positive Declaration* Reasons Supporting This Determination:

This proposed exemption for certain medium sized CAFO Operations (dairy farms between 200-299 mature dairy cows in size) from current CAFO State Pollution Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) permit requirements may result in a potentially significant impact from farm waste on waters of the State. The ECL CAFO permit requires that owners and operators develop and implement a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP). The objective of a CNMP is to document how the farm is to manage manure and nutrients at farm facilities and fields in an environmentally sound manner to minimize impacts to surface and ground water. The CNMPs are prepared by certified nutrient management planners. The CNMP lists Best Management Practices (BMPs) the owners or operators should employ and sets schedules for structural BMPs (which are designed and built using farm investments or public cost-share programs, or both). The CAFO owner/operator and the certified planner are required to submit an annual compliance report, which includes a summary of the work completed on the structural BMPs.

Without requiring coverage under the CAFO ECL general permit, owner/operators of medium sized CAFO dairy farms (between 200-299 mature dairy cows) would not be required to prepare and implement a CNMP, and the Department's ability to inspect such farms would become more limited. Without a CNMP, manure, chemical fertilizers and other organic wastes could be stored and spread in such a manner that runoff could impact surface water or ground water. The pollutants of concern are nutrients, including phosphorus and nitrogen, pathogens, biological oxygen demand, and settleable and suspended solids. These pollutants could cause impacts to water quality in ground and surface waters and aquatic life.

Any potential impacts from the proposed regulatory changes may be minimized because the only CAFOs that are eligible for the exemption do not discharge; CAFOs of any size that do discharge will continue to be covered under either the CWA CAFO General Permit, or an individual permit. CAFOs with 300 or more mature dairy cows, with coverage under the ECL permit, will not be affected by the

proposed regulatory changes. Furthermore, to be eligible for the agricultural stormwater discharge exemption (as provided in 33 U.S.C. 1362[14]), farm waste must be applied in accordance with site specific nutrient management practices (similar to non-structural BMPs required by a CNMP), which are protective of the environment. In addition, state and federal funding for farms is often contingent upon participation in New York State's Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) program that has many of the same conservation goals as the CAFO general permit program.

The Department expects to examine such possible impacts, alternatives, and mitigation (balanced against the potential economic benefits to New York State) in the environmental impact statement to be prepared in connection with the proposed regulatory change.

Permit for CWM Chemical Services, LLC

Press Release: 60-DAY Public Comment Period BEGAN Wednesday, November 28, 2012 on Draft Permit Renewal for CWM Landfill Public Hearing and Availability Sessions to be held in January

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), is seeking public comment on a permit renewal application and draft permit for CWM Chemical Services, LLC for its facility in Model City, Niagara County. A public comment period on the application and draft permit begins today and extends through January 28, 2013.

DEC will hold a public hearing to accept public comment on CWM's permit renewal.

Date: Monday, January 14, 2013

Time: Two sessions will be held, one at 5:00 pm and the second at 7:00 pm

Location: Lewiston-Porter High School, 4061 Creek Road, Youngstown, NY 14174

In addition, a public availability session will be held on January 14, 2013 from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm at the same location as the public hearing above. In the event that the High School is closed for the day or closes early due to inclement weather on January 14, 2013, the hearing and availability session will be held on January 16, 2013 at the same times.

Comments will be accepted both verbally and in writing at the public hearing. It is not necessary to attend the hearing to submit a written comment. Written comments can be sent anytime throughout the comment period to:

**Mr. David Denk, Regional Permit Administrator
NYSDEC Region 9**

270 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14203-2915.

All comments must be submitted no later than **January 28, 2013**.

Questions Contact: Lisa King 518-402-8000

xxx

Opinion by local environmental groups.....Unsuitable Location for a Hazardous Waste Landfill

Niagara County is host to one of the largest commercial toxic waste landfill operations in the United States, CWM Chemical Services.

CMW is located:

- two miles from the Niagara River
- three miles from Lake Ontario
- ten miles north of Love Canal
- one mile from all town public schools

Approximately 2,500 students and 400 staff occupy the Lewiston-Porter Schools, which are within a mile of the buried hazardous wastes.

As one of 10 U.S. facilities licensed to accept high concentrations of **PCB** waste CWM has operated under a NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Order on Consent (#R9-2001-0921-67). CWM was in violation of New York State DEC law for PCB contamination in its storm water that is discharged to the Niagara River and Great Lakes.

This CWM “Model City” facility was constructed by predecessors in 1971 on property formerly used for radioactive waste dumping and storage from:

- the Manhattan Project and Atomic Energy wastes
- nuclear reprocessing waste from a Naval reactor
- remains of experimental injections of plutonium, polonium and radium-226 in animals

CWM is located in Porter, NY, and is adjacent to the “temporary” federal storage of 2,000 curies of Radium-226 from atomic bomb production, and other radioactive residues and contaminated debris. This federal storage facility is called The Niagara Falls Storage SiteAs one of 10 U.S. facilities licensed to accept high concentrations of **PCB** waste, it is no surprise that CWM has operated under a Consent Order for PCB contamination in its storm water that is discharged to the Great Lakes. or NFSS.

PCBs

A polychlorinated biphenyl is any of the 209 configurations of organochlorides with 2 to 10 chlorine atoms attached to biphenyl, which is a molecule composed of two benzene rings. The chemical formula for a PCB is C₁₂H_{10-x}Cl_x. 130 of the 209 different PCB arrangements and orientations are used commercially.

PCBs were widely used as dielectric and coolant fluids, for example in transformers, capacitors, and electric motors. Due to PCBs' environmental toxicity and classification as a persistent organic pollutant, PCB production was banned by the United States Congress in 1979 and by the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants in 2001. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), PCBs have been shown to cause cancer in animals, and there is also evidence that they can cause cancer in humans. A number of peer-reviewed health studies have also shown a causal link between exposure to PCBs and non-Hodgkin Lymphoma, a frequently fatal form of cancer.

Concerns about the toxicity of PCBs are largely based on compounds within this group that share a structural similarity and toxic mode of action with dioxin. Toxic effects such as endocrine disruption and neurotoxicity are also associated with other compounds within the group. Therefore, the current maximum contaminant level as stated by the EPA for PCBs in drinking water systems is 0.5 ppb

**STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW ACT
NEGATIVE DECLARATION
NOTICE OF DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE
DEC PERMIT APPLICATION NUMBER 9-2934-00022/00097
EPA ID NO. NYD049836679**

This notice is issued pursuant to Part 617 of the New York State regulations for Article 8 (the State Environmental Quality Review Act) of the New York State Environmental Conservation law (ECL). The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (the Department) has determined that the proposed action described below will not have a significant effect on the environment.

TITLE OF ACTION:

CWM Chemical Services, LLC (CWM)
Sitewide Part 373 Permit Renewal

DEPARTMENT PERMIT JURISDICTION:

The renewal of the Part 373 Permit for the existing CWM Model City Facility.

SEQR STATUS: Unlisted Action

Applicable Threshold: Actions not identified as a Type I or Type II in Part 617.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTION:

Renewal of the Part 373 Permit for the existing CWM Model City Facility. The draft permit includes a number of modifications in three categories: a.) administrative changes not substantially altering facility operations; b.) additional requirements to improve facility operations and safety; and c.) changes requested by CWM.

LOCATION:

The CWM Model City Facility is located along Balmer Road, approximately 1.9 miles east of the intersection of Balmer Road and Creek Road (NYS Route 18) in the Towns of Porter and Lewiston, Niagara County. The RMU-1 landfill is located within CWM's 630 acre Model City Facility at 1550 Balmer Road.

REASONS SUPPORTING THIS DETERMINATION:

During review of this project, the Department identified the following environmental concerns which are analyzed below:

1. For those draft permit modifications categorized above as "a", no changes in the existing practices of waste management are proposed. These proposed changes are essentially ministerial types of corrections to the permit or re-ordering and re-numbering of

items contained in the existing permit which will be relocated to different sections in the draft permit. These changes also reflect items which are no longer necessary in the draft permit because they have been superseded or the item addressed in the previous permit has been deleted.

2. For those draft permit modifications categorized above as "b", minor changes in the existing facility operations are proposed. The changes proposed in the draft permit are expected to be as protective or more protective of the environment as the operations are at the present time.

3. For those draft permit modifications categorized above as "c", changes to the existing facility operations have been proposed by CWM. The changes proposed have been evaluated by the Department and have been found to be acceptable since the changes meet relevant regulatory criteria and present no significant adverse impact to the environment, public health or worker safety in and around the facility.

4. The draft permit includes an increase in the post-closure care period for the purpose of increasing the amount of financial assurance for all land disposal units. The period has been increased to a minimum of 30 years as measured from the date the draft permit becomes effective. The time period for determining post-closure care financial assurance has been increased, rather than decreased, so the change is regarded as more protective of the environment.

5. Process Area Tanks T-8009 & T-8010 and Process Area III & IV Solid Waste Management Units (SWMUs) and final corrective measures for these SWMUs have been added to the draft permit. The new tanks T-8009 and T-8010 are used to store pumped ground water prior to on-site treatment. The tanks have been provided with adequate secondary containment. This change to the facility has been carefully evaluated by the Department and has been found to be acceptable since it presents no significant adverse impact to the environment, public health or worker safety in and around the facility. Also, the additional corrective measures are considered to be environmentally beneficial since they are intended to remediate groundwater contamination.

6. Installation of a permanent access road within/above the final cover of RMU-1 has been added to the draft permit. During the later stages of waste filling, increasing elevations of the waste mass will make the use of traditional haul roads difficult.

The road will be underlain with a woven geotextile beneath a crusher run layer. This will distribute concentrated wheel loads and provide additional protection for the underlying geosynthetics in the final cover. Additionally, evaluation of the puncture potential for the final cover geomembrane indicates that appropriate safety factors are achieved. The new drainage ditch along the road and culvert installation under the road will provide adequate hydraulic capacity to convey the estimated peak discharge from a 25 year, 24 hour design storm. The Department has determined that the installation of the road will have no significant adverse impact on the functionality and integrity of the final cover system.

7. The draft permit contains the addition of new landfill wastes by waste code number. The Department has carefully considered the new wastes which may be accepted at this facility. The Department has determined that the waste can be adequately and safely handled, treated and prepared for disposal by CWM.

8. The draft permit contains changes to the corrective action program for the CWM facility. The program has been revised to comply with Division of Environmental Remediation Guidance (DER-10). The change clarifies, strengthens and standardizes the development and implementation of investigation and remediation for instances where events require immediate response and follow-up. The proposed change will be at least as protective, if not more protective, of the environment than present procedure for corrective action.

9. The draft permit includes a Compliance Schedule to extend the time allowed for the closure of Facultative Pond NO.8 (Fac Pond 8) for 3 years. This proposed change will allow

CWM a longer time period to clean and close this area. At the present time, the pond has been drained and is no longer used for treated wastewater storage. No diminution of treatment capacity is created by the longer time frame.

10. The draft permit contains a proposed increase in the treatment rate of waste stabilization from 100 to 150 tons per hour. This change was proposed by CWM and evaluated by the Department. The Department has carefully considered this change and has determined that the waste can be adequately and safely handled, treated and prepared for disposal by CWM.

11. The mode of waste management and the type and quantity of waste to be accepted is substantially similar to and a continuance of existing waste landfill operations at the site. No change in the permitted capacity of the RMU-1 landfill is proposed in conjunction with this permit renewal.

12. No substantial changes to the amount of truck traffic or in the area around the landfill are anticipated as a result of this action since the type and quantity of waste to be accepted at the site should remain substantially the same. Traffic patterns in and around the site are not expected to change. The number of truck trips delivering waste to the site is limited in the existing permit; this will remain unchanged.

13. The changes proposed in the draft permit are not expected to adversely affect air quality, surface or ground water quality or quantity, waste production or disposal, potential for erosion, drainage or flooding.

14. No substantial changes to the level of noise in the area around the landfill are anticipated as a result of this action since the number and type of trucks delivering waste to the site is not expected to change nor are facility operations expected to substantially change.

15. No significant aesthetic, agricultural, historic, or other natural or cultural resources are known to exist at or near the CWM facility. Therefore, no adverse impacts to these resources are expected.

16. No adverse effect to vegetation or fauna, fish, shellfish or wildlife species, significant habitats, threatened or endangered species is expected. No threatened or endangered species have been identified at the project site; nor will significant or unique habitat be destroyed as a result of this action.

17. No adverse effect to the community's existing character or change in use or intensity of use of land or other natural resources is expected as a result of this action.

18. The project is not expected to induce growth or subsequent development to any significant degree; nor will it generate a need for additional services or require significant expansion in local infrastructure.

19. This action is not expected to have significant long term, secondary, or cumulative adverse impacts.

20. No significant change in the use of energy or the quantity of energy consumption is expected as a result of the proposed permit renewal (including proposed modifications).

SUMMARY/CONCLUSIONS:

The Department, therefore, concludes that the project will not have a significant effect on the natural, cultural and social resources of the State and/or the health, safety and welfare of the public and is consistent with social and economic considerations. In reaching this decision, the Department carefully considered all "Criteria" for Determination of Significance listed in the SEQR Regulations (6 NYCRR 617.7). The Environmental Assessment Form completed for this project does not identify any potentially large or significant adverse impacts.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

Contact Person: Mark F. Passuite, Environmental Analyst 1
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
270 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14203-2915

(716) 851-7165

David S. Denk

Regional Permit Administrator

cc: DEP File

Honorable Merton K. Wiepert, Supervisor, Town of Porter

Honorable Steven L. Reiter, Supervisor, Town of Lewiston

Jeffrey M. Glatz, County Manager, Niagara County

Mr. Jonathan Rizzo, CWM, Attn: Ms. Jill Banaszak

Ms. Abby Snyder, Regional Director

David Stever, Esq., Office of General Counsel

Mr. James Strickland, Regional Engineer

Mr. Dennis Weiss, Region 9 Division of Environmental Remediation

Mr. Matthew Mortefolio, Division of Environmental Remediation, Albany

DEC Issues Final Water Withdrawal Regulations

November 27, 2012 (WBNG Binghamton)

New York's waters and the Great Lakes will be better protected by regulations requiring a state permit for the withdrawal of large volumes of the state's water.

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has finalized these regulations, and they will be effective April 13, 2013, DEC announced today. The regulations limit water withdrawals greater than 100,000 gallons per day and expand the water withdrawal permitting program to include withdrawals for purposes beyond public water supply, such as those for commercial, manufacturing and industrial activities.

“Governor Cuomo signed this legislation to foster responsible conservation practices and economic growth while protecting water bodies and wildlife habitats,” DEC Commissioner Joe Martens said. “The regulations will allow the state to protect the environment while promoting economic growth and addressing droughts.”

The permitting process will ensure a continued water supply to existing municipal, agricultural and industrial users, and will help identify areas that could support new water-dependent businesses. Specifically, the regulations require approval before operating or proposing a system with the capacity to withdraw 100,000 gallons or more per day of surface and groundwater.

The first set of permit applications is due on June 1, 2013. The regulations are being issued now so businesses will have adequate time to comply. DEC will collaborate with stakeholders on implementation and conduct outreach to guide applicants.

Permits will not be required for new public water supply systems with the capacity to withdraw less than 100,000 gallons per day. However, all smaller withdrawals for public water supply will still need to comply with water pollution control laws, state Department of Health regulations and state environmental quality review (SEQR) requirements, as applicable.

Some withdrawals are exempt from permitting. For example, agricultural withdrawals that were properly registered or reported to DEC on or before February 15, 2012 need only to continue to annually register and report these withdrawals.

Implementing a permitting, registration and reporting program for water withdrawals of 100,000 gallons per day or larger also implements New York's commitment under the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact to create a regulatory program for water withdrawals in the Great Lakes Basin.

Asian Carp

In late 2009 Attorney General Michael Cox of Michigan filed suit in Federal Court against the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Chicago's Metropolitan Water Reclamation District claiming that if asian carp should become established in Lake Michigan that they would cause irreparable harm. The suit asked for hydrological separation of the Chicago Water Ways from Lake Michigan. New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin and Minnesota all file with Michigan. The case was dismissed.

New York did not participate in following legal actions to separate the Great Lakes; in my opinion it was for political reasons Obama was our new President and our attorney general became governor to New York.

December 3, 2012 a federal judge threw out a lawsuit filed by five states that want barriers placed in Chicago-area waterways to prevent Asian carp from invading the Great Lakes, but said he would consider new arguments if the case were filed again.

Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Ohio and Pennsylvania claimed the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Chicago's Metropolitan Water Reclamation District are causing a public nuisance by failing to physically separate a network of rivers and canals from Lake Michigan. Scientists have detected DNA from bighead and silver carp in the waterways. They say if the voracious carp become established in the Great Lakes, they could out-compete native species and severely damage the region's \$7 billion fishing industry.

U.S. District Judge John Tharp said he couldn't order the agencies to do what the states want because federal law requires the corps to keep shipping channels open between Lake Michigan

and one of the Chicago waterways -- the Des Plaines River -- and prohibits constructing dams in any navigable waterway without Congress' consent.

In a written ruling, Tharp said he was "mindful of, and alarmed by, the potentially devastating ecological, environmental, and economic consequences that may result from the establishment of an Asian carp population in the Great Lakes." But he said the proper way for the states to win approval of separating the waterways is through Congress.

Tharp left the door open for further court action, however, saying the states might be able to find other grounds for a nuisance claim that wouldn't have the effect of asking the corps and city agency to violate federal law. "There may be room in which the (states) can still maneuver," he wrote.

Joy Yearout, spokeswoman for Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette, said his office had not decided on its next step.

"We're certainly disappointed," Yearout said. "We're reviewing the ruling and we will consult with the other states on how to move forward."

Public hearings on farming/ feeding animals in close quarters....

Deadline for comments on this proposed regulation is 1/20/2013

for medium sized dairies, 200-299, for non-discharging farms, they will not have to file for permits and have a comprehensive nutrient management plan. DEC summary - could have an adverse impact on soil and ground waters

DEC appears not in favor of this regulatory change, but in the process of moving this forward

Rich motions to oppose the regulatory change

2nd Dave Barus

Dave Wharton mentions this is a change to the nutrient management set federally in the 1980's. Claimed that the regulation would keep NYS compliant with federal law.

Has the Federation received feedback from dairy farmers on this and how this will impact them? Very difficult to stay in business as a dairy farmer today and if this helps keep some in business, that would be a good thing.

Greater demand for dairy products/ yogurts in NYS - need more cows.

DEC is cracking down on many discharges. Since 2004, Chautauqua Lake is not meeting water quality standards due to nutrient discharges

Rich mentions that currently the farms have to have plans for an emergency. We all plan for emergency. Why suddenly eliminate the need for a formal plan? This is not burdensome, this is responsible. This is why I motioned to oppose this regulatory action.

On the question:
18 support the motion
5 opposed

Motion carries

EPA - Sewage dumping from boats into Lake Erie - no discharge zone. Any sized boat, could include peeing off the bow? Could also be some bilge pump issues. No dates for the closing of the comment period. Need more info

Legislation – John Susz

To keep in touch with what's going on with firearm legislation in New York, check out SCOPE's website at - www.scopeny.org

State Senate is still in GOP control. Expect Obama to appoint a couple more SCOTUS judges over the next few years.

UN will start another round of Arms control treaty in March. We have already jumped on board at 2:00PM the day following the election after campaigning that he was opposed.

Crossbow Bill has been delivered to the Governor.

Resolutions – OPEN – Rich Davenport

Alden Resolution officially read into the minutes and to the delegates. This resolution is also included in last month's and this month's minutes, we will vote on this at the January meeting on 1/24

Membership Outreach – The membership secretary would like all club presidents to consider attending at least one regular Federation meeting a year. This might not only prove to be a learning experience, but may also provide a better insight as to the importance of having representation on behalf of their clubs. If any club would like a visit from a Federation spokesman, please contact President Chuck Godfrey at 440-6995 or steelheader@roadrunner.com . The president will also try to visit one club or so per month.

IF ANYONE KNOWS OF AN ERIE COUNTY CLUB WHICH IS NOT A MEMBER, PLEASE LET THE PRESIDENT KNOW SO HE CAN CONTACT THEM ABOUT MEMBERSHIP

Sportsman/woman Education – Frank Miskey Sr.

None - excused

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nominations – Paul Stoos

The present officers and directors have all accepted nominations to continue next year, however Frank Miskey.sr. was nominated as 1st vice-president and Joe Fischer was nominated as 2nd vice-president. That is:

Chuck Godfrey-pres., Rich Davenport – recording sec., Dave Barus – corr. sec., Antoinette Grote – memb. sec., Rose Barus as Treasurer and Tony Gonnello, Tom Marks, John Susz, George Rockey, and Hope Melnyk as Directors. Additionally Dan Tone and Joe Fischer will continue to represent the Fed. At the NYSCC.

Motion by Paul Stoos to have Secretary cast the ballot
2nd Tom Marks

Motion carries

Rich Davenport casts the ballot to approve the slate – congrats suckers!

Awards – Frank Miskey Sr.

Not here - form to fill out is in back of minutes
Feb 1 2013 is the deadline
Please fill out the forms!

Banquet – Dave Smyczynski

January 9 7PM at Riley Street Station, East Aurora, Wednesday - Committee Meeting
Tickets are available

We need to start asking clubs and/or individuals to consider donating baskets to the Federation for use at the Federation Banquet in March. This has become a major fundraiser for us. Please let Chuck Godfrey know if your club would be willing to do this, and if possible, what the theme of the basket might be, so his wife can avoid making a duplicate basket. Our goal would be to have at least 30 baskets, with Chuck's wife supplying 10 to 15 of them, but more is better. We can also use any other donations that an individual or club may wish to give. Contact Dave Smyczynski about that.

Need volunteers to help run the games and such.

Fund Raising – Dave Smyczynski

Calendars - delivered as of today - still have a few available, \$5 each
Lottery ticket basket if each club would donate a lottery ticket, or \$1, get 30-40 scratch offs, that would be great

President's Raffle – hope to get started on that and will keep same this year, but some changes may happen next year, need more help on the committee to really move forward – Dave needs some help.

Educational Opportunities – Chuck Godfrey

Applications for the scholarships are due Dec. 15 to chuck Godfrey
have 2 submitted so far

FWMB - Paul Stoos

Jan 13 is the meeting, chairman of FWMB would be there, Paul is going there, get with Paul to bring up issues.

Expos & Shows – Dave Wharton

The EXPO is March 7-10. We will begin asking for volunteers at the Jan. meeting. If a club would like to take a full or partial day, please contact Chuck -440-6995 or steelheader@roadrunner.com - as soon as possible, so your times can be reserved. 12-9, 12-9, 10-8, 10-5 are the hours on Thurs. – Sun.

National Hunting and Fishing day – Rich Davenport

Received another reservation for next year Southtowns Walleye, 12 or 13 of 22 last year have reserved

WNY Environmental Federation – Dan Tone/ Zen Olow

January 13 at Hoak's 1PM

Budget and Finance – Rose Barus – (motion to pay bills) - none to pay

Website – Dave Smyczynski - eriectvfsc.org

None

Law enforcement – Chuck Godfrey

Same staffing levels nothing new

Archery & Bowhunting – Jim McCann

Nothing new

Crossbow –Frank Miskey, Jr.

Crossbow bill delivered to Governor - eliminates the youth firearms hunt

Fish – Dave Barus

No report

Small Game – Dan Tone

Paid out \$2516 - 629 birds, will be meeting in February (26th Tuesday, at Co-op Center in East Aurora, 26 Rose St.) for pheasants

Also would like to get a meeting with all WNY folks involved in pheasant stocking

NRA would like to be more involved and sit and meet with them

Attica prison pheasant rearing will be funded this year

However, want to eliminate the grant for the 4-H to shift to Attica program. Not this year

Jim Losito from NFFNRA questioned the survival rate as well. Think about spreading out the stocking to extend the hunting season opportunity (season runs through Feb 28)

Big Game – Paul Stoos

Q - are nuisance permit deer taken in low DMP WMUs counted in the harvest? Yes they are

Trapping – Patti Wattengel

Nothing yet on cable restraint bill for coyote but soon

Fur handling seminar, Jan 5, Sat 9A-1P at Collins Conservation Club - lots of kids games, prizes raffles free seminars

Fur auction will be Sat Feb 2 at S&S Taxidermy, check in at 8AM, auction starts at 10AM, 5% commission fee for all sellers big buyers from all over, come check it out

Old Business:

None

New Business - any new delegates present?

Southtowns Banquet Feb 16

Antoinette Grote motions to buy table

2nd Dave Wharton

Motion carries

List of interested people who want to go collected after meeting

Excalibur charters - looking for some help/ volunteers and also some donations, no more state funding, someone ran the boat a-ground late in the season, caused extensive damage, need donations to get this repaired

Dave Barus motions to donate \$250

2nd Joe Jemiolo

Discussions - do they have insurance? Unknown

Motion carries

Town of West Seneca and Army Corps will be putting signs on Buffalo River from Union to where the silos are, before spring, indicating dangerous water signs from Union downstream to the silos.

Good and Welfare of the Organization:

Observe moment of silence for Mike Gage

John Jack Phillips - harbormaster in Barcelona

Federation has had a great year, we have done more activities for kids this year than ever, and the raffle with youth lifetime shows the commitment is even stronger! Lots of stuff going on. Thank you for all your help and dedication.

Motion for Adjournment

Motion to adjourn - Rich Davenport 2nd - Dave Wharton

Motion carries, meeting adjourned, 9:44PM

Thanks to Host Club

Bison City Rod and Gun

Willie says Thank you everyone, have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, and see you all here same time, same place next year.

ERIE COUNTY FEDERATION OF SPORTSMEN'S CLUBS INC.

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

As part of the Erie county Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs efforts to enhance our environment and wildlife appreciation, we award up to five \$200 college scholarships yearly.

To qualify for a scholarship you must be a high school senior enrolled in an accredited college, or attending an accredited college with your major in any one of these areas: environmental conservation, law enforcement, or environmental pollution **and must be a resident of Erie County.**

Scholarships are awarded based upon need and the area of study. To be considered for one of these scholarships complete the form below and return with a short essay telling of need, any projects you have **engineered or participated in**, your future goals, and proof of enrollment (i.e., course enrollment, course schedule, report card, etc.) to the address below prior to **December 15.**

**SCHOLARSHIP CHAIRMAN
29 YVETTE DRIVE
CHEEKTOWAGA, NY 14227**

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ COUNTY: _____ NY ZIP: _____

HOME TELEPHONE: _____ OTHER: _____

COLLEGE: _____

GRADE LEVEL: _____ MAJOR: _____

ERIE COUNTY FEDERATION OF SPORTSMENS CLUBS

NOMINATIONS FOR AWARDS FOR 2013

List of Categories:

- Valerie E. Gonnello Sportswoman of the Year
- Sportsman of the Year
- Youth of the Year
- Club of the Year
- Volunteer of the Year
- Public Servant of the Year
- Public Relations of the Year
- Dedicated Service Award
- Lifetime Achievement Award
- Stanley Spisiak Conservationist Award

Name of Candidate

Address

Contact person if applicable

Person's history and why they should be chosen

Greatest Achievement

Submitted by:
Phone Number:

Send to: Frank Miskey Sr.
62 Boll Drive
Elma, New York 14059

DEAD LINE 2/1/2013
E-MAIL WILL BE ACCEPTED
CANDIDATE CAN ONLY BE NOMINATED FOR ONE AWARD

NYSCC RESOLUTION 2012 - 2013

FROM: ALDEN ROD & GUN CLUB

RE: OPPOSITION TO ANTLER RESTRICTIONS and QDMA

Whereas: in recent years the NY State DEC has instituted Antler Restrictions in certain WMU's, and;

Whereas: The NY State DEC has expanded the number of WMU's that have Antler Restrictions, and;

Whereas: The NY State DEC originally instituted Antler Restrictions with a pilot program clause with the understanding that they would use scientific evaluations to see if the Antler Restrictions would help the overall stability and health of the herd, and;

Whereas: The NY State DEC has increased the number of WMU'S without waiting for or establishing the effect of the Antler Restrictions, and;

Whereas: The NY State DEC has gone on record to state that implementation of mandatory AR severely compromises the abilities of wildlife biologists and managers to accurately estimate whitetail deer populations, and;

Whereas: The NY State DEC has gone on record that mandatory AR is not a necessary wildlife management program in New York State, and;

Whereas: According to the precepts of the North American Wildlife Conservation Model implementation of any program, restriction, et. al., must show as a necessary to improve the management and health of the wildlife based on science, not opinion, before implementation may occur, and;

Whereas: Continued statements from the professionals within the NY State DEC indicate time and again that mandatory AR is not necessary for improved herd health or the future of the herds clearly indicates this effort does not meet the muster of the North American Wildlife Conservation Model, and;

Whereas: The Erie County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, The WNY Environmental Federation, and other Federations and Clubs in Region 9 have taken votes and the overall Majority of them opposes mandatory Antler Restrictions, and;

Whereas: A majority of Alden Rod and Gun Club members opposes Antler Restrictions;

THEREFORE be it resolved that the NY State Conservation Council “oppose” any form of mandatory Antler Restrictions in all counties constituting NYS DEC Region 9 with the NY State DEC and any legislation, regulation or rule that would institute mandatory Antler Restrictions for the counties Region 9.

Respectfully submitted,
Alden Rod and Gun Club

President:
Frank Bermel, Jr

Alden R&G Club Delegate to the ECFSC
Contact:
Paul J Stoos
1845 Clinton Street
Buffalo, NY 14206
Ph: 716-563-9258