



*Rich Davenport, 2015 ECFSC Recording Secretary*

*Erie County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs*

**ECFSC January 2016 General Meeting Minutes**

**January 28, 2016  
Elma Conservation Club**

**Call to order** – 7:00PM

**Directors and Officers without badges, bring up your \$\$**

**Pledge to Flag:** Completed

**Roll call – Officers and Directors:**

Excused: Dan Tone, Dave Barus, Rose Barus, Larry Jones, Joe Fischer

**Quorum of member clubs – Present:**

Yes

**Installation of Officers and Directors**

**Approval of previous month's minutes**

Minutes went to Joe, attached to archives for 2015

**Secretary's report – Rich Davenport**

Minutes on website archived, Chuck says that has been fixed  
Web form is up a few glitches have been fixed  
Please send agendas in Acrobat, as not everyone has MS Word  
You can also get free viewers from MS

**Membership report – Antoinette Grote**

Membership renewals out, none bounced,  
19 have paid already

**Treasurer's report – Debbie Godfrey**

Getting lots of money after the balances done  
Tickets  
Dues for NYSCC  
Paid for the badges  
Tried to get the management of the account online. Listing as a type of organization that we are not

Had to make up a form, so the bank can correct, and then do stuff online  
Cannot do much without the Quick Books  
We did apply for and got a debit card, so someone who buys stuff doesn't have to use their own account and then have to get repaid  
Also looking to use Savings account as the YLTL account, and keep separate from checking

Motion to approve – Hope Melnyk 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Tom Marks  
Motion carries unanimously

**Correspondence report – Joe McAdams**

None  
Looking to send letters to elected officials on WMU 9C

**President's Report – Chuck Godfrey**

Responses from Jeremy Hurst and Doug Stang to 9A and 9F letters  
Lancaster deer hunting controversy  
Upcoming Banquets: Let me know if I've forgotten anyone.  
Southtowns Walleye – February 20  
WNYTU – March 19  
Niagara County – April 16  
Niagara Musky - April 2  
Chautauqua County – April 18  
NFFNRA - April 9  
Committee volunteers, time to sign up, and be sure to return to Chuck the clipboard  
Has not been altered, please sign up, or remove your name, from committees  
We have a \$5000 grant from Ryan and also some money from the County for fishing poles and NHFD  
Also have some funding from SCI coming as well? It is on record  
Scott Callen was trying to get our orders placed at Triple S Show yesterday.  
Received email from Don Ashworth, he knows how much money he will have to support local groups

Discussions on AR, and the questions about why are they now making it the mission?  
Part of 5-Year Deer Management Plan, we will know much more after Feb 2

Town of Lancaster cannot change the set back distance. On Town property, they can, but cannot touch private property  
Can cite the guy, or regulate discharge of implements within the town, but has to be entire town, not parts and pieces

**Next meetings and locations:**

I'm working on sites for the 2016 meetings. We will put out announcements as soon as we confirm dates. - Chuck

Date		BM Time		GM Time		Location
2/25/2016	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	George Washington Club, Buffalo, NY
3/24/2016	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	Open TDB
4/28/2016	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	Open TBD
5/26/2016	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	Erie County Cons. Society, Chafee, NY
6/23/2016	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	TBD
7/28/2016	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	TBD
August						No Meeting
9/8/2016	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	Springville Field & Stream, Springville, NY
10/13/2016	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	TBD
11/3/2016	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	TBD
12/15/2016	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	Bison City Rod & Gun, Buffalo, NY

**GUESTS:**

Mike Bartoshevich, Georgina from NFFNRA  
 Connie Adams – NYS DEC  
 Gary Ackerman – New Delegate for Federation of Fly Fisherman

NFFNRA – Fliers and such, being passed along  
 Hope many show up, at Salvatore’s  
 Give a lot of support for pheasant  
 Let’s support them, too, if we can, please reserve early  
 Mike will send along an electronic version as well.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Law enforcement – Jeff Jondle**

Academy is on for Feb, 37 ECOs, 17 Forest Rangers  
 Good cases during deer season, broke many cases  
 Spill in Springville being cleaned up  
 Good stuff  
 Chautauqua County – ongoing busts of foreigners snagging of trout in Chautauqua County

**Archery & Bowhunting – Jim McCann**

None  
 Alaskan and wildlife shoot in April at Hawkeye

**Crossbow –Frank Miskey, Jr.**

None

**Fish – Tom Marks**

Tom Marks will chair the committee

Reports successful egg take this fall

Got some calls on Cayuga Creek Dredging – Federal project and standards for flow through towns – flood control – under contract the Corps should be scraping clean, but only dredged.

**Teach Me to Fish Clinics – OPEN**

THIS IS A NEW COMMITTEE WHICH IS IN DESPERATE NEED OF A CHAIRMAN!!!!!!!!!!!! IF WE DON'T GET ONE, WE'LL BE FORCED TO STOP ALL OF OUR KIDS' FISHING CLINICS ACTIVITIES – TIFFT AND CHESTNUT RIDGE, DISTRIBUTING RODS AND REELS TO KIDS' EVENTS, ETC. PLEASE CONSIDER HELPING.

**Small Game – Dan Tone**

None

Fischer Regs

Hope motions to support NY Trappers position

2<sup>nd</sup> Tom Marks

Chuck will handle, comment period ends Feb 8. Please make your own comments please!

**Big Game – Paul Stoos**

Preliminary harvest reports are out

Comments motion by Tom Marks to support bear during youth hunt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Steve Aldstadt

Motion carries

Comments on restriction on buck take - rescind

Motion Antoinette Grote

2<sup>nd</sup> Hope Melnyk

Mention access challenges

Motion carries

Idea on Early ML Season

Rich motions to support early ML season antlerless only in Sept

2<sup>nd</sup> Steve Aldstadt

Some are opposed

May be we are killing too many deer

Already an early ML in Northern Zones no problems  
Majority of States, more than 50% has it in archery season  
Biggest problem is screwing the kids?

Rich tables the motion

Rich spelled out EA, Forestry issues, AR and many other issues, maybe an early ML season in Sept wouldn't be too bad.

Rich motions the motion off the table

Motion carries unanimously

Big bore Air Rifles proposals  
On the table  
ECFSC opposed the resolution

Tom Fisher support motion of Air rifle  
2<sup>nd</sup> Hope Melnyk

Motion carries

It may increase poaching, but this does need to be done

<break for dinner>

### **Trapping – Patti Wattengel**

Fishers – already covered

### **Waterfowl – Paul Pietraszewski**

George Rockey would like the Federation to send thank you letter to Parks for use of Small Boat Harbor during 2<sup>nd</sup> Season  
2<sup>nd</sup> Jeff Jondle

Town of GI bike path, west river from duck blind 22 to head of the river  
Put up a concrete barrier, this would restrict/ eliminate parking for the blinds

George Rockey motions to write to Grand Island Town to oppose the bike path plan,  
copy State Parks

Jeff Jondle 2<sup>nd</sup>

Comment periods have past, many user groups not notified, need to address.

Should be put in the median and keep away from traffic

Need to get the comment period reopened

We got word on this well into the 2<sup>nd</sup> season

Town of Grand Island – Greenway Commission, engineer is C&S Engineers Inc, 141 Elm Street  
B O'Brien....

Connie Adams recommends that it wouldn't hurt to also copy Jim DePriest Buffalo DEC, oversees the greenway committee

Should we be opposed to the bike path totally, or location?

Money already approved, \$2.2 MIL for bike path.

It's going in just matter of where

Motion carries

Meeting with Tonawanda issues. Glenn Adams Chaired the meeting. Meeting was to decide how to move forward – supposed to be a plan for each WMA. Ended in 2009 (15 year plan), but no more plan.

Region 8 Staff asked waterfowlers to submit suggestions

Comments were too severe, needed to be toned down

Dan Carrol had the management role before retiring. Need the original plan and then move forward

Has some of the comments and proposals. Will be moving forward

Proposed meeting in March

Need to look at old management plan.

Need to look at whole picture

### **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](mailto: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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

Join membership individual if Erie County gets 480 members, the council is solvent. Their membership role is nothing, but could become string, also enhanced advertising revenue, etc.

### **Environment & Pollution – Tom Marks**

USF&W has given up on the Eagle unlimited kill permit that Obama wants. ABC won in court

Audubon, another bird organization, were much more reserved on the issue, stating turbines should be sited more carefully, and Audubon took donations from Wind companies, too.

Most of their members are opposed to killing the eagles, but the brass is seemingly not listening

Microbead ban, started in Erie County, now it is Federal Law.  
By July 2017, plastic microbeads will be banned across USA

Invasives regulation for boaters to stop AIS. Entire regulation is strangely written, penalties are seemingly very hefty.

How many shipping companies have been fined? We’re going to put this on the recreational boaters?

Steve Aldstadt moves to submit opposition comment by Tom Marks to the regulations  
AIS  
2<sup>nd</sup> Tom Fischer

Motion carries unanimously

5 proposed wind turbine projects in Region 9  
3 in Chautauqua  
Arkwright  
Cassadaga  
Ball Hill

And another is Oak Orchard/ Tonawanda

Numerous bald eagle nests on the ridge (5.5 miles from Lake Erie)

NY has guidelines that nothing gets built within 5 miles from Great Lakes

**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](http://www.scopeny.org)

Bills – anti 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment, not going anywhere in Senate

If Dems take the Senate on Skelos special election, could come

Terrorist no-fly list laws being floated

Unconscionable

Under SAFE Act, you can lose all your firearms and ammo, also includes archery tackle.

Not expecting anything to happen in Senate

GOP Long Island, still seeing positive poll numbers for NY SAFE in LI.

Best we can hope for is gridlock

Rich motions to oppose Sen Klein's No-Fly list bill

2<sup>nd</sup> George Rockey

Will head to Klein, and our representatives

**Resolutions – Rich Davenport -**

Paul Stoos motions to support the resolution

2<sup>nd</sup> ...

Process is roll call vote, and the vote is weighted by size

None opposed

All approved

No abstentions

Resolution carries, will be submitted to the Council

**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 [steelheader03@hotmail.com](mailto:steelheader03@hotmail.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.**

No posters this year, everything online



Everything is online, including taking some of the classes online.  
Last year made 127 phone calls to get the posters done, since online, no time wasting

Lots of classes coming in, they are being listed online, already 25-30 classes posted,  
starting in March  
Refresher classes coming up for instructors in March in Elma and Hamburg

## **SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Nominations – Paul Stoos**

None

### **Awards – Frank Miskey Sr.**

Need to get the nominations in. Only two in  
Feb 1 is the deadline  
Send email, or mail hard copy  
Please make sure the forms are complete

### **Banquet – Frank Miskey, jr.**

#### **March 5**

Please consider donating baskets for the “bucket raffle.” This is one of our  
biggest fundraisers. Contact Debbie Godfrey at  
[debbiegodfrey@roadrunner.com](mailto:debbiegodfrey@roadrunner.com) to let her know about numbers and  
themes of baskets please.

Moving forward, lots of baskets coming in

Hawkeye, question came up for banquet, getting a table used to be discounted?

Not done in a long time

Trying to keep banquet as reasonably priced as possible, \$35 straight across the board

No purchases at the door

Donation letters and advertising

Will out ASAP

AD deadline is Feb 20

Need additional help with raffle tables, games, etc.

Will there be another banquet meeting

There will be one, will be firmed up soon.

### **Educational Opportunities – Chuck Godfrey**

2 applications were received and will be awarded

### **Fund Raising – Larry Jones**

None

### **FWMB – Chuck Godfrey**

Nothing, thank you Paul for the years of service on the board

**Shows – Dave Wharton**

Sign up sheet for the EXPO 10, 11, 12, &13.  
We manned a booth at the Greater Niagara Fishing and Outdoor Expo last weekend.  
Thanks to Hope and Gary Melnyk who worked the show most of the weekend. Elma will handle Friday.  
Suggestion for next year, not attend. Not doing a thing for us.

**National Hunting and Fishing day – Rich Davenport**

Start cranking in March – Will have the Vendor form up by March meeting, as well as listing the event on National site. Should have some funding\ from Erie County this year. Committee will meet in April

**WNY Environmental Federation – Dan Tone**

Meeting was good at Hoak’s on Jan 10.

**Joe Jemiolo, jr. Youth Lifetime Licenses - Chuck Godfrey**

Fundraiser raffle tix are printed. 1 gun, 2 charters, 1 shoreline fishing trip, a great spinning rod and reel, and a propane grill. PLEASE TAKE SOME TO SELL THROUGH/AT YOUR CLUBS  
For 2015 we were able to award 9 youth lifetime licenses. Individual donation from Mr. Doyle of Elma Conservation, gets us started on the right foot. Another \$20 donation from General Welding.

Getting the licenses for last year’s winners now, one will be spending extra money to get the sportsmen, plus they will be buying their 2 banquet tickets

**Budget and Finance – Debbie Godfrey – (motion to pay bills)**

None

**Website – Joe McAdams - [erictyfsc.org](http://erictyfsc.org)**

Technical stuff to be hammered out.

**Old Business:**

None

**New Business - any new delegates present?**

Sporting clays  
Dick Hannerberg – North towns district  
Council event, Erie and Niagara, every fall, sporting clay classic  
Please let the clubs know ths is going on. Looking for sponsorships at present  
Shooting at TSC – provided the town doesn’t pass the stupid noise ordinance  
Merit badge sponsorships this year  
Asking for clubs to put together teams of 5, much more affordable  
Online registration on the council website (Greater Niagara Frontier Council)  
Bison City R&G \$25/ tix, April 30 drawing, annual gun raffle

**Good and Welfare of the Organization:**

Sat March 19, DiPietro 4<sup>th</sup> annual Sportsmen's Extravaganza  
Eden American Legion Post

**50/50 Raffle**

Winner \$27.00

Lakeshore Exempt is the Winner – donated back to YLTL fund

**Motion for Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn – Tom Marks

2<sup>nd</sup> – Hope

Meeting adjourned 9:47PM

**Thanks to Host Club**

Elma Conservation Club



*Rich Davenport, 2016 ECFSC Recording Secretary*

*Erie County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs*

**ECFSC February 2016 General Meeting Minutes**

**February 25, 2016**

**George Washington Fishing & Camping Club, Buffalo, NY**

**Call to order** – 7:07PM

**Pledge to Flag:** Completed

**Roll call – Officers and Directors:**

Excused: Joe Fischer, Larry Jones, Tom Marks and Tony Gonnello are excused

In Attendance: 4 Officers, 13 Directors, 21 Delegates, 1 Guest

**Quorum of member clubs** – Present:

**Installation of Officers and Directors**

Paul Stoos will continue as Sgt at Arms

**Approval of previous month's minutes**

Motion to approve - 2<sup>nd</sup>  
December is included in the archive

**Secretary's report – Rich Davenport**

Minutes will be sent Saturday

January will be out over the weekend

Busy apologies

**Membership report – Antoinette Grote**

No changes

**Treasurer's report – Debbie Godfrey**

Motion to approve Frank Sr

2<sup>nd</sup> Dave Wharton

**Correspondence report – Joe McAdams**

No correspondence to report

Did write the letter concerning waterfowl

Drop box is set up

**President's Report – Chuck Godfrey**

WNYTU – March 19 – have 4 going  
Niagara County – April 16 – have 2 going so far  
Niagara Musky - April 2 have 2 going so far  
Chautauqua County – April 18 - Will handle next meeting  
NFFNRA - April 9 Have 4 going  
March 2, meeting being held by DEC on Great lakes workshops

**Next meetings and locations:**

<b>Date</b>		<b>BM Time</b>		<b>GM Time</b>		<b>Location</b>
3/24/2016	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	Evans Rod & Gun, Evans, NY
4/28/2016	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	Open TBD
5/26/2016	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	Erie County Cons. Society, Chafee, NY
6/23/2016	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	Hamburg Rod & Gun, Hamburg, BY
7/28/2016	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	Niagara River Station, Grand Island, NY
August						No Meeting
9/8/2016	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	Springville Field & Stream, Springville, NY
10/13/2016	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	TBD
11/3/2016	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	TBD
12/15/2016	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	Bison City Rod & Gun, Buffalo, NY

**GUESTS:**

NFFNRA

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Law enforcement – Jeff Jondle**

Academy is coming up  
Catt County ECO won NWTF Award  
Niagara County won LE officer of the year award  
After Academy, may still be short  
Need money to fix radio systems – statewide

**Archery & Bowhunting – Jim McCann**

Region 9 bowhunter youth camp had first meeting last night  
Camp will be Aug 5-7, will be the same as formats in the past  
Talk of streamlining back to two days.  
Applications will be out soon, in time for March Expo  
Will be at Elma Conservation  
Pete Wetzal Chair, Jerry Barber Co-Chair

Frank Miskey Sr, motions to donate usual amount to the camp (\$250)

2<sup>nd</sup> Dave Wharton  
Motion carries

Won't be needed for a little while, details will be forthcoming

**Crossbow – Frank Miskey, Jr.**

Nothing

**Fish – Tom Marks**

Spoke about new regulation proposals, of interest – Walleye limit on Chautauqua Lake to go back to 15" and 5 per day, Lake Erie Bass season allow trophy season from Dec 1 to 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in June  
Fisheries advisory board issues with term limits  
Ice fishing on Chautauqua awesome

**Teach Me to Fish Clinics – OPEN**

THIS IS A NEW COMMITTEE WHICH IS IN DESPERATE NEED OF A CHAIRMAN!!!!!!!!!!!! IF WE DON'T GET ONE, WE'LL BE FORCED TO STOP ALL OF OUR KIDS' FISHING CLINICS ACTIVITIES – TIFFT AND CHESTNUT RIDGE, DISTRIBUTING RODS AND REELS TO KIDS' EVENTS, ETC. PLEASE CONSIDER HELPING.

**Small Game – Dan Tone**

Meeting with 4-H this year, good meeting, gearing more to kids, do allow older people to raise the pheasants, but want kids to do this  
Have people going out to the clubs and such to recruit and generate interest  
If clubs that are here can take info back to clubs and see if kids would like to participate in the program  
Would like to get kids interest.  
If kids are involved – call Tammy Crohn 652-5400 ext 132  
655-0975 – Dan Tone if adults are interested

Do kids have to be 4-H members? Ideally yes, but this is not pushed  
We will be receiving \$1500 from the NRA to help pay for the program  
Support the NRA banquet, they work their tails off, a big thank you

Four people going – do not leave without telling the meal preference to Chuck  
Prime Rib  
Chicken Cordon Bleu  
Salmon

Let's get the info out there on the website, on Facebook, etc

### **Big Game – Paul Stoos**

Preliminary harvest figures show down 13%  
Bear killed in Eden, off the Thruway exit  
Rich Davenport - Spoke on the meeting on Feb 2, Report is in back of minutes  
Other things will be happening, things that have been neglected  
Urban deer management, antlerless management  
DEC loves the 9C move  
Mandatory AR is dead in NYS for at least 5 years

### **Trapping – Patti Wattengel**

Fisher plan – DEC listened to the trappers

### **Waterfowl – Paul Pietraszewski**

Paul P sent email out – teaches at ECC, had to pick up Thursday night class this semester, waterfowl committee chairmanship needs to be sacrificed. New chair is George Rockey  
Terrible season – upcoming meeting concerning Tonawanda, but different dates so not cemented

### **Conservation Council - Dan Tone**

Allegany County is back in the Council and WNYEF.  
Support BAM

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. Wants us to do a fund raiser if we can, talked to Zen, will do a fund raiser, will hear more. Joe McAdams has offered to print the tickets pro bono

### **Environment & Pollution – Tom Marks**

State of Lake Erie coming in May  
State of Lake Ontario – March 3

### **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](http://www.scopeny.org)  
A-9340 and A-9341 bills in Assembly  
One will limit ammo purchase except to reload twice in 90 days  
The other no ammo purchases to guns not registered  
No Same As in Senate for either

Lobby Day March 15 in Albany  
SCOPE Erie County Sending a bus  
Leaving from Tops in West Seneca 4:30AM

A number of things going on in the courts.  
Scalia has died, NYSRPA released press release issuing a position not to bring to SCOTUS until settled (SAFE Act)

It will be going to SCOTUS as CT and NY have been combined, 2<sup>nd</sup> Circuit is still being appealed, despite NYSRPA dropping out

Get on the bus to go to Albany.

April 19 will be district lobby day, same day as NYS Primaries  
Special election for Skelos' seat on same day as well

Other bills out there

### **Resolutions – Rich Davenport**

Our resolution is in

**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 [steelheader03@hotmail.com](mailto:steelheader03@hotmail.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.**

Region 9 does more hunter education courses, and Erie County does more hunter's safety courses in the Region

We lost our part time coordinator, Ken Baginsky

Region 8 as a FT coordinator, plus tech part time

Kate in the DEC office has been handling the load. Her hours have been cut, 2 days a week, one week, 3 days the other

We are losing instructors, had a training class, 4 new candidates, but lost 2 and could lose another 2 due to retirement. No increase this year

Would like Ken's position filled

Leads to discouragement at the instructor level

Frank motions we write a letter to Abbey Snyder, Patty Riexinger, Joe Racine in Albany to hire a replacement ASAP

Dave Wharton 2nds the motion

Rich mentions this was a topic of discussion at the Deer meeting

### **SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Nominations – Paul Stoos**

None – will need a President



**Awards – Frank Miskey Sr.**

All awards are being done up right now

**Banquet – Frank Miskey, jr.**

Meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup>

Chinese Auction

Early Bird Rifle Raffle – 143 paid by Feb 20

Larger Prize Chinese Auction, replaced the silent auction

Couple rifles also being raffled off

Henry Big Boy 30/30

2 Rossi Rifles, 44 and 357 mag

Deadline head count is Monday AM

**March 5**

Please consider donating baskets for the “bucket raffle.” This is one of our biggest fundraisers.

Contact Debbie Godfrey at [debbiegodfrey@roadrunner.com](mailto:debbiegodfrey@roadrunner.com) to let her know about numbers and themes of baskets please.

Banquet Ads deadline is today

**Educational Opportunities – Chuck Godfrey**

2 applications were received and will be awarded

Tyler Foster, Maryvale, Freshman Kent St

Kylie Voss, East Aurora, Freshman at Syracuse

Congrats

**Fund Raising – Larry Jones**

None at this time

**FWMB – Chuck Godfrey**

Joe Fischer Alternate, Chuck Godfrey new Delegate

Next meeting should be in March

**Shows – Dave Wharton**

Sign up sheet for the EXPO 10, 11, 12, &13.

We manned a booth at the Greater Niagara Fishing and Outdoor Expo last weekend.

Thanks to Hope and Gary Melnyk who worked the show most of the weekend.

**National Hunting and Fishing day – Rich Davenport**

Meeting in April

**WNY Environmental Federation – Dan Tone**

Meeting is March 13, 2016

**Joe Jemiolo, jr. Youth Lifetime Licenses - Chuck Godfrey**

Fundraiser raffle tickets are printed. 1 gun, 2 charters, 1 shoreline fishing trip, a great spinning rod and reel, and a propane grill. PLEASE TAKE SOME TO SELL THROUGH/AT YOUR CLUBS

For 2015 we were able to award 9 youth lifetime licenses.

Have purchased the licenses

Will have 21 people come to banquet

**Budget and Finance – Debbie Godfrey – (motion to pay bills)**

Motion to approve - 2<sup>nd</sup> -

Nothing

**Website – Joe McAdams - eriectyfsc.org**

Posted a thank you email for a coyote hunt posting

Awards banquet info is up on the site

Events, listed any kind of event listed when we get it, just submit it

**Old Business:**

Info from NYSCC on ADK management

What about the round up for conservation?

We are participating in this

**New Business - any new delegates present?**

Spoke with Don Ashworth – he will have \$1200 this year to spend on the round up for conservation, he wants the Federation to receive this – they did give \$1000 back to the community

Must apply, by October – so start thinking about projects for the community that is a conservation project

Do as the Federation

Rich recommends a project to replant the area where Buffalo Niagara Riverkeepers planted along the Buffalo River – deer ate all the plants cost \$100,000, heard this from Tom Hersey

Meeting coming up with BNRK on these projects

**Good and Welfare of the Organization:**

We have 9 entries right now in YLTL

April 23, 2016 8AM-1:30PM, Sportsman's flea market, Bison City Rod & Gun

No guns can be displayed due to SAFE Act, but ammo and such may be sold

Tables are free, admission is free

Will send out fliers

SCOPE having a membership sale, for tax time, ½ price life membership, discounts on renewals, etc

**50/50 Raffle**

Winner is Hawkeye - \$27.00

\$27.00 got donated to youth archery camp

**Motion for Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn – Hope Melnyk 2<sup>nd</sup> – Frank Miskey, Sr

Meeting adjourned 9:23PM

**Thanks to Host Club**

Thank you George Washington Club

## **Big Game Report**

### **February 2, 2016 – Yearling Buck Management and other issues Meeting**

#### **Pine Bush Discovery Center, Guilderland, NY**

##### **Attendees:**

NYSDEC: Patricia Riexinger, Director FWMR; Jeremy Hurst, Big Game Biologist; Bryan Swift, Wildlife Management; Karl Berger, Facilitator; Maria Katchmar, Facilitator; additional DEC staff present from Region 6, as well as the new Urban Deer Manager

Cornell University: Angela Fuller, FWRU; Daniel Decker, HDRU; William Siemer, HDRU

##### **Invitees:**

NYSCC: Charles Parker, President; Rich Davenport, Big Game Committee Co-Chair

NY Muzzleloaders: Eric Bratt, Past-President, Rep to NYSCC

NY Bowhunters: Richard Kirschner, President

NY Outdoor News: Steve Piatt, Editor

NY FWMB: Lance Robson, Chairman

CFAB: Jason Kemper, Chairman

NY Sportsmen's Advisory Council: Larry Becker, Chairman

Audubon Society of NY: Mike Berger, Director

The Nature Conservancy: Troy Weldy, Director

NY Farm Bureau: Jeff Williams, Chairman

QDMA: Matt Ross, Deer Biologist

NYS Whitetail Management Coalition: David Hartman, Cy Weichert

“Independent Advocate”: John Rybinksi

A big thank you goes to the NYSDEC and Cornell for their hard work on the following issues.

A special thank you goes to Jeremy Hurst, Big Game Biologist, for a job very well done with the presentation and running the meeting.

Highlights: First half of this meeting served to review the Structured Decision Making study we have all heard about, which is a study to determine what issues/ initiatives to undertake WHEN there is absence of biological need to implement any regulatory action. Specific to the issue of “Yearling Buck Protection” (YBP), commonly known as Mandatory Antler Restrictions (MAR) on buck harvest, no biological or ecological need exists; the issue of YBP/ MAR is purely a “social” or “political” issue within the ranks of the hunting community.

Approximately 7,000 surveys were sent across NYS. Roughly 40% of the recipients responded. This survey was NOT a vote, rather collecting the various ideas and complexity of hunter attitudes as to provide a clearer picture of trade offs and desires across a wide area of interests, with interests/ desires “bucketed” in several zones termed “buck management zones”. These zones were created for continuity in regional positions by hunters in these areas. Buck management zones are defined as follows:

1. West Adirondacks
2. Eastern ADK
3. Long Island
4. SE NYS (Catskills area)
5. Mohawk Valley
6. Lake Plains
7. Southern Tier

After all information returned was analyzed, six different alternatives were in play, as follows:

- Mandatory AR throughout all areas, all seasons, excepting youth hunters
- Partial MAR through Early Archery Seasons extending through first week of regular season
- One Buck per Hunter
- Shorten Hunting Seasons by 1 week in S. Zone, 2 weeks in N. Zone
- Promote Voluntary Restraint on Buck Harvest
- No Changes

Weighting of information was tinkered with to develop a resilient model, and final weighting was determined as follows:

- Hunter Desire/ Satisfaction – 75%
- Population Estimating and Management – 15%
- Costs of Implementation (all costs, not just money) – 10%

After all information was gathered, each option was put through the model for “scoring”, with the highest scoring options being the decisions to make.

**Findings:** Across ALL buck management zones created, the top decision to make concerning Buck Management was: NO CHANGE!

Second choice in all but the SE NY region was: PROMOTE VOLUNTARY RESTRAINT

Discussions on this arrived at decisions, which actually surprised the DEC, as they believed coming into this exercise that regulatory opportunity would reveal itself, centered on effectiveness of voluntary restraint, and QDMA confirmed this does work well in Oklahoma. Trends currently in NY concerning YB % of antlered harvest shows a significant downward trend over the past decade – meaning voluntary is already being embraced by NY Hunters, and although it is expected that the % of YB will plateau, no program gets YBP perfect and at levels near 100% protection of YB. This is true with MAR or not, and QDMA’s position remains that any restrictions set forth on buck harvest would be removed once harvest make up is achieved

and maintained. It is of interest to note that no evidence showing MAR can increase antlerless deer harvest exists in NYS (“pilot” areas under MAR.)

The results of the SDM showed consistent 100% with NYSCC positions on the issue.

Director Riexinger went on record to state this issue is now behind the Department, and will not be brought up again for at least 5 years.

This issue has consumed a majority of effort and time from the deer team for the last decade. Other issues and concerns have suffered on account, including convening CTFs, addressing urban deer management issues, and many other challenges that should now receive proper attention.

Mandatory Antler Restriction is dead for now, however, existing MAR WMUs in NYS will remain unchanged as well.

### **Other Issues:**

#### **CWD Prevention**

- This issue is at the top of the DEC concerns list, with more States beginning to show CWD around us. Changes being discussed, and we can expect proposed action upon include the following:
- Banning all importation of whole carcasses for whitetail deer, elk and other vulnerable ungulates from areas confirmed with CWD into NYS. De-boned/ processed meat, or quartered animals with spinal and brain tissue eliminated will be allowed, as will skulls and full taxidermy mounts. Importation will still be allowed from states that are not CWD positive.
- Banning the use of natural urine-based scents and other lures commercially produced for use by hunters in NYS. This is due to practices at many scent producers where urine is collected en masse, without ability to track what animal the scent may have come from. Confirmation has been determined that the malformed proteins which cause CWD, prions, are present in urine and other scent products, like gland excretions. However, what is unknown is the prion levels needed to become infectious. It is known that prions, once in the ecosystem, remain for a long time, and these very durable proteins cannot be sterilized out or even burned out. Confirmation has also been delivered that deer can consume infectious levels of prions from eating vegetation contaminated with prions.
- Extending more NYS DEC oversight of game and scent farms, as Ag and Markets has no enforcement arm. This puts the game farm operators on notice.
- It is believed the next state to have CWD confirmed will be either Indiana or North Carolina, based on the number of captive herds and lax regulatory practices.

We can expect regulation proposals coming. Concerning scents and lures, timing is the most critical aspect (from the DEC’s position) as to not hang retailers with inventory at times that inventories are being built in advance of the season.

### **Antlerless Deer Management**

This is becoming a major headache for the NYSDEC, and hunters are not doing the job effectively as managers. DMP shows 15%-30% fill rates, and in areas that require additional attention, hunters are very resistive to such moves as mandatory antlerless only periods during the seasons. Erie County/ Region 9 suggested that the mandatory antlerless only harvest periods implemented last season be rescinded in the Lake Plains impacted areas, as clearly the move indeed backfired. We further recommend that an early antlerless only ML season be implemented in these impacted high deer density areas during September to address these issues. We still need to find hunters willing to embrace their management role for success. Several models exist, it was learned, for controlled urban deer hunting programs, and NYSCC Big Game Committee has requested these documents as to start determining what models will work for our area needs. Additional legislative work is also required to address those areas of NYS that prohibit Big Game Hunting through EnCon law.

### **Forest Regeneration and deer damage/ urban deer management**

- Certainly many concerns from outside interest areas are on the rise. DEC is examining legislation to “get more tools in the deer management toolbox” to better address these issues, as well as also address urban deer management. It was relayed that Erie County has submitted a formal resolution to amend the EnCon law to allow for big game hunting in WMU 9C. DEC’s response was, can you add the rest of the counties to this resolution as well? I asked for a list of affected counties so we can get to the appropriate regional and county reps for emergency resolution submission. Nothing received yet. As an illustrative point to this problem in WMU 9C, we have been informed that the natural vegetation planted for bank stabilization and habitat restoration along the stretches of the Buffalo River recently restored by the Buffalo Niagara Riverkeepers multi-years project as been completely decimated by the whitetail deer found in and around the Tiff Nature Preserve and surrounding vicinities. Estimated cost was relayed by Erie County Environment and Planning to be \$100,000.00.
- Concerning forest regeneration, it was brought to everyone’s attention that no mention of the impacts of natural succession are mentioned at all in documents decrying deer damage. Why is this not being relayed and education being offered? No tangible responses received, however, ADK forest regeneration is coming up on the nearing full maturity stage, and in another 50 years the forest will start falling and natural regeneration due to natural succession will transform this region into a true wilderness experience. But suffering will continue in this areas as the roughly 250 years required for full cycle succession completes.
- Forestry Owners are also pushing for additional help, but no official position/ priorities list has yet been formalized by this stakeholder, as of yet. They are terming the problem a “crisis”.

WMU Aggregates were also discussed to provide more clarity for DEC managers. Reporting rates can raise accuracy, and sportsmen and women need to do a better job of reinforcing the mandatory harvest reporting.

CTF pilot project is underway, and results will not be known for a little while. This new approach should allow regional managers and biologists to better update objectives and

population estimates, while hopefully becoming more responsive to the fluctuations in deer numbers. A webinar series was conducted in January to review the details of the pilot area, which involves 2 WMUs in Region 8 and one in Region 7, aggregated as one for more stable deer management plans year to year (DMP, DMAP and DDP strategies).

**Upcoming Action Items for the Sportsmen and Women:**

- Develop recommendations for the NYSDEC to promote voluntary restraint on buck harvest
- Develop recommendations for NYSDEC on how to better educate hunters to our important role as wildlife/ deer managers
- Legislative initiatives to remove prohibitions on big game hunting in specific problem areas to pave the way for implementation of controlled management hunting
- Young Forest Initiative and development of general public education and outreach
- Modeling of urban deer management initiatives
- Support for alternative management season for antlerless deer in problem areas (early ML season)
- Continued vigilance concerning the DEC legislative requests for “more tools”. This could include incorporation of leveraging other directions, such as hiring White Buffalo to do the job of deer management in problem areas – this lets the camel’s nose into the tent. For reasons why please research [White Buffalo](#).
- Forestry Owners will be formalizing their position on forest regeneration. Although they are pro-hunting, for now, several of their proposals will no doubt send our ranks into orbit. In some of these areas, we are indeed our own worst enemy.
- Our ranks must become more engaged in the process, submitting comments, making phone calls to communicate our concerns in volume to the Department. We cannot simply rely upon a few to do the heavy lifting – we all must participate in an organized fashion.

Documents used for this meeting by NYSDEC are available to those who would like them. All you have to do is ask.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rich Davenport  
NYSCC Big Game Committee Co- Chairman  
Region 9 Rep, NYSCC Big Game Committee  
NYSCC Region 9 Alt. Director





our 21st Banquet

## Salvatore's Italian Gardens

6461 Transit Rd  
Depew, New York 14034

Saturday April 9, 2016  
5:00 pm Cash Bar, Games, Silent Auction  
7:00 pm Dinner followed by Live Auction

**NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR**

**NO UPGRADES AT THE DOOR**

**Featuring 2016 Friends of NRA  
Gun of the Year!**

Montana Rifle Company \* NEW American Legend model  
.300 Win Mag \* special NRA serial numbers  
Embellished \* limited edition



**1 ticket \$5 / 3 tickets \$10 / 7 tickets \$20**

Need not be present to win *BUT IT'S MORE FUN!*

**Single dinner ticket \$50**  
**Big Shooters Package \$150**

1 dinner ticket  
\$300 Bucket Drawing tickets  
(15 - \$20 strips!)  
10 Gun Table tickets

★ **Charlton Heston Table \$1900**

10 Big Shooter Packages PLUS:  
70 Gun of the Year tickets  
Priority Reserved Seating  
Exclusive gun drawing for your table  
ONLY! (1 in 10 chance to win)

**Liberty National Sponsor Package \* \$250**

*\* NOTE does not include dinner ticket*

Sponsor Only Framed NRA Seal  
Sponsor Only FNRA Hat  
Subscription to Traditions Magazine

Groups of "Table of Ten" reminder: Fill a table with ten friends and receive 10 Gun Table tickets.  
We will make every effort to seat groups together, but can only guarantee multiples of 10.

*Proceeds benefit local shooting sports, youth education programs, firearm safety, range improvements, wildlife and conservation programs in New York State. One half of the money raised will stay in New York and the other half goes to National Programs that benefit the shooting sports.*

For reservations, send this form & check, credit card information or money order

Make checks payable to : **Niagara Frontier Friends of NRA**

Mail to: NFFNRA c/o J Mitchell  
10 Jeanmoor Rd  
Amherst, NY 14228

For information contact Georgina at 716-866-7656 OR Jim at 716-807-5363 OR

Email Sue at sbee287@aol.com

**QTY**

**TOTAL \$**

_____ Dinner tickets @ \$50/Ea	_____
_____ Big Shooter @ \$150/Ea	_____
_____ C Heston Table @ \$1900	_____
_____ Liberty Sponsor @ \$250/Ea	_____
_____ Gun of the Year Tickets	_____

**Please INDICATE DINNER CHOICE FOR EACH DINNER TICKET PURCHASED**

**Total Prime Rib** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Chicken Cordon Bleu** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Salmon** \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

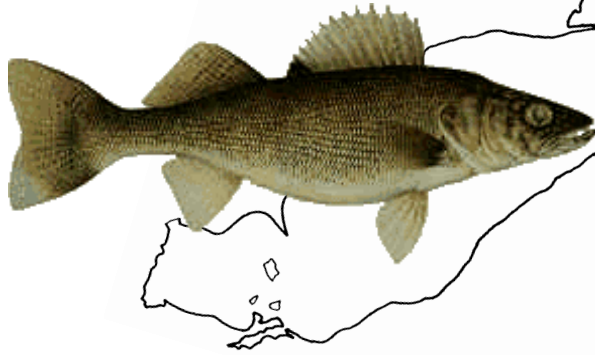
Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Security # \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

New York Sea Grant's Annual



# State of Lake Erie Meeting

**Thursday, April 14, 2016**

**7:00 – 9:00 p.m.**

**Southtowns Walleye Association Club House  
5895 Southwestern Boulevard, Hamburg**

***In Partnership With:***

**New York State Department of Environmental Conservation**

***In Cooperation With:***

**Sean Ryan, NYS Assemblymember  
Southtowns Walleye Association of WNY**



## **FEATURED PRESENTATIONS**

- **Status of the Warm Water Fish Communities**  
***Jason Robinson, NYSDEC Aquatic Biologist***
- **Environmental DNA (eDNA) & its Potential as a Fishery Monitoring Tool**  
***Dr. Lauren Sassoubre, Assistant Professor, University at Buffalo***
- **Status of the Cold Water Fish Communities**  
***Jim Markham, NYSDEC Aquatic Biologist***
- **Status of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative in the Lake Erie Watershed**  
***Michael Goehle, Deputy Complex Manager, USFWS Lower Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office***

*For more information or directions, contact: Helen Domske, New York Sea Grant – Great Lakes Program - UB at (716) 645-3610, or email [hmd4@cornell.edu](mailto:hmd4@cornell.edu)*

**Rich Davenport**

**From:** New York Crossbow Coalition [newsletter@newyorkcrossbowcoalition.ccsend.com] on behalf of New York Crossbow Coalition [newsletter@nycrossbowcoalition.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 15, 2016 9:20 PM  
**To:** rich@weloveoutdoors.org  
**Subject:** NYCC Legislative Update



## Senate Crossbow Bill Introduced

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Dear Rich,

Senator Patrick Gallivan has introduced

**[Bill # S7005](#)**

which classifies a crossbow.

Please Call and Write your Senator asking they support S7005

### What is in S7005

- Classifies Crossbows as a bow, requiring the Bow Privilege instead of the Muzzleloader Privilege
- Eliminates the 200 lb maximum draw weight restriction
- Eliminates the 17' minimum width restriction
- Aligns the minimum age for crossbow use with other archery equipment. Allows 12 &

13 year old's to hunt big and small game with a crossbow

- Permits crossbows at the same 150' setback as all other bows
- Permits Bowfishing with crossbows
- Allows anyone wishing to, to use a Draw Lock Device without need for a permit
- Removes the restriction on minors and their mentors using a crossbow to hunt from the ground
- Allows Crossbows to be used during the entire archery season in all archery areas except for Suffolk and Westchester Counties and the Archery only areas of Albany and Monroe Counties.

The bill does not address the exclusion of crossbows on Long Island or Westchester or the archery only areas of Albany and Monroe Counties. To our members in these areas, we still believe those areas should be included and we will continue to pursue that, but we can not do it alone. We need everyone to contact your legislators and request your county be included in this bill.

### Who Are My Legislators?

Not sure who your Assemblymember or Senator are?

Follow these links, insert your 911 physical address to find out and get their contact information.

[Assembly Member Search by Address](#)

[Senator Search by Address](#)

Hint: If you have an address that includes a State or County Route Number, try substituting Hwy for Route.

Example: instead of 1234 State Route 234, try 1234 Hwy 234

## 2016 Membership

Please if you have not renewed your [Full Membership](#) yet, please take the time to do so. For those that have recently joined or renewed, thank you for your support!

If you are an Associate Member, please consider upgrading to a Full Member. Full Membership helps us finance the cost of getting the crossbow legislation changed. Full members receive a membership card and a window sticker for your vehicle, to let everyone know that you support full inclusion of crossbow's as archery equipment.

Remember, the opposition is vocal, but working together, we can overcome the challenges ahead of us.

Together WE WILL Succeed!

## Please Forward this to all of your Crossbow Friends

Would your friends be interested in receiving this update? You can forward this to them by clicking the link below.



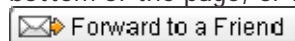
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link. The copy that you will receive will not be tied to your email account, so then you can forward that copy without concern of being "Opted Out" by someone else.

Sorry for any inconvenience this may cause you.

Sincerely,

Rick McDermott  
New York Crossbow Coalition

New York Crossbow Coalition, PO Box 316, Pulaski, NY 13142

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*Rich Davenport, 2016 ECFSC Recording Secretary*

*Erie County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs*

**ECFSC March 2016 General Meeting Minutes**

**March 24, 2016**  
**Evans Rod & Gun Club, Evans, NY**

**Call to order** – 7:15PM

**Pledge to Flag:** Completed

**Roll call – Officers and Directors:**

Excused – Chuck Godfrey, Debbie Godfrey, Tom Marks, Tom Fischer, Dan Tone, Dave and Paula Wharton

Frank Miskey, Jr. has resigned as director, George Rockey will assume the balance

**Quorum of member clubs:**

Yes

**Approval of previous month's minutes**

Charyl Shaney motion to accept  
2<sup>nd</sup> Hope Melnyk

Motion carries

**Secretary's report – Rich Davenport**

No report tonight

**Membership report – Antoinette Grote**

No Report

**Treasurer's report – Debbie Godfrey**

Banquet breakdown  
Tickets \$6140.00 – 220 dinners reserved, 217 served, good  
Program Ads \$500.00  
Gun Donations \$500.00  
Blue Tix Raffle \$1850.00  
Pink \$1080.00

\$119 on Bike  
 50/50 \$720.00  
 Crossbow \$403.00  
 357 Magnum \$760  
 44 Mag \$370.00  
 30/30 \$1295.00

\$5652 expense for dinner  
 \$500.00 deposit  
 Guns \$1894  
 Trophies  
 \$164.96 on raffle tix  
 \$7.96 on cards  
 \$8950.00 expenses

\$5051.29 net profit

**Correspondence report – Joe McAdams**

Sent letter to Abbey Snyder, P. Riexinger, Gerald Rossetti  
 Expressing concern for not having a hunter education coordinator in Region 9

Have not received a reply, but the DEC has posted the position, finally!

**President’s Report – Chuck Godfrey**

No specific report as Chuck is excused and already covered what needed to be covered

**Next meetings and locations:**

Date		BM Time		GM Time		Location
4/28/2016	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	West Falls Conservation Club, West Falls, NY
5/26/2016	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	Erie County Cons. Society, Chafee, NY
6/23/2016	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	Hamburg Rod & Gun, Hamburg, NY
7/28/2016	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	Niagara River Station, Grand Island, NY
August						No Meeting
9/8/2016	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	Springville Field & Stream, Springville, NY
10/13/2016	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	Hawkeye Bowmen, Marilla, NY
11/3/2016	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	TBD
12/15/2016	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	Bison City Rod & Gun, Buffalo, NY



**GUESTS:**

None

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Law enforcement – Jeff Jondle**

Lt Bruce Hummel transferred back, Beth Haig is coming back  
Chuck Lohr is now Lt in Chautauqua County  
Region back up to staff  
Academy is in 2<sup>nd</sup> week

**Archery & Bowhunting – Jim McCann**

No official report

**Crossbow – Frank Miskey, Jr.**

Bills introduced  
S7005 and A9623

Rich mentions that we may want to read the bill and see how the language reads concerning when the crossbow can be used, is it regulatory or set by law.

**Fish – Tom Marks**

Nothing

**Teach Me to Fish Clinics – Joe McAdams**

Youth events  
Dates are not set, but will be same as usual  
Need to talk to Mike Todd from DEC for promotional stuff  
Also will have some TV coverage at a couple of our events  
Scott Callen will also help out

**Small Game – Dan Tone**

None at this time

**Big Game – Paul Stoos**

None at this time

Promotion of yearling buck protection – ideas to educate, as well as our importance of management

CWD management – scent use, yes this is being addressed due to concerns of how to track the manufacturing, and prions are present in urine.

**Trapping – Patti Wattengel**

Senate has passed the cable restraint bill, awaiting Assembly action  
Someone provided a live feed for the Senate EnCon Committee meeting. Completely clueless people on this committee.

Need to educate the legislators!

Has any progress or updates been received concerning Grand Island trapping ban? EC Trappers will not get involved, as this is a State issue, Grand Island cannot say anything.

**Waterfowl – George Rockey**

Meeting at Iroquois in March – was not a good meeting  
585-948-5182 Frank Morlock, new Iroquois Refuge Manager, call him with issues

Jeff Jondle – another meeting coming together very soon, very limited meeting, will not know until done, but this could look promising

**Conservation Council - Dan Tone**

Support BAM  
WNYEF – Erie County and Region 9 will be holding a fund raiser – drawing to be at the September Convention  
Join the NYSCC for \$30.00/ yr, if just 500 join, the money problems go away  
Please promote all these facets, and we can make the Council solvent.

Youth archery Camp

**Environment & Pollution – Tom Marks**

Nothing at present

**Legislation – John Susz**

We cannot endorse a candidate, but Hillary has come out even more anti-gun than Obama, and she favors Australian-style gun laws. Registration is first step  
Went on record to say the Heller decision was wrong, and she wants to overturn protection of gun manufacturers. She supports the Sandy Hook lawsuits despite the law prohibiting this.  
She is also considering nominating Obama for SCOTUS

Universal background checks – no moving of firearms without NICS, and this starts registration.

Kris Ann Hall will be speaking – Constitutional Scholar,  
Sat April 2, My Father’s House of Ministries, Elma NY, 10AM. Take the time to see her.  
140 Pound Road

Legislation concerning PR fund “modernization” for recruitment programs has been introduced

### **Resolutions – Rich Davenport**

We have 6 resolutions under consideration for Big Game this year, including ours. Will have a report at next meeting with Committee recommendations.

Also, would like resolutions for next year submitted in September, if possible.

**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 [steelheader03@hotmail.com](mailto:steelheader03@hotmail.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.**

All venues will now have some time of home study, and reduce the hours needed for some venues, trapping and waterfowl will remain the same.

Need to recruit instructors, young people not getting in, 4 new instructors in Erie County, but lost 3, one retired, two passed away

There are discussions concerning recruitment for new instructors at DEC level. Classes are online registration, do some home study, but is done by AGH. This course is for a fee, whereas our courses are free.

A lot of people who assist in classes will now be able to get assistants certified as an instructor. This then covers them with insurance and compensation. Doing away with the minimum 3 years experience in the field they are teaching (ie, hunting experience), need teachers. How many hunters ed teachers are certified EMTs to talk about hypothermia, first aid, etc? Makes sense to drop this requirement, we need those who can teach. Also, a junior instructor program is being started, where younger kids can teach along with the instructors, and when they turn 18 can get certified. Instructor training class is being moved back to 8 hours, vs. 12 hours.

Concern regarding the home study – how do we know they did it? Ticket into the class is turning in the homework. If they didn't do the homework, rather their parents did it for them, there will be students who fail on account.

George has a problem with the waterfowl course – the homework is the test! Claims that they have pulled questions from many tests over the years.

You will see whether they have done the homework by the look on their faces, and the hands on portion will be telling as well.

Must score an 80% or better. If you're not safe in the woods, you will be failed.

Concern from West Falls instructors – we have people coming in, taking the booklets, etc. and then they do not show up. Discussions concerning a deposit to be returned when they show up.

1 Must be bonded to do this

2 No one wants responsibility for holding State money

3 Must sign up 30 days prior (or less) – in this fashion, over 3 years only had one no show – also if you do not show up, you will be unable to register for another class for a year.

### **SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Nominations – Paul Stoos**

None – Need a President, need directors

#### **Awards – Frank Miskey Sr.**

Award Winners

Sportsmen – Clyde Phil Fleck – Hawkeye

Sportswoman – Roxanne Ferrazoli

Volunteer – Doug Spink

Press Rep – Will Elliott

Club – Hawkeye

Conservationist – Scott McKee NRMA

Youth – Hunter Arthur

Educator – Cheryl Shaney

PR of Year – Dave Barus aka Forrest Fisher

Presidents Award – John Susz, Jr.

#### **Banquet – Frank Miskey, jr.**

Covered

#### **Educational Opportunities – Chuck Godfrey**

None at this time

#### **Fund Raising – Larry Jones**

Started putting together a blues festival and chicken BBQ in August at Sheridan Firehall, Manned by Charter Boat Assn, proceeds to benefit ECFSC except beer sales

Expense will be chicken and we will be billed at cost – hope to turn \$3000-\$4000

All will be handled

Exact dates will be given at next meeting

April 30, May 1 – Kids lifetime license sales at Hamburg Fairgrounds

BOSS Sportsmen's show at Riverworks April 15-17

Need help in manning these, know of any gun shows additionally, notify Larry Jones

Suggestion – the BBQ steer clear of the week of the Fair

**FWMB – Chuck Godfrey**

Nothing new

**Shows – Dave Wharton**

Dave Wharton had to leave, but everything should be all set for the fair, need to secure the tickets and start thinking about taking shifts

**National Hunting and Fishing day – Rich Davenport**

Listed on National site again

Meeting will be in April, week of 11<sup>th</sup>

Will want to get sign up form up in May for exhibitors

Supposed to be getting \$1000 from County for NHFD – need to know what to do with this

**WNY Environmental Federation – Dan Tone**

Had a meeting on March 13

June 12 next meeting 1PM at Hoak's

**Joe Jemiolo, jr. Youth Lifetime Licenses - Chuck Godfrey**

Sold \$400.00 worth of tickets at Banquet for the raffle for that program

**Budget and Finance – Debbie Godfrey – (motion to pay bills)**

Nothing

**Website – Joe McAdams - eriectyfsc.org**

Added youth lifetime license to menu for those trying to access the page on a cell phone.

Added youth archery camp to events page.

Added link to 2016 Banquet Program Book on home page.

Rearranged the icons order on home page.

Thank you Joe for the work on the website

**Old Business:**

NRMA April 2, have 4 reserved – have 6 tickets, need two more

NFFNRA on 4/19, Jeff, George, Hope, Gary

Chautauqua County – April 21,

Paul Stoos asks how can we approve the banquet if we don't know how many?

We pay \$15.00

Hope motions to approve to purchase as many tickets as we need to for Chautauqua County Banquet at \$15 for the chicken dinner, \$5.00 for Prime Rib will be paid for by the attendee wanting PR.

2<sup>nd</sup> George Rockey

Motion carries

**New Business - any new delegates present?**

Still have tickets left for Deer Search fund raiser  
For the whole month of April, plays off the numbers.  
Gun a day for 30 days

**Good and Welfare of the Organization:**

Deer Search – live copy of web site – now goes to the local page rather than National

Brockport Pheasant hunt, excellent, highly recommended

**50/50 Raffle**

Winner is Alden Rod & Gun

**Motion for Adjournment**

Hope Melnyk motion to adjourn  
2<sup>nd</sup> Cheryl

Motion carries meeting adjourned at 8:49PM

**Thanks to Host Club**

Thank you Evans Rod & Gun Club



*Rich Davenport, 2016 ECFSC Recording Secretary*

*Erie County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs*

**ECFSC April 2016 General Meeting Minutes**

**April 28, 2016**  
**West Falls Conservation, West Falls, NY**

**Call to order** – 7:23PM

**Pledge to Flag:** Completed

**Roll call – Officers and Directors:**

Excused:

**Quorum of member clubs – Present:**

Yes

**Approval of previous month's minutes**

Motion to approve -

2<sup>nd</sup>

Not Yet

**Secretary's report – Rich Davenport**

None

**Membership report – Antoinette Grote**

None

**Treasurer's report – Debbie Godfrey**

Motion to approve -

2<sup>nd</sup>

Motion to approve Frank Miskey, Sr

2<sup>nd</sup> Mark Alessi

Motion carries

At Board meeting we discussed having to list public financial statements.

Joe had a meeting with atty general, need to list financials on website – annual report

Need to also break down how the money is spent, just % to where

Part of 501c3 requirement

**Correspondence report – JoeMcAdams**

None – Dave, if you get correspondence, please forward to Joe, as you will get most of the correspondence anyhow

Received request for donation to WITO, approved \$250 donation at the Board Meeting

**President's Report – Chuck Godfrey**

Heard that DEC offices are moving to Cheektowaga.

6x6 cubes for everyone.

Have to give up their taxidermy – what they take to Fair and NHFD

\$200 MIL spent on a new logo

Frank Miskey, Jr. has given up his board seat, George Rockey was appointed

**Next meetings and locations:**

Date		BM Time		GM Time		Location
5/26/2016	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	Erie County Cons. Society, Chafee, NY
6/23/2016	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	Hamburg Rod & Gun, Hamburg, NY
7/28/2016	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	Niagara River Station, Grand Island, NY
August						No Meeting
9/8/2016	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	Springville Field & Stream, Springville, NY
10/13/2016	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	Hawkeye Bowmen, Marilla, NY
11/3/2016	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	TBD
12/15/2016	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	Bison City Rod & Gun, Buffalo, NY

**GUESTS:**

None

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Law enforcement – Jeff Jondle**

Nothing new to report – academy is going on, vehicles trickling in, we still have our Lt.

Many washed out, especially in Forestry

**Archery & Bowhunting – Jim McCann**

Applications for 2-day Youth Archery Camp. See Frank Sr. for applications

**Crossbow –Frank Miskey, Jr.**

Bills in Senate and Assembly, please support. Contact Senate and Assembly EnCon Committee Chairs and have them move this out of committee.

Session ends in June!

**Fish – Tom Marks**

Wisoy Creek Fishing Platform opened

Angler Achievement Awards

State Record



Largest by weight, hitting minimum to qualify  
Largest C&R, Length & Pic, minimum Length

Perch catch rate per hour – PA anglers see 4 per hour as good.  
NY rates are 2.2 or so per hr  
What would our satisfactory level be?

Tough to say based on nature of the fishery. Can spend 2 hours catching nothing, then the schools move in and suddenly the catch rate could be 20/ hr. Some realities need to be introduced into the question.

NYSCC Fish report also to be included

### **Teach Me To Fish – Joe McAdams**

Met with one of the vendors, Triple S. Selected series of four poles. Open, closed in 2 sizes. 6' and small rod  
Donated a small plastic tackle box filled with tackle. Gave one for every pole  
Met with Ron Smith at Chestnut Ridge Conservancy  
Walked the ground, family reunion in the Commissioners Cabin this year. We have the big outside Shelter. Has happened before. Will keep gate closed to the cabin.  
First event slated is Bison City in May. Our first is June 11  
Updated list of helpers and tips from Dave  
Lackawanna Schools asked for a donation for their program. Ten rods & reels to be donated. Chuck has them and will deliver tomorrow

### **Small Game – Dan Tone**

Went over the resolutions. The resolutions chairman is doing everything to get the recommendations out.  
Will receive additional info from Dan to insert into minutes  
Concerning the grant submission to the NRA. Have funds been dispersed yet? Have heard nothing yet.  
Cable restraint bill is for all of NYS  
McCarty Hill State Forest selling the cabin/ camp?  
Will see if we can find something out.

### **Big Game – Paul Stoos**

Presentation of notes from NYS Conservation Council meeting on “proposed” urban hunting ideas.  
Harvest is out for bear and deer  
Insert the notable numbers as well

Seminar on Deer Management coming up May 10 and 12. ECC will host an event

### **Trapping – Patti Wattengel**

Regarding NYS Bill A-9462A allowing Cable Restraints;

Dave Miller explains that NYSTA's goal has always been for state wide use, but language in the original bill restricting CRs to the Northern Zone was at the request of the Assembly Chair of the Committee on Environmental Conservation, Steve Englebright, and that was the only way that the bill would be considered. The bill called for a two year sunset and at that time would be redone as state wide legislation.

The bill has now been amended (without input from Dave Miller) to allow immediate state wide use. Dave Miller thinks the new bill has a poor chance for success due to the language change to state wide use.

Trappers are hoping for the best, but feel some underhandedness was involved with the Conservation Council changing the language of the bill.

Regarding Grand Island's trapping dispute;

The Erie County Trappers Association generally stays clear of this type of situation and would only add fuel to the fire. 3rd party involvement should be restricted to the DEC and NYSTA.

### **Waterfowl – George Rockey**

#### **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](mailto: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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

Most people attending the Spring and Legislative Committee Meetings.  
Well done, well run.

Fish Committee NYSCC – Hatchery system got 16 new trucks. \$280MIL eggs gathered from Oneida Walleye. Springville Dam project is a go.  
New Getting Started in Fishing book coming out – for kids  
Statewide angling survey and more free fishing days

### **Environment & Pollution – Tom Marks**

Insert Report

Lake Ontario is starting to see alewife population crash. Seems that when the invasives crash, native fish come in

Invasive species – Spring training blitz iMAP. Letchworth State Park

### **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](http://www.scopeny.org)

Past budget

Likely will not see anything bad passed this year. Current Majority leader Flanigan has a term runs through end of year

Training Bill for handguns on the table

A9777 – please sign on

Get them signed and sent in.

### **Resolutions – Rich Davenport**

Big Game Recommendations

- **Erie County** – Support: 13      Oppose:0      Abstain: 0

Allow Big Game hunting in WMU9C. Some discussion if this was a regional or statewide issue. The committee is relying on the Resolution Committee to evaluate these issues and only send to the committees those resolutions which are not a LOCAL issue.

- **Onondaga County** – Support: 13      Oppose:0      Abstain: 0

Use of sound suppressors for sporting and hunting use. Little discussion as most agree with the concept in lieu of mounting noise ordinances in communities.

- **Yates County** – Support: 2      Oppose:9      Abstain: 2

Move the SZ ML & Bow seasons to end of December. Too many conflicts in some areas with other outdoor activities.

- **Greene County** – Support: 1    Oppose:12    Abstain: 0

Deny Damage permits to landholders who discourage hunting on their lands and mandate nuisance permits use Venison donation program. While the intentions are good there are too many issues to deal with as written. Is this a real or perceived problem?

- **Oswego & Wyoming Counties** – Support: 12    Oppose:0    Abstain: 1

Utilize a TAX CREDIT in lieu of a free sporting license to those designated to receive free licenses. This does not mean that everyone is in favor of free licenses, only that if they are granted that the monies do not hurt the anticipated revenues to the Conservation Fund.

**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](mailto: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**

Empire Retriever Club is realizing they need to join a larger group. They are losing out of access for training and trials at Tonawanda. They are seeking help, already lost access to other WMAs. Trying to get the Erie County Dog Federation Looking to join EC Federation, are we interested in having them as members?

**Sportsman/woman Education – Frank Miskey Sr.**

Classes are moving along.

**SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Nominations – Paul Stoos**

None – Need a President

**Awards – Frank Miskey, Sr.**

Dave Barus received his award PR Award. A very nice acceptance speech by Dave. Frank Sr. Sportsman of the Year NYON. Congrats and well deserved

**Banquet – Frank Miskey, Jr.**

Nothing new

**Educational Opportunities – Chuck Godfrey**

Gave 2 scholarships, received thank you letter from one of the recipients.

### **Fund Raising – Larry Jones**

Larry is planning event weekend before the fair – Chicken BBQ, Beer Tent, etc.  
At BOSS Show, sold \$380 for YLTL money. Cabela's donated nice fishing package and soft tackle box  
Raffled off to those who bought a YLTL raffle ticket.  
Can use the BB Gun and Archery Range to use at events

Motion by Dave Barus motions to write thank you letter to Don Ashworth at Cabela's for their help  
2<sup>nd</sup> Rich Davenport

Motion carries

Teach Me To Fish – They missed the banquet (West Falls), forgot, slipped through cracks. Donated \$250 to TMTF  
Motion to write Thank You letter to West Falls Dave Barus  
2<sup>nd</sup> Will Seibel  
Motion carries

Federation Hats –  
Tom Fischer motions to pay for the placing of ECFSC logos  
2<sup>nd</sup> Tom Marks  
119 hats that need the logo

Motion carries

### **FWMB – Chuck Godfrey**

Nothing at the present

**Shows** – The Erie County Fair is scheduled once again for 12 days this summer, August 10 through 21. It's not too early to think about volunteering to cover shifts in the Fed's booth at the Fair. Due to its success, we will once again be co-hosting the booth with S&S Taxidermy. We will also once again be offering clubs the opportunity to man the booth for "Club Days", where a club mans the booth for an entire day. If your club would be interested in this, please let us know as soon as possible, so you can get your desired day. There are a few clubs who have taken specific days each year in the past, so we will definitely give them first choice of those days. Even if a club can't take an entire day, if you can supply people spread out throughout the Fair it would certainly be appreciated. Let Chuck Godfrey know at [steelheader03@hotmail.com](mailto:steelheader03@hotmail.com) about desired times/dates. The Fed. will supply free parking and free admission for all folks working the booth.

### **National Hunting and Fishing day – Rich Davenport**

May 11, 2016 – NHFD Meeting – Smokey Bones, 6:30PM

**WNY Environmental Federation – Dan Tone**

Next meeting June 12, 2016, Hoak's 1PM

**Youth Lifetime License – Chuck Godfrey**

Drawing for the Lifetime Youth Fundraising Raffle and the Youth Lifetime License winners will be at the December Federation meeting.

**Budget and Finance – Debbie Godfrey – (motion to pay bills)**

Motion to approve - 2<sup>nd</sup>-  
Rich motions to pay for new show banners for ECFSC  
2<sup>nd</sup> Tom Marks  
Motion carries

**Website – Joe McAdams – eriectyfc.org**

Lots of changes made to website. Wrong dates were up on the website, this has been corrected  
Start looking at the website, mother looking at the event pointed it out. Moved around links and such  
Events page is for current events, get it out as soon as possible.  
Q – Meetings listed as events? No we have it under meeting agendas  
No, a list of the meeting schedule

**Old Business:**

Cabela's offers conservation grants for projects  
Bass Pro may be buying Cabela's  
No one knows about the funds.  
Don Ashworth indicated we are in line with the program to receive the grant. We need to come up with a project/ program.  
Need ideas!!!!  
\$1200.00  
If we do something that involves kids, that flies faster.

**New Business - any new delegates present?**

Dave Barus mentions Fred Forsythe has requested a donation again for the disabled vets  
Motion to donate \$250.00  
2<sup>nd</sup> Jeff Jondle

Motion carries

Cerebral Palsy fishing event hosted by ECCS. Looking for donations and volunteers  
Can the Federation sponsor  
Dave Wharton motions to donate \$200, strike that \$250.00  
2<sup>nd</sup> Tom marks

Do we need accounting for this? No, Federation event  
Motion carries

East Aurora Fish & Game has done an M1 for Vets Program. Donated 2 M1 Garandes for vets who had lost limbs. May 21 at EAFG. A shoot will be held before that. A congressman, two senators and other local legislators, presenting two their rifles on 2PM

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday every month May – Sept.  
July 30<sup>th</sup> NRA sport fest 12-18  
75 kids capacity

Deer Search extends a thank you to ECFSC support for their fund raiser. Deer Search is giving us another check!

Need a motion to fund 4 kids to youth pheasant hunt at 3F  
Jeff Jondle motions to do so  
2<sup>nd</sup> Tom Fischer

Motion carries

Drawing tonight.  
1 – Hawkeye  
2 – WLO  
3 – SWA  
4 – LECFLY FISHERS

Alt1 – EAFG  
Alt 2 – SCOPE  
Alt 3 – BCRG  
Alt 4 – TU

Date is typically in September

Please get names back by May Meeting

**Good and Welfare of the Organization:**

Dave Barus motions to donate 30 rods to Family Fishing Days  
2<sup>nd</sup> Joe McAdams

Motion carries

**50/50 Raffle**

Winner – Bison City

**Motion for Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn -  
Tom Marks  
2<sup>nd</sup> John Susz

2<sup>nd</sup> -

Motion carries

**Thanks to Host Club**  
West Falls Conservation Club



FEDERATION BOARD MEETING 5/26/16 – ERIE CTY. CONS. SOC.

Excused: Joe Fischer, Steve Aldstadt, Larry Jones, Hope Melnyk, Gary Melnyk, Frank Miskey, sr., Debbie Godfrey, Rich Davenport, Paula Wharton, Antoinette Grote, Tom Marks, Jim McCann, Dan Tone

Brief explanation of what Debbie would like to do to streamline the treasurer's record keeping.

Motion to adjourn: D. Wharton, 2<sup>nd</sup> - J. Jondle - passed

GENERAL MEETING

Excused: Joe Fischer, Steve Aldstadt, Larry Jones, Hope Melnyk, Gary Melnyk, Frank Miskey, sr., Debbie Godfrey, Rich Davenport, Paula Wharton, Antoinette Grote

Treasurer's Report: Sent to officers and directors, made available at meeting

Correspondence Rpt. Thank you to Cabela's for rods and reels donation (125 donated)

Received letter from Canisius College student about study for kids who hunt and/or fish (Rich, you have this)

Thanks sent to West Falls for hosting meeting.

Waterfowl: Eagle and osprey nest cams turned off at National Wildlife Refuges due to outcry over video of eagle feeding housecat to its young.

Cons. Council: Still don't have resolutions

Environ. and Pollution:

Cuomo's proposal (editorial comment – absolutely unenforceable and foolish) to prevent aquatic invasive species transfer via private boats and trailers has passed.

House has passed bill supporting shipping interests' desires on ballast water dumping

GLRI program has been funded.

Legislation: 12- year old big game hunting bill is out of the Senate Encon Comm. and has had 1<sup>st</sup> reading (It has subsequently not passed.)

There is a bill to task the DEC to study effects of any proposed reduced or free licenses on the Cons. Fund

There is a bill to protect sportsmen's personal information

There is a bill to exempt from registration all ATV's used solely on lands owned or leased by operator.

Sportsman/woman Education: All classes have registration online now.

Shows: Still have shifts open. Motion by Dave Wharton, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dan Tone to buy Ag. Society membership for Chuck Godfrey to deal with issues during Fair – passed. Motion by D. Wharton, 2<sup>nd</sup> D. Tone up to 50 additional parking and entrance tickets.

National Hunting and Fishing Day: Sat. Sept. 24 - Safari Club has donated case of 12 gauge and 20 gauge ammo for use.

WNY Environmental Fed.: Meeting 6/12 at Hoak's – 1:00

Archery: Hawkeye is hosting Region 9 Youth Archery Camp on Aug. 5,6. Group is looking for another club to share hosting duties in future. Presently rotates among Hawkeye, Elma, and West Falls.

Free archery clinic on Monday nights from June 27 thru July 25 – no class on July 4.

Teach Me To Fish: June 11 at Tiff, June 25 at Chestnut Ridge. Many volunteers needed for both.

Small Game: Day old chicks will be given out in next two weeks.

Michigan passed bill to hunt coyotes year round.

Turkey hunting seems to be down, but some have had luck.

Coyote numbers seem higher.

Big Game: New proposals available in DEC website for public comment until June 26.

Good and Welfare: July 24 fundraiser for Dave and Rose Barus's grandchildren. \$20 presale.  
Motion T. Marks, 2<sup>nd</sup> G. Rocky to buy 5 tickets – passed. Will be distributed at June meeting.

WNYTU participates in Trout In The Classroom educational program in 7 schools, with one more added in Sept. Students raise brown trout from eggs to release. Contact is Chuck Godfrey 440-6995 or [steelheadedr03@hotmail.com](mailto:steelheadedr03@hotmail.com)

July 30 WNYNRA Sportsfest program at East Aurora Fish and Game. 75 kids max. Contact is Conrad Boyle at 652-0229

50/50 - \$21.00 won by Alden Rod and Gun – donated to Joe Jemiolo, jr. Youth Lifetime License program.

FEDERATION BOARD MEETING 6-23-16 – Hamburg Rod and Gun.

Excused: Joe Fischer, Tony Gonnello, Dan Tone, Rich Davenport, Joe McAdams, John Susz, Antoinette Grote

Information on enforcement of speed limit rule in Buffalo Harbor. Motion L. Jones, 2<sup>nd</sup> D. Wharton to write a letter to USACE and others about this issue, after viewing letter from Lake Erie Charter Boat Captains. - passed.

Motion by J. Jondle, 2<sup>nd</sup> H. Melnyk to write letter to Buffalo News about concerns over direction of emphasis recently on Sunday Outdoors page. - passed.

Motion by H. Melnyk, 2<sup>nd</sup>T. Fischer to donate a basket for the Barus fundraiser-passed.

Motion to adjourn by H. Melnyk, 2<sup>nd</sup> G. Rockey – passed

GENERAL MEETING

Excused: Joe Fischer, Tony Gonnello, Dan Tone, Rich Davenport, Joe McAdams, John Susz,

Shows: Still need some shifts filled.

WNY Environmental Fed.: Meeting in Sept. Date not set.

Fish: Still studying emerald shiner issue.

Small Game: 640 day old chicks distributed.

Youth pheasant hunt in Sept. Only one application in so far, from Hawkeye. Southtowns and Lake Erie Fed. of Fly fishers have until 6/30 to get them to Chuck. East Aurora F&G will be sending one in as first alternate. Next alternates- in order – SCOPE, Bison City, and WNYTU.

Big Game: Public comments accepted until 6/24 on proposed big game regulation changes on DEC website.

Trapping: Recap on Grand Island trapping issues. Town did change language of proposed law to eliminate the word “nuisance”, but has subsequently seemed to be ready to put it back in. Hearing on 6/20 was cancelled. Another is supposed to be scheduled.

Waterfowl: Massive contribution by Ducks Unlimited to help with Greenway project on Buckhorn Marsh on Grand Island.

Env. And Pollution: Rock snot has been found to be indigenous to Northern U.S.

Resolutions: Still have not received them from the Council. Chuck will contact them once again. In light of this, we will not require ballots to be turned in at July meeting, but rather some time in August. Chuck will get a ballot out by email as soon as possible.

Sportsmen/women Education: New DEC coordinator (Rich, I’ll send her name as soon as I get it spelled correctly. I didn’t hear all of it the other night.)

New Business: Presentation by Don Lombardo on Boy Scouts Shooting program. Motion (I didn’t write down the person making the motion, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tom Fischer to donate \$300 to program. – passed.

Motion by FrankMiskey, sr., 2<sup>nd</sup> D. Wharton to buy 4 tickets and an ad for the Region 9 Hunters Education Banquet in September – passed. Will decided who’s going at July meeting.

Old Business: T. Fischer, H. Melnyk, G. Melnyk, J. Jondle, D. Godfrey will attend Barus fundraiser representing the Federation.

50/50 \$23 – won by Elma



*Rich Davenport, 2016 ECFSC Recording Secretary*

*Erie County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs*

**ECFSC September 2016 General Meeting Minutes**

**September 8, 2016**

**Springville Field & Stream, Springville, NY**

**Call to order** – 7:07PM

**Pledge to Flag:**

Completed

**Roll call – Officers and Directors:**

Excused: Joe Fischer, Antoinette Grote, Steve Aldstadt, Dan Tone, Mark Alessi, Joe McAdams, Tony Gonnello

In attendance: 4 Officers, 8 Directors, 20 Delegates, 10 Guests

**Quorum of member clubs – Present:**

Yes

**Approval of previous month's minutes**

Motion to approve -

2<sup>nd</sup>

Will be published

**Secretary's report – Rich Davenport**

My bad on July Minutes – nothing else to report

**Membership report – Antoinette Grote**

Nothing new

**Treasurer's report – Debbie Godfrey**

Motion to approve – Frank Miskey Sr

2<sup>nd</sup> Tom Marks

Motion carries

**Correspondence report – Joe McAdams**

Letter to NY Outdoor News about dissatisfaction with latest DEC deer management proposal

Letter to Buffalo News concerning Will Elliott's columns/ Outdoors Page

Currently beating our heads against the wall

No issues with Bill Hilts, Jr. taking over, Will has no issues with that, his issue is the change in the format and timing, could not live with that.

Digital hits driving

Motion to write letter to submit to news for print  
 Paul Stoos Motion to accept  
 Tom Marks 2nd

Looking for the numbers (Bob DeCesare) and will meet again  
 Meeting with Bob DiCesare – discussion of Outdoors Page in Buffalo News

**President’s Report – Chuck Godfrey**

SCOPE Banquet – Tickets will be to you shortly  
 Hunter Ed. Assoc. Banquet – have 5 tix, need three more to go

Will send something out for next week’s event to the General Membership for the opportunity to go

**Next Meetings**

Date		BM Time		GM Time		Location
10/13/2016	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	Hawkeye Bowmen, Marilla, NY
11/3/2016	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	TBD (Southtowns?)
12/15/2016	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	Bison City Rod & Gun, Buffalo, NY

**GUESTS:** Several DEC personnel present, both active and retired  
 Ken Baginski, Paul McKeown, Connie Adams, Don Einhouse, Emilio Rende, Mike Clancy  
 Retired – Russ Biss, Mark Kandel,

***Paul McKeown – Albany changes as follows***

- Doug Stang is now Acting Division Director (Patti decided to suddenly retire)
- Wildlife Chief – Jim Farquart
- Fisheries Chief – New one for this position as well

***Ken Baginski – R9 Wildlife Manager***

- 3 biologists in attendance, Emilio Rende, Greg Eckardt (Young Forest Initiative), Connie Adams
- Staffing – hired new Wildlife Biologist, Jen Corrilovich – Allegany Office – Sportsmen’s Ed, and Fur Bearer Management
- Fisher Season this year in the Southern Tier, will be same area as Bobcat area (Chautauqua, Catt, Allegany counties), will open on Oct 1, 6 day season only, no bag limits. Harvest for 6-day season would be about the same as the longer season with bag limits. Need a special permit to trap Fisher this year, apply for free permit, and you need to keep logs and lower jaw for study.
  - Is Fisher just trapping, or like Bobcat, trapping and hunting? Fisher is only trapping. Bobcat, need to get permit, but no log requirements any longer
  - No hunting for Fisher in NYS

- Big Game – hired one biologist, still down 3 biologist and 4 technicians
  - Tim Spierto had to take a disability retirement. Hoping to hire the new biologist soon, coming into 3<sup>rd</sup> season without one.
  - Antlerless only portion of early archery and ML is rescinded, but not in time for the printing of hunting guide. Team is looking at the next step in these units.
  - This year during the youth firearms hunt, will include bear (now big game season)
- Press release concerning pilot to replace CTF program
  - System currently in place, frequency of WMU review needs to be every 5 years, there are 92 units in the State, 17 in R9 alone
  - Would have to conduct more than 3 CTFs every year to keep up with the schedule, has not been feasible.
  - Units have fallen behind their objectives updates, which impacts DMP
  - To address, aggregates were created, reduced from 92 units to 22 aggregates, 4 aggregates in R9. This would allow for review of 4 every 5 years, less than one per year, should be manageable.
  - Another reason to revamp is the new technologies now available, not in existence 20+ years ago.
  - Evaluating results of the pilot, may be another pilot.

Another reason for the changes is losing Cornell Coop Extension as the facilitators, they ceased, now its Cornell Human Dimensions Research unit.

Jeff Jondle – Any brucellosis outbreaks in NYS? No.

Discussion about technologies and the sporting community  
 NYSCC Big Game Committee was asked what was done to promote  
 Interest not as high as expected, like deer management meeting.  
 Technology is good, but may not be ideally suited to reach the right people

- Turkey – winter trapping difficult due to warm conditions
  - Birds tagged are still alive
  - One observation is a wetter spring means higher mortality due to hunting and natural predation
  - For 2017 monitoring of the radio tags until the batteries die, 2014 and 2015 tagged birds are now losing battery power
  - Report on this will be published soon
  - Summer flock survey completed, survey numbers are up vs. the last few years. Poult surveys show higher counts per hen which should mean good things for turkey hunting in the upcoming seasons
  - Poultry production seems to be up, but still getting some reports of smaller bird counts around, still predators and habitat conditions changes are factors as well
  - Same season timing and structure as last year, wanting to protect the hens



- Pheasants – recently received allocations, 4400 from state farm, adult birds, need Federation folks that participate in the 4H program, need permission letter for the handlers for stocking
  - Sent the permit for stocking pheasants at Zoar as well. Covered all bases this year. Pretty much same numbers stocked as last year
  - Still need permits to hunt opener and such at Zoar and Harwood Lake MUA
  - Started last year, Fridays no pheasant hunting at Carleton Hill.
- Land Management – Operations added more personnel for maintenance of WMAs (4 people) for the YFI work.

George Rockey extends thanks for getting permits, especially for the stocking in R8. George did not get in trouble this year.

Governor did provide more funding for acquisitions next year  
Working on a parcel near Clay Pond WMA in Falconer, and in Randolph near Conewango Swamp WMA

What happened to proposal for coyote season extended to end of May?  
Not much support from the Dept, concerning harvest of Coyote during pupping season

Justin Kent, Wildlife Forester and the tech couldn't not make the meeting tonight

- Inventory completed at Hanging Bog and Carleton Hill, working on Watts Flats and Canadaway Creek
- Working on Conewanga Swamp
- Hanging Bog, marking timber for sale estimate
- Also have to complete a full environmental assessment forms
- Grouse and woodcock surveys are underway to benchmark the numbers before the YFI
- Grouse are down at hanging bog, assumption is bad spring nesting season

USF&W is in the process of listing the Northern Longear Bat as endangered, which forces surveys for these bats in advance of cutting timber

- Albany will determine what is detected in these surveys
- Hanging Bog management plan approved by Albany, public meeting will be scheduled, a presser will be released, and once all is done, complete the timber sale contract and put out for bid.
- If detected, Oct 1-Mar 31 cutting, then have to leave through July due to the rearing of young. Canadaway Creek will be next plan coming out.

Anything planned for Cazenovia WMA? On the list but down the list. Any reports on Ash Borer? Hasn't been found in Allegany County or at Hanging Bog, but distribution follows all major highways, matter of time. Commercial transport of wood, first case found near a rest area on the Thruway

Allen Lake, what is going on? That is a State Forest, regular maintenance? The work being done seems to involve clearing, redoing culverts, now see dedicated camping areas. No signage indicating what is going on.

***Connie Adams NYS DEC Biologist***

- Cormorant – lethal removal off motor island, removed 268, this spring. Were stopped by court action, DEC instructed to remove as normal, USDA did some removal, additional 190, but they, too were shut down. Currently Cormorant control is stopped, but will see if the nuisance wildlife permit will be issued from Albany to do the work next year. Now Cormorants are nesting at Goat Island, only controls there is egg oiling. Cannot use shotguns. Holding the numbers steady since first starting.
- Peregrine falcons, 10 nesting pairs, discovered 3 new territories, Fredonia, Lockport, near General Mills. Asks if you see these birds, along with bald eagles, if you see them nesting, please report, along with northern harrier hawks – these are species of interest and knowing helps get permits and approvals for more actions.
- Waterfowl – early Goose underway. R9 banded over 400 this year, 3 banded birds taken, from Potter Co. PA. Currently banding ducks
- Annie Wilcox Larson (DEC wildlife tech) is currently actively trapping ducks in Erie County. If you have a pond with waterfowl on it this time of year, Aug – Sept 20, traps will be set to band ducks. Early trapping slow, but last week or so it has improved, hoping the lower temps will get the action moving.

Need wildlife rehabilitators in R9, looking for more, give exam twice a year.

Tom Marks – Will USFW who stopped these efforts, will they also cease the 30 year eagle kill permits too?

Do you want eagle sightings or nest locations? Nest location best, but all sightings are good.

***Don Einhouse – NYS DEC Lake Erie Warm Water Fisheries***

- Program summary of stock status in Lake Erie, pick one up.
- Seems to be a real strong 2015 walleye hatch (should be confirmed in the fall – about a month)
- Performance of stocked steelhead study – now looking at location and size of stocked fish for best returns
- Steelhead plan received good return of comments – should be finalized by end of fall
- Lake Erie is completely wired for the telemetry study, studying walleye and lakere now, FWS studying sturgeon and musky will start soon.
- \$100 reward for transmitters (and the fish) if you catch one
- Learning much about harvest rates – some of the numbers are showing 20% harvest rate, whereas the thought was 10%.
- Outlook for perch population? Declining some, peak was 2014, estimates suggested this would happen. If a good spawn occurs, will know later in the fall, will be reported

- Adult population is declining
- Bag limit will remain at 50. We are well below (by 50%) our TAC for NY. Efforts currently underway for revamping lakewide perch regulations.

#### Mike Clancy NYS DEC Fisheries Manager

- Received funding to rebuild the Dunkirk fishing pier. Will put a new boat launch at Bear Lake
- Trying to redesign the cartop launch at Findley
- Creel survey in the Niagara Rivers underway, Canada and USA, both sides
- Chris Legard will do the analysis
- No salmon yet in the lower river, some bass and walleye
- 3<sup>rd</sup> year of Chinook net pen study – will be collecting snouts, freezers available
- Sept 19, alewife population, missing an entire year class, plus most of another year class, Lockport Cornell Cooperative, looking at stock reductions
- Presser coming out
- Will be three meetings around the lake, at Ag Center
- 6:30 or 7:00PM
- Will give status of fisheries, what they are seeing, what they would like to do and solicit public input
- Scoby Dam project close to be signing off on. Then will go to design, then construction in 2018

#### Scott Cornet – NEY DEC Fisheries

- Trout stream sampling this year, expanded focus to more waterways. 2014 and 2015 noticed decrease in wild brown numbers – did not know if just the creeks sampled, or across region. 22 streams 37 sites sampled, Hosmer Brook (2 sites), Spring Brook (3 sites), same sites as done in past. Brookies across region doing really well, lots of adults and good reproduction, sampling done in June. Wild brown trout streams, adults still lower than the long-term averages, but showed improvement vs 14 and 15. S, Tier streams do not seem to show drops, very stable.
- Wild rainbow is down across the region. Adults very low, and very few yearlings.
- Hosmer Brook has followed the patterns. Very warm waters this year
- Lower Hosmer they got good numbers of stocked fish from the Catt and lots of wild fish. Temp difference made the difference.
- YOY – all species of trout at all sites showed good YOY trout (all species), most likely never had severe flooding across the fall, winter, spring. Lack of this is most likely reason for improved YOY counts.
- Stocked streams, showed decent numbers of stocked trout, but temps were not ideal. Due to drought, big streams did not drop in temp due to ground water influence.
- Lots of help received from seasonal tech and sportsmen volunteers. Thank you!
- Justin Brewer – Now FT biologist, Sauger restoration program, third year of 5-year stocking program, receiving fry from W. Virginia and Kentucky, reared at Prendergast
- 15,000 stocked over the 3 years in Allegheny River.

- First year stocking in the upper river, prior only in reservoir. Survival and growth rates look very good. Sampling this year is limited due to low water. Did get 2-year old fish in 16-17 inch range. With some hope, we could see some natural spawning attempts. Goal is establish a natural population and then a recreational fishery for Sauger.
- Will evaluate after year 5, and see if more stocking is needed, or let them go. No fishing for and possession of Sauger is prohibited. Photo up front to show what sauger looks like.

Thank you to the NYS DEC for their reports to the Federation

### **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

#### **Waterfowl – George Rockey**

Seasons are set

August 26 – tour of TWMA, two-flow, WMA down in water levels, plenty of food in all marshes for waterfowl. If water gets there, plenty of food. Need lots of water, good tour, great job. Frank Morehouse, new manager, will be working with us on water control.

Grand Island pathway issue – Joe McAdams did send the letter concerning this project. Town Board officially does not want the parkway closed, looking for the different option for constructing the path.

#### **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](mailto: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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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**

Experimental sea lamprey trapping effort going on. Using electronic device to guide lamprey into traps. Effective traps, with electric guide increases catch rate by 75%.

Scoby Dam article in Buffalo News was wrong. Not being removed.  
Buffalo River Keepers – Freezer Queen property, City is the entity that decides whether an environmental impact review would be required, they decided it would not be. A group has filed suit to keep this project from happening.

Jeff Jondle Motions to support the open space use  
2<sup>nd</sup> Tom Marks  
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](http://www.scopeny.org)

**Resolutions – Rich Davenport –**

Report on Resolutions – July vote ballot tally may be found in the back of this document.  
Summary:

**Passed: 01-2016 Erie County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, Inc.**  
**Big Game hunting in WMU Unit 9C**

**Failed: 02-2016 Greene County Federation of Sportsmen**  
**Deer Damage Permits should only be issued to landowners permitting in-season hunting on the property, and harvests under the damage permits should be linked to the Venison Donation Coalition program.**

**Passed: 03-2016 Onondaga County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs**  
**Opposition to Net-Pen Commercial Aquaculture in New York Inland Waters**

**Passed: 04-2016 Onondaga County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs**  
**Allow Use of Sound Suppressors for Sport Shooting and Hunting**

**Passed: 05 -2016 Oswego County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs**  
**Refundable tax credit on NYS income tax filing in lieu of granting free license**

**Failed: 06 -2016 United Sportsmen's Association of Rockland County**  
**Allow Nurse Practitioners To Sign Medical Clearance Forms For Guides**

**Passed: 07 -2016 Wyoming County Wildlife Federation**  
**Tax credit NYS income tax filing in lieu of granting free or reduced priced license**

**Failed: 08 -2016 Yates County Federation of Conservation Clubs**  
**Move the Southern Zone late muzzleloader and late bow/crossbow season to the end of December**

Full role call ballot is found in the back of the minutes

A call for Resolutions for 2017 consideration is before the Federation membership. Please submit resolutions by the November 2016 meeting, please.

**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 [steelheader03@hotmail.com](mailto:steelheader03@hotmail.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.**

Classes filling up fast, great comments back on the new format, good stuff.

**SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Nominations – Paul Stoos**

The president will all be leaving his office this January. All officers positions are for one year only, so all are “open” this year. In addition, the terms of Directors Larry Jones, Jim McCann, Jeff Jondle, Gary Melnyk, and Al Baur are over this year.

Joe McAdams is willing to be President. Someone will need to nominate him next month.

**Awards – OPEN**

Form is in the back of the minutes, start thinking about the awards, and we need a new chair, please, but Frank will do it one more year, and mentor the next one.

**Banquet – Frank Miskey , Jr.**

Contract is signed, sealed and delivered, tickets by Oct meeting, meeting of Committee after Hawkeye meeting. Start thinking about donations and baskets

**Fund Raising – Larry Jones**

Calendars – We will have the Remington Outdoor Wildlife ART calendars again this year. They will once again be \$4.00, with one dollar going to the Youth Outdoor License program. Orders can be taken at any time, but there will only be ONE order placed this year, on October 14, the day after the October Federation meeting at Hawkeye. We had

kind of a disappointing number of orders last year. Please consider ordering these to support both the Federation and the Youth Lifetime License program.

**Educational Opportunities – Chuck Godfrey**

Scholarships are available – application is already online, let people know.

**FWMB – Chuck Godfrey**

Meeting was rescheduled. Next Thursday

**Shows – Dave Wharton**

Report on Erie County Fair

Made \$190.81 in donations

Sold 90 hats, made \$0.80/ hat.

Made \$132.00 on shotgun lights

And \$70 on hooks

**National Hunting and Fishing day – Rich Davenport**

Sept. 24, 2016 –

Details given

Need a few people to learn how to erect it

Invoice is in for NYON

**WNY Environmental Federation – Dan Tone**

Sept 25, 1:00PM at Hoaks

**Joe Jemiolo, jr. Youth Lifetime Licenses – Chuck Godfrey**

Please take some tickets to sell, we need to raise the money

**Budget and Finance – Debbie Godfrey – (motion to pay bills)**

Motion to pay USSA Dues – Tom Fischer

2<sup>nd</sup> Tom Marks

Motion carries, pay the \$100

Insurance bill will also be paid

**Website – Joe McAdams - eirectyfsc.org**

Use the website, it is improved.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS (continued)**

**Law enforcement – Jeff Jondle**

Academy graduated 9/2, 31 ECOs

Looking at another Academy right away

ECO test is coming out now for the next new list

Hope to see a third academy after that

**Archery & Bowhunting – Jim McCann**

Opening day is 3 weeks away

**Crossbow – Frank Miskey, Jr.**

Nothing new

**Fish – Tom Marks**

State of the Lake and perch limits, will anything be done to reduce creel limits or whatnot

Reducing creel will not impact selective creeling.

We already have the rules in place to address this, need to educate.

**Teach Me To Fish – Joe McAdams**

Nothing new would like a chair for each event, not one for both.

**Small Game – Dan Tone**

414 pheasants released, checks sent but not all cashed

**Big Game – Paul Stoos**

Allegany State Park regulations changes

**Trapping – Patti Wattengel**

Pat Arnold Youth Trapping Camp

Please go to the site and sign some kids up

He has had announcements sent from folks, if you want on website, say it, please.

Submit events, but say it is FOR THE WEBISTE!

**Old Business:**

Hunter Ed banquet on Sunday, have 5 tickets, only 2 being used. Anyone wants to go, let him know now.

Board recommended we write a letter to the DEC outlining the CTF presser. Need a motion to send the letter concerning the CTF

Dave Wharton motions to write

2<sup>nd</sup> Tom Marks

Motion carries

Received thank you from Rose and Dave Barus for benefit donation.

**New Business:** any new delegates present?

No

**Good and Welfare of the Organization:**

Meet Candidate night is Sept 29 at Elma Conservation, 6PM



**50/50 Raffle**

Winner – Alden Rod & Gun

**Motion for Adjournment**

Jeff Jondle motion to adjourn  
2<sup>nd</sup> Rich Davenport

Meeting adjourned 9:20PM

**Thanks to Host Club**

Springville Field and Stream





ERIE COUNTY FEDERATION OF SPORTSMENS CLUBS

NOMINATIONS FOR AWARDS FOR 2017

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  
decmouse@aol.com

DEAD LINE 2/1/2017

E-MAIL WILL BE ACCEPTED

CANDIDATE CAN ONLY BE NOMINATED FOR ONE AWARD



*Rich Davenport, 2016 ECFSC Recording Secretary*

*Erie County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs*

**ECFSC October 2016 General Meeting Minutes**

**October 13, 2016  
Hawkeye Bowmen, Marilla, NY**

Please turn off cell phones

Call to order – 7:00 PM

**Pledge to Flag:** Completed

**Roll call – Officers and Directors:**

Excused: Chuck Godfrey, Debbie Godfrey, Antoinette Grote, Tom Marks, Joe Fischer,  
Larry Jones

In attendance:

**Quorum of member clubs – Present:**

Yes

**GUESTS:**

None

**Reading of the Minutes**

Minutes are published

Approval of previous month's minutes

Motion to approve - Hope Melnyk

2<sup>nd</sup> Tom Fischer

Motion carries

**Secretary's report – Rich Davenport**

Sept Minutes up

Attendance is good

**Membership report – Antoinette Grote**

None, excused

**Treasurer's report – Debbie Godfrey**

None, excused

**Correspondence report – Joe McAdams**

Here is the response to our letter to Jeremy Hurst about the proposal to do away with the Citizen Task Forces for deciding policies on deer numbers and harvest within each WMU in the state:

Mr. Godfrey,

Thanks for your letter on behalf of the Erie County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs. I've been traveling for work for most of the past 2 weeks, so forgive me if it takes a bit for me to respond more thoroughly as I catch up on my responsibilities here in the office. Jeremy Hurst, CWB®

Below is the letter he was responding to:

9/15/16

Jeremy Hurst  
NYSDEC  
625 Broadway  
Albany, NY 12233-4754

Mr. Hurst,

As you know, the Erie County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs is an umbrella group representing nearly 50 hunting, fishing, trapping, and conservation groups, with nearly 10,000 individual members. Our Federation's very first question about the "Pilot Project to Improve Collection of Public Input about Deer Populations" and its results is: WHO is going to decide "If the new process proves workable and valuable"?

Next, in the opinion of many of us, the existing Citizen Task Forces would have worked just fine IF the DEC had ever actually implemented them the way they were supposed to be done. In the two WMU's in Region 9 that were affected by the foolish antlerless only regulations for the first two weeks of October last year, there were exactly two CTF's held in each of the two affected WMU's in 24 years, with none held more recently than 2004. We think the CTF process would have been very good, but was never given a chance to succeed. Who's to say that even if this new process were found to be "workable and valuable" that it would be carried out any more faithfully than the last process? We feel the leadership in Albany has shown over the last quarter century that it cannot be expected to carry out its own established procedures where managing the deer herd is concerned. Why should we expect it to be any different this time? During the era of the CTF's, the DEC leadership has apparently thought that for at least these two WMU's, twice in 24 years, 10 or more years apart, fulfilled its commitment to hold the CTF's in each WMU every 5 years. We'd like to know what kind of time frame "on a routine cycle" is, and once we know that, what guarantee there is that that time schedule would actually be adhered to.

Incidentally, I took the liberty of accessing the DEC's website and checking on the last dates that CTF's were held in each WMU across the state. Here are the results. The first

number is the year the last CTF was held and the second is how many WMU's that was true for:

1990-1, 1991-4, 1992-9, 1993-3, 1994-4, 1995-3, 1996-1, 1997-2, 1998-1, 1999-1, 2000-1, 2001-3, 2002-4, 2003-4, 2004-5, 2006-2, 2007-1, 2008-4, 2009-10 2010-4, 2012-7.

There were two Limited Access Units in which no CTF's were held, but I'm assuming that was planned. 6H had none, but there was a notation that that WMU was primarily Fort Drum, which I'm assuming may have some special regulations, etc. which would explain that. 7P didn't have one, but there was a notation that the goals would be the same as 7M. There isn't a last date for Unit 4U. I'm guessing there may be reasonable explanations for some of these numbers, but it certainly appears as if there was never a real commitment on the part of the DEC to hold these meetings and Regions 5, 7, and 9 are the only ones who have held CTF meetings in every WMU since 2000.

Sincerely,

Chuck Godfrey-President

29 Yvette Dr.  
Cheektowaga, NY 14227-3415  
440-6995  
steelheader03@hotmail.com

Basil Seggos-Commissioner

Also, our letter to the editor at the NY Outdoor News was published in the last issue. It is an condensed version of the letter to Jeremy Hurst, since there is a word number limit for letters to the editor, and is completely contained in the letter to Mr. Hurst above.

Our Federation's very first question is: WHO is going to decide "If, after refinement, the new process proves workable and valuable, DEC intends to implement it on a routine cycle in each aggregate of Wildlife Management Units across the state to respond to changing conditions and attitudes about deer impacts over time"? In the opinion of many of us, the existing Citizen Task Forces would have worked just fine IF the DEC had ever actually implemented them the way they were supposed to be used. In the two WMU's in Region 9 that were affected by the foolish antlerless only regulations for the first two weeks of Oct. last year, there were exactly two CTF's held in each of the two affected WMU's in 24 years, with none held more recently than 2004. The previous process might have been very good but was never given a chance to succeed. Who's to say that even if this new process were found to be "workable and valuable" that it would be carried out any more faithfully than the last process? The leadership in Albany has shown over the last quarter century that it cannot be expected to carry out its own established procedures where managing the deer herd is concerned. Why should we

expect it to be any different this time? During the era of the CTF's the DEC leadership apparently thought that twice in 24 years, 10 or more years apart, fulfilled its commitment to hold the CTF's in each WMU every 5 years. Therefore we'd like to know what kind of time frame "on a routine cycle" is, and once we know that, what guarantee is there that that time schedule would actually be adhered to.

Chuck Godfrey – President  
 Erie County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs  
 29 Yvette Dr.  
 Cheektowaga, NY 14227  
 716-440-6995

Thank you letter to SCI for donation to NHFD  
 Returned 12 ga  
 Have 125 Rounds for next year of 20 ga.

**President's Report – Chuck Godfrey.**

We will be meeting at Southtowns in November, but as of 10/9/16 I don't have a date confirmation yet. Is confirmed at 11/3

**Next meetings and locations:**

Date		BM Time		GM Time		Location
11/3/2016	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	Southwestern Blvd, Hamburg, NY
12/15/2016	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	Bison City Rod & Gun, Buffalo, NY
1/26/2017	-	6:30	-	7:00	Gen Meet	Elma Conservation

**SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Nominations – Paul Stoos:**

Nominations for officers and directors start this month. All elected officers' terms are for one year, so Pres., 1st and 2nd vice pres., treas., corr., recording, and membership sec., and delegates to the Council are up for nominations and elections. The president will all be leaving his office this January. In addition, the terms of Directors Larry Jones, Jim McCann, Jeff Jondle, Gary Melnyk, and Al Baur are over this year.

Joe McAdams nominated for President by Hope Melnyk, confirmed by Tom Fischer  
 Accepted by Joe  
 No other nominations

Hope Melnyk nominates Fran Sr for 1<sup>st</sup> VP – 2<sup>nd</sup> Tom Fischer  
 Accepted by Frank  
 No other nominations



2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Joe Fischer – not present to confirm  
No other nominations

Recording Secretary – Rich Davenport  
Hope Melnyk nominates  
2<sup>nd</sup> Tom Fischer  
Accepted by Rich  
No other nominations

Corresponding Secretary – Open, need someone to fill this hole  
No nominations tonight

Treasurer – Debbie Godfrey – not present  
No other nominations

Membership Secretary – Antoinette Grote – not present  
No other nominations

Dan Tone and Joe Fischer are NYSCC Delegates  
Both are re-nominated  
Both accept  
No other nominations

Directors  
Jeff Jondle – Yes  
Gary Melnyk – Yes  
Larry Jones –  
Al Bauer –

Paula and Dave Wharton have resigned  
Tom Fischer nominates Fred Langdon  
Tom Fischer nominates Jeff Jondle  
Hope Melnyk nominates Gary Melnyk

No other nominations  
Need additional directors

**Awards – Frank Miskey Sr.**  
Awards nominations are being accepted

**Banquet – Frank Miskey, Jr**  
He pulled 4 ribs separated from sternum  
May have reinjured  
Will have info at next meeting

### **Fund Raising – Larry Jones**

CALENDARS – This sale has not been going nearly as well as in past years. Orders will be taken until October 13. We will have the Remington Outdoor Wildlife ART calendars again this year. They will once again be \$4.00, with one dollar going to the Youth Lifetime License program. Orders can be taken at any time, but there will only be ONE order placed this year, on October 14, the day after the October Federation meeting at Hawkeye. We had kind of a disappointing number of orders last year. Please consider ordering these to support both the Federation and the Youth Lifetime License program.

Rich Davenport – 20

ECCS – 10

Lakeshore – 10

TU – 10

Tony Gonello – 12

West Falls – 20

Larry Jones -20

Antoinette – 5

Trappers – 6

Bison City – 25

Alden – 40

### **Educational Opportunities – Chuck Godfrey**

Scholarship Applications available on the website

Hunting program in schools

Senator – Physical Fitness using Hunting & Fishing in schools, John Bonacic, R-Mount Hope

No companion in the Assembly

Could be bad with classroom only experiences

Senate Bill S4368

Needs to be supported

Rich motions to write letter to Assembly Encon Committee and our local reps to support this bill as written and move it to the full floor for a vote

2<sup>nd</sup> Dan Tone

Needs to happen, used to.

Motion carries

What is the cutoff date for scholarship? December meeting

**FWMB – Chuck Godfrey**

None

**Shows – Dave Wharton**

March Sportsmen's EXPO March 2017

**National Hunting and Fishing day – Rich Davenport**

Event was wonderful, but attendance and participation was still low, especially on attendance, due mainly to Buffalo News and their Outdoors Calendar change effective Sept. 1.

44 Kids, Roughly 120 ttl attendees.  
13 Exhibitors, including Erie County, new this year  
We had 5 sign up on the website form  
Survey of people on where they heard of the event  
Most – word of mouth, family members  
2 from Buffalo News  
2 from NY Outdoor News  
7 from Facebook AD  
3 from Google Search

We surveyed roughly a third

Thank you to all who participated  
Road signs need to be bigger  
Need to get signs for dump and for park a month prior

Tom Fischer – George and Tom will take charge of publicity next year – very good

Pheasants Forever – Wyoming County  
A Hawkeye member is also involved in Lyme disease, all sorts of info at the club.

**WNY Environmental Federation – Dan Tone**

Sept 25.

Allegany County has a problem

Letter written

Next Meeting Jan 8 and Hoak's 1PM

**Youth Lifetime Licenses – Chuck Godfrey**

Frank Sr. has a tent - huge, any club that wants to use it, can do, make donation to kid's lifetime license fund, and it is yours to use

Where do we turn in the tickets? Willie, Frank Miskey, Sr. says give them to him

**Budget and Finance – Debbie Godfrey – (motion to pay bills)**

None

**Website – Joe McAdams - [erictyfsc.org](http://erictyfsc.org)**

If you need to get anything up, please be specific in your request and Joe will post  
Drive website usage, get events and such in

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Law enforcement – Jeff Jondle

Just completed the Academy, have another coming, and the CC test will be posted for a third

Allegany County pollution issue

Not much else

**Archery & Bowhunting – Jim McCann**

Season underway

Big Buck taken in Niagara County

**Crossbow –Frank Miskey, Jr.**

Season Opens Nov 5

**Fish – Tom Marks**

Comment period

Support Catt Creek Reg

2<sup>nd</sup> George Rockey

1 abstain, rest in favor

Motion carries

Route 16 construction

Discussion on Microbeads from IJC

Discussion on charter issues and guides

They have a point, but they have to come up with a position and plan

Jeff Jondle – Guide program is messed up starting with forestry administering  
It's a cluster

**Small Game – Dan Tone**

If you hunt parks, you need a permit for opening day  
Also in Niagara County  
On opening day and the next Saturday  
Draw to get in

4-H – released 444 young pheasants  
Just completed the grant for 2017  
Completed final report for 2016  
Lot of work, will need help in the future.  
Mark Alessi – Q – Coyote resolution, what's the status?  
Extending the season – pupping season resistance  
Chairman of small game committee needs to push, as well as the one who wrote the  
resolution, press the Council to get on them

**Big Game – Paul Stoos**

Nothing new – season is upon us

<break for eats at 8:00PM>  
<call back to order 8:21PM>

**Trapping – Patti Wattengel**

None  
Raffle tix for the Council – drawing is tonight, buy now

**Waterfowl – George Rockey**

Disturbing news coming out of Frank Morlock – R8/9 TWMA/ Refuge  
Was going well, but he is now taking a job at Montezuma  
Water levels were being checked with him there. Unknown what will happen next  
Will be checking on the Refuge and continue the projects he started, and has become well  
acquainted with the hunters  
His replacement may not good for the hunters, and there's no real way to stop it.

### **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.

If anyone would like to be on a committee, please let Dan know.

Boreas Tract of lands in ADK, 27,968 acres, classification of wild forest. Can do some things with this classification.

Priorities listed from NYSCC

Honored Patti Riexinger, she had 40+ years with DEC

Cable restraint bill has been re-written, and those who were the snags have been talked to. Hope to get this passed

Deer Permits and DDP, and encouraging hunters to take larger animals

Council is also running a gun raffle. Joe Fischer has the tickets, but there is a problem with the tickets – no drawing date. See Joe for tickets

When minutes are out for FWMB and NYSCC, if they could be published, that would be great

## **Environment & Pollution – Tom Marks**

None

## **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](http://www.scopeny.org)

Vote on November 8, 2016

## **Resolutions – Rich Davenport -**

Call for resolutions

Erie County Resolution passed unanimously – this puts the resolution in a different light. Will be very busy come January when the next session begins

9C is going to be a lot of work, will be coordinating the efforts after the season

**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 [steelheader03@hotmail.com](mailto:steelheader03@hotmail.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.**

Classes winding down, 3 left in Erie County

Nadine Fulle - Starting early this year for youth archery camp, Hawkeye is hosting this year This year's donations on the low side.

If we can keep the support in mind come budgeting time, that would be great

Only 18 students this year, very low, usually 30 or so.

Want the youth that do not have their certifications

Camp is back to 3 days

Feedback from kids – did not like that things were cut, so restoring the 3<sup>rd</sup> day.

Lots of work, need to get more involved, Hawkeye, West Falls and Elma are working together.

The committee comes with the chairmanship.

**Old Business:**

Nothing

**New Business - any new delegates present?**

Joe McAdams – Anyone using the SCOPE brochure for membership

The application is no longer valid, the PO box is not valid, new updates on website, tell people to go directly to the SCOPE site

BOD meeting on Saturday, professionally developed, updated.

Recently, two of the clubs that hosted Hunter Safety courses, a friend conducts 8 classes

Found that the courses were filled up by online applicants

Hamburg had room for 60, 40 showed up

East Aurora had room for @ 30, had 20 show up

Seems like a pattern

A glitch in the system, did not restrict the registration properly online.

Christine Schuler – Cornell – wildlife diseases, perhaps invite for a seminar

**Good and Welfare of the Organization:**

Phil Fleck – After 15 years of being President of Hawkeye, he is stepping down.

Now have 1st woman president – Nadine Fulle

Hope Melnyk – donations

Tom Fischer motions to write letter thanking all those that helped

2<sup>nd</sup> George Rockey

Motion carries

George Rockey would like so send thank you letter for donating the club and refreshments

2<sup>nd</sup> Rich Davenport

Motion carries

**50/50 Raffle**

Winner – Ducks Unlimited

**NYSCC Raffle**

Winner 1: James Rivette

Winner 2: Joe Fischer

Winner 3: Dan & Karla Korzenski

Winner 4: Netti Lindberg



**Motion for Adjournment**

Jeff Jondle

2<sup>nd</sup> Hope Melnyk

Meeting Adjourned at 8:53PM

Thanks to Host Club

Hawkeye Bowmen

ERIE COUNTY FEDERATION OF SPORTSMENS CLUBS

NOMINATIONS FOR AWARDS FOR 2017

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  
decmouse@aol.com

DEAD LINE 2/1/2017

E-MAIL WILL BE ACCEPTED

CANDIDATE CAN ONLY BE NOMINATED FOR ONE AWARD

# 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: \_\_\_\_\_