

Niagara County Federation of Conservation Clubs March 2006 Meeting Minutes

Pledge to the Flag: Niagara County Federation of Conservation Clubs **March 2006** Meeting held on the 27th. Called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President John Butcher at the 4-H Bldg., Lockport, New York with the Pledge to the Flag.

Guest Speakers: None

Minutes: A motion was made by Dale Dunkelberger to accept the minutes as corrected, 2nd by Gordon Botting Sr. Carried.

1. The correct information for the Sportsmen Education Instructors dinner is May 20, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. at the Woodland Fire Hall, Route 5, in Lackawanna. It is \$20.00 per person. Call Dave Kiel at 716-372-0645 for information.
2. The correct first name of Judge Broderick is Peter. Dave Broderick is his brother.

Roll Call of Clubs and Directors: Sheets were passed around and signed by the delegates. Everyone welcomed our new delegate Tammy Thrush from the Wilson Women's Auxiliary by introducing themselves and the name of the organization they represented.

Financial Report: Gordon Botting Sr. Motion to accept the financial report presented by Gordon Botting Sr. was made by Chris Schotz, 2nd by Don Clark. Carried.

Communications Bills and Notices:

1. Chris Schotz reported James Snider, DEC Region 9 Deer Biologist is retiring. They are having a retirement party for him at the Dock at the Bay on April 22, 2006.
2. A motion was made by Bill Hilts 2nd Chris Schotz to donate a Federation Knife to Jim Snider. Carried.

Sick Call: None

Committee Reports: President John Butcher reminded all delegates to fill out an **NCFCC COMMITTEE AND CLUB REPORT FORM** and give it to Secretary William Mudge in the interest of having accurate information in the minutes. (See Insert)

Finance and Audit: John Butcher. John has finished the 2005-year end financials and tax forms (NYS CHAR500 and Federal 990-EZ) completed.

Fund Raising:

Patches: The new Porcupine patches are in and are \$3.50 each. If you want a patch contact Gordon Botting Sr. at 716-434-1563.

Knives: Gordon Botting Sr. reported we have three knives left. The 2006 knives are available, contact Gordon Botting Sr. at 716-434-1563.

Annual Shoot: John Butcher reported the date for the event has been moved to this October. If you want to be on the committee contact John.

Grants: John Butcher

1. John reported we have \$3,750 of the NYS DEC (Maziarz Grant) money. He has to fill out some paper work on how the first half was spent before they will release the rest.

2. John received more paper work and sent it to Mark Richardson to fill out for the grant from the NYS Office of Children & Family Services (DelMonte Grant).

County Funds:

The funds from Niagara County are in.

Newsletter: If anyone knows anybody that wants to buy an advertisement have them contact Gordon Botting Sr. at 716-434-1563.

Public Relations: No Report

Rosters: John Butcher. John reminded all delegates to get their updated rosters turned in so that new *officers* are getting the minutes. Also include delegates, hunter Education Instructors and youth leaders.

Small Game: Chris Schotz. Chris reminded everyone who is interested to get his or her application in for the 2006 Pheasant Raising Program.

Big Game: Dale Dunkelberger. Dale reported there is no change to his last months report on big game.

Waterfowl: Don Bronson. Don is attending the Waterfowl Task Force meeting on April 17, 2005. If you want input into the seasons contact Don at 716-778-5914 and leave a message on his answering machine.

Hunter Safety: Dale Dunkelberger

1. There is a refresher course for hunter instructors Tuesday April 18, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. at the North Forest Rod and Gun Club. For any instructors in Niagara County, you want to mail in your requests for material to Dave Lavery, no later than April 11, 2006 so he can have all of your requests orders boxed and at the refresher course for you.

Dave Lavery
9854 Mountain Road
Middleport NY 14105-9648
716-735-3343

2. For those with classes scheduled, get them in to Dave Lavery so we can get them printed for this year.

3. The Sportsmen Education Instructors dinner is May 20, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. at the Woodlawn Fire Hall, in Lackawanna. It is \$20.00 per person. Call Dave Kiel at 716-372-0645 for information.

4. There is a hiring freeze at the DEC. Dave Kiel NYSDEC Regional Coordinator of Sportsmen Education is retiring. As of now no replacement has been announced. Dale requested we write a letter to Regional Director in Buffalo to have Dave's position filled when he retires because hunter safety is the foundation of the department.

A motion was made by Dale Shank and 2nd. by Chris Schotz to have Secretary William Mudge draft the Letter. Carried.

Sports Fishing: Paul Jackson. The Anglers stocking program will begin next month. Paul will give us the dates when and where as they become available.

Habitat: Chris Schotz

1. Chris reminded everyone if you want to plant get your name in to the no-till grain drill, you don't have to enroll in the program, but the seed mixtures are a nice mixture of grasses and flowers. If you want to use the

drill there is a \$15.00 an acre rental fee and a \$50.00 delivery charge. The rental fee covers insurance, maintenance and repairs. If you have a piece of property that you would like to have planted, contact Mark Sider at Niagara County Soil Water at 716-434-4949.

2. Chris reported he attended the Pheasants Forever Banquet March 25, 2006 and was honored as the Habitat Cooperative of the Year and awarded him plaque.

CFAB: Bill Hilts Sr. Bill mentioned hunting licenses have dropped to 500,000 in New York State and we have to come up with ways to get younger people interested in the sport. Two ways to get younger people interested are:

1. Allow 12 year olds to hunt big game.
2. Allow crossbows to be used as a hunting implement on private lands.

Firearms Legislation: William Mudge

1. Bill Mudge reported he has put a committee together to discuss with Judge Peter Broderick about Page 4 of 8 his mandatory storage requirement of firearms. Budd Schroeder our NRA representative and John Long are on the committee. We will be having the meeting after April 13, 2006 when John Long gets back from Nashville.

2. Dale Shank passed out copies of the acknowledgement you must sign to maintain a Niagara County Pistol Permit. It states under no circumstances should pistols be left in cars or kept in a nightstand. Maybe the last person to have his permit suspended because his pistol was stolen from his nightstand.

3. Bill reported there is no safe storage law in New York State. A673A, which creates a crime of failure to store a weapon safely, has not been passed into law. If it were law it would make it impossible to have a gun readily available for self-defense. Therefore Judge Broderick is using his judicial discretion to legislate from the bench.

4. Bill reported that there is a bill A10063/S7014 that provides that out of New York City no additional restrictions may be imposed by gun licensing officers in excess of statutory requirements. If this were passed into law, it would put an end to judicial discretion.

Region Nine Fish and Wildlife Board: Greg Tessmann — No Report

S.C.O.P.E.: Bill Mudge. Bill passed around a copy of SCOPE's 2006 Legislative Report. There are more than 14 pages of bills we are reviewing. The highlighted bills need to be watched or are on the move. New information is in red. If a bill comes out of a committee we oppose and goes to the floor we send out alerts to members.

If you go to our website www.SCOPEny.org you can download a PDF file of bills we are reviewing. The site is updated weekly. Go to web page: [http://scopeny.org/ARCHIVES/SCOPE Legislative Report.pdf](http://scopeny.org/ARCHIVES/SCOPE%20Legislative%20Report.pdf)

4H:

Shooting Sports — No Report.

Pheasant Program — No Report.

Conservation Education - No Report.

Niagara County Fair — No Report.

Wildlife Festival - No Report.

Environmental Field Days - No Report.

DEC Youth Camp — Paul Jackson reported he has the names of eight kids names to submit.

Town of Wheatfield Picnic - No Report.

Shooting Trailer -

Awards Banquet - Gordon Botting Sr. John Butcher, Matt Zornosky

The date of the Awards Banquet is Saturday April 1, 2006 at the Holiday Inn (Formally The Best Western) in Lockport. Matt Zornosky has sent out invitations. R.S.V.P. Matt by March 24~ — 772-5150. Make check payable to: NCFCC and please get your money in as soon as possible.

Application for Membership: None
Old Business: None
New Business: None

For the Good of the Federation:

3F Club: Dale Shank. April 22, 2006 the 3F Club is having their Spring Super Gun Raffle.

WNY Friends of the NRA: William Mudge. The FNRA Banquet on March 25, 2006 broke all records in attendance, guns raffled off, bucket raffle items and auction items. All told we made a record profit and awarded a record number of grants for 2005.

Hartland Conservationist: Matt Zornosky , Summer Tap League forming (See Insert). Iroquois Arms Collectors: William Mudge. The IACA next meeting is on April 12, 2006 at AM VETS Post 26 on 600 Ward Road in North Tonawanda at 8:00 p.m.

LaSalle Sportsmen's Club:

1. The Club is having their Spring Gun Raffle April 29, 2006. Tickets are \$20.00 each.
2. The Club is having Pistol Courses April 12, 2006 & April 19, 2006 at 6:30 **pm**.

Niagara River Anglers Association: Paul Jackson. The Anglers are going to have a Spring Outdoorsman Raffle and Wild Game Dinner on Saturday May 13, 2006 from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM at the 3F Club Pavilion in Lewiston.

North Forest Rod and Gun Club: Dale Dunkelberger

1. North Forest is having a gun raffle June 11, 2006. Tickets are \$20.00 each. There are 10 prizes plus a grand prize of an Artic Cat 44x4 ATV. Door prize is a 2000-watt Honda generator. Contact Dale at 434-9268 if you want tickets.
2. Dale has Vermont Fish and Wildlife moose applications for anyone that is interested in applying.

Pheasants Forever of Western New York: Dave Whitt

Their seed distribution will be at John White Game Farm on April 29, 2006.

SCOPE: William Mudge

Bill reported their next meeting is April 19, 2006 at the American Legion Post 410, 42 Niagara Street in Lockport at 7:00 p.m. everyone is welcome to attend as his guest.

UAW 686 Pistol League: Gordon Botting Sr.

1. The UAW 686 is holding a pistol instruction class on April 13, 2006. Contact Gordon Botting for details at 716-434-1563.
2. The UAW pistol league is having their banquet at the Lockport Conservation Club on May 13, 2006. Contact Gordon Botting Sr. for details at 716-434-1563.

Wilson Auxiliary: Tammy Thrush

May 5, 2005 is the Auxiliary feed basket auction. (See Insert)

Wilson Conservation Club: Chris Schotz

1. On April 22, 2006 they are having a gun raffle. If anyone is interest in tickets contact Chris Schotz.
2. On June 8, 2006 they are raffling off a crossbow at their meeting. If anyone is interest in tickets contact Chris Schotz at 731-1641.

Wolcottville Sportsmen's Club: Larry Childs. On April 23, 2006 they are having their spring raffle.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn, Chris Schotz, 2nd Pam Leaderhouse, carried.

Respectfully submitted,

William A. Mudge
Secretary, NCFCC

For information about the NCFCC including minutes, and upcoming events check us out at:

www.outdoorsniagara.com