

Niagara County Federation of Conservation Clubs

Minutes for September Meeting 2007

NOTE: The next meeting will be Monday October 22nd, 2007 at the 4-H Bldg., Lockport, New York.

1. Pledge to the Flag

Niagara County Federation of Conservation Club September 2007 Meeting held on the 24th. Called to order at 7:00p.m. by President John Butcher at the 4-H Bldg., Lockport, New York with the Pledge to the Flag.

Reception of Guest: Francine DelMonte on state of Sportsmen in Albany.

- A. Francine has thrown her effort into getting a few mentor bills passed in the Assembly. She got 12 people on the EnCon to approve it if it got on the agenda, but she ran out of time.
- B. There is not enough presence in Albany on behalf of the sportsmen community state wide to reinforce the things she is trying to do to move this legislation. The PETA and anti-gun groups are more vocal in the down state area of the state. Many of her colleagues from down state despise any legislation that has a sportsmen attached to a gun.
- C. There is a decline in the hunting population and New York State should not stand in the way of licensed adults bringing young people out in the field.
- D. Francine read a letter from a college from Suffolk county asking her to sign on a bill that would assign a mandatory 5 year sentence to anybody convicted of a crime using a gun that was purchased outside of New York State. If you tell law enforcement where you purchased the gun, you would not be subject to this mandatory sentence. The essence of this legislation is to find the source of illegal guns.

2. Minutes:

A motion was made by Dale Shank to accept the minutes, 2nd by Gordon Botting, carried.

3. Roll call of clubs and directors:

Sheets were passed around and signed by the delegates.

4. Financial Report: *Gordon Botting Sr.*

Motion to accept the financial report presented by Gordon Botting Sr. was made by Walter Kanouff, 2nd by Matt Zarnosky, carried.

5. Communications

A. Bills: No report

B. Correspondence:

John Butcher read a letter from Ricky Dorato thanking us for sending him to camp.

C. Notices:

John Butcher reported that he has received more paper work from the NYS DEC Grants Division in Albany after he mailed in the final report for the Del Monte DEC grant TM5090. John will check to see if an error was made.

D. Sick Call: No report

6. Committee Reports:

A. Finance and Audit:

John Butcher reported that he would have 2~ Quarter financial statements available for the October Meeting.

B. Fundraising:

1) Patches: *Gordon Bolting Sr*

President John Butcher is still looking for a picture of a doe and fawn for next year's patch. This will be the animal for the year that will be on our awards, plaques, knives, etc.

2) Knives: *Chris Schotz, Gordon Rotting Sr*

- a) Dale Shank reported the 3F Club made 590 dollars on the knife raffle on September 22nd. This profit was possible due to the effort of 4 ladies selling raffle tickets at the 3F Super Gun Raffle. These ladies are mothers and aunts of past, present and future camp attendees sponsored by the Federation. This effort was led by Pamela Barber with assistance from Sherry Marsh, Roberta Reinbolt and Kim Dorato. Many thanks to these ladies and we hope that they will continue to assist the Federation in sending kids to camp.
- b) If you need a knife for an event at your club contact Gordon Botting at 716-434-1563.

3) Grants: *John Butcher* — No Report

4.) Don Bronson Memorial Fund: *Larry Koch, Greg Tessmann* — No Report.

5) Ads Newsletter: *John Butcher* — No Report

Paul Jackson reported the Erie County Federation only sends their newsletters out by email to their members and we should consider doing the same. Some members reported they did not have email or preferred to receive a hard copy. John reported we are sending out 10 newsletters from the NCFCC a year. No newsletter is sent out for the July Picnic or the December Christmas Party. John will do a cost analysis on what it costs and what we are taking in ads.

6) T-Shirts: *John Butcher* — No Report

C. Public Relations: *Bill Hilts Jr*

- 1) Paul Jackson wrote an article in the Niagara River Anglers about John Long.
- 2) Bill Hilts wrote an article in his column about John Long.

- 3) Lori Prestei, Paul Jackson, John and Ashley Butcher were on Channel 2 News with Kevin Randall. They did a morning show on the Wild Life Festival.
- 4) Dave Whitt reported that the PF Youth mentor hunt also received positive press.

D. Rosters: *John Butcher*

If your club had elections please get the updated rosters to John ASAP so that the new officers and directors receive the minutes.

- E. Small Game:** *Chris Schotz* — No Report
- F. Big Game:** *Dale Dunkelberger* — No Report
- G. Water Fowl:** *Kenneth R. Zolnowski* — No Report
- H. Hunter Safety:** Gary Lowe, Dave La very, Dale Dunkelberger, Larry Koch — No Report
- I. Sport Fishing:** *Paul Jackson, Joe Wilczewski* — No Report
- J. Habitat:** Chris Schotz & David Whitt

Paul Jackson reported that an article in the October Field and Stream magazine states that bioenergy from warm season grasses is 100 times more efficient than from corn.

- K. C.F.A.B.:** *Bill Hilts Sr.* — No Report
- L. Region 9 Fish and Wild Life Board:** *Greg Tessmann* — No Report
- M. NYS Conservation Council:** *Dale Dunkelberger*

1) Bill Mudge reported the following were elected as officers of the NYSCC for the coming year:

- a) President: Harold L. Palmer, Maryland, NY
- b) 1st Vice President: Robert Gizzie, Webster, NY
- c) 2nd Vice President: Gary Chave, Waterloo, NY
- Legislative Vice President: Loren Sigman, Camillus, NY
- d) Secretary: Barbara Wells, Romulus, NY

2) Bill Mudge reported the following are the positions of the NYSCC on resolutions, as voted at the Annual Meeting:

a) 07-01 Approved	- NY Houndsmen	- No back tags in the southern zone.
b) 07-02 Tabled	- Delaware County	- Oppose Antler Restrictions.
c) 07-03 Disapprove	- Erie County	- Muzzle loading.
d) 07-04 Disapprove	- Monroe County	- Move Big Game Opening Date back to Monday.
e) 07-05 Approve	- Delaware County	- Youth Hunting Under Age 12.
1) 07-06 Approve	- Erie County	- Youth Mentoring — Lower Age to handle for Firearms.
g) 07-07 Disapprove	- Sullivan County	- Mandatory reporting of Big Game.
h) 07-08 Disapprove	- NYS Muzzleloaders	- One-Carcass Tags each season.
07-09 Disapprove	- Cortland County	- Pheasant Season — Open Oct. in certain areas.
i) 07-10 Approve	- Onondaga County	- Ballast Water Discharge.
J) 07-11 Disapprove	- Green County	- Resend emergency regulations on bait fish.
k) 07-12 Approve	- Yates County	- Shall Issue standards to be applicable to pistol permits.
l) 07-13 Approve	- Oswego County	- Establish a non-trail snowmobile registration.

- 3) A motion was made by Dave Whitt to write a letter to NYSCC stating we support crossbow legislation and youth mentor hunts, 2nd by Gary Lowe, carried.

N. S.C.O.P.E.: *William Mudge*

1) Bill passed around a copy of SCOPE's 2007 Legislative Report. 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.

2) 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)

3) Bill will be sending out an email to setup a meeting with the Firearms Legislative Committee consisting of Bill Mudge, Budd Schroeder, and Bill Hilts to set a date for our yearly meeting and keep a dialogue open with Judge Broderick. We are going to miss having John Long on the committee.

0. Youth Programs:

1) Mobile Air Rifle Range: *John Butcher~ Gordon Botting Sr.*

John thanked everyone that helped man the trailer at the Wildlife Festival, September 22nd & 23rd.

2) Youth Mentor Clays League: *John Butcher; Bryan Meahl, Doug Thompson*

John Butcher reported they are planning to hold an instructional league starting in late winter early spring March or April 2008. They will have teams of 3 people, an adult, an experienced youth shooter, and a youth who has never shot before. The purpose of the FNRA Grant is to fund shooting and bring new people into the sport. Those interested in volunteering can contact John at 434-7176.

3) Pheasant Program: *Bob Glidden*

This year we had 24 youth participate at 14 sites.

- a) We received 1600-day-old chicks from the Reynolds Game Farm (DEC) on June 5.
- b) 4 of the raisers displayed at the Niagara County Fair and received Blue Ribbons.
- c) The program released approximately 1200 birds into the county starting at 8 weeks of age.
- d) We conducted a Family Picnic in conjunction with an educational field trip to a Habitat Area on August 14. At this event we recognized Brittany & Hunter as the Most Successful Raisers for 2007.
- e) Registration for the 2008 program will be conducted on Tuesday October 9th at 7pm in the small meeting room at the 4H center.
- f) We also added 3 new mentors to this year's program.
- g) The costs associated with this years program was \$1350.00 but we did not add any new sites. The cost to add a new site is approx. \$400.00.

P. Conservation Education:

1) Niagara County Youth Board: — No report

2) Niagara County Fair: — No report

3) Wild Life Festival: *John Butcher*

A **motion** was made by Dhawe Whitt, 2nd by Matt Zarnosky to send a letter of appreciation to Lori Presti of the New York State Power Authority for all her help.

4) **5th & 6th Grade Environmental Field Days:** *Bob Kerns, Greg Tessman* — No Report.

5) **DEC Youth Camp:** *Paul Jackson* John Butcher reported that his daughter Ashley and 3 other girls, Melissa Wright, Meghan Batt, Sam Olewnick, made a display booth and manned it at the Wildlife Festival. They answered questions about Camp Rushford and sold NCFCC T-Shirts “Send a Kid to Camp”.

6) **Convention:** *Walter Kanouff & Matt Zarnosky* — No Report.

Annual Picnic: *Tamn'ty Thrush & C/iris Schotz*

7. **Application for Membership:** — No Report

8. **Old Business:** — No Report

9. **New Business:**

A. Dave Whitt reported The CONSERVATIONIST — a bimonthly magazine published by the State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), has been overhauled by the Spitzer administration and DEC commissioner Alex Grannis, to the point where future editions will contain little, if any articles pertaining to hunting, fishing, trapping or the shooting sports. Dave suggested secretary write a letter to Eliot Spitzer and Alex Grannis stating our opposition to this change. President John Butcher, Dave Whitt and Bill Hilts will review the letter before it is sent out.

B. Matt Zarnosky, chairman of the Nomination Committee, reported he queried everyone at the door tonight and we have one eligible nominee for each office. If you are interested in running for an office see Matt.

10. **For the Good of the Federation:**

A. **Niagara Frontier Friends of the NRA:** *John Butcher & Bill Mudge*

Bill requested all applicants to get their grant applications back to him by October 31st.

B. **Hartland Conservation Club:** *Matt Zarnosky*

On October 6, 2007 at 7:00 pm they are having a gun raffle and dinner.

C. **Iroquois Arms Collectors:** *William Mudge*

The IACA next meeting will be October 10, 2007 at the AM VETS Post 26 on 600 Ward Road in North Tonawanda at 8:00 p.m. We are having our Fall Gun Show on October 20 & 21, 2007.

D. **Niagara County Gobblers Chapter NWTF:** *Herb Leaderhouse*

The Third Annual Turkey Calling Contest will be on September 29, 2007 at the Buckeye Scents Farm 4202 Willow Rd., Wilson, and NY off Rt. 425.

E. **SCOPE:** *William Mudge*

Bill reported their next meeting is October 17, 2007 at the American Legion Post 410, 42 Niagara Street

in Lockport at 7:00 p.m.; everyone is welcome to attend as his guest.

F.) **UAW Pistol Club:** *Gordon Botting*

The UAW Pistol Club is holding pistol safety course on October 17, 2007.

Contact Gordon Botting at 716-434-1563 to sign up for the class.

11. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn, Gordon Botting, 2nd Matt Zarnosky, 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