

Niagara County Federation Minutes August 22 2005

Pledge to the Flag: Niagara County Federation of Conservation Clubs August 2005 Meeting held on the 22nd. 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 Speaker: None

Minutes: No minutes from 07/25/2005 this was our annual picnic at North Forest Rod & Gun Club.

Roll Call of Clubs and Directors: Sheets were passed around and signed by the delegates.

Financial Report: Motion to accept the financial report presented by Gordon Botting Sr., was made by Paul Jackson and 2nd by Don Clark, carried.

Communications Bills and Notices:

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 prepared a set of financials for the officers. A copy was passed around for the membership's comments. It is a Profit and Loss statement with ratios from January through June 2005. It is a good thing he had it done because with all the grant monies received we are approaching the \$25,000 limit where we must file income tax.

Fund Raising:

Patches: Patches for this year are still available. They are \$3.50 each. Some patches from past years are still available. See Gordon Botting.

Knives: **President John Butcher** reported if anyone needs a knife for a gun raffle or events at their club, they can be obtained by contacting Gordon Botting at 434-1563

Wolcollsville Sportsman's Club

Annual Shoot: John Butcher will chair the Annual Shooting Committee next year. John is looking for a club that wants to host the 2006 shoot. He will send out a letter this fall to clubs in the Federation. If your club wants is interested in hosting the shoot contact John.

Grants: Motion to pay Mark Richardson's Company ACS LLC \$100 to fill Senator Francine DelMonte's grant was made by Michael Thompson and 2nd by Gordon Botting, carried.

County Funds: John will check with the Niagara County Legislature on the availability of County funds for 2006

Newsletters: None

Public Relations: Bryan Meahl has volunteered to contact the author of an article in the paper about the North Forest Shooting Sports. He will invite him and the kids that went to DEC Camp to our next meeting to do an article about the DEC Camp. Hopefully we will get some good press.

Rosters: John Butcher still has some of the membership rosters left. If you need a roster contact John. They are arranged alphabetically by club, because many people belong to multiple organizations. If you have any corrections please get them to John.

Small Game: Chris Schotz reported the DEC has released their pheasants under the Young Pheasant Release Program.

Big Game: Chris Schotz reported the Seneca Army Depot located in Romulus, NY has the largest white deer herd know to this day. Seneca White Deer Inc. has a plan that would preserve the deer and other wildlife of the Seneca Army Depot by placing it high on the list of priority projects of the Region 8 Open Space Plan. Log onto their website and give them your support.

<http://www.senecawhitedeer.org>

The DEC will be holding a Chronic Wasting Disease seminar In Lockport on (Monday) September 19, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. at the Niagara County Cooperative Extension, 4H Center. (See Insert - Letter Maiziarz)

On August 18, 2005, A4853AIS918A was delivered to Governor Pataki. This legislation will allow hunters to use a rifle for deer and bear in certain southerntier counties. Two counties not part of the bill were Chautauqua and Steuben.

Water Fowl: Don Bronson - No Report.

Hunter Safety: Gordon Botting reported he just completed a hunter safety course with 42 kids. Please notify everyone to get their kids into classes before the last minute in September and October. If you wait until then the classes may be filled.

Sports Fishing: Paul Jackson - No report

Habitat: Chris Schotz reported if you know anyone that wants to use the grain drill contact:

Mark Sider at Niagara County Soil Water at 716-434-4949.

C.F.A.B.: Bill Hilts Sr. - No Report.

For updates go to the DEC website. <http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dfwmr/cfab>

Region nine Fish and Wildlife Board: - Greg Tessman - No report.

NYS Conservation Council: Gerry Bennett

Gerry reminded everyone to buy a Habitat Stamp when they purchase their licenses.

Gerry reported some of you might have recently heard of a new organization claiming to represent hunters and gun owners. As is often the case this organization builds a nice website and claims to be a friend of hunters when the reality is they are nothing more than the enemy in camouflage. The new group calls itself the American Hunters and Shooters Association, a friendly sounding name designed to part unsuspecting hunters and shooters from their hard earned dollars. They claim to be a "rational" voice in the hunting and gun rights policy debate, implying that groups like NRA are irrational.

Gerry reported there is a meeting on a 20 billion plan to restore the Great Lakes August 30, 2005 at 6:30 p.m. at the University of Buffalo North Campus.

Gerry Bennett held the elections on the 2005 New York State Conservation Council Resolutions.

Resolution Subject	Passed
05-0 1	Winged Duck Decoys [Withdrawn XXX
05-02 Eliminate Back Tags	Yes
05-03 Lift Ban on Feeding White Tail Deer	No
05-04 Impose Deer Antler Harvest Restrictions	No
05-05 Create A Junior Muzzleloader License	Yes
05-06 Restore Direct Access to ECQ	Yes
05-07 Rescind Assault Weapon Ban	Yes
05-08 Repeal Ballistic Fingerprinting	Yes
05-09 Define What Is a Primitive Firearm	No
05-10 Fund Update & Repair Hatcheries	Yes
05-11 Allocate Habitat/Access Stamp Revenue	Yes
05-12 Terminate Young Pheasant Release Program	No
05-13 Fund Hunter Apprentice Program	Yes

S.C.O.P.E.: Bill Mudge

On August 18, 2005, A4853A1S918A was delivered to Governor Pataki to allow hunters to use a rifle for deer and bear in certain southerntier counties. The Governor has 10 days (not counting, Sundays) to sign or veto the bills passed by both houses. Signed bills become law; vetoed bills do not. However, the Governors failure to sign or veto a bill within the 10-day period means that it becomes law automatically.

Bill passed around a copy of SCOPE's 2005 Legislative Report for this week. 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 webpage:<http://scopeny.org/ARCHIVES/SCQPEj~egislativeReport.pdf>
 Bill invited everyone to attend the next Scope Meeting on September, 21, 2005. Meeting will be held at the American Legion Post 410, 26 Niagara St, Lockport NY at 7:00PM.

4H:

Shooting Sports - No Report.

Pheasant Program - No Report.

Conservation Education -

Niagara County Fair - No Report.

Wildlife Festival - John Butcher reported the Wildlife Festival in recognition of National Hunting and Fishing

Days will be September 24 th. and 25 th. this year.

John reported we have raffle tickets available for merchandise donated by Gander Mountain for the Wildlife Festival. See Gordon Botting for tickets.

John requested those that are hunter education instructors to volunteer to man the dart machine and shooting trailer. Even if you are not a hunter education instructor you can help out the instructors. Contact Gordon Botting at 434-1563 if you can help out.

Environmental Field Days - No Report.

DEC Youth Camp - Paul Jackson reported we had a total of four kids that went to camp three from the Federation and one kid from Senator George Maiziarz.

Town of Wheatfield Picnic - No Report.

Shooting Trailer - John passed around pictures of the new shooting trailer setup. Crossman makes a complete kit to attach to the trailer. Have ordered one from Crossman should be in by September 9th. Have talked with John Longs Sr. from United Insurance they are working on the Insurance policy.

Convention:

Annual Picnic - John Butcher reported the attendance at the July 25, 2005 picnic at the North Forest Rod and Gun Club was outstanding. Both Republican Senator George Maziarz and Democratic Assemblywoman Francine DelMonte was in attendance, plus several people from the DEC.

Awards Banquet - Gordon Botting Chairman of the Awards Banquet is looking for a location for the 2006 banquet. If you would like to submit a proposal please turn it in at by October 24, 2005. For additional information contact Gordon Botting at 716-434-1563

Application for Membership: - None.

Old Business: - None

New Business: - None

For the Good of the Federation:

Iroquois Arms Collectors: William Mudge reported their next meeting is September 14, 2005 at AM VETS Post 26 on 600 Ward Road in North Tonawanda at 8:00 p.m.

Niagara County Gobblers Chapter NWTF: Gordon Botting announced they are having their banquet September 10, 2005 at the Holiday Inn in Lockport. See Gordon for tickets. (See Insert)

Niagara Orleans Friends of the NRA:

John Butcher announced the Niagara Orleans Friends of The NRA have changed their name to the Niagara Frontier NRA. Their new territory will encompass part of Erie County.

William Mudge announced the 2006 Friends of the NRA Banquet will be March 25, 2006.

Pheasants Forever of Western New York: They will be having their Youth Mentor Hunt on September 17, 2005.

Pioneers Sportsmen Club: No Report.

SCOPE: William Mudge

Bill reported their next meeting is July 20, 2005 at the American Legion Post 410, 42 Niagara Street in Lockport at 7:00 p.m.. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Bill read a letter from Doug Goodman, a member of the New York State Outdoor Writers Association from Penn Yan. Doug wants everyone to be aware the County Clerks can only charge you \$3.00 for an amendment to your pistol permit no matter how many guns you have. That is \$3.00 an amendment, not \$3.00 a gun as the Yates County Clerk charged him.

Bill reported the 40th Annual SCOPE Awards Banquet will be Friday, September 9, 2005 will be at the Millennium Hotel (formerly Four Points Sheraton). Diner will be at 7:00 PM. Tickets are \$35-person, \$60-couple or \$275 per table of 10. Speakers will be Alan Gottlieb, founder of the Second Amendment Foundation and John Sigler, First Vice President of the NRA. Our special guest will be Ed Cox who is running **for** the Senate against Hillary Clinton. Call Mary Jo Picone at (716)639-7651 or email her at mjp52@adelphia.net Details can be found at our website.

[http :ilscopeny.org/banquet05.html](http://ilscopeny.org/banquet05.html)

Twin City Sportsmen: Mark Richardson announced they are having a gun raffle December 11, 2005. See Mark for tickets.

Wilson Conservation Club: Chris Schotz announced they are having their gun raffle September 17, 2005. See Chris for tickets.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn, Chris Schotz, 2I~d Mark Richardson, 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