



Niagara County Federation of Conservation Clubs Meeting Report for August 2007

**The next meeting will be Monday September 24th, 2007
at the 4-H Bldg., Lockport, New York.**

1. Pledge to the Flag

Niagara County Federation of Conservation Club August 2007 Meeting held on the 27th. 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.

2. Reception of Guest: No Guests

3. Minutes:

There were no minutes from 07/23/2007 this was our annual picnic at The Wilson Conservation Club.

4. Roll call of clubs and directors:

Sheets were passed around and signed by the delegates.

5. Financial Report: *Gordon Rotting Sr*

Paul Jackson reported the money for the food for the 5th and 6th grade kids should be taken out of the Federation Funds and put under the County Funds. Motion to accept the financial report presented by Gordon Botting as corrected was made by Doug Walck, 2nd by Walter Kanouff, carried.

6. Communications:

A. Bills:

- 1) In response to treasurer Gordon Botting's questions about being billed several times for the shooting trailer insurance John Butcher explained that we had to have three separate policies for insurance on the shooting trailer. The first policy insures the trailer as a shooting range, the second policy insures the trailer against fire and theft and the third policy insures the trailer against accidents, since we don't own a vehicle.
- 2) Tammy Thrush submitted a bill for \$74.20 from the Wilson Conservation Club for food for the Annual Picnic on July 23rd to Treasurer Gordon Botting.

B. Notices: No report

C. Sick Call:

John Butcher reported that since our last meeting we lost two members Gerald Bennett and Joe Fiori. He also reported that John Long Sr had another stroke and is currently in Hospice care. A card was passed around for all delegates to sign and will be sent to John's family.

7. Committee Reports:

A. Finance and Audit:

John Butcher reported that he would have 2nd. quarter financials available for the September meeting.

B. Fundraising:

1) Patches: *Gordon Botting Sr.*

John Bucher reported that we need to select an animal for the 2008 Patches. He passed around a list of previous animals used on patches going back to 1985 and a list of potential animals created by Larry Koch last year. A motion was made by Gordon Botting to have a doe and fawn on a patch with the wording to "Past Members." Motion 2nd by William Mudge and carried. President John Butcher will find a picture for the patch. This will be the animal for the year that will be on our awards, plaques, knives, etc.

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

- a) John Butcher will print up 300 tickets and bring them to the September meeting for the knife we raffle off at the Christmas Party.
- 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

6) T-Shirts: *John Butcher*

John Butcher reported that he ordered 12 dozen each of two different T-Shirts, one is orange and is for the shooting trailer. Copy reads "NCFCC Air Rifle Range — I shoot safe I follow the rules".

The other is in dark green and says "NCFCC — Send a kid to camp". T-Shirts will be sold at NCFCC events or can be purchased by contacting Gordon Botting. Price for

T-Shirts is \$1 0.00 each.

C. **Public Relations:** *Bill Hilts Jr* — No Report

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*

- 1) Dale announced that 2007-08 hunting, fishing, and trapping licenses and Deer Management Permits (DMPs) went on sale Monday, August 13, 2007.
- 2) Dale alerted everyone the NYSDEC is sending a notice of needed corrections to town clerks and other licensing agents for the Hunting and Trapping Regulations Guide. Changes to the deer season affecting us is Opening Day for the Southern Zone for Bow hunting should be October 13, 2007 and Regular deer season should be Nov 17, 2007.

http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/371_93.html

- 3) Nuisance bear complaints are up this year. The bear population is increasing and their range is expanding.
- 4) DMU Permits are chosen by computer. Many factors are taken into consideration in choosing the number of permits issued. Some hunters get the first permit for their chosen area and not the second permit.

G. **Water Fowl:** *Kenneth R. Zolnowski submitted the following report by email.*

Waterfowlers, I'd like to spread the word that we have scheduled a Waterfowl Information Meeting on Thursday, August 16th, 2007 from 7:00 to 9:00 PM at Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge. This annual meeting is a good opportunity to discuss waterfowl issues, especially as they relate to the upcoming hunting seasons. Waterfowl biologists from the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge, and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation will be on hand. Topics will include: news and highlights from the National Wildlife Refuge and Wildlife Management Areas, regional waterfowl issues, State and Atlantic Flyway news, and information about duck and goose hunting seasons.

I hope you will forward this note to others that may be interested. Thanks, and looking forward to seeing you there.

II. **Hunter Safety:** *Gary Lowe, Dave Lave~ Dale Dunkelberger~ Larry Koch* — No Report

I. **Sport Fishing:** Paul Jackson, Joe Wilczewski

J. **Habitat:** Chris Schotz & David Whitt

- 1) Many new projects are scheduled for Niagara County.
- 2) The no-till grain drill is being scheduled for more use this year and next year.

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) Dale passed out cards to the delegates to record the votes of their clubs on the 2007 resolutions.
- 2) President John Butcher appointed Bill Mudge to fill out the remainder of Gerry Bennett's term as alternate delegate until our next election.

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. At the July picnic John offered many suggestions.

O. Youth Programs:

- 1) Mobile Air Rifle Range: *John Butcher, Gordon Botting Sr.*
 - a) John Butcher reported that he conducted a seminar on how to set up and take down the shooting trailer at the annual picnic in July at the Wilson conservation Club and that several local NRA and DEC Instructors showed up.
 - b) Gordon Botting Sr wanted to express a thank you to all the volunteers that showed up to work the Niagara County Fair.
 - c) Gordon also reported that he had the Air Rifle Range at the 3F Club on August 25th for the Kelly for Kids Fundraiser.
 - d) The shooting trailer is scheduled to be at:
 - (1) Gander Mtn, September 8th 10:00 am until 6:00 pm.
 - (2) Wildlife Festival, September 22nd & 23rd 10:00 am until 5:00 pm.

2) Youth Mentor Clays League: *John Butcher, Bryan Meahl, Doug Thompson*
John Butcher reported that he has spoken with Bryan Meahl from the North Forest Rod & Gun Club and they are planning to hold an instructional league starting in March 2008. They are planning on having 3 people per team, one experienced adult, 1 experienced youth and a new youth shooter. Those interested in shooting or volunteering can contact

John at 434-7176.

3) **Pheasant Program:** *Bob Glidden* — No Report

P. Conservation Education:

1) **Niagara County Youth Board** — No Report

2) **Niagara County Fair:** **Gordon** Botting Sr reported that we took in \$696.00 at the Air Rifle Range which was at the **Niagara County** Fair from August 1~ - 5th~

3) **Wild Life Festival:** *John Butcher*

John Butcher reported that he spoke with Lon Presti from the New York State Power Authority and everything **appears to be ahead of** schedule. All that is needed is to cross our fingers and hope for nice weather.

4) **5th & 6th Grade Environmental Field Days:** *Bob Kerns, Greg Tessmann* — 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 had a great time at Camp Rushford. Megan Batt was asked to come back as a camp counselor's assistant and Ashley Butcher was selected as one of the outstanding campers. The four girls are making a display booth and they have volunteered to man it at the Wildlife Festival, they will answer questions about Camp Rushford and will be selling the NCFCC T-Shirts "Send a Kid to Camp".

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

Q. Annual Picnic: *Tommy Thrush & Chris Schotz*

A round of applause was given to Tammy and Chris for a job well down.

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

9. **Old Business:** — No Report

10. **New Business:**

John Butcher reported that our bylaws state four months prior to an election we need to appoint a nominating committee. Matt Zarnosky volunteered to serve as committee chairman.

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

A. 3F Club: *Doug Walck*

1) The 3F Club will be having their semi — annual gun raffle on September 22, 2007. Tickets may be still available at the club.

- 2) Hunter safety courses will begin on Tuesday August 28, 2007 and continue for the next two Tuesdays.

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

Bill requested all applicants to get their grant applications back to him as soon as possible.

C. Hartland Conservation Club: *Matt Zarnosky*

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

D. Iroquois Arms Collectors: *William Mudge*

The IACA next meeting will be September 8, 2007 at the AM VETS Post 26 on 600 Ward Road in North Tonawanda at 8:00 p.m. Shirley Urtel will be our guest speaker.

E. LaSalle Sportsmen Club: — *Walter Kanouff*

They are having their Fall Gun Raffle on September 15, 2007.

F. Niagara County Gobblers Chapter NWTf: *Herb Leaderhouse*

- 1) The Niagara County Chapter of NWTf is hosting a Hunting Heritage Banquet on September 15, 2007 at the Holiday Inn in Lockport, NY. Contact Pam or Herb Leaderhouse for tickets as 716-791-3151.
- 2) The 3rd Annual Turkey Calling Contest will be on September 29th, 2007 at the Buckeye Scents Farm 4202 Willow Rd., Wilson, and NY off Rt. 425.
- 3) The NYSDEC is holding workshops on September 21-23, 2007 on “Becoming An Outdoors —Woman”. Outdoors-Woman workshops are designed primarily for women who have little or no experience with outdoor activities. These are three-day workshops that offer many different classes over the course of a weekend. If you need more information go to their website:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/education/68.html>

G. Pioneer Sportsmen Club: *Bob Kerns*

The pioneers are meeting on September 5, 2007 at the Wilson Conservation Club.

H. SCOPE: *William Mudge*

Bill reported their next meeting is September 15, 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.

I. Tonawanda Sportsmen: *Ed Belbas*

- 1) Sept. 11th will be the first night of the gun safety course if anyone needs certification.
- 2) Sept. 12th is pre-registration for the bow hunter's safety course.
- 3) Sept. 29th is the Salvation Army shoot.
- 4) Sept. 30th there is an ATA shoot.

J. UAW Pistol Club: *Gordon Botting*

Gordon Botting and Larry Koch will be holding pistol classes on September 13, 2007.
Contact Gordon Botting at 716-434-1563 to sign up for the class.

12. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn, Pam Leaderhouse, 2nd Doug Walck, 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