



NOTICE

The next meeting will be Monday November 24th, 2008 at the 4-H Bldg., Lockport, New York.

1. Pledge to the Flag

Niagara County Federation of Conservation Club October 2008 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 Guests:

- A. Dave Faccini: Vice President of the Niagara River Anglers.
- B. Danny King: Treasurer of the Niagara River Anglers.

3. Minutes:

A motion was made by Bob Kerns to accept the minutes as corrected, 2nd by Gary Lowe, carried.
The corrections were:

- A. There was a typo in the amount of grant from Consolidated Waste Management. The comma in the amount must be moved. It was for 15,000 dollars not 1,5000 dollars.
- B. The delegate from Pheasants Forever of WNY is David Kern not Bob Kerns.

4. Roll call of clubs and directors:

Sheets were passed around and signed by the delegates.

5. Financial Report: *Gordon Botting Sr.*

Motion to accept the financial report by Gordon Botting Sr., was made by Larry Koch, 2nd by Gary Lowe, carried.

6. Communications:

- A. **Bills:** – No Report
- B. **Correspondence:**

John Butcher read a letter from Crosman Arms. They would like pictures of our Air Rifle Range in use for public relations. John will send them some pictures from the archives.

AFFILIATED CLUBS

Fin-Feather-Fur Conservation Society - Hartland Conservation Club - Iroquois Arms Collectors Association - Lake Ontario Trout & Salmon Association - LaSalle Sportsman's Club - Lockport Conservation Club - Middleport Rod & Gun Club - N.Y.S. Crossbow Hunter's Association - Niagara County Chapter of SCOPE - Niagara County Gobblers Chapter NWTF - Niagara County Sportsmen's Association - Niagara County Trappers Association - Niagara Musky Association - Niagara Frontier Friends of the NRA - Niagara River Anglers Association North American Bear Foundation - North Forest Rod & Gun Club - Pheasants Forever of WNY #29 - Pioneer Conservation Sportsmen's of Niagara County - Rapids Rod & Gun Club - Somerset Conservation Club - Tonawanda Sportsmen's Club - Twin City Shooting Club - Wheatfield Firearms Safety & Education Committee Wilson Conservation Club Auxiliary - Wilson Conservation Club - Wolcottsville Rod & Gun Club

C. Notices: – No Report

D. Sick Call: – No Report

7. Committee Reports:

A. Finance and Audit: *John Butcher*

John reported he has meet with our bookkeeper and she is working on the 3rd quarter financial reports.

B. Fundraising: *John Butcher*

John will email the chairman of the Niagara County Legislature about next year's funds.

1) Patches: *Gordon Botting Sr.*

- a) John Butcher is working on the Canvas-Backed Duck Artwork for our patches next year.
- b) If you need a patch contact Gordon Botting at 434-1563.

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

- a) John Butcher reported the 300th ticket for a knife #6 should be sold soon and we will have the drawing at our November 24th meeting.
- b) If you need a knife for an event at your club contact Gordon Botting at 434-1563.
- c) Dale Shank reported they sold 800 dollars worth of knife tickets at the 3F Club Gun Raffle on September 27th.
- d) Gordon Botting reported he received a check for 100 dollars from the Hartland Conservation Club for knife sales.
- e) John Butcher will take a knife for Rapids Rod & Gun Club; they usually raffle a knife at their December meeting.

3) Grants: *John Butcher*

- a) John reported he submitted a grant to the Friends of the NRA in the amount of 4999 dollars for the 2009 Youth Mentor Clay Leagues.
- b) John reported he submitted the final report for the FNRA Grant for the YMCL 2008. However, the FNRA has requested additional receipts; they will only accept receipts for ammo and will not accept range fees. John will send them copies of canceled checks and the receipts for the ammo that was purchased. If the dollar amount does not total \$1800.00 we will have to refund the difference.

4) Don Bronson Memorial Fund: *Larry Koch, Greg Tessmann, Gordon Botting, Gary Lowe*

The costs of bricks for the walkway are 70 dollars each and forms are available from Larry Koch.

5) Ads Newsletter: *John Butcher, Gordon Botting*

John reported all ads including the ones for your club will be renewable January 1st.
John Butcher and Gordon Botting will be sending out invoices for people to renew the ads for 2009.
John reported we have three new companies that show interest in taking out ads for 2009.
If anyone knows a business that would like to sponsor or purchase an advertisements in the NCFCC Newsletter please contact Gordon Botting Sr. @ 434-1563 or John Butcher @ 434-7176.

6) T-Shirts: *John Butcher*

The T-Shirt that say "NCFCC – Send a Kid to Camp" are offered for sale at Johnson's Country Store.
John will make contact with Mike and Lynn from Johnson's Country store so they can take inventory of the shirts sold and wrap up this project.

7) Raffle: *John Butcher*

The only raffle we have going on is for knife #6.

John Butcher reported he talk to us last month about the getting some guns from an F.F.L. that had purchased a supply guns from K-Mart. The prices were a little cheaper than we could of gotten from a local gun store. However, the dealer, who had the firearms, did not want to hold the stock for us while a raffle was conducted. Thus, John thought we would be better off buying the guns from a local dealer who would do all the FFL service for the Federation.

C. Public Relations: *Bill Hilts Jr.*

John reported he read Bill Hilts' article in the paper about sportsmen's views on the second amendment rights and how it hasn't been touched in the political debate for presidency. It seems to be a topic that was not covered in the media. Thanks to Bill for articulated our views.

John reported he received an email from a reporter from the Union Sun and Journal that wanted to do an article on women that hunt. Pam Leaderhouse replied she was interested and John said he would forward her name to the reporter.

D. Rosters: *John Butcher*

John requested all delegates turn in any new rosters for their Clubs of elected officers so we can mail them newsletters.

E. Small Game: *Chris Schotz*

- 1) Chris reported the pheasant-hunting season began on October 18th, in central and western New York.
- 2) Chris reported he participated in several releases of pheasants from the NYSDEC and Safari Club.
There are pheasants out there to hunt.

F. Big Game: *Dale Dunkelberger*

Dale reported license sales are up. On Saturday the second round of permits goes on sale. Deer hunters denied DEC Deer Management Permits (DMP) may apply for hunts in Wildlife Management Units (WMU) with fewer applicants than DMPs available for those areas. About 10,000 permits remain open to hunters statewide. In Western New York, permits will be issued for the following WMUs: 9P, 9R, 9S, and 9X, which include parts of Allegany, Livingston, Steuben, Cattaraugus, and Chautauqua Counties. Also, after Nov. 1, the DEC will reopen applications for DMPs in units 9A and 9F. Hunters must apply in person, not via phone, mail or the Internet. Permit status will be determined daily; hunter-applicants will be informed each day of remaining permits. To locate the areas of all units, check the 2008-2009 "Hunting and Trapping Regulations Guide" or visit dec.ny.gov/outdoor/8302.html.

Dale reported there is at least 500 moose in the state now, but it is going to be a few years before there is a limited season.

G. Water Fowl: *Kenneth R. Zolnowski* – No Report

H. Hunter Safety: *Gary Lowe, Dave Lavery, Dale Dunkelberger, Larry Koch*

Gary Lowe reported Larry Koch received the General Douglas McArthur Youth Award from the Masonic Lodge on October 22nd.

Dale Dunkelberger reported he has the last hunter safety class at the Niagara Gun Range tomorrow night and it was filled up in two days.

Larry Koch reported their team put a total of 277 students, 213 with Firearms and 64 with bow, through the hunter safety classes in the year of 2008 and into the hunting community.

Their team members were Gordon Botting, Rich Evans, Matt Zarnosky, John Butcher, Pam Leaderhouse,

Bryan. Meahl, R. Magan, Brent Peterson, Joel Thomas, and Allan Zamorski.

If anyone is interested in becoming a Hunter Safety instructor please contact Gary Lowe, Dale Dunkelberger or Larry Koch.

I. Sport Fishing: *Paul Jackson*

Paul reported they are fishing the lower Niagara River and Burt Dam for Salmon.

Paul reported the DEC Fish Hatchery in Almart got a good collection of salmon eggs this year, so they won't be scrambling at Burt Dam to ask local anglers to donate fish in an attempt to make up an egg short fall this year.

J. Habitat: *Chris Schotz & David Whitt* – No Report

K. C.F.A.B.: *Dale Dunkelberger*

Dale reported they are just getting the paper work through to him as a delegate and he will be going to the first meeting on November 10th.

L. Region 9 Fish and Wild Life Board: *Greg Tessmann*

Greg reported his term expires in 2008. He has to be off two years before he can run again.

M. NYS Conservation Council: *Dale Dunkelberger, William Mudge*

Dale reported there was confusion on resolution 08-03 which was sponsored by Erie County. Put before the vote was a copy of the amendment resolution that never got back to be enter for the inclusion. So resolution 08-03 implement an early muzzleloader season for 7 days in the Southern Zone. The season to run from September 24th to the 30th for anterless deer only. Tags would be left over big game antlered and/or special muzzleloader tags only, but only valid for anterless deer. No left over DMP's. Hunter must hold a special muzzleloader license. Any single barrel muzzleloader long gun with flintlock, percussion, or inline, 44 cal. or larger be allowed, scope sights permitted. That was approved.

Dale reported the resolutions for 2009 must be in the counsel office by February 1st.

John Butcher suggested we make a resolution to see if we can get the age requirement to handle a firearm dropped to eleven years old, when taking a DEC Hunter Education course.

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

- 1) Bill reminded everyone to vote on November 4th for the pro second amendment candidates. If you don't know who is your candidate's or his rating go to the Scope website and download the SCOPE Candidate Ratings for 2008.

<http://scopeny.org>

- 2) Bill passed around a copy of SCOPE's 2008 Legislative Report. The highlighted bills need to be watched or are on the move. New information is in red. Bill reviewed the highlighted bills and SCOPE's positions on each. If a bill comes out of a committee we oppose and goes to the floor we send out alerts to members.

- 3) 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

O. Youth Programs:

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

- a) John Butcher reported the Mobile Air Rifle Range was created for the purpose of raising funds for the NCFCC could support our projects (DEC Camp and Youth Shooting Sports). The trailer has been requested by federation members and other external organizations. The trailer committee needs to outline trailer rules, regulations and fees, so that we can address request for the MARR. Where do we draw the line as a non- profit in allowing our assets to be used, by whom and at what fees?
- b) There where three possible scenarios raised for charging for usage of the MARR:
 - (1) Mileage, Reimbursement for expenses to those authorized to tow the trailer to and from an event.
 - (2) A flat fee that would help offset fixed expenses such as supplies, maintenance and insurance. We have to have three insurance policies on the trailer. Policy one for a rifle range. Policy two for liability to cover the asset from damage or theft. Policy three for towing since we don't have our own vehicle.
 - (3) Instructor's time.
- c) Doug Walck made a motion we move ahead to include mileage, a flat maintenance fee upon research and compensation for instructors if they are not volunteers, 2nd by Bob Kerns, carried.
- d) The committee consisting of Doug Walck, Gordon Botting, Matt Zoronosky and John Butcher will meet at 6:00 pm on November 24th before the next meeting to make a proposal to the membership.

2) YMCL: *John Butcher, Bryan Meahl* – No Report

3) Pheasant Program: *Bob Glidden*

- a) Bob Glidden presented the affiliated clubs and organizations that donated money to the 2008 Pheasant program with a certificate.
- b) See the insert for Bob Glidden's 2008 4-H Pheasant Raising Program Recap.

P. Conservation Education:

1) Niagara County Fair: – No Report

2) Wild Life Festival: *John Butcher* – No Report

3) 5th & 6th Grade Environmental Field Days: *Bob Kerns* – No Report

4) DEC Youth Camp: *John Butcher* – No Report

Q. Convention: *Matt Zarnosky, Walter Kanouff*

The tentative date is March 14, 2009 at the 3-F Club in Lewiston.

R. Annual Picnic:

Doug Walck reported the 3F Club would like to volunteer to host the annual picnic. Tentative date will be July 27, 2009.

8. Application for Membership: – No Report

9. Old Business:

Doug Walck opened nominations for elections and reminded all delegates to go back to their clubs and see if anyone is interested in a position on the board. We will take their names and put them up for the election process.

President - John Butcher

Vice President - Chris Schotz. [Paul Jackson is stepping down as vice president.]

Treasurer - Gordon Botting

Secretary - Bill Mudge

Delegate to the NYSCC - Dale Dunkelberger

Alternate Delegate to the NYSCC - Bill Mudge

10. New Business:

A. Dale Dunkelberger announced on Friday November 7th on WLVL 1340 am from 9:15 to 10 PM they will be hosting a buy sell swap and trade day on Tradio. He will be Co Hosting the show again this year. Anyone that has guns they want to sell or are looking for firearms or looking to trade have them give a call into the show.

B. Paul Jackson requested Secretary Bill Mudge to start a Calendar of Events in the December Minutes that delegates can take back to their clubs on banquets, gun raffles, game dinners and etc. With this calendar delegates can help their clubs avoid scheduling two or more events at the same time.

C. Dale Shank questioned the other hunter safety instructors and Bill Mudge from SCOPE as to why the Clarence Lancaster High School has a pistol and rifle range while at Lewiston Porter High School they won't let the instructor teach a pistol class. As far as anyone knew it was up to the administration of each school.

D. Paul Jackson announced the Niagara River Anglers is in the process of purchasing the NRAA Wilderness Preserve on Balmer Road from John Long's estate.

They are short on cash and would like to make a proposal to the Federation to borrow or use for collateral the money the Federation has locked up in certificates of deposit. Next month on December 1, 2009 at 6:30 pm a member of the Bank is coming to address the Niagara River Anglers Board at the LaSalle Sportsmen Club. All Federation Board members and delegates are invited to attend.

Article VII of the Niagara County Federation of Conservation Clubs, Inc. states:

Business handled by the Federation shall be in the interest of all residents of the County. Any member club may introduce to the Federation matters upon it requests action. This must be in written form, from the club secretary, and may be introduced in the Federation meeting by the club representative or by the Federation President. Business so introduced may be discussed by the delegates and shall be referred back to the member clubs and may be acted upon by the Federation at the next meeting following.

The proposal to borrow or use for collateral the money the Federation has locked up in certificates of deposit will be discussed at the next meeting on November 26th. See the insert for proposal.

11. For the Good of the Federation:

A. Iroquois Arms Collectors: *William Mudge*

1) The IACA next meeting will be November 12th at the AMVETS Post 26 on 600 Ward Road in North Tonawanda at 8:00 pm.

- 2) The IACA will be having their next gun show on January 10th & 11th 2009 at the AMVETS Post 26 on 600 Ward Road.

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

- 1) Larry Koch reported on April 19, 2009 the NWTF is having a banquet at the Ransomville Fire Hall. It opens at 3:00 pm and dinner is served at 5:00 pm.
- 2) Herb reported there was a lottery official at their turkey-calling contest on September 27th at the Buckeye Scents Farm. They invited a couple of local people to come down to New York City to be in a commercial around Thanksgiving. They will be calling turkeys for one of the new lottery tickets.

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

Bill reported the Niagara Frontier Friends the NRA Banquet will be on March 21, 2009 at Salvatore's Italian Gardens.

D. Pheasants Forever of WNY: *David Kern*

David reported their next meeting is next Tuesday at 7:00 pm at the Tonawanda Sportsmen Club and their Banquet is March 28, 2009.

E. Pioneer Sportsmen Club: *Bob Kerns*

Bob reported their next meeting will be their Christmas Party on December 3rd at the 3F Club in Lewiston.

F. SCOPE: *William Mudge*

Bill reported their next meeting is November 19th at the American Legion Post 410, 42 Niagara Street in Lockport at 7:00 pm; everyone is welcome to attend as his guest.

12. 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

2008 4-H Pheasant Raising Program Recap

- This year we had 12 sites with 17 4-H youth participating.
- On June 10, 2008 we received 1320 day old pheasant chicks from the DEC for this year's program. The raisers picked up their birds from the 4-H center receiving between 50 & 150 birds per site depending on the site size and the experience of the raiser
- Brittany & Hunter Cummings, Bob & Josh Groff displayed Birds & Posters at the fair and each was awarded a Blue ribbon.
- 5 Raisers were awarded County Project Champion ribbons based on year round project work and completed project and progress reports. The recipients were: Brittany & Hunter Cummings, Christopher & Matthew Sweeney and Josh Groff
- From August 3- September 20 we released approx. 960 birds into the wilds of Niagara County. All of the release sites had cover, water and food plots located in the vicinity. This is a 72% survival rate.
- This year we purchased an outside display pen for use at the Niagara County Fair & promotional events.
- We also displayed Birds and Program information at the Wildlife Festival in Lewiston this year.
- This year we were awarded a \$1000.00 challenge grant from the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and thru the efforts of the Niagara County Federation of Conservation Clubs was matched. With some of these dollars we were able to purchase a new display pen.
- On Monday November 10, 2008 at 7pm in the large meeting room at the 4-H center we will have the registration for the 2009 program.

This year's costs were \$2659.31.

If you have any specific questions about the program you may contact me at 795-3305. On behalf of all the 4-H Youth in the Pheasant Raising Program I thank you for your interest and support.

Robert Glidden
Key Leader
10/27/2008

To: Niagara County Federation of Conservation Clubs
From: Niagara River Anglers Association
Date: October 27, 2008
Subject: Purchasing of NRAA Wilderness Preserve

The Niagara River Anglers Association has completed its 26th year of existence. Their average yearly membership for the past 7 to 10 years is in the 650 to 700 bracket. They have a rich history being an up front leader in sportsmen & women's concerns during these years.

In 1984 the concept of raising walleye for release into the lower Niagara River became a reality with charter member John Long Sr. providing a 61 acre piece of property for development. Work took place at once to build an access road, a large lake of approximately 7 acres and 10 ponds, 1/2 acre in size. These ponds have proven productive over the years in the rearing of walleye. The current fishing conditions in the lower river for walleye are a testament to the hard yet rewarding work done by so many over the years.

With the passing of John Long Sr. in August of 2007, the property has been in the hands of the Long estate. It has finally been authorized by the estate and Long family for sale to the NRAA. The legal process has been started, prices exchanged and the sale moving forward.

This is where the NRAA is reaching out to the NCFCC for assistance. The NRAA is prepared to put approximately 1/3 of the total price down and obtain a loan for the balance. But due to there being no buildings or established equity, a general mortgage would not be available. But what is available, and be beneficial to both the NRAA and the NCFCC, would be what is referred to as a 'Corporate' or 'Secured' Loan.

This would require the NCFCC to put an agreed to amount of money into a 7 month CD that would continue to roll over until the loan is satisfied. The NCFCC would earn interest (the going rate at the time) and get their money back while supplying security for the loan. It is seen as a win-win for both parties.

In closing, the Niagara River Anglers Association would like to thank the Niagara County Federation for their prompt consideration and open minded awareness of how important this transaction of property is to the NRAA and our local fisheries.

Respectively submitted,

Paul Jackson, President
Dave Faccini, Vice President
Dan King, Treasurer