

Erie County Federation of Sportsmen's clubs, Inc.
 Fred D Langdon, Recording Secretary
 311 Downing St.
 Buffalo, NY 14220

ERIE COUNTY FEDERATION OF SPORTSMEN'S CLUB'S, INC.

Member of New York state conservation council
 Monthly newsletter and minutes
 June 26, 2003

Federation Meeting Agenda 06/26/03

Call to order - 7:30 Glen Coe Conservation Club

- Pledge to flag by President Kruse

- Roll call -- Officers and Directors

Excused: Tony Scime, Fred Langdon

Absent: Dave Reed, Patricia Holmes, and Dick Zawacki

Quorum of member clubs -- Present: West Falls Cons., Bison City R&G, Niagara River Station, NW Turkey Fed., SCOPE, Blasdel R&G, Lackawanna Cons., Springville F&S, Hawkeye Bowmen, Buffalo Bowhunters, Safari Club, Mohawk R&P, Glen Coe Cons., Elma Cons., Alden R&G, East Aurora F&S, WNY Sportsmen, FL&WNY Waterfowl Assoc., Depew R&G, Niagara River Anglers, Wood & Brook Sportsmen (21 Total)

Approval of previous month's minutes

Motion to approve- Dave Barus 2nd Al Commerford Carried

Secretary's report -- Fred Langdon

Not Present

- Membership report -- Mike Smith

No Report

Treasurer's report -- Tony Scime

Not Present

- Correspondence report -- Will Elliott

Will read a letter from Assemblyman Robin Schmminger in answer to his letter informing him of the Federations opposition to the elimination of Shooting sports in the Empire State Games. Mr. Schmminger said that his staff has been in contact with representatives of the Games and they stand firm in their decision due to lack of registrations for these events. They have indicated that they have had dialog with sporting groups especially shooters about increasing participation next year, although Western and Central NY State have strong shooting clubs other areas in the State do not. Shooting is an Olympic Sport and should be included in our States Games. Be assured that I will continue to monitor these talks to be sure that all Sports are represented in the 2004 games.

Bob Church said that he received e-mail today that has some good news and bad news, the good news is that thanks to the board members of the NYS Pistol Assoc. and to Assemblyman Dan Hooker it appears that the Shooting Sports will be reinstated this year on a limited demonstration type basis with full restoration next year. The bad news is that they can't get all the Teams in this year because of the logistical problems

Kent read a thank you letter from Estelle Green for the financial support received from the Federation for the Women in the Outdoors Program.

Next meetings and locations:

07/24/03 - Bd. Mtg. - 6:30, Reg. Mtg. - 7:30 - Niagara River Station, 355 East River Rd., G.I. NY

09/11/03 - Bd. Mtg. - 6:30, Reg. Mtg. - 7:30 - Springville Field and Stream (tentative)

10/09/03 - Bd. Mtg. - 6:30, Reg. Mtg. - 7:30 - Alden Rod & Gun Club

Guest Speakers: Jim Snyder Big Game Director, DEC big game gave a rundown on the 2003 deer harvest, a record 308,000 deer were taken up from 281,000. There were 128,00 bucks taken, 25,000 in WNY even with the bad weather the first week the total WNY take was 71,500 the highest ever, killing more deer in our Region than in the entire State in 1970.

Jim said that we should expect to see fewer deer taken this fall for two reasons, the good success that the DEC had last fall with the DMP, the DECALS system provided

45,000 left over permits to be issued in 5 days and these accounted for an extra 8 or 9 thousand deer to be taken, a major factor in the total deer harvest. An example is Area 9H will have 70% less permits this fall, they have done well reducing antlerless deer in this unit over the past two seasons, with population at or below the DEC management goal, other units, 9J, 9K, 9R, 9S, and 9X won't be getting a large number of permits either. Fawn mortality is another reason for the reduction of DMU permits, due to the severe winter in the WNY Region.

A new person is in charge of the DECALS program, John Opecio, will handle the coordination of the system this year. Jim said he would make it a much better system. Jim updated us on CWD, the good news is that CWD has not been detected in the State, DEC has ongoing testing and their goal is 237 deer for this Region collected before or during hunting season. This should give them a 99% assurance that CWD is not present in NY State. There is no permanent regulation in place to date.

There is a ban on the importation of any cattle or wild ruminants from any province in Canada, due to the finding of mad cow disease. Hunters cannot transport their Deer, Caribou, or Moose into the United States.

Venison donations last year topped 102,000 lbs. And this years goal is 150,000 lbs., food banks will take every Lb. We can get to them.

There have been personnel changes within the Dept. Steve Moridian has retired and Paul McKeown, will be the new Regional Fisheries Manager, Paul will do a great job, and Steve will be missed. Russ Biss is promoted to Natural Resource Supervisor, there has been no replacement for his position to date.

CFAB annual field trip will be Aug. 3-5, Contact Patti Nelson in the Buffalo Office of the DEC, 851-7000 or 851-7010.

The Blaze orange bill has passed the legislature and is waiting the Governor's signature, a min. of 500 Sq. In. of orange will be required and will also impact the Archery only areas during regular Big Game season. Jim answered various questions on his presentation.

Standing Committee Reports:

- Archery & Bowhunting--Dave Reed

No Report

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Crossbow - Tony Gonnello

Tony reported that they gave a demonstration of the Cross bow at Allied Sportsmen due to their Regulation that bans Crossbows on premises. The Chairman of the Archery Committee put them thru a rigorous demonstration and they were pleased with the results. Any Club that is interested Tony will be glade to come to your club and put on a similar demonstration.

Fish - Dave Barus

Small game -- Dan Tone

Dan asked the members to reaffirm their support of two issues that were vote on several years ago one was the Cat Bill, where cats have to be licensed at the age of 9 months. This was seconded by Tony Gonnello and carried, and the second issue is the Youth turkey-hunting Bill proposed by the Niagara Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation, this proposal would allow youths 12-16 to hunt Spring turkey the weekend before the Regular season. 2nd Pat Schlicht, Carried

- Big game - Paul Stoos

Paul did not give a report as Jim Snyder covered the Big Game situation.

- Trapping -- Patti Wattengel

No Report

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Waterfowl - Paul Pietraszewski

Paul said that the cold and wet spring has been good for waterfowl as the water levels in the creeks are up and can only help this springs young. Paul received e-mail containing an article from the Wall Street journal that told the story of Resident Geese and why they do not migrate, a wildlife historian claims that they come from domestic geese used as decoys, and released, as far back as the 1930's when this practice was legal. These birds never migrated and they showed a graph of the population explosion between 1990 and 2000, in 1990 they estimate 200,000 resident geese and ten years later increased to 800,000 this has affected the entire Eastern Seaboard and the Canadian Provinces. They are looking at liberalizing the Federal Regulations to deal with this major problem.

John Daniels commented on the rainy Spring Weather and reports from a Ducks Unlimited survey that predicts a good hunting season this year. John suggested that the Federation submit a Resolution to the NYS Conservation Council to have the NYSDEC investigate the possibility of revising the Waterfowl Regulations to permit a three way split in the seasons. Having an early teal season, lengthen the regular season to have an overall longer waterfowl season. He said that they do this down south, with a 10 day Teal season and a 69-day regular season giving them 79 hunting days. Kent told John that it is late to submit a proposal for 2003 but he should get together with Bob Fuller and put this proposal together and be a little more specific and have it ready for 2004.

Conservation Council -- Joe Fischer

The Federation has decided to promote the voluntary " Buck A Member Program" proposed by the Council. This, if successful, will insure a reliable source of income to meet the future needs for our only "conservation rights" lobbying organization in our state.

For those clubs who feel this is a worthwhile cause, please make checks payable to - "New York State Conservation Council" and send to - NYSCC, 8 East Main St., Iliion, NY 13357.

To those clubs who donated last year, we hope that your commitment will carry on. Please don't wait until the Council solicits for your help. They need the resources now to fund the year's budget needs.

Also, to those clubs who chose not to participate, please consider what the Council is asking for; "a dollar a member." A buck doesn't buy that much these days, not a beer at a bar, not a pack of cigarettes or a good cigar, not a decent fishing lure or even a couple dozen worms for that matter! Perhaps it's time we sportsmen and women consider putting this all in perspective!

Nelson Cronin said that the Alden Rod and Gun Club has passed a resolution to support the BAM on a yearly basis and encourages all other clubs in the fed. to do likewise.

Law Enforcement

Lt. Tom Scott remarked on last month's minutes and said that the Secretary misunderstood him when he explained the present shifts within his Dept. the Officers won't be working around the clock that they have two distinct times to bid their 8 hour shifts, Between 6:00am and 6:00pm and the 10:00am and 10:00pm. Generally we operate between 8:00am till 10:00pm, by no means is this a 24 - 7 operation. Lt. Scott has to adjust and change schedules as workload and activities require, a difficult system to work under from a Supervisor standpoint.

My comments in last months minutes were taken out of context, I was actually applauding a couple of Judges in City Court, in no way was I trying to reference that Erie County Judges are not as good as they are in Cattaraugus or Allegany Counties. We have many fine Judges and I did not want to offend any Judge in the County by saying that. The Lt. Said that he still stands by what he said about Judge Manz and Judge Amadeo, two very fine Judges in City Court that are sportsmen and reflected that belief in accordance in what we do in Conservation Law Enforcement has been reflected in their imposed fines in City Court. These Judges have a track record of support and should be recognized for this support. Lt. Introduced Officer Scott Marshall to the members and said that he intends to be a regular attendee of our meetings because he feels that it is important to have a hand on the pulse of the sports community.

- Legislation - John Susz

To keep in touch what's going on with firearm legislation in New York, check out SCOPE's web site at - www.scopeny.org

NYS&CC Legislative Information : 06-20-03 # 2

The following bill has seen some recent action:

S 1977-A KUHL Same as [A 8784-A](#) Rules (DiNapoli) *Requires every person hunting for or assisting to hunt for deer to wear a minimum total of five hundred square inches of solid or patterned fluorescent orange*

Last Actions: 6/18/03-ORDERED TO THIRD READING CAL.1501 06/18/03-PASSED SENATE 06/18/03-DELIVERED TO ASSEMBLY 06/18/03-referred to codes 06/19/03-substituted for a8784a 06/19/03-ordered to third reading rules cal.708 06/19/03-passed assembly 06/19/03-returned to senate

Bill Text

AN ACT to amend the environmental conservation law, in relation to requiring certain persons hunting for deer to wear fluorescent orange outer garments

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

- 1 Section 1. Section 11-0901 of the environmental conservation law is
- 2 amended by adding a new subdivision 17 to read as follows:
- 3 17. Every person hunting during the regular big game season shall wear
- 4 a hat or cap of solid or patterned fluorescent orange colored material
- 5 and/or an outer garment above the waist of a minimum total of five
- 6 hundred square inches of such material. The material shall be worn so
- 7 it is visible in a three hundred sixty degree arc. The department shall
- 8 provide notice of such requirement in the state hunting and trapping
- 9 regulations guide.
- 10 § 2. Section 71-0925 of the environmental conservation law is amended
- 11 by adding a new subdivision 15 to read as follows:
- 12 15. If the violation was a violation of subdivision seventeen of
- 13 section 11-0901, relating to wearing fluorescent materials while hunting
- 14 big game, a civil penalty of not less than ten nor more than fifty
- 15 dollars.
- 16 § 3. This act shall take effect on the first of January next succeed-
- 17 ing the date on which it shall have become a law.

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[-] is old law to be omitted.

LBD06444-05-3

NYS&CC Legislative Information 6-20-03: # 1

The following bill has seen action as follows:

S2735A PADAVAN same as A4609A Stringer - Relates to the prohibition on taking nonnative big game mammals by means of a canned shoot... LAST ACTION:

06/19/03-COMMITTEE DISCHARGED AND COMMITTED TO RULES
06/19/03-ORDERED TO THIRD READING CAL.1618
06/19/03-PASSED SENATE
06/19/03-DELIVERED TO ASSEMBLY
06/19/03-referred to environmental conservation
06/20/03-substituted for a4609a
06/20/03-ordered to third reading rules cal.93
06/20/03-passed assembly
06/20/03-returned to senate

Bill Text

Section 1. Subparagraphs 3 and 4 of paragraph a of subdivision 1 of section 11-1904 of the environmental conservation law, as added by chapter 208 of the laws of 1999, are o
§ 2. This act shall take effect on the first of November next succeeding the date on which it shall have become a law.

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets[-] is old law to be omitted.

John noted that the Scope meet the candidate's night and Pig Roast is September 27th this year, members will be admitted free, and if you are not a member of scope John suggests that the best time to join is at the Fair. A free hat with the Scope logo will be given with membership and admission to the pig roast, that's a good deal. Steve Aldstadt reported that the suit against the Gun Industry was dismissed in NY State Court, appealed and went to the State Supreme Court and dismissed as well. Alaska has change it's pistol carry law to include all states that have the concealed carry Law, also Oklahoma will recognize all state licenses. Bob Church said that the Legislature is on recess now and the general consensus is that only 10% of all the Bills involving Conservation issues either reached the floor or moved upon. Not a good year for sportsmen. We have a lot of work to do and talk to our politicians,

One of NRA-ILA's top legislative priorities in Congress continues to be the passage of a federal law to block reckless lawsuits against the firearms industry. The clock is ticking as debate over S. 659—the Senate version of reckless lawsuit preemption—continues. At this critical time, it is more important than ever that you contact your U.S. Senators in support of [S. 659](#) and ask them to do everything in their power to ensure that this common sense bill is approved. *Please take action, and then forward this information to your family, friends, and fellow firearm owners and ensure that they do the same. You can call your U.S. Senators at (202) 224-3121, or you can use our "Write Your Representatives" tool at www.NRAILA.org to find contact information. For a list of Senate cosponsors of S. 659, you can go to the Library of Congress website, at <http://thomas.loc.gov>.*

NRA-ILA is thankful for you, for your steadfast support and commitment to freedom. We ask you to please continue your support and commitment at this critical time. Contact your lawmakers in opposition to re-authorizing and extending the Clinton gun ban ([S. 1034/H.R. 2038](#)), and urge your Senators to support legislation to end reckless lawsuits against the gun industry (S. 659). Attend Town Hall meetings to make your views known on these issues. Talk to your family, friends, fellow firearm owners, and co-workers. In short, stay involved and stay engaged. Your support of our mission—the preservation of freedom and the Second Amendment—brings honor to the memory and sacrifice of all the Patriots throughout our nation's history. As together we celebrate our 227th anniversary of independence, we wish you all the very best. May God bless you and yours, and may God bless the United States of America!

Resolutions -- Bob Fuller

Kent said that copies of the 2003 Resolutions are available for those that haven't picked there's up yet, and he also has ballots that you can take back to your clubs. Floor was opened for questions, Bob Church said that the facts were wrong on resolution # 03-5, he said that the General Fund is supporting the Venison Donation program. They are donating \$100,000 and whoever wrote this did not check the facts.

Bob also brought up Res. # 03-09 Blaze Orange, which is on the Governors desk, there was much discussion on this resolution but all agree that education is the best way to deal with these matters.

There was some discussion and clarification of Resolutions 03-11 and 03-12 regarding the Habitat Stamp.

Kent said to take the ballots back to your clubs make sure that he gets them by the next regular meeting if you can't be there mail them to him.

Membership Outreach -- Kent Kruse

The membership secretary would like all club presidents to consider attending at least one regular Federation meeting a year. This might not only prove to be a learning experience, but may also provide a better insight as to the importance of having representation on behalf of their clubs.

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Sportsman Education -- Frank Miskey Sr.

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Special Committee Reports:

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Awards -- Will Elliott:

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Banquet --

Kent said that the Banquet date is February 28, 2004, the closest we could get to the first Saturday in March.

Educational Opportunities --Chuck Godfrey

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CFAB -- Don Kill

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Fund Raising -- Tony Gonnello

The Federation will be purchasing the Remington Wildlife Art Calendars this falls. These are great calendars and the Federation will make about \$1.00 per calendar. All clubs and interested persons please plan now. The last date to place your order will be at the July regular meeting - 7/24. They can be ordered earlier at the June regular meeting - 6/26.

Multiply \$3.00 times the number of calendars ordered and have check or cash at the time of order. No orders without pre-payment. Calendars will be distributed at the first regular Federation meeting after received. Please make arrangements to pick them up at that meeting or at Tony Gonnello's residence.

FWMB -- Bob ChurchShows - Mike Simkins

Mike needs volunteers to staff the Federation booth at the Fair in August, 7th thru the 17th the preview night will be the 6th, booth has to be manned from 10am till 10pm. Contact Mike at 633-7973 or E-mail him at bowhunterms@yahoo.com. Tickets/passes to be handed out at the July meeting, August 6 is preview night, and if you intend to display a mount or other item deadline for entries is July 25th.

Dan Tone said that one man that really put a lot of time and effort in the fair and other projects is Frank Miskey and he wanted him to be recognized.

National Hunting and Fishing Day -- Mike Simkins

Exhibitors needed for any/all outdoor topics. Please consider having your group host an activity or exhibit. Event date is Saturday September 27, 2003. Call Mike for more information or to participate.

Budget and Finance --Tony Scime (Motion to pay Bills)

Motion to approve - 2nd-

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Old Business

Nelson Cronin is concerned with the proposal to deepen the lakes shipping channels, and also the proposed dam to be built at the head of the river.

Kent told Gabby that both of these proposals are not viable any more, nothing happened on these proposals.

Dart system all set for fair!

New Business

The Conservation Council has requested an updated list of Federation clubs with names and addresses of contact people. It has been the Federation's policy not to give out this list to any other organizations for privacy considerations.

Clubs wishing to receive the Council's "Grass Roots News" monthly publication, which gives updated information on state legislation and conservation issues, should contact the Council at 315-894-3302 and ask for Linda Coffin. You can also e-mail them at - nyscc@nyscc.com with the information. Clubs can also send their "club's news" for publication to - NYSCC, 8 East Main St., Ilion, NY 13357 or e-mail them by the second Monday of the month.

The Council also has the policy of not arbitrarily giving or selling private club information.

Dan Tone said that he had dialog with Gander Mtn. Manager and he told Mike Simkins to contact him, we are going to get something from them by the next meeting.

50/50 Raffle

Winner - Pat Schlicht \$28.00

Motion for Adjournment

Motion to adjourn - Bob Fuller 2nd- Dave Barus Carried

Thanks to Host Club

Glen Coe Conservation Club