



*Rich Davenport, 2006 ECFSC Recording Secretary*

*Erie County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs*

**January 2006 General Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting opened at 8:00 PM – 1/26/2006**

**Location: Elma Conservation Society, Elma, NY**

**Call to order** – 8:00 PM

**Pledge to Flag:**

Completed

**Roll call – Officers and Directors:**

Excused - Dave Reed

Absent -

***Total Attendance as follows:***

9 Officers

12 Directors

21 Delegates

10 Guests

**Quorum of member clubs – Present:**

Don states a quorum is present

**Installation of New Officers and Directors**

Sworn in by ECO of the Year - Mark Mazurkiewicz

**Approval of previous month's minutes**

Motion to approve Tom Fischer - 2nd Fred

Motion carried unanimously

**Secretary's report – Rich Davenport**

No report as of yet

**Membership report – Mike Smith**

32 clubs have paid dues thus far. Money delivered to treasurer

Need 21 more - remind clubs the dues are due, and remember the questionnaire

**Guest Speakers**

Kent Kruse - Conservation Camp raffle - 1 ticket per club - passed out

**DEC** - Hunter safety for 2005 - 30 hunter-related shooting incidents statewide  
4 fatalities, 3 - deer, 1 - Spring Turkey, no fatalities in Region 9,  
25 property damage areas, 3 of which not associated with hunting activities  
Only one incident in new rifle area - house struck with bullet in Catt County.  
3 Injury shootings in R9, 1 turkey - spring, Erie - 1-Deer in Niag, 1 - Self inflicted in Allegany County while coon hunting  
6 prop damage in Reg 9. , 3 houses, 1 car - squirrel, 1 dead donkey by archery hunter, 1 house hit by woodchuck hunter  
No damage in Erie county at all!  
Officer activity during fall 2005 season, deer - 40 dealt with wildlife complaints, other 45 dealt with environmental concerns  
18 unfit deer - replacement tags  
Injured deer  
Lost deer carcass tags, etc  
Assisting with pheasant stocking

122 enforcement actions during this period

Relayed a story about the illegal turkey

Wrapped up illegal deer take case - last Friday

Stedmans of S&S Taxidermy, Springville, NY charged in conjunction with illegally taking a buck with a rifle during archery season  
Stedman's provided false statements and Moore (hunter illegally taking the buck), S&S employees were instructed to lie  
Town of Collins and Concord Courts

Questions were asked regarding the Stedman's business, will not close their business  
Conviction rates in charges?  
Judge Manz is hearing all F&W cases. Conviction and enforcement is up

Unfit deer - nature of this is injuries from cars, or wounded in archery and then taken with firearm

ECO Mark Mazurkiewicz received 2005 ECO of the Year! Congratulations

**Connie Adams from DEC** Sr. Wildlife Biologist - Turkey/ Upland game birds

Turkey banding and survey across NY, PA and OH, with NWTF  
Trapped banded and released on site. Trying to get a better reporting rate for harvest.  
Looking at 30% reporting rate from hunters right now.  
Feelings that there are secrecies, and DEC needs info. Study headed up in PA  
Goal is to get better handle on harvest and what happens to turks  
Toms - Hunting is the #1 predation

Hens & Poults - predation by coons and yotes  
Great nesting period in 2005. Was incredible, 4.4 poults per hen. State average is just over 2 per hen

Question - Bob Church asked about the coyotes and turkey predation, is DEC trying to do anything? DEC relies on hunting, Bob asked about year-round hunting. Refer to furbearer biologist

Banded birds every other band offers a reward for reporting \$\$.

DECALS telephone system is having problems - DEC acknowledged. They know they need to improve

Looking for sites for turkey trapping and banding, not only this year, but for next year as well.

Where are we going with the study? Survivability and spring harvest info

Paul Stoos asked about the Cormorant problem - DEC looking to step up controls, LY took 650 off Strawberry Island. Looking to do more this year, to Donnelly's wall and the Lighthouse

Tom Marks saw the difference this year in the UNR.

### **Friends of NRA**

Mike Bordesevich and Mike Butcher, and Dave MacDonald

Gave a ppt presentation, explaining the Friends of the NRA

Been around for 11 years - non-political arm of NRA

Shooting Sports & Conservation

Grants for Hunter Ed, Marksmanship, range improvements, conservation

Youth programs

Grants in NY about \$1.5 Mill since inception

Grants to WNY @ \$65,000

ECFSC has requested grants to support pheasants and youth programs

Boat Show at Summit Park Outlet Mall will host the Mobile Shooting Range.

16' trailer, custom fabricated with crossman co2 air rifle

Also help the Pheasants Forever Youth Mentored Hunt

Range improvements for use and safety

Banquet - March 25 at Samuel's Grand Manor

Broke down costs and programs for Banquet Support

Discusses ways to help

2006 Gun of Year Raffle – Weatherby

Flyer with info may be picked up by following the url

<http://www.weloveoutdoors.com/pages/NFFNRA/NFFNRA.pdf>

**Treasurer's report – Tony Scime**

Tony Scime - Balance provided going back to November and December  
Detailed income and expenses completely  
Start Bal of \$10,570  
End Bal of 9560.

Motion to approve - Fran M 2nd Tom Marks  
Motion carried Unanimously

**Correspondence report – Will Elliott**

Rec'd letter from Cornell U for annual landowner workshop exhibitor - glitch is repeating addresses to singular addresses

Tree and Shrub Seedling program discussed and brochures to be passed out

Cannot make WNY meeting on Sun, but Dane Tone will have them there  
Letter of thanks rec'd from Congressman - along with Calendar as a thank you

White deer - sent letters to Chris Cook, Erin Crotty, Secor, Shipley and Nuzalino, letter was read to the general body urging support for preservation of White deer

At request of Nelson Cronin, letter was written to Pres Bush - opposing loss of Funding for GL Restoration for Katrina efforts. Cannot lose the funding

Letter sent to oppose the catch & release on 18-Mile Creek proposal, and support to

Higgins for voting for the firearm protection act

**President's Report – Chuck Godfrey**

Chuck sent letter thanking White Deer org for coming  
Sent letter to support open space draft plan, including \$ for acquiring WMA's  
Concerns over Tioughnioga WMA being converted to MUA

**Gun Control Assembly Bills vote by our representatives**  
**NYSCC Legislative Information**

The NYS Assembly voted and passed several firearm related bills on 1/09/06. The bills were as follows and the vote record for each is also provided. Did your legislator vote the way you requested?

**A673** An act to amend the penal law, the general business law and the education law, in relation to criminally negligent storage of a weapon and weapons safety programs for children

**A1170** An act to amend the penal law and the correction law, in relation to eliminating the relief granted by a certificate of good conduct or certificate of relief from disabilities for a person convicted of a violent felony offense to lawfully possess a gun

- A2213** An act to amend the executive law, in relation to the compilation of firearm and ballistic data
- A2302** An act to amend the penal law, in relation to the sale of child operated firearms
- A2466A** An act to amend the penal law and the general business law, in relation to banning the possession, sale or manufacture of assault weapons and to repeal subdivision 22 of section 265.00 of the penal law relating thereto
- A2837** An act to amend the penal law, in relation to the possession of armor piercing, frangible or devastator ammunition
- A4471A** An act to amend the penal law and the executive law, in relation to banning the sale, possession or use of 50-caliber weapons
- A9280** An act to amend the general business law and the penal law, in relation to preventing the sale of firearms, rifles, and shotguns to criminals
- VOTING TALLY**

	<b>A4471A</b>	<b>A9280</b>	<b>A673</b>	<b>A2837</b>	<b>A2466</b>	<b>A2302</b>	<b>A2213</b>	<b>A1170</b>
	87y-47n	89y-45n	104y-32n	99y-35n	87y-47n	91y-44n	91y-44n	136y-0n
<b>DelMonte</b>	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes
<b>Quinn</b>	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes
<b>Schimminger</b>	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes
<b>Schroeder</b>	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes
<b>Tokasz</b>	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Wirth</b>	ER	ER	ER	ER	ER	ER	ER	ER

Letter from Tokasz explaining his vote on the bills, that didn't make any sense  
 Link to view Assembly sessions debate at <http://assembly.state.ny.us/av>

**Letter from BNRK** for support of the outer harbor public access issue, plus other serious issues

Uniland sent proposal out via email on Friday, closed comments on Tuesday, close of business. Appeared as a means to stifle public comment

Riprap will consume all but 20-30 feet of shoreline for public access  
 Current ppsl does not account for access for boating, fishing or emergency services  
 BNRK is attempting to change the process and the agreements to assure public access (ample) to waterfront, outer harbor  
 No opposition to private development, but must have public access  
 We have asked the membership to vote to support BNRK.

Motion - Tom Marks motions to support BNRK - Dave 2nd  
 No discussion  
 Motion carries with one nay and one abstain

Chuck informed Federation of various committees he has now gotten involved with BNRK, requests of these committees to have a sportsman rep on the boards

***Committees for ECSFC***

Law Enforcement - Need a Chair

Shows/ Events Committee - Need a Chair

Looking for volunteers - Then folks will be volunteered :)

Passing out the form, please provide name and address, phone and email on form if interested in committee chair position

**Next Meetings**

Geo Wash 2/23

Need March Meeting place

ECCS April

Alden will do May

Glenn Coe will do June

Springville Sept

Hawkeye will do Oct

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Law enforcement –**

Lt. Tom Scott – already reviewed

**Archery & Bowhunting – Dave Reed**

Nothing to report

**Crossbow – Tony Gonnello**

Nothing to report

**Fish – Dave Barus**

Lots going on. Talked about a photo of a 55" Musky caught with a Zebco. Union Ship canal Monster!

Kid fishing clinic ECCS 6/3

ECFSC - Tiff 6/10 - Fish Clinic kids

Spence 6/24 - Chestnut Ridge

3/25 - How to Fish - Kids - Classes at Bison City

Interest in finding place to learn something

Bison City will be raising steelhead from fry to fingerling, 10,000 TY, to imprint on Buffalo River!

New regulations...

Biggest change is Black Bass season - replacing the closed season with C&R Artificial Only - Statewide

Similarly - Several Tribes in Region 9 where similar regs for trout - closed replaced with C&R artificial only, including Wiscoy, East Koy, Elton, Mansfield, Catt Up from Springville, and others.

Concerns about influx of anglers disturbing trout during early spring

Concerns already exist for spawning egg disturbance -

Catch & release trout in Chaut Creek and 18-Mile

Trophy Season - up limit to 20"

C&R proposal will apply up until trophy season

Dave Barus - already taken a position on 18-Mile Creek and Chaut. ECFSC opposes the change on 18-Mile Creek.

Chuck states the 18-Mile change negative letters will have greater impact as this is a "social change" and opposition to this will easily swing the proposal out.

Write letters and get involved!

Joe - NYSCC is opposed to C&R Bass, as well as fisheries boards.

Comment period ends Feb 14.

Mentioned my opposition to Lake Erie C&R

**Small Game – Dan Tone** - 4-H seminar Pheasant rearing 28 s grove E. Aurora 3/16, 7PM, get call Tammy Cron 716-652-5400

**Big Game – Paul Stoos** - Kansas has CWD positive, Doe study in Harrisburg, PA,

**Kansas : Positive Chronic Wasting Disease Test Confirmed**

<http://www.cwd-info.org/index.php/fuseaction/news.detail/ID/f3745b26cfd2c27bd656df27af4dec78>

**Date:** January 24, 2006

**Source:** Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks

**Contacts:** Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks

Laboratory testing verifies state's first occurrence of disease in wild deer

PRATT -- The National Veterinary Services Laboratory in Ames, Iowa has verified the preliminary lab test conducted last week, which was positive for Kansas' first occurrence of chronic wasting disease (CWD) in a wild deer. Tissue samples from the deer, taken by a resident hunter in Cheyenne County during the state's firearms season in December, were initially tested at a Kansas State University lab, then submitted to the lab in Iowa for confirmation.

Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks biologists will sample additional deer in Cheyenne County to help determine whether the disease exists in other deer in the vicinity, a strategy outlined in a contingency plan the department first developed in 2003 after CWD expanded in Colorado, Wyoming, and Nebraska. CWD has been documented in ten states. The department also is planning to conduct a public meeting in St. Francis to provide more information on CWD and strategies to minimize the potential for spread of

the disease.

CWD attacks the central nervous system of infected animals, and is within a group of similar diseases known as transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (TSE). While CWD can spread among deer and elk, it is not known to transmit to humans, livestock, or other animals.

KDWP biologists have collected tissue samples from deer taken by Kansas hunters since 1996 to monitor deer herd health. During the past firearms deer season, tissue samples were collected from deer in five western deer management units, covering most of the western half of the state. Western units were sampled because biologists anticipated that was where an occurrence would most likely be found.

The department will post updated information on its website as further sampling and evaluation occurs. Contact Bob Mathews at KDWP's Pratt office (620/672-5911 or email) for more information. More information on chronic wasting disease is also available on the Internet at [www.cwd-info.org](http://www.cwd-info.org).

© Chronic Wasting Disease Alliance

Tony Gonnello - QDM may be very dangerous. Must get on top of that. Region 7 is going to look for 3 mgmnt QDM units. Prime mover of this is Wayne Masters - DEC, but is being pushed through by sportsmen groups and property owners. Rich mentions receipt of an email detailing concerns, forwarded to Fred Neff, who sent it onto the world. Tony G said that QDM may be able to be pushed from a few folks attending a class and then selling it to the people.

Dan Tone - Motions that ECFSC talks QDM over and votes on positions

Second by Tom Fischer

Discussion - Bob Church want to refer to BGC for discussion and crafting of position before bringing it to the membership. Dan clarified his motion for 2 month consideration  
Motion carried unanimously

Paul also mentioned the replacement funds for CWD costs - \$7.5 Mill now law

### **Trapping – Patti Wattengel**

Introduced Tim Kozub - Get muskrat traps out - prices are going up on muskrats - high for pelt is \$8, beaver \$28, red fox, yote, \$25, skunks \$15, raccoon \$8. Poor pelts bring prices down. These are averages. Keep pelts nice, and price goes up! Demand is up.

3/25 fur demo at Elma

New regs, nuisance trapping, discrepancies exist. Letter generation at next meeting, will send to DEC Enforcement.

### **Waterfowl – Paul Pietraszewski**

No report - teaching classes through end of June

### **Conservation Council - Joe Fischer**

Extensive lobbying has paid off - New President - Harold Palmer

Major fighting of anti-firearms laws plus hatcheries improvement funding.

NYSCC is having money issues – continue our support

Legislative meeting 3/13

March on Albany - will happen 3/14

Two birds with one stone for WNY meeting – WNY Enviro meeting - This Sunday (1/29/06) at Hoak's Upstairs, including DEC and Sheriff - Demonstrations and information.

Please attend!

Correction to Sept meeting announced – location was incorrect

### **Environment & Pollution – Tom Marks**

Asian Carp issue in sanitary ship canal. Looking to protect the GL chain through barrier in Illinois. No work for 6 months. Now restarting, sand testing equip. Safety testing for 2 months, the CG will approve the barriers (2) hopefully by May, in time before temp barrier shutoff - Tom's feeling is that electric barrier is not 100% effective

Upper GL - Salmon very small - Superior, Huron, Michigan, reduced salmon stocking - low bait. We see the same thing happening in LO. Forage declines and smaller fish - part is invasive species. Expect continued decline of Salmon in LO.

As more info becomes available, Tom will bring to ECFSC

Church asked about ballast water legislation. MI has passed some strict legislation regulating ballast discharge. In effect now.

NYS has not yet done anything. We can protect all GL. Pending legislation, but nothing done. Would like to see disinfect ballasts. Chlorine in tanks would work well. Nothing yet. Other biocides are also available.

Article in paper of fire retardants in fish in GL, including walleye in Lake Erie. Old chem no longer used. Tom doesn't know much about it.

### **Legislation – John Susz**

Bill in FL to help folks who buy sporting licenses can register to vote at the same time. Make sellers of licenses a voting registration area. Passed in FL committees by 8-2, going to full legislature. May be good model to follow

Mentioned raffle for SCOPE. Sign up to join SCOPE for \$20/ get a \$20 Raffle for free

Bob Church - rec'd email on new bill S6513 - Sponsor is Dale Volker - Act to Amend Conservation Law, to add rifles in County of Chautauqua. Being introduced in State Senate. Similar bill being introduced for Chautauqua and Steuben County

**Resolutions – Bob Fuller -**

No resolutions for Erie County

**Membership Outreach –**

Chuck - extended invitation to come to your club and either speak or just listen. If anyone knows of non-Federated Club, let chuck know

**Sportsman/woman Education – Frank Miskey Sr.**

Reg 9 Instructor Awards Banquet - 5/20 at Woodlawn Fire Co on Rt 5 in Woodlawn.

Hunter training poster are in print as of Monday

Record of classes this year 4 waterfowl, 4 trapping 49 gun 43 bow

7 clubs not on the posters!

Overall - should break an all time record. May pick up another 25% - possible 60 classes.

ECOs made over 60 total classes LY. Great job on ECOs - rest of state ECOs less than 5% of classes in other regions.

Chuck is asking for a motion

Frank - Motion send letter to Albany thanking them and commending ECO commitment!

Second by Tom

Motion carries unanimously

**SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Nominations – Mike Smith** - Nada

**Awards – Will Elliott**

If we know of individuals or groups send email by 15th of February - Summary of his or her accomplishments, within a month, receive awards

**Banquet – Dan Tone**

Forms for Ads in Banquet book will go to all clubs.

Joe mentioned the PDA – Color Palm Pilot Donation and presented this to Dan – on behalf of WeLoveOutdoors.com for the Silent Auction.

Dick's Sporting Goods - Anxious in getting on board with the ECFSC. Getting some awards for banquets - Great stuff

Keychains for the Outdoors Expo - Buy a key chain and support the Federation!

**Educational Opportunities – Chuck Godfrey**

One Scholarship app. That will be it  
7 names for the Kids for Camp

***Drawing winners as follows:***

Southtowns Walleye  
Lackawanna Cons  
Hawkeye Bowman  
Alden Rod & Gun  
Wood & Brook Sportsmen  
East Aurora - 1st Alternate  
Mill Grove Sportsmen - 2nd Alternate

**CFAB – Fred Langdon**

Last Meeting - presentation from Empire State Outdoors - Fully State Funded - looking for Private Industry backing  
3 teams of CFAB going to Albany lobbying for 14 year old bill and crossbow bill, plus explain that the fund is in trouble! 2006/ 2007 the fund will be \$12 mill in hole!  
Leasing of lands in NYS to clubs and individuals and the lands are posted solidly  
TIP Line will be controlled by the DEC ECOs. Cameras and dig printers for all ECOs,  
Purchased some john boats and V-Hull boats for the DEC ECOs  
CFAB on record to hire more ECOs and investigators

**Fund Raising – Tony Gonnello**

Doing well on Pres Raffle  
Banquet also coming along

**FWMB – Bob Church, Paul Stoos**

Nothing - Next Meeting in march

**Shows - Need a chairman for WNY Show and Fair**

Dan Tone - Read over the info carefully some changes  
Would like a questionnaire at the Show in March - How do you feel about  
Catch & Release  
AR  
Et al  
Please decide by next meeting

**National Hunting and Fishing day – Tom McCormick**

Nothing to report

**WNY Environmental Federation –**

Nothing to report

**Budget and Finance – Tony Scime – (motion to pay bills)**

Detailing the spending for this month

Motion to approve - Paul Stoos 2nd- Tom Fischer

Motion carried

**Website – Paul Stoos - eriectyfsc.org**

Nothing tonight

**Old Business:**

None

**New Business - any new delegates present?**

Bob Church - SCI program - Teen Shooting Academy intro and explanation of the program

Graduated 12 kids

New classes starting in March 7, 12 -18

NRA, Boy Scouts Merit Badges, boys and girls

**Good and Welfare of the Organization:**

John - NYSCC interview with Elliott Spitzer by Wally John – Get to know and understand this candidates position in terms of firearms control and hunting.

Thanks to Will Elliott for getting involved in keeping funds for GL

Bob - Alden Sportsman Swap Meet on 3/18, open to the public 9A - 4P, Buy, Sell, Trade. No dealers, no flea markets.

Hunting, Shooting, Archery, Fishing, All Outdoor Items, New + Used

Mention of Pat Manning as Republican alternative to Spitzer

**50/50 Raffle**

Winners

1 - Glen Coe

2 - Elma

3 - Bison City

**Motion for Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn - John Susz - 2nd - Gabby

Motion carried

**Thanks to Host Club**

Elma Conservation Society.