



Rich Davenport, 2006 ECFSC Recording Secretary

Erie County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs

September 2006 General Meeting Minutes

Meeting opened at 7:37 PM – 9/14/2006

Location: Springville Field & Stream, Springville, NY

Call to order – 7:37 PM

Pledge to Flag: Completed

Roll call – Officers and Directors:

Excused - Tony Scime, Joe Fischer, Spencer Schofield, Bob Fuller

Absent -

Attendance – 4 Officers, 8 Directors, 31 Delegates, 6 guests

Quorum of member clubs – Present:

YES

Approval of previous month's minutes

Motion Steve Aldsadt to approve - 2nd Joe McAdams

Motion carries

Secretary's report – Rich Davenport

Some email failures - I will get with Joe to figure that one out

Membership report – Mike Smith

Next month nomination for officers and directors (all officers and 5 directors)

Will mention the officers at next meeting.

Council delegates as well.

Joe McAdams has to resign his directorship, effective immediately. Travel demands at work

Brought George Radke as his replacement.

Mike Smith stated that the term has 2 months remaining.

Joe asked about nominations

Directors are appointed, not elected....

Treasurer's report – Tony Scime

Chuck read the treasury report, which was sent on in advance to the Federation. Balance recorded. Chuck will be asking Tony Scime for a budget proposal for next year, due to money getting tighter.

Chuck asked if anyone with historical knowledge of the budgeting to attend a budget meeting for planning process, to provide insight into what is spent.

Youth Archery Camp program question - will Federation fund this?

Yes, but it is easier to plan if we get a request prior to budgeting. Please send a formal request so that you are not forgotten. We will look over last year's and previous year's budget, and if the spend is not on the list, we may miss your request, and must watch the financials.

We are anticipating a decline in revenue, and must make certain we have everything accounted for as to avoid as many "unplanned expenses" in 2007.

Dave Barus - Question regarding balance in the treasury, are their limits to requests (\$ ceilings)

Chuck - balance is \$12,000 in the black. We would like to maintain the cushion. No limits to financial requests. We take in and spend @ \$20K per year. We wish to maintain our cushion and solvency...

Paul Stoos - don't have the President's Raffle planned for this years banquet yet, as we have no fund raising chairman. Some of this is not a guarantee. We need a fundraising chairman.

Dan Tone - only request we made on funds to go out are that people who get money from us should recap in a report of how the money is spent.

No one has followed through - Chuck stated he would start following through

Correspondence report –

None

President's Report – Chuck Godfrey

Upcoming meetings as follows:

Next meetings and locations

10/12/2006	-	6:30	-	7:30	Gen Meet	Hawkeye Bowmen – 13300 Clinton – Alden
11/9/2006	-	6:30	-	7:30	Gen Meet	Boston Valley Cons. Soc. – 9624 Zimmerman – Boston
12/14/2006	-	6:30	-	7:30	Gen Meet	Bison City R&G – 511 Ohio St. - Buffalo

GUESTS:

NYS Assemblyman Jack Quinn III

Happy to visit likes to come out and meet. Hunting & Fishing Taskforce meeting last year was outstanding.

Taskforce went Statewide. Find out what is important to the sportsmen for Albany to do more for the sportsmen.

Major points - education our youth:

There is not enough youth involved, statewide. Government must do more to get young kids interested to keep these sports moving forward. Youth hunting bills are important, but we in Albany need your help.

Access to fishing and hunting grounds: Jack Quinn spoke about some of the work he has done, as well as his predecessor Dick Smith, working for more access.

Good conversations with Tom Reynolds and Brian Higgins – need more access.

Election Day coming up in November – Get out the vote. The Assembly is continuing to push anti-gun bills to the Senate. It is strongly recommended that everyone gets informed on each candidate's position and record of accomplishment, and vote your conscience. We MUST VOTE! GET OUT THE VOTE!

Paul Stoos - State jumping in on the land near Sturgeon Point to not develop it.

Jack Quinn is worried about the bluffs area. Could be expansion for Sturgeon Point. Larry Reuben said at one point it would be sold to the town of Evans for \$1. Now it looks to be sold for millions of dollars to potential developers?

Please make phone calls, write letters, get your voices heard. County Executive's office has been misleading to the State Assembly. For about 1 year

Dan Tone - mentions the NYSCC and two other groups are partnering up to help fight to maintain these places and push the for youth bills.

CCW law got passed, in Assembly, but not in Senate. The Law states if you go through the background check, the law states you also get the CCW. Judges are not granting that, using their own rules. Bill was going to resolve this. Fight occurred and NRA worked against the bill, claiming it would do the opposite. Reworking the bill to get it done. Hopefully, by next year we will get that passed.

Rifle bill for other S Tier areas is being held up by Assemblyman Parment for Chautauqua. He changed to request parts of the county rather than total county.

Gabby asked about the registration of 4-wheelers. 1 inch too wide, and 100lb too much to get it registered as an ATV. Talked to Volker, heard nothing. Asked State Police. Who do we contact? Jack Quinn said contact him.

Dave Barus - Did we hear right - 105 out of 150 Assembly Members reside south of Tapanzee Bridge. Take Poughkeepsie, even worse

ECFSC commended Jack Quinn, III for knowing the issues better than anyone else. Big shoes to fill (Dick Smith),

John Susz - NYSCC recommended combined youth hunting bill, make it one instead of 2 and shoot for 12. Jack mentioned that we could try it, but it may not work, as this happens with workman's comp bills and the like. Perhaps introduce a combined bill, in addition to the separate bills and see which direction it goes - give it a year. Francine DelMonte worked very hard to get it through. Just fell through. Will these youth bills come up before January? Hard to tell...

Paul Stoos - Outdoor Life published that Buffalo, NY is the best fall fishing spot in the USA. Chuck Godfrey adds that they came up with the rating without the great lakes tribs or inland fishing!

Jack Quinn, III mentioned he would show these articles to his colleagues.

American Angler - rated Cattaraugus Creek in the top 10 in the East for Steelhead (This side of the Rockies)

Tom Marks mentioned many western anglers come here for steelhead fishing as catch rates are the better here than there.

Bob Church - mentioned only two conservation bills passed, one of which was youth handgun. Because of this, Sept. 26 starts Teen Shooting academy with 40 kids signed up.

Dave Barus - grandchildren (5 and 6) - first thing they want to do is shoot the bow. The next question is "when can we go hunting?"

Dave S. Has NYS looked into youth mentoring programs like other states are doing? Jack Quinn advised to call Olean District Office for next event – Joe Giglio district 149 is holding a taskforce meeting. Next couple weeks.

Mike Smith - any way to get sportsmanship back into the schools? Teachers are getting ostracized for trying to do this. Administrations are killing it. Dave Barus stated it works in East Aurora. Jack confirmed that far suburban, rural schools it does work, but more near suburb, urban schools, no way. We have to do something about this, middle and elementary schools.

John Susz - Has Hillary Clinton done anything for NYS?

Jack Quinn is still waiting for the 250,000 jobs...

Retired HS Principal would love to hold firearms safety training in schools. Lawyers and insurance issues prevent marksmanship classes in schools.

Rich Davenport mentioned schools should be teaching all rights and responsibilities of each right, not just the ones they choose to teach...

Fund-raiser in August, from this group called and asked why no invitations? Someone called and said send invitations to Fred Langdon...

DEC personnel

Mike Wilkinson – Region 9 Sr. Fisheries Biologist

Access issues on fisheries front. Tonawanda Creek parking area for car top boat launch, - Rapids road crosses creek. Primarily kayaks and canoes. Niagara County side.

If no changes - start building parking on Erie County parkland on confluence of South Branch and main branch of 18-Mile Creek - Update from Chuck - Matt Perkins called Paul McKeown - getting resistance at the site. Recommended to push forward. Tom Scott stated the town code enforcement issued a stay saying they did not have a permit. Hopefully, this will move forward.

Another potential access site along 18-Mile Creek. Negotiating to start process to secure this property.. Will take time.

Statewide limit on walleye going back to 5 per day on Oct 1 on Lake Erie

Main branch C&R area goes into effect as well on Oct 1

Lake Erie early bass goes to 20" on Oct 1 (1st Sat in May through Friday preceding June statewide opener)

Reg. cycle for 2008 - one proposal that has cropped up - Ellicott Creek - new State Park in Williamsville. Stocking smaller than legal fish below the falls. Looking for special regulations on that stretch to allow stocked fish to be taken below falls.

Will be looking at Musky resource in Upper Niagara River. Could cormorant predation on young musky be affecting the fish? DEC will be conducting studies in various areas away from Strawberry - in the fall to see if these fish have moved.

Creel survey has started on Lake Ontario tribs. Salmon run is 2 to 3 weeks early, probably caused by cold rains!

Hal Lawrence New boat launch on the upper river. Changed current direction and weeds are brutal. Mike Wilkinson replied this is a car top design and this was intended to help build wetland shoreline. Is this growth or drift? Hal said it was drift. Also clogging the

marinas downstream. Mike Wilkinson asked does it matter with wind direction - had severe east winds - Hal responded no, doesn't matter. Mike W. replied DEC will start to look at working with parks to help resolve this weed issue to help marinas and anglers. This is a parks issue first, and this weed drift was not anticipated.

Dave Barus - Musky survey is it electroshock? Yes. Will surveys also happen in Buffalo River? They try to concentrate efforts on more productive nursery areas.

Bob D. - Discussion last year on region 9 Springville fish ladder?

Chuck is up to date... Pre feasibility study was conducted to determine if a feasibility study could be done (USF&W and Army Corps). All options would be considered in the feasibility study, including consequences of doing nothing to ladders to removal of dam. Also includes impact on inland fishing. Upper Limit of the cost is \$500,000. Everything gets considered. Many within the DEC stated that diverse opinions on Scoby Dam also exist.

Dave Barus - What's the average temp upstream, and downstream sections?

Steelheader argument is right now an incredible reproductive fishery - Upper inland stretches are "choked" with rainbows and browns, including smaller feeder streams. Some believe if steelhead can get in there, some believe it would become the best steelhead spawning area in the Nation.

Next speaker will be Tim Spierto - new Big Game Biologist for Region 9.

Tim Spierto – Big Game Biologist Region 9

Worked in engineering and environmental consulting for 10 years. Went back to school after quitting the job, for wildlife biology. Worked in Alaska with Sikka Blacktail Deer, Wolves and Black Bear. Joined DEC in 1998, wetlands and stream protection. Came from Deer Management Team meeting, and will be attending Bear Management meeting.

Nuisance permits down 30% across the State. 335 DMAP applications this year, down 4%. 20 new applications this year, but total is down.

Because of the population condition, there will not be as many DMAP tags being issued this year. This year, issuance will be based on how many you filled in past.

Hunters can contact DEC 716-372-0645. Deer are starting their population rebound again. We need to be conservative to cease the rollercoaster populations of extreme highs and lows. Absolutely committed for a healthy deer population in WNY/ Region 9 for all to utilize, be they hunters, animal watchers, photographers, everyone.

CWD last year - Assembly allocated \$1.5 Million to help combat this in NY. It is coming to NYS, no doubt. DEC was not well prepared. Supplies have been purchased to harvest animals for surveillance of CWD presence. New thermal imaging device for surveillance of the deer at night.

4 rifles received were supposed to be suppressed. Legal council said no, DEC cannot use silenced rifles. Means single animal harvest due to rifle report. 4 rifles are for region 9 only.

Bear complaints are up slightly. WNY will see more bears. Human education issue. Majority of issues coming out of Allegany State Park. We need a hunting season in the park, which will not happen for quite some time.

AR is biggest topic on Deer Management. Understands that Erie County is opposed. Indexing will get messed up if the AR is introduced and new means of indexing will need to be done. From a biological standpoint, AR does nothing.

Rich Davenport mentioned potential for higher mortality of button bucks if higher AR is implemented.
Yes, it is possible and would require different reporting of antlerless harvest to determine.

John Susz - Asked about how many does a buck could impregnate many does.
In theory, larger bucks being around will out-compete the younger bucks which could initially increase short term recruitment.

Bear range, is it expanding again? Catskill range expanded. Pending regulations for bear - tracking dogs (in bear ranges). Blanket prohibition of feeding bears.

DMAP filled tags, do they count in harvest? Yes, they count in total harvest. Nuisance permits as well. Plus deer/ car collisions, potential predations are all estimated, which goes to DMP issuance for hunters.

When will the next round of Citizen Task Force Meetings happen in 9W? Jim Snyder retiring, no meetings in 2006. Tim will be starting it again in 2007.

Gary - What is going on in 9W? Used to see many deer in the past, no he sees very few.

Dave Barus - supporting what Gary has said.

Rich Davenport - how is the habitat quality in these regions, and how is the DEC addressing these changes? Wildlife management starts from the ground up. No browse, no food, no animals.

Tim states that this is correct, but no answers as of right now...

Ken Baginski - new education coordinator for Region 9

Started 2 weeks ago, and is meeting the educators. He is based in the Allegany office with Tim Spierto.

Bob Church - asked about background. Also a graduate of wildlife biology Syracuse. Spent 15 years at Randolph fish hatchery.

Lt. Tom Scott – Region 9 DEC ECO

Captain Gary Bobseine called - could not make it. His son is recovering tremendously. Hoping to start becoming mobile again. Great News! Capt. Bobseine thanks everyone for their concern.

This year has been the fugitive search detail. Towards the end, region 7 and 8! Very proud of the men in green. They did a great job. Were there at the beginning, and there up until and including the day of capture. *Tom suffered an injury – during a search of cabins for the fugitive in the town of Cold Spring, when his ATV rolled, injuring his right knee, and was off 6 weeks recovering.*

Mentioned that Mark Mazurkiewicz received an award which is posted on the DEC website. No, he didn't win it twice, the system is bizarre with the updates. Formal News releases do not happen until after the event has come and long gone. News release came out in August.

Paul Stoos asks will the DEC have the CF reimbursed for the search for Bucky? Tom doesn't know. The answer has to come from someone higher up.

Bob Church mentioned about the tracking dog, during a demo, the day the troopers were ambushed, an emergency call went out for the dog to get in the woods and track. DEC ECOs show more incredible dedication on their own time! Thank you.

Thank you to the DEC for help in the educational efforts.

Fred Langdon - yes, \$ came out of CF.

Rich Davenport - asked if any inkling on impact of squirrel and goose hunting?
Not really known, but it is thought hunters simply adjusted and traveled to different areas.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Law enforcement – Dwight Mateer

None

Archery & Bowhunting – Dave Reed

None

Crossbow – Tony Gonnello

None

Fish – Dave Barus

New Fishing Regulations beginning Oct. 1, 2006 (thru 2008):

New Steelhead Regulations: 12" size limit on all salmonids taken in Lake Erie and tributaries. Catch and Release - artificial Lures only section (year round fishing) for all trout and salmon on Chautauqua Creek from the bridge on South Gale Street upstream 1.3 miles to the upper dam used by the Village of Westfield for water intake. Catch and Release -artificial Lures only section (year round fishing) for all trout and salmon on the main branch of 18 Mile Creek. This section is within Erie County park lands. The south branch is excluded from this regulation. Signs will be placed on both streams around October 1.

Several more new regulations: regarding the inland trout fishery for specific waters - be sure to check the fishing syllabus for all changes.

New Walleye Regulations: Lake Erie daily bag limit back to 5 fish per day – from 4.

Outdoor Magazines Sold

In a memo to employees, Time Inc. CEO Anne Moore announced the company's plans to sell 18 print titles. The announcement will affect 560 workers, including 440 in the Time4Media division which includes Time4 Outdoors and magazine titles *Field & Stream* and *Outdoor Life*.

DEC Electrofishing Data/Results: ...from Joe Evans

Cattaraugus Creek in Wyoming County was electrofished in the summer of 2004 at eight stations within the 11 mile stocked section. The late summer biomass of stocked brown trout averaged 13 lb/acre (165 fish/mile). Wild brown trout biomass averaged 29 lb/acre (279 adult fish/mile) while wild rainbow trout biomass averaged 11 lb/acre (359 adult fish/mile). Both wild and hatchery brown trout numbers were similar to estimated populations from a 1997 survey. However, wild rainbow trout showed a significant increase over the 1977 estimated population of 2 lb/acre or 35 fish/mile. Cattaraugus Creek is one of the top inland trout streams in western New York. It is heavily stocked, has a moderate population of wild brown trout and wild rainbow trout and is easily accessible with much Public Fishing Rights.

East Koy Creek was electrofished in the summer of 2005 at eight stations within the 13.5 mile stocked section and one station upstream of the stocked section. Late summer hatchery brown trout biomass averaged 10 lb/acre (86 fish/mile). The late summer biomass of wild brown trout was 31 lb/acre (355 adult fish/mile) which was slightly above the 1990-1997 average of 26 lb/acre (274 adult fish/mile). Wild brown trout biomass is quite variable on East Koy Creek depending on location. Habitat is one major variable between stations, but it is likely environmental stresses such as summer water temperatures and land use practices that affect wild brown trout numbers the most. East Koy Creek is one of the top inland trout streams in western New York. It is heavily stocked, has a moderate wild brown trout population, is easily accessible with much PFR and consistently has high angler catch rates.

Professor rejects worry over salmon PCB levels

...says meat and dairy products pose greater threat...from Sep 06 - Great Lakes Basin Report

People may worry about PCBs in salmon, but most Americans actually get their yearly PCB load through beef, chicken, pork and milk, says a University of Idaho professor in a recently published article. In an article in the March/April issue of Aquaculture Magazine, Ronald W. Hardy, director of Hagerman Fish Culture Experiment Station, University of Idaho, says concerns about contaminants in salmon have been overstated, particularly within the context of the American diet. Americans eat vastly more meat and dairy than they do salmon, he says, and both meat and dairy contain PCB levels as high, or higher, than salmon. Salmon also has health benefits that most meats lack.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the average American ate 62 lbs. of beef, 57.5 lbs. of chicken, 48.5 lbs. of pork and 15.9 lbs. of fish and shellfish in 2003. Salmon intake was 2.2 lbs. that same year, Hardy says. The PCB content of most wild and farmed salmon is about the same, in the range of 15 to 20 parts per billion (ppb). In contrast, butter contains 70 ppb, a chicken breast 32 ppb and a beef steak 22 ppb, Hardy says.

What this means is that animal per capita PCB intake from beef is about 640 ppb, about 700 ppb for milk and about 836 ppb from chicken. The average American is getting about 20 ppb from salmon each year, he says. "Levels in most salmon are equivalent to the levels in English muffins," Hardy says. "Go figure."

Round Goby Enters Lake Simcoe *excerpted from Michelle Minnoch, Innisfil (Ont.) Scope*

Another invasive species has entered Lake Simcoe. While various ministries and agencies pooled together last October to remove the round goby from the Pefferlaw River, one was recently caught in Lake Simcoe, 100 metres off shore from the tip of the break wall at the river. "It's a great disappointment," said Jason Borwick, Ministry of Natural Resources District Management Biologist, Aurora. Round gobies are fast breeders, aggressive fish, and feed on the eggs of native species. Bottom dwellers, they will feed on the insects and plant life other species rely on. This could impact many species of fish in Lake Simcoe, including lake trout, bass, sculpins, sturgeon, log perch and the walleye.

Fall LOC Derby Results

The fall Lake Ontario Counties Trout and Salmon Derby was held August 18 through September 4, 2006. Note that 20 of the top 21 salmon entered in this year's derby were all bigger than the 2005 fall derby Grand Prize winner!! Is it the new goby forage base? 20th place was 32 lb - 6 oz!!

Grand Prize: James Huftalen, Erieville, NY - 38 pound, 14 ounce king salmon, \$20,000;

Salmon First place: Eugene Tarapchak, Drums, PA - \$2,500; **Rainbow/Steelhead**

Division: Dean Gilman of Aliquippa, PA - 16 pound, 13 oz, \$2,500; **Brown Trout**

Division: Richard Hoose of Willseyville, NY - 15 pound, 9 oz, \$2,500; **Lake Trout**

Division: Tim Curtis of Rochester - 19 pound, 5 oz \$2,500; According to the LOC report, despite some unfavorable fishing conditions over the 18-day derby, the event was a great success. There were over 6,000 total derby registrations.

Greater Niagara Fish Odyssey Derby Results...from Bill Hilts Jr.

Held September 16-24 for Niagara and Erie Counties, Mike McGrath earned the opportunity to win the Grand Prize by weighing in a 6.28 pound smallmouth bass from the upper Niagara River. He won a check for \$2,500.

Salmon - Roy Letcher of Olcott - 29.93 lb king, Olcott pier. Blue/silver Wigglewart.

Rainbow Trout - David Curtis of Bowdoin, Maine - 15.80 lb, Point Breeze, trolling e-chip flasher/ green fly. **Brown Trout** - David Neithe of Olcott - 17.57 lb. Egg skein at Burt Dam on 18 Mile Creek. **Walleye** - Paul Devlin of Niagara Falls - 9.49 lb walleye, Niagara Bar.

Carp - Jason Long of Batavia- 24.98 pounds, Point Breeze, Oak Orchard River. **Junior Division: Salmon**; Matt D'Agostino of Niagara Falls - 27.96 lb, Devil's Hole. **Trout** - Albert Bodolus III of Milan, PA - 13.02 lb brown, Olcott. **Bass** - Nicholas Ross of Sanborn - 4.71 lb Lake Erie bass. **Panfish** - Billy Nelson of Blasdell - 1.10 lb perch, Lake Erie. **Walleye** - Samantha Kneepel of Niagara Falls - 6.55 lb walleye, Niagara Bar. **Carp** - Ariel Mrzygut of Lewiston -16.57 lb, Lower Niagara River.

Nationwide Survey Shows Most Americans Support Fishing ...and Hunting

...from 9/14/2006 ASA press release

1) Do you approve or disapprove of recreational fishing? (2006)

68.5% Strongly approve and 24.8% Moderately approve (**93.3% Approve**)

1.5% Neither approve nor disapprove

2.0% Strongly disapprove and 3.2% Moderately disapprove (5.2% Disapprove)

2) Do you approve or disapprove of legal hunting? (2006)

45.4% Strongly approve and 32.2% Moderately approve (77.6% Approve)

4.9% Neither approve nor disapprove; 1.2% Don't know

8.0% Strongly disapprove and 8.3% Moderately disapprove (16.3% Disapprove)

New Book Predicts Great Lakes Ecological Tragedy

Book compares Great Lakes to Aral Sea, which has been reduced to a quarter of its previous size...from the Michigan Daily

Peter Annin recalls staring in fascinated horror at what had been the coast of the Aral Sea in Uzbekistan, now a desolate wasteland strewn with scrub brush and corroded hulls of abandoned fishing boats. Once the world's fourth-largest inland water body, the Aral has shrunk to a quarter of its previous surface area in less than half a century - the result of a Soviet-era decision to divert rivers feeding the sea to promote farming in that arid section of central Asia. Annin visited the region while researching his book, "The Great Lakes Water Wars," published by Island Press, the book was released Sept. 14.

DEC Acquires Property on Chautauqua Lake

DEC officials, including Commissioner Denise Sheehan and Regional Director Abby Snyder, elected officials and other interested parties attended the official announcement of the acquisition of the entire Cheney Farm property along the southeast shore of Chautauqua Lake. The entire section under DEC ownership encompasses over 3000 ft of shoreline. Limited development of the site is expected. Possibly for a hand boat launch or more.

SCI on How Mississippi River Hunting/Fishing Case May Impact Hunters and Anglers

In a September 21, 2006 Safari Club International Crosshairs article entitled: "U.S. Judge Declares Boating and Fishing Illegal On Mississippi River and All Navigable Waters," Crosshairs quoted a report on a recent Federal case that may impact boating, hunting, and fishing on certain parts of the Mississippi River in Louisiana. Many SCI members and others responded with questions and concerns over the possible impact of that decision.

Further review of the case has revealed that the ruling only affects activities in flood waters covering private lands that are often dry, and do not involve the main channel of the river. In addition, this decision could have a limited reach since it was issued by a Louisiana Federal District Court and therefore could directly affect only waters within Louisiana. Some sources, including those quoted by SCI in its first report, may have misconstrued the case's potential consequences and possible reach. ***The exact implications of this case are confusing and require additional research and examination.*** SCI is continuing to review the case and its impact on your hunting and recreational rights and will provide further information as it becomes available. In so doing, SCI hopes to resolve any confusion that this case brings to the rights and interests of the hunting community.

Lake Ontario Salmon Fishing Report – from Rich Davenport

Well, you have to love Fall! The salmon runs on Lake Ontario have gotten into full swing a bit earlier than usual, and reports from all over indicate the Salmon are Slammin!

Captain Mark "Sparky" McGranahan of Sparky's Charters reports the Lower Niagara River is spectacular right now. Big kings have moved in with fish present and eager to strike up to Devil's Hole. Skein bounced along the bottom proves irresistible to these monster torpedoes.

Olcott Harbor is also really heating up. The recent heavy rains have spurred numbers of running fish into 18-Mile Creek, with fish now showing from the pier all the way up to Burt Dam. Pier casters are getting into large kings casting spoons and Rat-L-Traps, while harbor anglers are having great luck with pink skein presented under a float, or worked off the bottom using a 3-way rig.

Outing Reports:

On Wednesday, Sept 20, I spent a couple hours fishing Olcott Harbor. Spoke with a few anglers prior to casting the line, and the action seemed slow on the float, so I presented skein on the bottom. Fifteen minutes after the first cast, FISH ON! A fine 20 lb Chinook female! Fifteen minutes later, another hook up, with a king that was considerably larger. Twenty minutes into the fight, break off after being taken for a "seaweed ride".

On Sunday, September 24, we returned for the morning bite, myself and Dunkirk Angler Chris Surma. Using skein presented under a float, Surma hooked into 6 fish in less than

two hours, breaking off three and landing three, a 25 lb, 16 lb and 11 lb Chinook. For my part, I hooked into a beast, broke off, missed several strikes, and did manage to land a 4+ lb Coho Salmon.

The runs have certainly started a couple weeks early, and we can expect incredible salmon fishing in just about every Lake Ontario tributary through mid to late October.



20 lb King, Rich Davenport



25 lb King – Chris Surma, Dunkirk, NY

Small Game – Dan Tone

Pheasants – Small Game Committee has stocked about 1000 4-H pheasants this year. Final report will be given at the October meeting. The report will also include donations to the program, etc. The program seems to have taken off a bit. Committee members have heard reports of many pheasant sightings and broods of young pheasants.

Turkey – It appears that this fall turkey season should be very good. There has been a lot of sightings.

Connie Adams of the NYS DEC reported the following, which were rough estimates as the exact numbers were unavailable at the time of this report:

Region 9 – DEC banded 64 gobblers and 56 hens during their study last winter/ spring.

Statewide – 296 gobblers were banded (104 adult, 192 juveniles). Additionally, 350 hens were banded (98 adults, 151 juveniles, 1 unknown)

78 gobbler bands were returned during the youth and spring seasons. An additional 3 bands were returned from non-hunting mortality.

The tri-state Turkey study is entering its second of four years once the 2006 fall hunting seasons have closed.

Big Game – Paul Stoos

None

Trapping – Patti Wattengel

Demo of 330 Conabear. Modified 330, trigger off-set, to not catch the river otters - all areas without river otter seasons, the modified 330 must be employed.

Only 50% of trappers understand the channel sets. This is for Beavers.

Other sets do not seem to have reliable working trigger sets.

Trappers clubs have a couple designs that are more reliable and otter friendly.

Modified ice set - Using a stick for bait. Is NOT a legal set for river otter no season areas currently! Set off the bottom, otters don't go to sticks.

The new regs state specific gaps size etc.

Trappers are working on proposals to provide alternatives and clarifications

Castor set is another. Using mud as bait, which is how beavers mark territory. When the modified trap is used, depending on which side the beaver approaches, the strike of the modified trigger is sometimes actually being hit by the spring, and the spring pushes the beaver out of the trap jaws. They get caught on the shoulder, and they run through the end of the cable. Pull right out of the trap.

Waterfowl – Paul Pietraszewski

None

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., Ilion, NY 13357.

To those clubs that 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 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. Perhaps it's time we sportsmen and women consider putting this all in perspective!

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 this list out to any other organization 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 send their "club's news" for publication to - NYSCC, 8 East Main St., Ilion, NY 13357 - or e-mail the by the 2nd Monday of the month. The Council also has a policy of not arbitrarily giving or selling private club information.

Finally, there is an ongoing new member/renewal drive for individual Council memberships, with prizes available. Contact the Council or visit their website for details.

Dan Tone Motions to give Joe Fischer the authority to vote on any emergency resolutions we have yet to vote upon. 2nd by Fred Langdon

Issues as follows:

- Visible fishing license
- Some sort of saltwater fishing license - Federal will do it on states that do not.
- About a dozen DEC launch sites along the Hudson River that the CF funded, but no one is paying for the use. License free areas on the Hudson. No reimbursement on some of these sites.

Motion carries!

Results of the ECFSC vote on NYSCC resolutions, as follows:

Resolution 1 – Would allow any angler with valid NYS fishing license, boater or non-boater, to utilize launch site areas with no other fees attached. Does not extend to State Parks facilities... See resolutions for full details

Tally – **33 YES**, 4 No

Resolution 2 – Would eliminate the intended use distinction between hand lines and tip ups and allow each individual to have maximum 7 lines in service at any one time, in any combination the angler sees fit... See resolutions for full details

Tally – **23 YES**, 14 No

Resolution 3 – Would prohibit sale of all freshwater fish and fish parts caught while using a recreational license. Sale of baitfish would be exempt. See resolutions for full details

Tally – **34 YES**, 3 No

Resolution 4 – Would make mandatory the reporting of certain game species by every licensee at end of each season, regardless of success... See resolutions for details

Tally – 5 Yes, **32 NO**

Resolution 5 – Would provide qualifies, non-ambulatory persons with fishing, hunting and trapping licenses at a reduced fee of \$5. See resolutions for details

Tally – **20 YES**, 14 No

Resolution 6 – Change DEC regulations to deny bo/ muzzleloader harvest of antlerless deer in DMU's where there are no DMPs issued. See resolutions for details

Tally – 8 Yes, **26 NO**

Environment & Pollution – Tom Marks

Asian Carp TV show showing carp jumping into the boats. Bad for tackle companies

Caspian Tern colony being hurt by the cormorants. All over - Botulism outbreak killed all the terns.

Botulism outbreak causing major fish kill, notified the botulism taskforce of the major kill on Lake Erie. No pathology report yet. Could have been caused by water temps or could have been botulism

West Nile found in Amherst, also a man in Rochester died this year.

VHS is a major issue in Lake Ontario affects all species and is highly contagious

Sale of the property of the Sturgeon Point Bluffs. Newly forming group called Great Lakes Coalition. Petition being circulated to halt the sale of the bluffs property to developers, and town of Evans is not willing to enforce their zoning rights. Town of Evans will not protect the property, and could turn it over to the County, despite \$400K being received to study it. Currently this property is town park property.

We must act, or we will lose that land!

Legislation – John Susz

SCOPE - meet the candidates night

Vigilant Fire Company
666 Main Street - West Seneca

6 PM on 9/30 - over 100 speakers.

October 14 SCOPE Banquet in Rochester. We will be supporting by taking a table of 10 (voted on at board meeting). Need to coordinate. If we end up not getting 10 people, due to opening day of Archery. We will put out to the clubs for a week, then get as many tickets as we have participants.

Joe McAdams asked if the Federation will be taking an AD in the SCOPE Banquet book this year - levels \$50.00 and \$100.00

Joe Motions to take Full Page AD , 2nd John Susz

Business card size is \$40.00, \$50.00 1/2 page, \$100.,00 Full Page

Motion carries.

Joe and Rich will coordinate the AD layout.

Resolutions – Bob Fuller - Results of Resolutions voting
See above

Membership Outreach –

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. If any club would like a visit from a Federation spokesman, please contact president Chuck Godfrey at 675-0057 or chuck.godfrey@erictyfsc.org . The president will also try to visit one club or so per month.

IF ANYONE KNOWS OF AN ERIE COUNTY CLUB WHICH IS NOT A MEMBER, PLEASE LET THE PRESIDENT KNOW SO HE CAN CONTACT THEM ABOUT MEMBERSHIP

Sportsman/woman Education – Frank Miskey Sr.

January 14 - new instructor training class, contact Frank Miskey, Sr.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nominations – Mike Smith

To be handled at next meeting

Awards – Frank Miskey Sr.

None

Banquet – Dan Tone

Info will be given at Next meeting

Educational Opportunities – Chuck Godfrey

Scholarship application as follows below.

CFAB – Fred Langdon

CANY, NYSCC and CFAB discussed 34 items of concern to the sportsmen and women, boiled down to 4 major concerns. All groups shall work on this year. Youth hunting bill getting that passed

Hudson River, Saltwater and Visible license to be combined

Fringe benefits coming out of the CFAB (\$10 MIL) attempting to move to General Fund

Agreed to work together - meeting 3 or 4 times this year

Surcharge on outdoor equipment to help add money to the CF. Not certain - could be hunting and fishing gear only, or could expand to all outdoors recreation equipment.

Chuck mentioned if folks who do not contribute, start to, how much of a voice would they actually get.

Fund Raising – OPEN – WE NEED A FUND RAISING CHAIRMAN!!!!

The calendar commitment is due tonight. If you need more time, please speak up after meeting

FWMB – Bob Church, Paul Stoos

Primarily the sportsmen supported the Zoar Valley Management Plan.... DEC thanks us for our efforts. Still will take 5 months for implemented plans.

Chuck thanked Bob Church for the work on the letter

Shows – WE NEED A SHOWS CHAIRMAN!!!!

Thanks to Fred Langdon for work on the shows. WE NEED A SHOW CHAIRMAN FOR NEXT YEAR

Brought in \$267.00 at the Fair - lower than years past, but because we ran out of everything.

Member volunteered to build a brochure cabinet for the shows.

Comments concerning the DEC booth at the fair. Overwhelming on Reinstein woods. Letter going out to Russ Biss and others.

National Hunting and Fishing day – Tom McCormick

Nothing new - hope its going on?

Ray asked are we helping to fund this? No.

WNY Environmental Federation –

None

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

Fred Langdon motions to pay bills, 2nd Dave Barus

Approved

Website – Paul Stoos - erictyfsc.org

None

Old Business:

None

New Business - any new delegates present?

Teen Shooting academy starts up 9/26

16 in rifle

10 shotgun

14 in handgun

2nd annual sportsmen shoot at TSC - Salvation Army. Sept. 30, 2006

FNRA Banquet - voted to support, but this isn't the same group that supported us. Banquet is on 9/21. We will support the NFFNRA.

Deer hunting seminar - Alden on Oct 11

Ultimate Deer Hunting Seminar on Oct 3.

Good and Welfare of the Organization:

None

50/50 Raffle

Winner – Alden Rod & Gun

Motion for Adjournment

Motion to adjourn - 2nd –

Motion to adjourn Dave Smzycynski, 2nd Paul S

Motion carries

Thanks to Host Club

Springville Field & Stream

Inserts as follows:

THE ULTIMATE DEER HUNTING SEMINAR

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2006 @ 6:00 P.M.

New Creation Fellowship

3325 Genesee Street • Cheektowaga, NY 14225

(1 mile west of Buffalo-Niagara Int'l Airport)

\$10.00 Donation

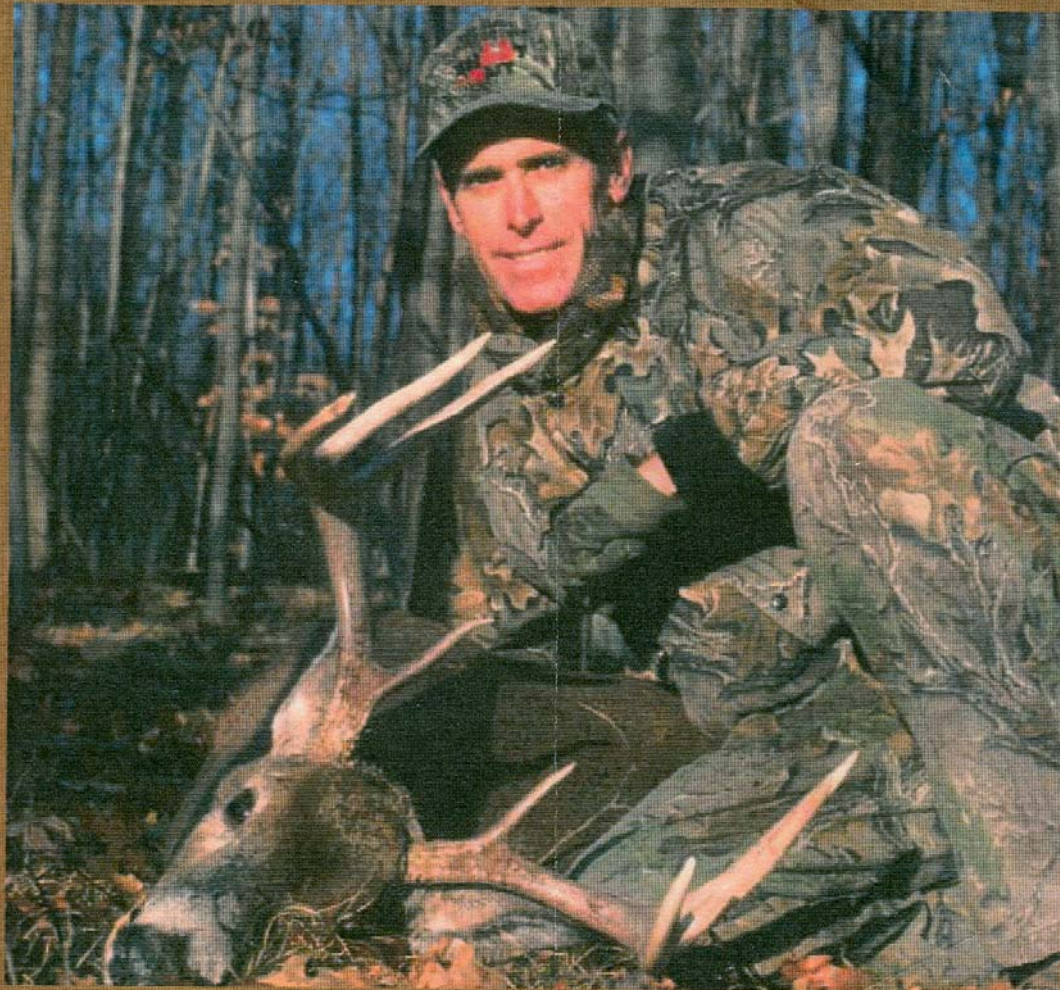
DRAWINGS!! PRIZES!!

Venison Chili Dinner

6:00-6:45 p.m.



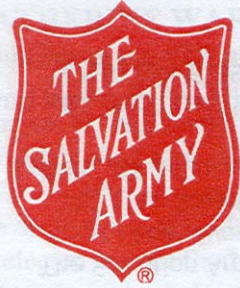
Call 716.631.8595 to register and for details on how to win a
Remington Model 11-87 12-gauge shotgun.



Charles Alsheimer is a nationally recognized author and photographer who uses his "Ultimate Deer Hunting Seminar" to share his expert insights on deer behavior and the latest hunting tactics.

As host of *Deer & Deer Hunting TV*, and field editor of *Deer & Deer Hunting Magazine*, Alsheimer has built a national reputation as a gifted public speaker, acclaimed photographer and leader in the world of white-tailed deer.

The Salvation Army



PRESENTS:

Second Annual
SPORTSMENS SHOOT

Saturday,
September 30, 2006

Tonawanda Sportsmen's
Club

5657 Killian Road * Pendleton

Featuring:

Trap Shooting
Skeet Shooting
Sporting Clays
& Pistol Competition

DEER HUNTING SEMINAR

HOW TO

CALLS AND SCENTS

LEARN FROM THE PRO'S

AT

QUAKER BOY GAME CALLS

AND

Koestler's

"SCENTS FOR SUCCESS"

PRESENTED BY THE "MILLGROVE SPORTSMEN"

OCTOBER 11, 06 AT THE ALDEN AMERICAN LEGON

13145 Broadway-Village of Alden

7:00 pm

NO CHARGE

DOOR PRIZES\RAFFLES\REFRESHMENTS AND MORE

MORE INFO CALL 585-591-8065(TOM)\585-937-9536(BERNIE)

