

**NOTICE**  
**The next meeting and Christmas Party will be Wednesday December 13, 2006**  
**at the 4-H Bldg., Lockport, New York.**

**Pledge to the Flag:**

Niagara County Federation of Conservation Club November 2006 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.

**Minutes:**

A motion was made by Chris Schotz to accept the minutes, 2nd by Dale Dunkelberger.

**Roll Call of Clubs and Directors:**

Sheets were passed around and signed by the delegates.

**Financial Report: Gordon Botting**

Motion to accept the financial report presented by Gordon Botting Sr. was made by Chris Schotz, 2nd by Ed Belbas, carried.

**Communications Bills and Notices:** John Butcher

**Sick Call:**

**Committee Reports:**

President John Butcher reminded all delegates to fill out an NCFCC COMMITTEE AND CLUB REPORT FORM and give it to Secretary William Mudge in the interest of having accurate information in the minutes. (See Insert)

**Finance and Audit:** John Butcher

President John Butcher reported that he has a complete set of financials for the NCFCC for the period of January 1, 2006 through September 31, 2006. They are available for all officers and delegates, if you have questions please do not hesitate to ask. John also noted that he has set a side \$2350.00 in unrestricted funds \$1100.00 for the 4-H Pheasant rearing program and \$1250.00 for the Scholastic Clay Target Team. John also noted that he will start putting the proceeds from the sale of the 2007 knives into restricted funds to support sending kids to the DEC Youth Camp.

**Fund Raising:**

**T-Shirts:** No report.

**Grants:** John Butcher

1. John received a grant application from the NYS DEC for the funds created by the selling of Habitat Access Stamps. Applicants can apply for grants ranging between \$1500.00 to \$ 15000.00. If anyone has any projects in mind and would like to fill out the paper work let John know.

2. Chris Schotz volunteered to chair a committee to put a grant together to buy seed for our no-till grain drill. Ed Belbas offered to serve on the committee.
3. John received the first payment from the DEC Grant TM05090 (DelMonte) along with the follow up reports. Once we order the cabinets and have a receipt and or cancelled check we will be able to send in the report at which time the balance of the funds can be released.
4. John reported that he has been in contact with several of the Niagara County Legislatures regarding our 2007 funding. The process for funding external organizations is still the same. A legislator must submit the request for funds as a plan B resolution and the resolution must pass by a majority vote. He asked if they need any addition information or paper work from the NCFCC to please contact him.

**Patches:**

1. John Butcher reported that he has found a photo of a Wood duck that he thinks will work for the 2007 NCFCC patches. He has emailed the photo to Carol Hartwig at Promotional Solutions. Carol e-mailed John a quote for doing the patches. Price is \$430.00 for 200 patches. During the October meeting Don Bronson expressed concerns about using the Wood duck do to the number of colors and thought that we stayed away from the Wood duck do to the number of colors needed to recreate the actual colors in this duck. Carol checked into the matter and said we can go with up to 7 colors at no additional charge. They are working on a proof and we should have it for the December meeting. Production time is 3 weeks.
2. A motion to order patches was made by Dale Dunkelberger, 2nd by Chris Schotz, carried.

**Knives:**

1. John Butcher has put a hold on preparing vector art work for the knives do to the fact he feels the photo Chris Schotz recommended is not high enough resolution to work with. John recommended we either get a better photo or go with his original recommendation.
2. If you need a knife for an event at your club contact Gordon Botting at 716-434-1563.

**County Funds:** John Butcher — No report.

**Raffles:** John Butcher

John Butcher reported that he has the tickets printed for the Holiday Raffle, if each delegate would sell 5 tickets that would help us achieve our goal of selling 100 tickets. The drawing will be at the Holiday Party on Wednesday December 13, 2005.

**Newsletters:** John Butcher

John Butcher reported that he and Gordon Botting Sr. got together and reviewed the ads and billing process for the newsletter. Most of our advertisers are current, however we do have a couple past due accounts. Gordon has agreed to stop by and visit these customers and John will send out invoices to those that need to renew shortly. As always we still have space available on our newsletter. Any delegate that has a personal contact with a local business please ask them to support the NCFCC by purchasing advertising space in our newsletter.

**Public Relations:** Bill Hilts Jr. — No report.

**Rosters:** John Butcher

John passed out new rosters to the delegates, please fill them out and return to John so that all new officers receive the minutes.

**Small Game:** Chris Schotz

1. Chris reported the pheasants were released in Niagara County. Opening day was poor, because many of the birds did not survive in this wet weather.
2. Chris reported a lot of people are not going down to Allegany County to hunt turkey in the fall. The turkey population is increasing in Erie and Niagara County. Erie County almost surpassed Allegany County last year in numbers taken.

**Big Game:** Dale Dunkelberger & ECO D.C. DiPasquale

There is a lot of confusion about the DMPs Consignment Tags. The hunter who wishes to receive and use your DMP (Deer Management Permits) Consignment tag must write your DMP number on the License Privilege Panel immediately below the line where it states "DMP #~s received from other hunters." The other hunter must record the Doc# from the DMP carcass tag being transferred to him on his license. If you do not use the DMP carcass tag, you can give it back or to another hunter. The other hunter must then record the Doc# from the DMP carcass tag on his! her license. Properly licensed hunters can borrow and use up to two DMPs from other hunters. There are two spaces available on the License Privilege panel for hunters to write in the DMP permit numbers they receive from another hunter. If you don't use a DMP and return it to its original owner, you have still used up one of your spaces on your License Privilege panel and cannot replace it with a different DMP.

**Waterfowl:** Don Bronson — No report.

**Hunter Safety:** - Gary Lowe

Gary requested all hunter safety instructors get their dates in to Dave Lavery by the end of January.

**Trapping:** Keith Hettricks - No report.

**Sports Fishing:** Paul Jackson — No report.

**Habitat:** Chris Schotz - No report.

**CFAB:** Bill Hilts Sr.

1. The CFAB now rates Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia (VHS) even more serious than Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD). VHS virus is a serious pathogen of fresh and saltwater fish that is causing an emerging disease in the Great Lakes region of the United States and Canada. VHS virus is a rhabdovirus (rod shaped virus) that affects fish of all size and age ranges. VHS can cause the death of infected fish. Once a fish is infected with VHS, there is no known cure. Not all infected fish develop the disease, but they can carry and spread the disease to other fish. VHS has been blamed for fish kills in Lake St. Clair (MI), Lake Erie, Lake Ontario, the St. Lawrence River and Conesus Lake (Western NY).
2. The NYS Fish Hatchery System previously needed \$25 Million to repair and upgrade. With delays and inflation that figure is now at least \$100 Million.
3. The ECO contract settlement will cost the Conservation Fund 3 Million more in October, much more in November.
4. Sportsmen licenses were down about 30,000.

**Region Nine Fish and Wildlife Board:** Chris Schotz

The next meeting is scheduled for December 7, 2006 at Yorkshire Corners. If Greg Tessmann cannot make the meeting we need a sportsman's representative and an alternate.

**NYS Conservation Council:** Dale Dunkelberger - No report.

**S.C.O.P.E.:** Bill Mudge

1. Bill passed around a copy of SCOPE's 2006 Legislative Report. There are more than 14 pages of bills we are reviewing. The highlighted bills need to be watched or are on the move. New information is in red. If a bill comes out of a committee we oppose and goes to the floor we send out alerts to members.

2. If you go to our website [www.SCOPEny.org](http://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/SCOPELegislativeReport.pdf>

**Shooting Sports:** John Butcher

1. John has submitted a grant for \$2800.00 to the NRA Foundation to support youth shooting sports in Niagara County. If the grant is approved the money will go for range fees and ammunition so we can teach juniors 12 -17 years of age shot gun shooting.

2. If any clubs have a youth program and would like to participate in a 4-week youth mentor league contact John.

**Pheasant Program:** - Bob Glidden — No report.

**Conservation Education:** — No report.

**Niagara County Fair:** Gordon Botting — No report.

**Wildlife Festival:** John Butcher — No report

**Environmental Field Days:** Gordon Botting — No report.

**DEC Youth Camp:** Paul Jackson — No report.

**Shooting Trailer:** John Butcher

**Convention:**

**Annual Picnic:** No report.

**Awards Banquet:** Walter Kanouff

1. Walter reported the 2007 Annual Awards Banquet would be at the LaSalle Sportsmen Club on April 14, 2007. If you have time, volunteer to help on the committee or just help with things on the day of the banquet.

2. John thanked Bill Hilts for the photographs he contributed of some of the people the awards were named after. John is going to check them against the list of names and would like to have more photographs.

3. John has Award Nomination forms available. He requested all delegates to take them back to their clubs and get some nominations for awards next year. Look for someone that is doing a great job. Just because someone won the award last year, that doesn't mean that they can't win an award this year. In the past we have overlooked people because we assumed they have already won an award.

**Application for Membership:** None

**Old Business:**

1. Chris Schotz opened nominations of officers tonight. If any club member or delegate wants to run for office submit your name to the nomination committee.
2. John Butcher reported that he has been in contact with John Long Jr regarding the Directors & Officers Insurance and that John will be at the December meeting so we can ask him questions and go into details.

**New Business:**

1. Meeting Dates, John reported that he and Gordon Butting Sr. confirmed the dates for our 2007 meetings. Gordon dropped them off at the Cornell Cooperative Extension and we have reserved the large meeting room for the following dates: Mondays 1/22, 2/26, 3/26, 4/23, 5/28, 6/25, 8/27, 9/24, 10/22, and Wednesday 12/12. The July meeting (Annual Picnic) will be held at the Wilson Conservation on Monday 7/24. The contract was signed and completed prior to the start of today's meeting.
2. Committees- In addition to having officers for 2007 John Butcher would also like to see that:
  - A. We have a chairman for each committee by the end of the January meeting. He would also like to see that each delegate volunteers to serve on at least one committee.
  - B. He would also like to see each acting delegate attempt to find a second delegate from your club. By-laws state that each club is allowed to send two delegates per club. This will cut down on the workload; you can also share meetings and the workload.
3. John passed out Holiday Raffle tickets to benefit Youth Shooting Sports. The drawing will be December 13, 2006. Only 100 tickets will be sold. See delegates for tickets.

**Strategic Planning:**

John would like to hold a meeting that would focus on how we can better achieve our goals in 2007.

**For the Good of the Federation:**

**WNY Friends of the NRA:** William Mudge

Bill reported they are going to have their banquet March 24, 2007 at Samuels Grand Manor.

**Iroquois Arms Collectors:** William Mudge

The IACA next meeting is on December 13, 2006 at AM VETS Post 26 at 600 Ward Road in North Tonawanda at 8:00 p.m. They will be holding nominations and election of officers.

**Niagara River Anglers Association:** Paul Jackson

Paul reported they are going to have their Christmas Party and elections on Monday December 18, 2006 at 7:20 pm.

**North American Bear Foundation:** Bill Hilts

Bill reported the first meeting of the reorganized Niagara Frontier Chapter of the North American Bear Foundation was held in November and they have set Tuesday February 27, 2007 for their Second Annual Wild Game Dinner. It will be held at the Niagara Falls Conference Center. The menu

will be bear, venison, turkey, duck, goose, buffalo, etc. There will be auctions, raffles and the Grand Prize Drawing will be a black bear hunt in Northern Minnesota. Ticket Donation will be 30 dollars, which will include membership in the chapter, NABF and a subscription to the Bear Journal.

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

Bill reported their next meeting is Wednesday December 20, 2006 at the American Legion Post 410, 42 Niagara Street in Lockport at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend as his guest.

**Tonawanda Sportsmen Club:** Ed Belbas

Ed reported they will have their annual New Year's Day Shoot January 1, 2007 from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm.

**Lockport Conservation Club:** Gordon Botting

Gordon reported the UAW starts its 16-week winter league this Friday. They are combined with the Lockport Conservation Club.

**Adjournment:**

Motion to adjourn, Chris Schotz, 2nd Walter Kanouff, 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](http://www.outdoorsniagara.com)**