

# NCFCC

NIAGARA COUNTY FEDERATION OF CONSERVATION CLUBS INC.

## NOTICE

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

### 1. Pledge to the Flag

Niagara County Federation of Conservation Club February 2008 Meeting held on the 25th. Called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President John Butcher at the 4-H Bldg., Lockport, New York with the Pledge to the Flag.

### 2. Reception of Guests: None

### 3. Minutes:

A motion was made by Don Clark to accept the January minutes, 2nd by Bob Kerns, carried.

### 4. Roll call of clubs and directors:

Sheets were passed around and signed by the delegates.

### 5. Financial Report: *Gordon Botting Sr.*

Motion to accept the financial report as corrected (take \$120.00 income from the Niagara River Anglers and change it to \$50.00) by Gordon Botting Sr., was made by Doug Walck, 2nd by Walter Kanouff, carried.

### 6. Communications:

#### A. Bills:

- 1) Promotional Solutions 2008 Patches.

#### B. Correspondence: – No report

#### C. Notices:

- 1) Bob Glidden from the 4 H Pheasant Program.
- 2) Janice Seaver of Seaver Accounting.
- 3) Ken Zolnowski the Region 9 Water Fowl Delegate.
- 4) Lowell Perry of Region 9 Youth Archery Camp.
- 5) Earl Wells of E 3 Communications.

#### D. Sick Call: – No Report

## AFFILIATED CLUBS

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

## 7. Committee Reports

### A. Finance and Audit: *John Butcher*

- 1) John Butcher reported that he has reviewed the 2007 financial statements and that he needs to make a couple corrections as to how expenses are being classified. He also reported that he has reviewed all income and expenses for the restricted income accounts and he will make those adjustments too. This way we have accurate numbers of the monies which were raised and donated to specific projects, ie: DEC Youth Camp, Clays League, Bronson Memorial Wall and Shooting Trailer. John has a meeting scheduled with our bookkeeper on Tuesday February 25th, 2008 to make the necessary corrections and will submit year-end financial statements to NCFCC officers and delegates at the March Meeting.
- 2) John will need a final inventory account so that he can show what assets that we have, ie: T-shirts, and knives.

### B. Fundraising:

#### 1) Patches: *Gordon Botting Sr.*

Gordon Botting Sr. reported that we have the 2008 patches and that they are available at a cost of \$3.50 each.

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

- a) John Butcher reported that he has converted the 2008 artwork for the patches into vector art and that he will take the knives to Custom Laser for engraving. The 2008 Knives should be available by the March meeting.
- b) We have 16 new knives for 2008. We will engrave ten and hold six in inventory. We can always have more engraved if we run short.
- c) John will check with the Chamber of Commerce and try to get permission to have some knives engraved with the Niagara Bicentennial artwork.
- d) We have seven knives left over from last year:
  - (1) One will be for a door prize at the Awards Banquet March 29, 2008.
  - (2) Two will be for a Chinese auction at the Awards Banquet March 29, 2008.
  - (3) One will be donated to FNRA Banquet on April 5, 2008.
  - (4) One will be for a raffle at the Youth Mentor Clay League Banquet April 6, 2008.
  - (5) One will be used for the 3F Gun Raffle April 26, 2008.
  - (6) One will be held in inventory until June 2008.

#### 3) Grants: *John Butcher*

John reported the Youth Mentor Clay Leagues at North Forest has been a tremendous success, with 15 kids shooting. He will resubmitt the grant to the Friends of the NRA. If approved, we can run the Youth Mentor Clays League again in 2009.

#### 4) Don Bronson Memorial Fund: *Larry Koch, Greg Tessmann*

- a) Larry Koch reported they are on schedule with the memorial and are now working on the list of names to put on the wall.
- b) Larry received a letter from President Leo Malone that confirmed Don Bronson has been inducted into the NYS Outdoorsmen Hall of Fame. The induction banquet will be Saturday, April 26, 2008 at 6 pm at Rusty Rail in Canastota, NY. Tickets are 20 dollars. If you are going you have to make reservations with their secretary Leslie VanNort. Contact Larry Koch for information.

#### 5) Ads Newsletter: *John Butcher*

If anyone would like to sell or purchase advertisements in the NCFCC Newsletter please contact Gordon Botting Sr. @ 434-1563 or John Butcher @ 434-7176.

#### 6) T-Shirts: *John Butcher* – No report

### C. Public Relations: *Bill Hilts Jr.* – No report

**D. Rosters:** *John Butcher*

John Butcher reported that he has made the following updates to the newsletter database:

- 1) Clubs that have turned in new rosters.
- 2) Elected leaders that took office in January 2008.

**E. Small Game:** *Chris Schotz* – No report

**F. Big Game:** *Dale Dunkelberger* – No report

**G. Water Fowl:** *Kenneth R. Zolnowski*

Ken sent an e-mail report and stated that if you would like him to address waterfowl issues at a future meeting just ask and he will be there. John will send him an e-mail and invite him to a future meeting.

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

- 1) County Coordinator Dave Lavery has finished the new hunter safety course posters with the schedules for 2008 for both Gun and Bow Courses.
- 2) Larry Koch reported Tim Fox called him about setting up an archery course at Terry's Corners Fire Hall in June. If anyone can help, contact Larry Koch.
- 3) Larry reminded everyone there is a refresher course for hunter instructors April 29, 2008 at the Harland Conservation Club.

**I. Sport Fishing:** *Paul Jackson*

- 1) Paul reported the State of The Lake meeting will be Thursday March 13, 2008 here at the Cornell Cooperative Extension Building from 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm.
- 2) The stocking levels of salmon in Lake Ontario has not been set because the DEC Fish Hatchery was low on eggs last year.

**J. Habitat:** *Chris Schotz & David Whitt*

Chris and Dave Whitt are still working on the project to do some grasslands at the Sanborn Historical Society grounds on route 31.

**K. C.F.A.B.:** – No report

*If anyone is interested in serving on the board contact John Butcher @ 434-7176.*

**L. Region 9 Fish and Wild Life Board:** *Greg Tessmann* – No report

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

Bill reported he will be attending the 2008 Legislative Meeting of the NYS Conservational Council on March 9-11 in Albany.

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

- 1) Bill passed around a copy of SCOPE's 2008 Legislative Report. The highlighted bills need to be watched or are on the move. New information is in red. 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/SCOPE\\_Legislative\\_Report.pdf](http://scopeny.org/ARCHIVES/SCOPE_Legislative_Report.pdf)

**O. Youth Programs:**

- 1) **Mobile Air Rifle Range:** *John Butcher, Gordon Botting Sr.* – No report

**2) Youth Mentor Clays League:** *John Butcher, Bryan Meahl*

- a) John Butcher reported that the YMCL is about 50% completed, there are 36 people shooting the league, 15 of which are juniors between the ages of 12-17 years of age. All range fees and ammo are being covered by a grant through the NRA Foundation. The cost per junior shooter is approximately \$180.00 per kid. The grant was for \$1,800.00 and the total cost for all junior shooters will be around \$2,700.00. The short fall is due to two reasons:
  - (1) Ammunition has increased significantly since the grant was written.
  - (2) They had a few extra kids sign up and he didn't want to say NO.
- b) Bryan and John have decided to raise the balance with a gun raffle, they will be raffling off a Remington, 11-87 20 gauge shot gun, tickets are \$5.00 each and only 250 tickets will be sold. The winning ticket will be drawn at the league banquet, which will be Saturday, April 6th, 2006. Thanks to our League sponsors, Buffalo Gun Center, The NRA Foundation and North Forest Rod & Gun Club. Contact John Butcher @ 434-7176 for tickets.
- c) It looks so far to be a very successful program, they hope to run the league next year if they can get funding again from the NRA Foundation.

**3) Pheasant Program:** *Bob Glidden* – Email report

- a) Bob reported Jeff Cummings from the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation was able to get a matching donation of \$1,000.00 towards this year Pheasant Program. Now they need to get the match. Last year thru the Federation there were only 4 clubs that donated any monies (Hartland, North Forest, Wolcottsville & Niagara Falls Thundering Toms) the remaining donations were from non-sportsman's organizations.
- b) Bob requested John to bring this up at the next Federation meeting in hopes that the members would take this information back to their clubs for possible donations now to meet this challenge? They are planning on adding 2 new sites this year plus they need to replace some netting on existing sites due to the wind & ice damage last fall. These costs alone may account for about \$800.00 over and above their normal expenses.
- c) John Butcher reported that we have \$650.00 set aside in restricted funds for the 4H Pheasant program. We should be able to raise the additional \$350.00 needed to match the grant.
- d) A motion was made to guarantee Bob, the program gets \$1,000.00 by taking \$650.00 from the monies in the PF restricted and \$350.00 from our general fund motion made by Herb Leaderhouse, 2nd Don Clark, carried.
- e) John will contact Bob and see when 4H will need the funds to secure the grant through the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.

**P. Conservation Education:**

- 1) **Niagara County Youth Board:** – No report
- 2) **Niagara County Fair:** – No report  
*Contact John Butcher @ 434-7176 if you want to chair the Fair Committee.*
- 3) **Wild Life Festival:** *John Butcher* – No report
- 4) **5th & 6th Grade Environmental Field Days:** *Bob Kerns, Greg Tessmann* – No report
- 5) **DEC Youth Camp:** *John Butcher*
  - a) We have 10 kids signed up to go to Camp Rushford for 2008. Thanks to all those that helped recruit the kids. Tammy Thrush (3), Pam & Herb Leaderhouse (1), Dale Shank (2), Dale Dunkelberger (1), Legislator Tony Nemi (1), John Butcher (1), Ed Belbas (1)

- b) The total cost to the NCFCC is \$2,500.00. We will use: \$1,000.00 from 2008 legislative funds, \$1,105.00 proceeds from 2007 knife raffle, \$495.00 proceeds from 2007 Air Rifle Range.
- c) We have 27 affiliated clubs and only 10 participated in the knife program. It would be nice if we could get 5 more clubs to participate in selling all 15 knives. This should net us enough income to send 10 kids to camp without taking additional monies from other accounts.
- d) Gordon Botting Sr. reported that he received a letter from the DEC stating that one of the applicants that we submitted to camp Rushford was denied because they were too young. John Butcher volunteered to contact the applicant's parents and verify the age and resubmit the application if necessary.

**6) Convention:** *Walter Kanouff & Matt Zarnosky*

- a) Walter reported the date chosen for the awards banquet is March 29, 2008 at the Tonawanda's Sportsmen Club. Cash bar opens at 5:30pm and dinner is served at 6:30pm. Tickets are \$25.00 each or \$40.00 a couple.
- b) John Butcher requested all delegates to take the Award Nomination forms to their clubs and get some nominations for awards. If there is someone at your club that has done something outstanding in the community, it is your responsibility to nominate them. Remember the nomination committee can only make selections from these forms. These forms are to be forwarded to Bill Hilts Jr.

**Q. Annual Picnic:**

Larry Koch reported the date chosen for the annual picnic will be July 21, 2008.

**8. Application for Membership:**

Gordon Botting reminded the delegates to have their clubs pay their dues for this year.

**9. Old Business:**

John reported he has reviewed several issues of The CONSERVATIONIST – a bi-monthly magazine published by the state Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). He is reviewing the issues to see if it represents sportsmen in a positive light and if there are any articles pertaining to hunting, fishing, trapping or the shooting sports. He will report his findings to Assemblywomen Francine DelMonte and State Senator George Maziarz.

If anyone has any 2007 issues of the Conservationist magazine please bring them to the next meeting and give them to John.

**10. New Business:**

- A. A motion was made by Tammy Thrush to have all delegates to fill out a NCFCC COMMITTEE AND CLUB REPORT FORM and give it to Secretary William Mudge in the interest of having accurate information in the minutes, 2nd by Pam Leaderhouse, carried. (See Insert)
- B. John Butcher, Larry Koch and William Mudge will go to the AES Somerset Plant on March 7, 2008 at 12 noon for a presentation on their new proposal to build a finger port over one half mile out into Lake Ontario in order to receive coal by Lake freighter. AES currently depends on a rail line that delivers coal directly to the plant and needs an alternative supply source. The presentation will show how they will address damage to the shoreline, tourism, fishing and the coastal environment from Lake Freighters, coal dust and commercial operations.

**11. For the Good of the Federation:**

**A. Iroquois Arms Collectors:** *William Mudge*

- 1) The IACA next meeting will be March 12, 2008 at the AMVETS Post 26 on 600 Ward Road in North Tonawanda at 8:00 p.m.
- 2) The IACA will be holding a gun show March 15, 2008 and March 16, 2008 at the AMVETS Post 26, 600 Ward Road starting at 9:00 AM.

**B. LaSalle Sportsmen Club:** *Walter Kanouff*

They are having their Gun Raffle on March 29, 2008. Contact Walter for tickets.

**C. Niagara County Gobblers Chapter NWTF:** *Pam Leaderhouse*

Their next meeting will be on April 9, 2008 at 7:30PM at the Buckeye Scents Farm 4202 Willow Rd., Wilson. The next two meetings will be July 9, 2008 and October 8, 2008.

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

Bill reported their 2008 Banquet will be Saturday April 5, 2008. See Bill Mudge or John Butcher for banquet and raffle tickets.

**E. Niagara River Anglers:** *Paul Jackson*

- 1) They had a very successful Steelhead Contest last Saturday February 23, 2008. The first place fish was 14 pounds 4 ounces.
- 2) LOTSA had a successful day Sunday February 24, 2008 with their Fishermen's Flea Market. They had 410 people attend and 40 vendors. All money goes directly into the pen projects.

**F. Pioneer Sportsmen Club:** *Don Clark*

- 1) Don reported they are still looking for new members. They meet every other month. Their next meeting will be 9:30 am, Wednesday March 5, 2008 at the Wilson Conservation Club.
- 2) Don is looking for someone to donate a set of 38 Special dies and a press to the club to make key rings for the Wildlife Festival.

**G. SCOPE:** *William Mudge*

Bill reported their next meeting is March 19, 2008 at the American Legion Post 410, 42 Niagara Street in Lockport at 7:00 pm; everyone is welcome to attend as his guest.

**H. Tonawanda Sportsmen Club:** *Ed Belbas*

Their annual gun raffle will be on March 9, 2008. It starts at 1:00 pm and tickets are 20 dollars. See Ed for tickets.

**I. Wilson Auxiliary:** *Tammy Thrush*

Contact Tammy for tickets to the Niagara Falls Thundering Toms raffle.

**12. Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn, Chris Schotz, 2nd Pam Leaderhouse, carried.

Respectfully submitted,

*William A. Mudge*  
Secretary, NCFCC

*For information about the NCFCC including minutes, and upcoming events check us out at:*

**[www.outdoorsniagara.com](http://www.outdoorsniagara.com)**