

# NCFCC

## NIAGARA COUNTY FEDERTION OF CONSERVATION CLUBS INC.

**Pledge to the Flag:** Niagara County Federation of Conservation Club September 2006 Meeting held on the 25th. 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.

**Guest Speakers:** Timothy J. Miller - Field Representative - Niagara County Reynolds for Congress  
A. Tim passed out copies of Congressman Tom Reynolds voting record. He just co-sponsored a bill that defended a gun owners right to hold onto their guns during a time of a national disaster.  
B. Tim reported that Congressman Reynolds track record with the NRA is one hundred percent.

**Minutes:** A motion was made by Chris Schotz to accept the minutes, 2nd by Gordon Botting, carried. 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 Dotting Sr. was made by Don Clark, 2nd by Matt Zarnosky, carried.

**Communications Bills and Notices:** John Butcher passed around two letters he received from kids that went to DEC camp at Camp Rushford.

**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 will give the next quarterly report in October. That will cover the months of July, August and September.

### **Fund Raising:**

**Grants:** John Butcher

1. The DEC - DelMonte Grant has been submitted and we should be receiving the first payment shortly.
2. 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.

### **Patches:**

1. Gordon Botting has some 2006 Porcupine patches left and they are \$3.50 each. If you want one contact Gordon at 716-434-1563.
2. Paul Jackson has put a collection of patches going back to 1985 on our web page.  
[http://www.outdoorsniagara.com/niagara\\_county\\_federation\\_patche.htm](http://www.outdoorsniagara.com/niagara_county_federation_patche.htm)
3. John Butcher reminded everyone we need to pick an animal and order the 2007 patches. Please take the time to look at the old patches and come back to our October meeting with a decision on what animal to use.

### **Knives:**

1. Gordon Botting reported we sold the last of our old knives at the 3F Club Fall Gun Raffle on Sept. 23, 2006.
2. If anyone needs a knife for a gun raffle or events at their club contact Gordon Botting at 434-1563.

**Annual Shoot:** John Butcher - No Report.

**County Funds:** John Butcher - No Report.

**Newsletters:** John Butcher reported that we lost one sponsor and could use another ad to fill its place. Also we have started a back page and we could use a few more ads to fill it up.

**Public Relations:** Bill Hilts Jr. - No Report.

**Rosters:** John Butcher reported the following clubs would be dropped from our letterhead. They have dropped out, disbanded, or are no longer a member.

1. 7 ClanBowmen
2. Coyotes Unlimited
3. UAW Local 686 Pistol Club

**Small Game:** Chris Schotz

1. Chris reported Russ Biss (DEC Region 9 Natural Resources Supervisor) said there would be approximately

900 pheasants released in Niagara County.

- A. 147 at Joseph Davis State Park
- B. 154 in Newfane at Hoffman Road just east of Hess Road.
- C. 138 in Wilson at Wilson-Tuscarora State Park.
- D. 70 in Wilson - West of Maple Road.
- E. 371 in Somerset at Golden Hill State Park.

2. Chris reported the Safari Club International donated 200 hen pheasants to be distributed throughout the area. Dale Dunkelberger picked up the birds.

**Big Game:** Dale Dunkelberger Dale reported License sales are out. Second draw for permits jSt of November -3H & 3K

**Trapping:** Keith Hetricks - No Report

**Waterfowl:**

1. Don Bronson
  - A. Don reported nuisance goose ended today. There are not a lot of birds around except for the natives.
  - B. The permit system for the refuges has changed. You must have successfully completed the New York State Waterfowl Identification Course to hunt Tonawanda and Iroquois National Wildlife Refuges.
2. Dave Whitt reported the Niagara Frontier State Park Western Region has announced that its annual duck blind drawings for Fort Niagara, Joseph Davis, Wilson Tuscarora, and Golden Hill State Parks will be held at the Fort Niagara State Park Maintenance Building from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on the following dates:

October: 19, 23, 26, 30

November: 2, 6, 9, 13, 16, 20, 22, 27, 30

December: 4, 22, 26, 29

January: 2, 5

**Hunter Safety:**

1. Don Bronson reported he has one bow hunter course left.
2. Dale Shank reported his last class would be at the Grand Island Rod & Gun Club. Pre registration is required.

**Sports Fishing:** Paul Jackson No report

**Habitat:** Chris Schotz

Chris reported he got a call from Connie Adams that the state workers could use some more help on Thursday, November 2, 2006 with the third Pheasant release at Joseph Davis State Park. Dale Dunkelberger volunteered to help. If you can help call Connie Adams at (716) 851-7010.

**CFAB: Bill Hilts Sr.**

1. There is a CFAB meeting in Albany next weekend October 1st & 2nd~
2. Seneca White Deer - The proposed project needs our help to let everyone know what it is all about. Public tours are available the weekends of October 21st. & 22nd and October 28th & 29th For information and registration for tours go to the website: [www.senecawhitedeer.org](http://www.senecawhitedeer.org)
3. HSUS has merged with the Doris Day Animal League and added 130,000 more members. In 1996 HSUS Budget was 42 million dollars. in 2006 their budget was 103 million dollars and growing.
4. Animal rights groups are suing to end trapping in Minnesota. They contend trapping is destroying endangered species - lynx, bald eagles and wolves.
5. In British Columbia animal rights groups are suing to teach their message in public schools.
6. Michigan has ballot issue in November to ban hunting of doves. The latest word is "It doesn't look good for the hunters"
7. Anti's plan now is to go after individual issues in each state. In New York they are looking at bow hunting.
8. Bill is no longer associated with the TRCA - The Theodore Roosevelt conservation alliance. They are being funded by the Pew Foundation, which funds anti-hunting groups.

**Region Nine Fish and Wildlife Board:** Greg Tessmann - No report

**NYS Conservation Council:** Meeting of September 15-17, 2006

- 1.] Dale reported on the results of the elections of the six 2006 New York State Conservation Council Resolutions.
  - A. Passed 06-1 Livingston County - Any fisherman or women with a valid NYS fishing license, boater or non-boater, be allowed to utilize the State Park launch site areas with no fee attached.
  - B. Tied 06-2 Livingston County - Eliminate the distinction between hand lines and tip-up and allow each individual to have a maximum of seven lines in service at any one time.
  - C. Passed 06-3 Yates County - Prohibit the sale of all freshwater fish and fish parts caught while using a recreational license, except for baitfish.
  - D. Failed 06-4 Sullivan County - The NYSDEC develop a simple reporting questionnaire on the NYSDEC website which could be filled in by a licensee to report taking certain game species by every licensee at the end of each season. We oppose mandatory reporting.
  - E. Failed 06-5 Steuben County - Provide qualified non-ambulatory persons with hunting, fishing and trapping licenses at a reduced fee of \$5~. Good idea to keep fee at \$5~ so we get money from Pittman Roberts bill.
  - F. Failed 06-6 Madison County - Change DEC regulations that would deny bow/muzzle loader harvest of antlerless deer in DMUs where there are no DMPs issued.
2. Dale reported on the budget: A. \$50 million will be spent on Open Space. B. \$15 million will be spent on the Stewardship Program. C. \$3 million will be spent on Ocean and Great Lakes Initiative. D. \$5 million will be spent on fish hatchery modifications. E. There will be 15 new jobs in Stewardship and 10 new jobs in Conservation.

3. Gerry Bennett read a letter from Harold Palmer stating he will send out a voting form to members to get their opinion on issues the council does not have a policy towards. Gerry held elections on the latest policies. A. NO Are you in favor of a visible fishing license?
  - B. **NO** Do you favor a surcharge on outdoor equipment with the surcharge money going to the conservation fund?
  - C. **NO** Should we allow the Federal Government to license our salt~water anglers and keep the money?
  - D. **YES** Should New York State require all anglers who fish salt water to purchase a regular fishing license that would include salt water and fresh water fishing for all waters of New York State, without increasing the current license fee?

**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/ARCI1IVES/SCOPE Legislative Repoitpdf](http://scopeny.org/ARCI1IVES/SCOPE%20Legislative%20Repoitpdf)

**Shooting Sports:**

1. **Youth Shooting Sports** - Brian Meahl
  - A. Brian reported on the fundraising raffle to benefit the scholastic clay target team. The winner was Greg Laubacker, one of our New York State Champions. He won the Browning Gold Fusion Shotgun on the drawing September 24, 2006.
  - B. Brian reported they are sending a team to San Antonio in July to compete in the international Clay Target Competition.

**Pheasant Program:** Bob Glidden

1. John Butcher reported he received a phone call from Bob Glidden, and they had their annual picnic and youth day on August 27, 2006 at his place. The kids got to take a habitat walk out on his property, release pheasants and enjoy a picnic supper.
2. John reported Bob Glidden mailed him a financial report for the expenditures for 2006 for the program and as of July 28, 2006 they have spent a total of \$1221.94.

**Conservation Education:** No report.

**Niagara County Fair:** Gordon Botting

1. Gordon reported they took in 800 dollars at the shooting trailer during the fair.
2. Gordon reported he spend 99 dollars to purchase a tent for shade at the shooting trailer.

**Wildlife Festival:** John Butcher

1. John passed a card around for all to sign, thanking Lori Presti of the Power Authority for all her help with the Wildlife Festival.
2. Dale reported on the budget:
  - A. \$50 million will be spent on Open Space.
  - B. \$15 million will be spent on the Stewardship Program.
  - C. \$3 million will be spent on Ocean and Great Lakes Initiative.
  - D. \$5 million will be spent on fish hatchery modifications.
  - E. There will be 15 new jobs in Stewardship and 10 new jobs in Conservation.

**Environmental Field Days:** Gordon Botting SR will contact Darcy Tone and ask how much money they need to cover expenses.

**DEC Youth Camp:** Paul Jackson

Paul Jackson passed around the two letters he received from kids that went to DEC camp at Camp Rushford.

**Shooting Trailer:** John Butcher

Gordon Bolting requested the Federation purchase a tool box and tools for the trailer. Tammy Thrush reported she works for the department in charge of donations at the Home Depot in Lockport. If John Butcher will write a letter requesting a donation and fill out some forms the Home Depot might consider his request.

Trailer will be used at North Forest Rod & Gun Club on October 7, 2006.

**Awards Banquet:**

John Butcher reported Walter Kanouff called him and said the LaSalle Sportsmen Club would like to host the 2007 Awards Banquet and the dates are open. They haven't had a chance to put a menu together. Walter will bring an estimated cost per head for the dinner to our next meeting and we can vote on it. A tentative date of April 7, 2007 was set in order not to compete with any other major events in the area.

**Application for Membership:** None

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** None

**For the Good of the Federation:**

**3F Club:** Dale Shank Dale reported the 3F Gun Raffle will be September 23, 2006.

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

If you are applying for a grant, make sure you get your revised consideration form to Bill. You will not be eligible for approval of funding at the SCF grant meeting unless and until the new CA form is on file with the application package.

**Hartland Conservationist:** Matt Zarnosky

The door raffle is for October 7, 2006. The tickets have a date of October 8, 2006 printed on them. See Matt for tickets, they are \$20.00 each.

**Iroquois Arms Collectors:** William Mudge

The IACA next meeting is on October 11, 2006 at AM VETS Post 26 on 600 Ward Road in North Tonawanda at 8:00 p.m.

**Niagara County Gobblers Chapter NWTf:** Pam Leaderhouse

Pam reported the second annual Buckeye Scents Calling Contest was September 23, 2006 at the Buckeye Scents Farm 4202 Willow Rd., Wilson. Response was outstanding. There 9 kids ranging from 10 to 17 years and 12 kids less than 10 years old. The kids were outstanding and there was a good turnout. Some people came from Ohio and Pennsylvania and others came from the southern tier. Next year the date will be changed so it will not conflict with the Wildlife Festival.

**Niagara River Anglers Association:** Paul Jackson

1. Paul Jackson read an article that appeared in the Buffalo News on September 9, 2006. The headline stated "Rabbit's neck broken to kill it for grilling." The article goes on to say a Buffalo man was charged with animal cruelty Friday after a humane society officer investigated the killing of a

rabbit that was skinned and put on a backyard grill to cook. Paul reminded everyone to be very careful if you go out to skin one of your rabbits or chickens, the anti's are looking.

2. Their next meeting is on October 16, 2006 at the LaSalle Sportsmen Club. Their guest speaker is a biologist from the US Fish and Wildlife Service speaking on Great Lakes trout restoration.

**North Forest Rod and Gun Club:** Brian Meahl

North Forest is having their Annual Shoot Until You Drop Saturday October 7, 2006, 9:00am to 3:00pm. Price for ticket 35 dollars.

**Pheasants Forever of Western New York:** Dave Whitt

The Second Annual Habitat Day will be February 10, 2007 at the Wilson Conservation Club. Speakers to include Cal Ernst of Ernst Seeds, Greg Tessman of the USDA - NRCS, Shon Robins, regional Pheasant Forever Biologist, Mike Murphy of the NYSDEC. The cost is 20 dollars. Call Dave Whitt at 716-754-2133.

**Pioneers Sportsmen Club:** Don Clark

The pioneers will have their next meeting October 3, 2006 at 9:30 am at the Wilson Conservation Club.

**SCOPE:** William Mudge

1. Bill reported their next meeting is October 18, 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.

2. Bill reported SCOPE is having their Annual Banquet October 14, 2006 at the Diplomat Banquet Center in Rochester. If you want to be part of a table of ten from Niagara County for a reduced rate call Bill at 716-772-2261.

**Wilson Conservation Club:** Chris Schotz

Wilson is having another crossbow raffle. See Chris Schotz for tickets.

**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)