



## SCCA Newsletter – Meeting held at Middleburgh Rod & Gun Club Middleburgh, N.Y. on December 29, 2022

Greg Warner, President of Schoharie County Conservation Association called the meeting to order with the pledge of allegiance with 17 in attendance. Clubs represented were NWTF - Schoharie County Schoharie Ridge Runners, Middleburgh Rod & Gun Club, West Fulton Rod & Gun Club, Cave Country Riders, Middleburgh Ridge Runners Snowmobile Club, Richmondville Fish & Game Club, Schoharie County Trappers and Lifetime LPNH member Harold Guest with grandson Matt Miller and great grandson Caleb Miller. Minutes from the last meeting were read and approved by Dave Wood and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Doug Handy. The Treasurer's report was read and approved by Mark Hotaling and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Eric Haslun. The membership voted and approved both reports. The next SCCA meeting will be held at SUNY Cobleskill, in the Curtis Mott Build. in Cobleskill on January 26<sup>th</sup> @7PM. SCCA needs to order more handout bags for the Fair event. SCCA is planning another Youth Ice fishing Event on February 4, 2023 on Franklin Vly pond south of Middleburgh. SCCA sponsored 8 members for the Ducks Unlimited Banquet/Auction for November 10<sup>th</sup> @ SUNY Cobleskill for \$300. Pulled pork, salads, baked beans and pie for desert was served. Around 250 people in attendance. The Ducks Unlimited SUNY College club made lots of money. SCCA will sponsor the Spring meeting for the New York Conservation Council which will be held in April @ SUNY Cobleskill College.

**Venison Donation Program:** Schoharie County Whitetails Unlimited will donate a 50 Caliper Black Powder Rifle to encourage Deer Hunters to donate a whole deer to the program. We had 25 deer donated last year, which over 700 one to two pound packages of venison were donated to the local food pantries. We will have a drawing from all the names who donated a whole deer at the January 29<sup>th</sup> 2023 SCCA meeting. This year we had 30 deer donated, 788 pounds of venison which will be distributed to the local food pantries. Thomas Jaqueway from Schoharie was the lucky winner last year. SCCA would like to thank Bleau's Deer Processing (518-702-5026) between Schoharie and Berne on Rte 443 and Marlow's Meat Cutting in Howe Cave (518-296-8978) for their help processing the meat again this year. NYS is only authorizing the use of funds donated through the Venison Donation Program where Sportsmen & Sportswomen purchase \$5 Stamps at license sales offices to be used in only Region 8 & Region 9. With this decision SCCA will have to pay for the meat processing done at Blues in Galupville. In the past this venison stamp program paid for all venison processing statewide. Schoharie County Chapter of Whitetails Unlimited will split the cost with SCCA, \$788.00 each for a total of \$1576.00.

**Lifetime Hunting and Fishing License:** SCCA has once again voted to sponsor a Lifetime Hunting/Fishing license for the fourth year. This drawing is open to all members' children and grandchildren, great grandchildren below the age of twelve as of December 31<sup>st</sup>. It can be an Association Club member or an Individual Club member's relative. We had 44 applications to draw from this year. The drawing was held at the November SCCA meeting. The winner of this year's drawing is Caleb Miller, great Grandson of Harold Guest, a lifetime member of the Long Path North Hiking Club. Caleb is eleven years old from Huntersland. This is the forth youth that SCCA has sponsor a lifetime hunting & fishing license. This license also includes the spring and fall turkey permits.

**Region 4 - New York Fish & Wildlife Management Board:** The next FWMB meeting will be held at the NYS DEC Office in Rotterdam on January 25th at 6:30 pm. Long time member Carl Stefanik has retired from the Board. He has been the Sportsmen representative for many, many years. He is currently being cared for at the Kingsway Nursing Home 523 Kings Rd. Schenectady, New York. His room number is 420. If you would like to send Carl a message his mailing address is Post Office Box 427 Schoharie, New York.

Jeff Almy will be taking Carl's position as Schoharie County Sportsman Representative on the board starting in January 2023 along side of Mike Zeh and Dave Wood who both have been on the Board for many years.

**NYS DEC:** The 23rd Basic School for Environmental Conservation Police Officers recently graduated 18 new ECOs. The graduation ceremony was held December 9 at the Empire Expo Center at the New York Fairgrounds in Syracuse. The new ECOs completed six months of law enforcement and natural resources training in the classroom and in the field. They are now working in communities statewide to protect fish and wildlife and preserve environmental quality in New York. At their academy in Pulaski, Oswego County, the recruits completed more than 1,000 hours of training. The Pulaski facility has served as the home of these trainings for several years. While the first weeks focused primarily on basic police skills such as physical

training, drill and ceremony, and computer lessons, recruits also delved into more intensive instruction including firearms training, emergency vehicle operation, chemical waste dumping, and identifying poachers, among other skills. Our newest ECO class made it through a rigorous training process to join their fellow officers in the difficult but rewarding law enforcement work ahead in communities across the state. The 18 recr of Encon Officers/Investigators for PBA of NYS. uits will join DEC's ECO force of 286, which includes several members on terminal leave. That still leaves nearly 60 vacancies, as the allotted numbers are 342, according to Matt Krug, who serves as the director of Encon Officers/Investigators for PBA of NYS.

**SCOPE:** Next meeting will be held at the Middleburgh Rod & Gun Club on January 19th at the Carlile Town Board building @ 7PM. Joe Kopac, Chairman says we need to stay dedicated to preserving the 2nd Amendment rights for you and all of us. Please come and bring a friend. Thank you everyone for keeping S.C.O.P.E. active. I would encourage all sports men and women (all gun owners) to join the Schoharie County S.C.O.P.E. Joe encourages sportsmen & women to send letters to their legislators. They need to hear from us about our feelings on our 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment. All gun owners need to vote in our elections. "S.C.O.P.E. Shooters Committee On Political Education" [admin@scopeny2a.org](mailto:admin@scopeny2a.org) SCOPE will be selling raffle ticket at the Schoharie County Fair. The winners of the raffle drawled in November was Dave Langenback, 1<sup>st</sup> prize will be \$500 fuel oil/propane award, Mike Drexel, 2<sup>nd</sup> prize will be a Savage 22 caliber Semi-Auto Rifle (a substitute of \$400 because of the new law restrictions on Semiautomatic rifles) and Sue Whittlow, 3<sup>rd</sup> prize will be a \$100 Stewart's Gas Card. The drawing was held on November 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Fancher Pond:** Nick Wierman and Greg Warner have completed the new Koisa for information on Fancher Pond. The new Keyas is 36" X 42". It was installed at the pond during the month of November. This shows the location of the habitat statures for fish to allow for growth and reproduction.

**Cave Country Riders Inc.:** Meetings are held at Terri Bradt home located @ 341 Hill Rd Cobleskill, NY, and the 2nd Tuesday of every month @ 7:00 pm. Last meeting was held on December 13<sup>th</sup>. Kids Safety course – December 3<sup>rd</sup>, January 14<sup>th</sup>, and February 4<sup>th</sup>. The date for the land owner's dinner has not been set yet. @ 7 PM. Meeting agenda – Trail work – have to put in a few days' worth of work with the trail Coordinators to receive free membership. Watch for e-mails or mail if you are getting a free one. Memberships are available now, just get a hold of Terri Bradt and she can get you one. Kid's safety Course – We will be doing 3 this year, dates to come soon. Landowner's Dinner – Will most likely be in February 2023. Meetings are held from Oct. – Mar. POC: Terri Bradt 518-234-7331 Doug Handy 518 – 231-0970.

**Jeep Club:** Meetings are 7:30pm on the second Thursday of every month, summer meetings at the Club property, and winter meeting locations to be announced at a later time. There are 48 members in the club to date. New POC: Bill Hensell 518-234-4964. E-mail [whensel3@gmail.com](mailto:whensel3@gmail.com)

**Middleburgh Ridge Runner's Snowmobile Club:** Meetings are held on 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday from Oct – April. @ Pasta Grill in Middleburgh. For more information call 518-285-6473 or 518-295-8554.

**Summit Sno Riders:** Meetings are 6:30 pm first Monday of the month (September thru April) at the Summit Conservation Club at Bear Gulch Rd. (109 Club Road) in Summit. See [www.summitsnoriders.com](http://www.summitsnoriders.com). 518-287-1961.

**Coby Fish & Game Club:** The next club meeting will be scheduled and advertised in the SCCA newsletter. The club did stock \$600 worth of tiger trout; about 200 each 10" in the Cobleskill Holding Pond on May 17, 2022 this spring. Over the years Joe Moore (retired Cobleskill barber) worked very hard selling raffle tickets and \$10 stocking buttons to raise funding so the club could continue to do this for years.

**Conesville Rod & Gun Club:** Meetings are held at the Conesville Fire house. POC - President Karl Fancher. Contact information 607-588-6232 or e-mail [Sothunter059@aol.com](mailto:Sothunter059@aol.com).

**SUNY Cobleskill College:** College students removed a beaver dam on Mud Creek, a tributary of Canadarago Lake which lower the lake by 2 inches this past month. SCCA is still offering the \$400.00 Dorwin Hamm Scholarship to student in the Fisheries and Wildlife programs. SCCA has received an application from a Wildlife Management student this month. Her project involves monitoring the Redtail Hawk migrating this fall. SCCA did approve this scholarship. She will give her presentation at the Jan. or Feb. SCCA meeting. POC is Roger Masse 518-255-5292. SCCA did donated \$500 to the College students, Ducks Unlimited team who went to Memphis, Tennessee on August 4 thru August 7 this past summer. The students gave a presentation on their trip at the November SCCA meeting. The Ducks Unlimited Club held a DU Banquet on November 10<sup>th</sup> @ on Campus. Over 250 people attended.

**Clearwater Chapter of Trout Unlimited:** The SUNY college club is meeting on the second Monday of each month in the new building, Center for Agricultural Resource, room 002. The Official Publication of the Clearwater Chapter of Trout Unlimited - America's Leading Coldwater Fisheries Conservation Organization Promoting Habitat for Wild Trout and Salmon. Clearwater Chapter of TU PO Box 9686 Schenectady, NY 12309. Clearwater Chapter of Trout Unlimited

mission is to conserve, protect and restore the Capital Region's trout and salmon fisheries and their watersheds. Over the last ten years Clearwater TU contributed over \$112,000 to habitat improvement projects. Clearwater Chapter meetings held 3rd Monday of each month at the Zaloga American Legion Post 1520, 4 Everett Rd. Colonie, NY 12205. POC Ray Lambertson 518-421-2500.

**Schoharie Valley Trappers:** NYS Trappers offers a \$1500 scholarship. Check state website. POC- Kenny Hellijas: [klhellijas@hotmail.com](mailto:klhellijas@hotmail.com) 518-234-3715 for questions. Trapper Education Classes are available. Check NYS DEC website. Remember that you must register through the NYS DEC Website. This past year the New York State Trappers sponsored three student \$1500.00 scholarships.

**Long Path North Hiking Club:** Next meeting will be held on September 22 at 6 pm @ the Middleburgh Community Center for the 29<sup>th</sup> annual meeting. Total membership is now 172 with 43 Life Members. The members completed the building of 190 feet of bog treads on LP Section 32 north of Cotton Hill Road on June 25 & 26<sup>th</sup>. The work took about 5 hours to complete with the help of two Boy Scout troops from Altamont and Guilderland. The membership also completed the Handrail replacement for a bridge on Section 32, just east of Cotton Hill Road. This bridge was originally constructed in 2010. This project was funded by membership dues. Contact Mark Traver 518-944-7734 for additional information. List of Hikes coming up: January 21 – LP Sect.34 Doppler Tower to Stage Road, 2.1 miles, snowshoes? Leader: Steve; February 11<sup>th</sup> – LP Sect. 32, Treadlemire Road to Cotton Hill, 2 miles, call Mark for details. Mark Traver-President, Clarence Putman-Vice President, Cherie Clapper-Treasurer, and Carol Traver-Secretary are the current officers. Hiking leaders are as followed: Carol & Mark Traver 518-944-7734, Clarence Putman 607-538-9569, Marilyn Miles 518-768-2870, Betsey Bouchard 518-410-3863, Steve Babbitt 518-295-8535, and Don Allard 518-577-7741. Membership info, contact Cherie Clapper at 518-827-4386, P.O. Box 200, West Fulton, NY 12194 or [ccherie@midtel.net](mailto:ccherie@midtel.net) .

**NWTF Schoharie County Ridge Runners:** The Schoharie Co. National Wild Turkey Federations donated a wildlife print to the West Fulton Rod & Gun Club auction. Contact Dave Hendrick 518-657-1787 for more information. \_

**Richmondville Fish & Game Club:** Monthly meetings are the first Monday of each month at the club property located on High View Rd. The club plans on holding hunter safety courses this year if possible. The club will be sponsoring a Youth Ice Fishing Derby on Feb 18<sup>th</sup> at the Summit Conservation Club on Bear Gulch Lake. [www.richmondvillefishgameclub.org](http://www.richmondvillefishgameclub.org) .

**Whitetails Unlimited:** The Whitetails Unlimited meetings have been cancelled at Earl Berg's house on Cripplebush Rd. between Central Bridge and Sloansville off Route 30A. We did not have a Whitetails Banquet in 2020/2021/22 because of the restrictions due to the Covid Virus. When ordering the merchandize for this last banquet I learned that NYS contacted the National Whitetails Headquarters in Wisconsin that we as a NYS Chapter will need a Permit to hold all raffles in the future. To get a raffle permit we need to apply to the NYS Gaming Commission for a Games of Chance Identification Number which is need to apply for the raffle permit. These both require a four or five page application and can take up to 3 to 6 months to receive. Now it looks like we will have to wait until the ID number & Permits are approved. When I went to the village clerk in Cobleskill who has worked there for over ten years, told me that I was the first person who had asked for a raffle permit. **I was contacted in November by Kelly Tassoul, Field Operational Coordinator that remaining chapter business be finalized. This includes closing the chapter bank accounts. The National has assigned a Field Director to take charge of the Schoharie County Chapter accounts by January 1, 2023.** His name is Bill Bailey. Kelly assured me that they would still continue the Schoharie County Chapter and need our help setting up banquets. Our chapter would still receive 50 % of all profit proceeds but it would be controlled from the National Headquarters. This year our chapter did donate a Black powder Rifle to the Schoharie County Venison Donation Program, will sponsor the Middleburgh Rod & Gun Youth Archery Program and with supporting the Archery program run by the Field Of Grace Christian Bow Hunters. We did donate a 50 cal., Black Powder rifle to the SCCA for their Kayak Fair raffle this summer. Sch. Co. Chapter of Whitetails Unlimited donated a new Chest Freezer to the Venison Donation Program, \$530 in 2021 season. Any questions please contact me. [mzeh4@nycap.rr.com](mailto:mzeh4@nycap.rr.com) or 518-265-4961 As an officer of this Chapter I will still try to sponsor scholarships and support the venison donation program along with the SCCA.

**Summit Conservation Club:** Club meetings are held on the second Monday @ 6 PM of each month. The stuffed pizza & pancake breakfasts (Stuffed Pizza – Sat. Noon – 7PM & Sun. Noon – 4PM) Jan. 21 & 22, Feb. 18 & 19, Mar. 18 & 19 And Apr. 15 & 16) (Pancakes Breakfast 8 AM – 11AM Sunday – Jan. 8, Sun. Feb 5, Mar. 5, Apr. 2) The club is always looking for new members. POC is Stacey Betts - Phone 518-287-1710, 109 Club Dive Summit, N.Y. 12175.

**Middleburgh Rod & Gun Club:** Last meeting had 32 in attendance. Check out the club's website. **Middleburgh r&g club.com**. Indoor pistol leagues are running and new signs are up. No jacket bullets allowed in downstairs range, only lead bullets. There will be several pistol shoots during the next few months. The club had 44 youth shooters for the 22 shoot. The college students are still shooting archery on Friday nights. Check the club's website for more information.

The club had a pistol shoot on November 11<sup>th</sup> (night using flashlights). The Fields of Grace will hold an auction on December 3 from 11am to 1pm benefiting Christian Bow Hunters. The club will be holding another raffle this coming December. Tickets were all sold. Jeannette Hall is the Raffle POC again this year. Her phone number is 518-928-6301 and her e-mail address is [phallzy1@gmail.com](mailto:phallzy1@gmail.com). All tickets were turned in at December 1<sup>st</sup> meeting. The winners are as followed: 12/1 – Mike Porter; 12/2 – Kevin Docherty; 12/3 – Rick Sigley; 12/4 – Steve Lammers; 12/5 – Mary Ann Kochersberger; 12/6 – Ian Chamberlain; 12/7 – Chuck Centanni; 12/8 – Kevin Kutzscher; 12/9 – Joe Moore; 12/10 Kim Haynoski; 12/11 – Mike Bertram; 12/12 – Bill Kuehnie; 12/13 – Mason O’Meara; 12/14 – Mark Traver; 12/15 – Bubba; 12/16 – Justin Mattes; 12/17 – Phil Skowfoe; 12/18 – Marc Estus; 12/19 – Jim Walion; 12/20 – Joe Moore; 12/21 – Robert Troidl; 12/22 – Kitch Paser; 12/23 – Robert Haines; 12/24 – Carson Pochkar; 12/25 – Mary Ann Kochersber; 12/26 – Carnine Sinatra; 12/27 – Dan Matrazzo; 12/28 – George Wade; 12/29 – Mike Bertram; 12/30 – Lizzie Hook; 12/31 – Doug Handy; club meeting on January 5<sup>th</sup> the two guns were won by James Williams. The club is replacing all the window in the main club house to help cut the cost of heating. The club is running the youth archery program starting January 7<sup>th</sup>. Ten new archery bows have been purchased. The club supplies all the equipment, targets, and instructors free (No charge to the public or members).

**West Fulton Rod & Gun Club:** There were 14 in attendance at the December our meeting. There are 66 paid members to date. The planting of a Red Oak tree in memory of Gerald Hamm was postponed due to some family members couldn’t make it. We will reschedule the event... The club's address is PO Box 99, Fultonham, NY 12071. Therger season diner was on December 10<sup>th</sup> @ the West Fulton Firehouse starting at 4PM with diner served at 5PM with 42 members & guest. e-mail [westfultonrodandgunclub@gmail.com](mailto:westfultonrodandgunclub@gmail.com) Several members donated items to be auctioned off. 50/50 raffles were held to donate money to the Schoharie County Food Bank. Over \$700 was raised. The Timothy Murphy 10K held on October 8<sup>th</sup> was a big success with 149 registered runners with 123 finishing the race. There has been some discussion about raising the club dues from \$10 to \$20 Annually. However there are some procedures in the club’s by-laws that need to be reviewed and followed before we can do. Membership due of \$10 will be collected at the diner. A new Vice President was elected at the November meeting, Kenny Klingebiel from Sawyer Hollow Rd. The other officers stayed on Jeff Almy – President, Ryan Hamm – Secretary, and Eric Hamm as treasury. The club will host a youth ice fishing derby on February 11<sup>th</sup> and it will be located at Franklin Vlaie Pond, from 8 AM to 2 PM. Contact Ryan Hamm if you have any questions. 518-528-4568

SCCA website address is <http://www.schoharie-conservation.org/> Anyone with information for the SCCA newsletter can send it to my e-mail address. [mzeh4@nycap.rr.com](mailto:mzeh4@nycap.rr.com). The SCCA (Schoharie County Conservation Association) meeting will be held at the Curtis Mott Building @ SUNY Cobleskill on January 26 7PM.

**Application for Lifetime Hunting & Fishing License Drawing:** Schoharie Co. Conservation Association P.O. Box 325 Central Bridge, New York 12035. We strive to preserve and protect our natural resources and promote hiking, fishing, snowmobiling, trapping, hunting, both small game & big game with in Schoharie County. Drawing date 11/16/2023. President Greg Warner\* Vice President Doug Handy\* Treasurer Liz Reinhart\* Secretary Mike Zeh\*

N.Y.S. Dept. of Conservation – 2023 Youth Lifetime Sporting License Awards. Our not-for-profit organization is continuing a program to promote hunting and fishing in hopes of inspiring our youth to hunt and fish within New York State. Drawing will be held at the November SCCA meeting. Rules and Requirements: Applicant (child) must be under the age of 12 as of December 31, 2023 of this calendar year and be a full time resident of New York State. Also applicant must be a child, grandchild, or great grandchild of a member, in good standing, from a Schoharie County Conservation Association (SCCA) or a member of one of its affiliated clubs and be in good standing with that club. Incomplete, ineligible or duplicate applications will not be considered. Applications must be mailed to SCCA P.O. Box 325 Central Bridge, N.Y. 12035, Attention Lifetime Sporting License. Parents of the winner will be required to bring child’s Social Security card and another form of ID which includes their place of residence. Also the club you’re a member of. Lifetime Sporting License will be purchased by the SCCA and will be paid directly to the Licensing Agent on behalf of the youth. No cash value or substitutions. Winner will be drawn using a random lottery system based on the number of entries.

Winner will be notified by the information supplied on the application.

**\*\*Print\*\* Application for Drawing a NYS DEC Lifetime Sporting License**

Full Name of Child \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Full Name of Parents \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ NY Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Grand Parent completing Application \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Member’s Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

