



SCCA Newsletter – Meeting at the SCCA Building on Rte. 145 East Cobleskill, NY 12043 on July & August 2024.

Greg Warner, President of Schoharie County Conservation Association called the meetings to order with the pledge of allegiance with 15 & 12 members in attendance. Clubs represented were NWTF, Schoharie County Veterans Advocate, Schoharie Ridge Runners Snowmobile Riders, Middleburgh Rod & Gun Club, West Fulton Rod & Gun Club, Cave Country Riders, Summit Sno Riders, Long Path North Hiking Club, Richmondville Fish & Game Club, Schoharie County Whitetails Unlimited and several Associate members. The July minutes were read and approved with a motion from Doug Handy and second by Dave Wood. The July treasurer's report was read and approved with a motion from Eric Haslun, second by Jerry Seyboth. The August minutes were read and approved with a motion from Dave Wood and second by Mark Hotaling. The August treasurer's report was read and approved by a motion from Dave Hendrick and second by Mark Hotaling. The members approved all four reports. **The next SCCA meeting will be held on September 26th at 7 PM @ the Cobleskill College in the Curtis Mott bldg. in room 106.**

Elections of officers were done at April's meeting. President – Greg Warner, Vice President - Doug Handy, Secretary – Mike Zeh, and Treasurer – Mike Zeh. The transfer of the funds from the Ameri-Pride Account to the Fam Funds Account. Both these accounts are used to fund Scholarships for SUNY Cobleskill students, sponsor youth summer campers and help with transportation expenses for annual Educational Conventions of which the college promotes for Conservation and Fisheries.

SCCA will be setting up a wildlife booth at the New York Power Authority Wildlife Festival on September 28 from 10 AM to 4 PM. We will be there with the support of the Schoharie County Veterans. SCCA also sent Debra Work along with Loran Work and Jacob Work representing our Schoharie County Youths to the New York Conservation Council Fall meeting held near Herkimer / Rome, New York. This was a three-four-day event with many guest speakers from various NYS DEC representatives and officers of the Council. (More Information in next month's newsletter). SCCA did sponsor a four-man golf team, all SCCA members for the National Wildlife Turkey Federation in Canajoharie in August supporting NWTF. SCCA did submit their 2025 Request to the Schoharie County Board of Supervisors in August.

SCCA would like to say thank you to Fields of Grace Outreach for their generous donation of the 30 X 50 building on 7.6 acres of land. This property is located In the Town of Cobleskill on Route 145. The address is 3673 St. Rte. 145 Cobleskill, New York 12043. We setup a lawn mower schedule for mowing around the building. The membership voted on purchasing a 50" commercial Cub Cadet lawn mower for a price of \$4000. This mower came with a snow Blade and a leaf/grass bagger. We had the rest of the area brush hogged in May and August. Doug Handy and John Nesel are in charge of land scaping the property. We replaced the floor joists on one of the sheds. We did a general clean up and delivered it to Mosa. We will look into adding stones to the driveway at a later date. Still need to set up a new account with a propane company for heating the main building. Thank you, Pastor Pete & Karen DeBartolo, for all your help in the past and present, from all the members of SCCA. SCCA has applied for a Real Property Tax Exemption for Non-Profit Organization the Town of Cobleskill which was approved. The membership voted to allow the Schoharie County Veterans the use of the clubhouse for Arts & Crafts on Tuesdays and their meetings. SCCA has also approved the Long Path North Hiking Club can utilize the club house for their monthly meeting also. This exemption makes SCCA exempt from paying School Taxes and land taxes on the new Club house/land donated by Fields Of Grace. Carl Stefanik donated a push lawn mower to SCCA to help keep the property mowed.

SCCA did sponsor a Youth Fish Derby on June 22nd at the Cobleskill Holding Pond from 9 AM to 1 PM. Thirty-one youths showed up and caught lots of fish. Some bass, perch, blue gills, sun fish, one trout and one 17" bullhead. Lots of prizes. Local 157 Labor's Union from Schenectady donated \$300 toward prizes along with many other local businesses. Carl Stefanik donated several fishing poles & reels to be given out to youths during the fish derby. Off the Beaten Path donated the bait. Thank you, Jeff, for your many years of support. Stewarts in Cobleskill donated the ice cream for the event. McDonalds donated coupons for sodas, Hamburg and fries.

SCCA members did have a Kayak raffle again at the Cobleskill Fair this summer. This is the only benefit we have to raise funds to support our scholarship program, Youth summer camp sponsors, Dorwin Hamm Scholarships, Youth Life time license drawings and donations we make to the varies organizations in our Associations. There are six different clubs at SUNY Cobleskill who are affiliated with SCCA. Our kayak raffle did have six different prizes including two each Kayaks or \$500 cash

as 1st prize, a 50 caliber Black Powder Rifle donated by Schoharie County Chapter of Whitetails Unlimited – 2nd prize, a Wildlife Framed Print which SCCA purchased at the silent auction of the Ducks Unlimited event last fall – 3rd prize, one \$100 gift card donated by our local Assemblyman, Chris Tague – 4th prize and two \$50 gift cards from NBT (Cobleskill) and the Bank of Richmondville (Schoharie) – 5th & 6th prizes. The Sponsor of our raffle ticket printing has been Shaul's Roofing (Fultonham) for the last ten years at least. Each ticket is \$5 or 5 each for \$20. Each year our tickets sales have been great, all we have to do is ask our local fair attendees and they support our programs. The winners of this year's prizes were 1st prize Bryanna Brewer from Bainbridge, NY (she chose the \$500); 2nd prize went to Kevin Berner from Richmondville (50 caliber Black Powder Rifle); 3rd prize went to David Wood from Middleburgh (Ducks Unlimited Print); 4th prize went to Andy Jacek from Middleburgh (\$100); 5th prize went to Zelia Attaway from Sharon Springs (\$50); and 6th prize went to Bob Vedder from Schoharie (\$50). SCCA would like to thank all the volunteers who helped out with selling raffle tickets and manning the booth along with teaching gun safety to our youth using our BB gun booth. It takes close to 50 volunteers over the 6-day event. We would also like to thank our two Schoharie County NYS DEC ENCON officers, Melissa Burgess & Justanna Bohling for spending two days each at our fair booth. Their support along with answering the many questions from the public about the paper hunting licenses switch this year help bring in ticket buyers. Also, we would like to thank all our ticket buyers and our local donors who donated our prizes and last but not forgotten is our ticket sponsor, Shauls Roofing from Middleburgh who has supported SCCA for many, many years. Thank you, Dick Shaul

Venison Donation Program: This past February 553 pounds of venison was delivered to eight different locations throughout the county. Schoharie County Whitetails Unlimited will donate another 50 Caliber CVA Black Powder Rifle to encourage Deer Hunters to donate a whole deer to the program this fall. This venison is ground into packages of 1 to 2 lbs. We will hold a drawing from all the names who donated a whole deer at the January 2025 SCCA meeting. Joseph Rack from Schoharie was the lucky winner last year. It cost SCCA \$1006.00 for the meat processing this past year. SCCA has chosen to do pay the price so we can decide where the venison is given out and to whom receives it (food pantries). Marlow Meat processing in Howes Cave and Blues Meat Processing in Berne are again receiving deer this fall for the Schoharie County Venison Program. Good luck hunting and be safe out there.

Lifetime Hunting and Fishing License: SCCA has once again voted to sponsor a Lifetime Hunting/Fishing license for the sixth year. This drawing is open to all members' children and grandchildren, great grandchildren below the age of seventeen as of December 31, 2024. It can be an Association Club member or an Individual Club member's relative. We had 46 applications to draw from last year. **The passed November 2023 winner was Talon Hotaling who is the grandson of Associate Member Mark Hotaling from Schoharie. He received a Lifetime license for Hunting and Fishing along with Spring & Fall Turkey permits.** This was the fifth youth that SCCA has sponsored a lifetime hunting & fishing license. The drawing was held at the SCCA meeting, November 16, 2023. The winner of the drawing for this year will be held in November.

Region 4 - New York Fish & Wildlife Management Board: Minutes from June 26th. Chairman Larry Didonato called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Larry Didonato- Board Chair Board reported on the Habitat/ Access projects and reminded all county representatives of the need for applications. State board approved MOA to do door knocking campaign for Stream Access Verification. Otsego County FWMB representative needs to beat the bushes and explain to landowners the public access policies. Was able to make it so properties didn't have to be listed on the map but took a lot of pressure on central office to get the door knocking campaign approved. Want every county to put in at least 1 submission for the Habitat grant this coming year. Larry also reported that the new launch on Glimmerglass Lake is basically a Kayak launch which replaced a car/top launch installed many years ago. Mike Terrel reported that the ECO Academy is set to begin the first week of June. Have 60 candidates for 45 slots which is good to have 15 in reserve. Forest Rangers filled 12 of their 15 slots for an academy. Chris VanMaaren – Regional Fisheries Manager reported that a walleye survey was done on the Mohawk River by interviewing anglers. NYS DEC Tagged 100 Blue Backed Herring in the Mohawk River.

Mike Clark- Regional Wildlife Manager reported: 35,000 increased to 50,000 Federally Funded Pheasants. Reevaluating current pheasant release sites. Sponsored youth hunt cutoff date is 9/1/24 for applications. Discuss grants for land acquisitions on 86 acres near Franklin Vly, did not go through. Landowner wants more money. Discuss road repairs for State land Access. He also reviewed Grouse Projects, Maquettes surveys, Transmitters on Mallards, Cable restraints for Beavers of which there will be a 4-hour class offered by DEC the week before Labor Day. Hunter educational classes being offered in schools along with Archery training for grades 4 through 12. He reviewed the paper licenses this fall. More information available on-line through NYS DEC. Next FWMB meeting will be October 23, 2024 @ Middleburgh Rod & Gun Club @ 5:30.

SCOPE: This is a reminder that we will be having our monthly meeting this Tuesday, 17 September 2024 at the Carlisle Town Hall. The meeting will begin at 7pm. There is a lot to discuss, including the Special Meeting scheduled for 22 October 2024 at the Middleburgh Rod and Gun Club. This meeting will feature guest speakers NY State Representative Chris Tague AND NY State Senator Peter Oberacker. Members are encouraged to attend monthly meetings when possible, however, it would

be great if any or all members who are receiving this email, would attend Tuesday's meeting as there is a lot to discuss, including coming up with questions that you would like to have answered by these respective gentlemen. There will be more information to follow about this special meeting in the coming days. It is with regret that I must inform all members who were not in attendance at last month's meeting, that Geruld Olsen has resigned from the position of Treasurer. Cindy Bisnett is now taking over the position as Treasurer. Cindy was voted in last month as the new Treasurer, with the Secretary casting one vote. Cindy will now have the awesome responsibility of collecting dues and all other monies that our local chapter takes in. Thank you to Jerry for his years serving as Treasurer and thank you to Cindy for taking on this responsibility! There are 20 Chapters in New York State. Schoharie SCOPE members voted to donate \$340 to State Chapter to help cover advertisement cost in the New York Outdoors Sports to promote VOTE/VOTE/VOTE. We need to stay dedicated to preserving the 2nd Amendment rights for you and all of us. All gun owners need to vote in our elections. "S.C.O.P.E. Shooters Committee on Political Education" admin@scopeny2a.org. **We need to get the Gun Owners to vote!**

Cave Country Riders Inc.: Meetings are held at Terri Bradt home, 178 Pine Hill Rd Cobleskill, NY, and the 2nd Tuesday of every month @ 7:00 pm. Meetings held from Oct.–Mar. POC: Terri Bradt 518-234-7331.

SUNY Cobleskill College: The student chapter of Ducks Unlimited will be holding their 10th Annual Outdoorsman Night Out on November 7th, 2024 @ Bouk Hall at SUNY Cobleskill 106 Suffolk Circle, Cobleskill, NY 12043 Doors open at 6pm. POC this year is Maddox Stirk – 585-590-7645. Cost is \$20 for student, \$55 for non-student, \$285 Bronze Sponsor, \$450 for Captain Table, or \$1500 for VIP Table. Join the next generation of wetland conservationists Raffles, generation of wetland conservationists Raffles, games, silent auction, and much more. SCCA is still offering the \$400.00 Dorwin Hamm Scholarship to student in the Fisheries and Wildlife programs. POC is Roger Masse 518-255-5292 or Marc Cornwell 518-337-7044. SCCA members voted to donate \$600 to help with travel expenses for a trip to Nashville, Tenn this summer. A \$600 check was given in April.

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. Clearwater Chapter meetings held 3rd Monday of each month at the Clifton Park – Halfmoon Library – 475 Moe Road Clifton Park, NY 12065. POC: Ray Lamberton 518-421-2500.

Long Path North Hiking Club: Next meeting will be held on September 21 @ 6 PM in the SCCA club house 3673 St. Rte. 145 Cobleskill, New York. The new Treasurer is Jean Mammato from Cobleskill, NY. Her e-mail address is Jean.lpnhc@gmail.com There are now 165 members with (3 new life members) 49 Life Members. List of Hikes coming up: Oct.5 - LP Section 30, Looking Glass Pond to Westkill Rd., 6.5 miles, leader will be Steve; Oct. 19 – Blenheim Hill in southern Schoharie County from Starheim Rd. 3-4 miles, leader will be Russell; Nov. 1 – Fall Highway clean-up on Rte. 30 by Vroman's Nose, call Mark if you can help; Nov. 9th – Bender Melon Farm Natura Preserve, to see the new bridge and trail, ?? miles, call leader Marilyn; Dec 21st - first Day of Winter hike to Halcott Mt., HP in Catskills, 3 steep miles, Russell will be leader; Jan. 1st – First Day Hike on Wednesday, Snowshoe or winter hike at Mine Kill State Park, 3 miles, call Mark; Jan 18th – Hike & Brew, Hike Sanders Town Park in W. Glenville, then brew & food at Wolf Hollow Brewing, call Don; Feb 15th – LP Section 33, High Point Rd. to Beaver Rd. or Tubbs Pond, 3-4 miles depending on snow, leader, Mark. 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, Harold Guest Jr. 518-827-5995, and Don Allard 518-577-7741. Membership info, contact Mark Traver at 518-944-7734, LPNHC P.O. Box 855 Schoharie, NY 12157.

NWTF Schoharie County Ridge Runners: NWTF had a fund raiser at the Canajoharie Gulf Club on August 17th. POC - Dave Hendrick 518-657-1787 E-mail - hendrickrd@gmail.com.

Richmondville Fish & Game Club: Monthly meetings are the first Wednesday of each month at the club property located on 811 High View Rd. The Club is starting a youth trap shooting night at the club range. The youth's teams are shooting every Tuesday night at 5PM. We have to do some modifying to our existing range to meet the requirements of the league. 12- to 18-year-old. Richmondville Fish & Game has purchased a new trap machine with raffle proceeds which will be used for the club and Youth Trap shooting league. Contact Greg Warner, club President @ 518-265-8647. New targets to

shoot at! Will be sponsoring a Youth School Trap in the fall. The Schoharie County Veterans Association held a trap event for disable Vets at Richmondville F&G.

Summit Conservation Club: Club meetings held on the second Monday @ 6 PM of each month. POC is Stacey Betts - Phone 518-287-1710, 109 Club Dive Summit, N.Y. 12175.

Middleburgh Rod & Gun Club: Last meeting had close to 50 in attendance. Three new applications were read, none voted on. Check out the club's website. **Middleburgh r&g club.com.** Indoor pistol leagues are running and new signs are up. The club is holding a special, members only party on September 21. The club did sponsor one youth to NYS DEC camp for \$350 (Lauren Work). Had close to 40 shooters participate in a 22 shoot in September with Fields Of Grace. High School Trap meeting in September and second Wednesday shooting starting in this fall, practice with regular shoots after that on Friday nights. Check website for dates. Good chance for new members to finish work hour requirement. The club bylaws changes were read at the May meeting and the second & third readings will be done later. College students are shooting archery again on Friday nights. Women Pistol league is looking closer (45 interested) to happening. Had 20 shooters on Sunday for Pistol Outdoor shoot.

West Fulton Rod & Gun Club: At the September meeting there were 10 members present. The by/laws changes were reviewed and a few changes were looked at. The members voted to have another raffle this summer/fall. 1000 tickets printed, 1st prize a 44 magnum Big Boy Henry rifle, 2nd prize – 22caliper Henry Golden Boy rifle, 3rd prize - \$250 Cash. Tickets will be \$5 each or 5 for \$20. Drawing at the annual Diner in December. Call Ryan Hamm for tickets. Next meeting, October 1st. The club's address is PO Box 99, Fultonham, NY 12071. The club will be scheduling volunteers for flagging RT 30 for the Tim Murphy 10K run in October. E-mail address is westfultonrodandgunclub@gmail.com. The Fall picnic will be held on September 21st at the Panther Creek Farm.

Schoharie County Veterans Service – Peer to Peer Advocate, Kristain Hofeller, POC 518-929-2832. They will sponsor a Veterans Shoot at Richmondville Fish & Game Club on September 28th. Call Kristain for more information - 528-929-2832.

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. The next SCCA (Schoharie Co. Cons. Assoc.) meeting will be held on September 26th at 7 PM @ the Curtis Mott bldg. room 106, SUNY Cobleskill College.

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 11/21/2024. President Greg Warner* Vice President Doug Handy* Treasurer/Secretary Mike Zeh* call for an application 518-265-4961 or e-mail mzeh4@nycap.rr.com N.Y.S. Dept. of Cons. – 2024 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 17 as of December 31, 2024 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 _____