



**SCCA Newsletter – Meeting at the SUNY
SCCA Club House, 3673 St. Rte. 145
Cobleskill on November 21st 2024.**

Greg Warner, President of Schoharie County Conservation Association called the meetings to order with the pledge of allegiance with 24 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 SCCA Associates along with Joseph Sironis, Isabella Regels, Elena DiGrige, George Morales and Kate Collins from SUNY Cobleskill. The October minutes were read and approved with a motion from Eric Haslun and second by Debroah Work. The September treasurer's report was read and approved with a motion from Doug Handy, second by Steve Zahurak. The members approved both reports. Mike Mueller and Steve Zahurak from the Woodlawn Sportsman Club in Rotterdam brought in several products to demonstrate and pass around to the members. A Browning cellular-trail camera w/lock box; a THAW hand warmer double-sided heating, integrated LED light and a power bank to recharge any device using a USB - C cable; A NEBO Edge 2K rechargeable pocket light w/three settings of brightness; NEBO SLIM MINI UV Light and flashlight. UV is used to detect pet urine, pests, automobile leaks, inspection of hotel rooms and authentication of currency; and last item was an Irish Setter Red Wing VAPRTREK BOOTS. The boots have an Armatek abrasion resistant covering, Scent Ban control, Temp Sens Temperature Regulation, RPM Lightweight Durable Outsole, ENERGI High Rebound Energy Return Underfoot, waterproof and insulated. Thank you, Steve, for bring these products to our meeting!!! **The next SCCA meeting will be held on December 19th at 7 PM @ SCCA Club House on Route 145, East Cobleskill, NY. The address is 3673 St. Rte. 145 Cobleskill, N.Y. 12043. Pizza & Wings will be provided along with water & soda.**

The SCCA members voted to donate \$300 to each of the Youth Trap shooter teams (Middleburgh & Richmondville/Cobleskill) to help cover the cost of clay birds and Ammo. They went thru more than a pallet of birds this past season. They are looking for donations for next season and plan on ordering 3 pallets of clay birds at over \$1000 per pallet.

SCCA members created a list of things they would like to do at the club house. Install an LED Light for our SCCA Sign down near the driveway entrance. Finish painting the gable end of the club house, and maybe install some plastic fencing around the club house base and around the bottom of the siding on the fair booth. Gutters on club house and fair booth, we need to repair the ramp leading up to the Cobleskill Fair Booth. SCCA members had a work party and raise the fair booth up 10" to preserve the siding. Need to setup an open house to promote SCCA new building. Purchase 4 tables for club house from Middleburgh Hardware for \$520. SCCA is looking for donations of deer mounts and other animals for hanging in club house.

SCCA is planning on having our Ice fishing derby again this coming winter if the ice cooperates. February 1 at Franklin Valise near Livingston Ville, south of Middleburgh on Route 145 from 8AM to 1PM.

NYPA: New York Power Authority is scheduling a Wildlife Task Force meeting in February or March @ Visitor Center in Blenheim. There is usually 12 to 15 members of representatives from DEC, SCCA, NYPA, SUNNY COBLESKILL, DEP, MINEKILL PARK, to mention a few. Last year the NYPA gave us a tour of the Power House.

The Schoharie County Trappers did have a training class for fleshing beavers, muskrats, and other furbearing animals October 20th and October 27th from 2PM to 4PM. It was held at the Schoharie County Conservation building 3673 St. Rte. 145 Cobleskill, New York 12043. POC was Jeff Hatlee, from Off the Beaten Path. 518-257-2792 and Max Karker. There were close to 40 college students signed up for this training. The Schoharie County Trappers

Association has rejoined SCCA after about 4 years. Welcome back Trappers. SCCA did repair the siding and paint the exterior of the Club house this past month at a cost of \$800 for material. Jeff Righmeyer from Richmondville volunteered to do the spray painting of the club house, no labor cost charge, Thank you Jeff. He also painted the four picnic tables. SCCA members voted to get Jeff a \$200 gift card for painting.

The Scouts from Fultonham and Cobleskill area (boys & girls) have asked permission to use the SCCA building for the club meetings twice a month. SCCA members approved this at the November meeting. Deborah Work is POC.

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 Caliper 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 in 2023. 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.** Eric Haslun is POC – 518-231-1744 **We need more deer donations!!!** Fill your doe tag and give it to the Venison Donation Program. You might win a brand new 50 Caliber Black Powder Rifle.

Lifetime Hunting and Fishing License: SCCA had the drawing for the NYS Lifetime Hunting/Fishing license for the sixth year. **The winner was Rowan Hale, from Howes Cave who is Doug Handy's grandson.** He is only five years old so it only cost us \$535. The younger age the cheaper the license. This license also includes a Spring & Fall Turkey permit. The drawing is open to all members' children and grandchildren, great grandchildren below the age of seventeen as of December 31. It can be an Association Club member or an Individual Club member's relative. This year we had 58 applications to draw from. **The passed November 2023 winner was Talon Hotaling who is the grandson of Associates Member Mark Hotaling from Schoharie. He received a Lifetime license for Hunting and Fishing along with Spring & Fall Turkey permits.**

Region 4 - New York Fish & Wildlife Management Board: Minutes from October 23rd. Chairman Larry Didonato called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Larry DiDonato: Board Chairman went around the room and introduced themselves to the members of the Board. Each county should submit 1 project proposal for the Habitat and Access grant, provide description. Deadline is December 8th but get it in by the beginning of November. Larry reviewed 4 or 5 projects which have been submitted. Send wildlife related projects to Mike Clark, fisheries related projects to Chris VanMaaren.

NYC DEP: Rondout aqueduct (Water tunnel) will be shut down for repairs thru May of next year. NYS has reported fifteen Counties within the state to conserve water. Reservoir will start to refill after May to refill hopefully depending on the amount of Snow we get this winter. DMAP permits are out for DEP areas (total 550). There are still over 50 permits available for region 3 & Region 4, Manorkill & Beaverkill areas.

Chris VanMaaren – Regional Fisheries Manager: 2000 each 2" Walleye fingerlings released in Canadarago reservoir. Over 1400 sportsmen interviewed (anglers) fishing the Mohawk River. DEC is currently working on Reefs on Otsego Lake hoping for spawning of White fish and Lake Trout. Need up-date on water release for Schoharie Creek from Schoharie Reservoir. Dredging will be part of Trout Stocking Management Plan for streams.

Mike Clark- Regional Wildlife Manager could not attend meeting, Sean Renolds reported No Back Tags required this fall. DEC iconized put down 4 Class 1 bears this past year. Pheasants will be stocked two extra times this hunting season. 5218 Total birds stocked. Trapping season will open October 25th.

Big Game: Backtags are no longer required anywhere in the state – in effect for this fall. Paper tags will also be here this fall, recommending that folks use a zip lock bag to use when attaching tag to carcass.

Deer Management Permits – allocations are similar to previous years, not much has changed except some minor tweaking. **Next FWMB meeting will be January 22nd @ Schenectady DEC Office @ 5:30.**

SCOPE: The next SCOPE meeting will be held on January 21st @ 7PM, Carlisle Town Hall. Our special meeting on 22 October 2024 at the Middleburgh Rod and Gun Club had close to 40 attendances. This meeting featured guest speakers NY State Representative Chris Tague AND NY State Senator Peter Oberacker. Members are encouraged to attend monthly meetings. There are 20 Chapters in New York State. 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.

Cave Country Riders Inc.: Meetings are held at Terri Bradt home, 178 Pine Hill Rd. Cobleskill, NY 12043 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 did hold 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 with over 200 in attendance. POC this year was Maddox Stirk – 585-590-7645. Cost was \$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. The SCCA membership voted at the September meeting to sponsor a \$450 table for eight SCCA members to support the College chapter of Ducks Unlimited. 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. We handed out four applications for the scholarship at the Banquet hoping to increase interest. SCCA has not received any applications this past semester.

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. Joseph E. Zaloga American Legion Post #1520. 4 Everett Rd. Albany, N.Y. 12205 POC: Roy Lamberton 518-421-2500.

Long Path North Hiking Club: Next meeting will be held on March 19th @ 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 168 members with (2 new life members) 52 Life Members. List of Hikes coming up: Nov. 1 – Fall Highway clean-up on Rte. 30 by Vroman's Nose, call Mark if you can help(nine bags of garbage was picked up) ; 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 Cobleskill Golf Club on August 17th. POC - Dave Hendrick 518-657-1787 E-mail - hendrickrd@gmail.com. To support the NWTF, SCCA members voted to sponsor 4 SCCA members at a cost of \$400.00.

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! The club has been sponsoring a Youth School Trap league this fall. The Schoharie County Veterans Association held a trap event for disable Vets at Richmondville F&G. The club is running a special raffle to support the cost of ammo for the youth shooting team. The members are holding an Ice Fishing Derby on February 15th, 8AM to 1PM. Questions – call Greg.

Summit Conservation Club: Next meeting will be November 18th @ 6PM - 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. 2025 schedule for pizza and breakfast: Saturdays 12 noon to 7PM & Sundays Noon to 4PM; January 18th &

19th, February 15th & 16th, March 15th & 16th, April 26th & 27th. Pancake Breakfast 8AM -11AM: January 5th, February 2nd, March 2nd, April 6th.

Middleburgh Rod & Gun Club: Last meeting had close to 50 in attendance. Four applications were voted on, one was read. Check out the club's website. **Middleburgh r&g club.com.** Indoor pistol leagues are running and new signs are up. 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. Fields of Grace will hold a Holiday Silent Auction on December 14th and will have our annual youth drive-thru Christmas Pary on December 21st from 1PM to 3PM. All children are invited. Officers' elections were held. Joe Kopacz stepped down as President. He was elected as one of the Board of Directors. Jennette Hall will be our new President, Dave Gode will stay as Vice President and our new Secretary will be Nicole Thompson form Howes Cave. Welcome aboard Nicole.

West Fulton Rod & Gun Club: At the December meeting there were 9 members present. Election of club Officers were held at the November meeting. Same slate of officers was voted in. Jeff Almy – President, Larry Hamm – Vice President, Scott Elethrope – Treasurer, and Ryan Hamm – Secretary. The membership voted to donate \$1000 to the Youth Trap shooters, shooting at the Middleburgh Rod & Gun Club. The by/laws changes are still being reviewed. The members voted in August to have another raffle this summer/fall. 1000 tickets printed, 1st prize a 44 magnum Big Boy Henry rifle, 2nd prize – 22caliber Henry Golden Boy rifle, 3rd prize - \$250 Cash. Tickets were \$5 each or 5 for \$20. Shauls Roofing did sponsor the printing cost of the tickets. Drawing at the annual diner on December 7th at the annual diner @ West Fulton Fire House. Annual Dues of \$20 will be also due at the diner. Call Ryan Hamm for raffle tickets. The winners of the raffle where 1st prize was Joe Ravella. He chose the \$500 cash instead of the Henry Big Boy Henry Rifle. 2nd Prize was Wayne Skowfoe from Middleburgh, he chose the 22 Caliber Henry Golden Boy Rifle. 3rd prize was Colin Cusick who won the \$250 cash. We had another special raffle for a pair of Binoculars which was won by Gary Stoller who helped us out with our live auction during our diner event. The club made close to \$650 profit from the auction of donated products. Next meeting, January 7th. The club does plan on having an ice fishing derby for our youth on February 8th from 8AM to 1PM. The club's address is PO Box 99, Fultonham, NY 12071. The club did hold the Tim Murphy 10K run in October which was a big success again. Club's E-mail address is westfultonrodandgunclub@gmail.com.

Schoharie County Veterans Service – Peer to Peer Advocate, Kristain Hofeller, POC 518-929-2832. ; Dec 10 7PM Veterans Camaraderie Meeting 3673 NY 145; Dec 11 9:00am Veterans Breakfast at Cobleskill Diner; Dec 11 12:00 10th anniversary of Veterans Miracle Center reception following RSVP stacey@vmcalbany.org; Dec 11 7PM Ridge runners of Middleburgh meeting @ Middleburgh Pasta & Grille; Dec 13-15 Homeward Bound ADKs Piseco Lake Retreat; Dec 18 12:00pm Veteran Lunch at The Gathering Place; Dec 19 10:00am Conesville Country Store Veterans Breakfast

Dec 20 6PM Albany Veterans concert for relief for those impacted by the storms down south at the Empire Underground \$20 donation. contact ticketmaster.com/event/3000615F863B23A4; DEC 25 All Day “MERRY CHRISTMAS”; For Ridge runners of Middleburgh Contact Doug 518 231-0970; For the Gathering Place Lunch contact Kim 518-823-4338; For HOMEWARD BOUND Adirondacks: Shane 518-618-7776; For Richmondville Range contact Emmett 518-657-9067For SUNY Equine Contact Carolyn 518-225-5900

They will sponsor a Veterans Shoot at Richmondville Fish & Game Club on September 28th. Call Kristain for more information - 528-929-2832 Veterans Lunch at the Gathering Place on November 20 @12 Noon; Veterans Breakfast on November 21 @10 AM. Conesville County Store

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 December 19th at 7 PM @ SCCA building - 3673 St. Rte. 145 Cobleskill, NY 12043. Pizza and wings will be provided by the club along with soda and water.