



SCCA Newsletter – Meeting at the SUNY Cobleskill – Curtis Building Rm 106 on October 24th 2024.

Greg Warner, President of Schoharie County Conservation Association called the meetings to order with the pledge of allegiance with 18 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 Associates along with Kristina Dohmann, Ashlyn Hanley and Hazel Lippitt from SUNY Cobleskill. The September minutes were read and approved with a motion from Dave Wood and second by Kristina Dohmann. The September treasurer's report was read and approved with a motion from Gabe Warner, second by Debroah Work. The members approved both reports. **The next SCCA meeting will be held on November 21 at 7 PM @ SCCA Club House on Route 145, East Cobleskill, NY. The address is 3673 St. Rte. 145 Cobleskill, N.Y. 12043.**

SCCA did receive a check for \$250 for setting up a wildlife booth at the New York Power Authority Wildlife Festival on September 28 from 10 AM to 4 PM. We were there with the support of the Schoharie County Veterans. Helping out at the Power Authority were Greg Warner, Mike Zeh, Liz and Don Reinhart, John Nesel and Doug Handy. Debroah Work also helped set up the display. There were over 1500 visitors during the day. 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. There is an NRA Range Officer Instructor certification class being offered for \$75 on December 8th. There were 18 youth trap shooters on the Middleburgh league. There went thru more than a pallet of birds this past season. They are looking for donations for next season.

SCCA did sponsor eight SCCA members to attend the Ducks Unlimited Banquet held on SUNNY Cobleskill Campus on November 17th. This was our way showing support to the Ducks Unlimited Student Chapter. SCCA members created a list of things they would like to do at the club house. 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. SCCA is looking for donations of deer mounts and other animals for hanging in club house and the fair booth.

NYS DEC did the pheasant stocking for Schoharie County on September 27th. They released 52 birds at three different sites, 28 cocks and 24 hens. The three sites were Lape Road, Beards Hollow and Conesville. The total released were 156 birds. Gerald Seyboth and Jacob Work were representing SCCA and Bob Benson was the NYS DEC representative. There is supposed to be three different stocking in the next two months.

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, Thank you Jeff. He also painted the four picnic tables. SCCA members voted to get Jeff a \$200 gift card for painting bldg.

The Scouts from Fultonham and Cobleskill area (boys & girls) have asked permission to use the SCCA building twice a month for the club meetings twice a month. SCCA members will vote on this at our next 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 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.** Eric Haslun is POC – 518-231-1744

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 Associates 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 sponsor 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 on November 21st at the SCCA meeting.

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: This is a reminder that we will be having our monthly meeting this Tuesday, November 12th, 2024 at the Middleburgh Rod & Gun Club. The meeting will begin at 7pm. 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. 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. 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!**

Red Flag Laws also identified as the Extreme Risk Protection Order law, state in part, are to prevent individuals who show signs of being a threat to themselves or others from purchasing or processing any kind of firearm.

The Red Flag Laws provides procedural safeguards to ensure that no firearm is removed without due process while helping to prevent tragedies, like the school shooting in Parkland, Florida, and the racist mass shooting in Buffalo.

This law builds on New York's strongest in the nation gun laws and makes New York the first in the United States to empower its teachers, school administrators, and mental health professionals to help prevent shooting by pursuing court interventions. **These Red Flag Laws were presented as one way to end "Gun Violence". So much for more gun laws!!!!**

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.

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 Clearwater TU is thrilled to welcome our guest Chris Powers as he shares an overview of the Adirondack Brook Trout program and sampling results from this past summer. Monday, November 18th 7:00-8:30PM @ American Legion Zaloga Post 1520 4 Everett Rd, Albany, NY 12205 or Join ONLINE or IN-PERSON. Members are welcome to log in to Zoom from home or attend in-person at the Zaloga Post to watch the virtual presentation. Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81747900191?pwd=41xbr7ta2M3305Pze3yO4M5ZCa5vDb.1>

Meeting ID: 817 4790 0191 Passcode: 640333 Dial by your location: • +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Chris Powers holds a B.S and M.S. from SUNY College of Environmental Science & Forestry in Syracuse where he worked on landlocked Atlantic salmon restoration in the Lake Ontario Watershed. Prior to coming to work for the DEC, Chris worked in other fisheries roles for the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department, Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission, Turner Enterprises Inc. and the Tin Mountain Conservation Center in New Hampshire. Much of Chris' work has been focused on the management, conservation, and restoration of native salmonids. In his free time Chris enjoys big and small game hunting, backpacking, and flyfishing for trout and muskies. 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: NWFT 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.

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.

Deer season Stuffed Pizza – Saturday, November 16th – 12PM to 7PM.

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 did hold a special, members only party on September 21 with about 65 members showing up. 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 November meeting there were 16 members present, the October meeting had only 4 members. Election of club Officers were held at the November meeting. Same slate of officers were 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 – 22caliper Henry Golden Boy rifle, 3rd prize - \$250 Cash. Tickets will be \$5 each or 5 for \$20. Shauls Roofing will 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. Next meeting, December 3rd. The fall picnic was held at Panther Creek Farm on Sept. 21 with only 9 members, Too many other things happening on the same day. 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. 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 November 21st at 7 PM @ SCCA building - 3673 St. Rte. 145 Cobleskill, NY 12043.

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 _____