



### **SCCA Newsletter – Meeting at the club house @ 3673 St. Route 145 Cobleskill, New York on April 24, 2025.**

Greg Warner, President of Schoharie County Conservation Association called the meetings to order with the pledge of allegiance with 19 members in attendance. Clubs represented were NWTF, Middleburgh 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, Schoharie County Trappers and several SCCA Associates along with 2 students from SUNY Cobleskill. The SCCA minutes were approved by a motion from Al Zwick, second by Doug Handy. The treasurer report was approved by a motion from Dave Wood, second by Jerry Seyboth. The membership voted and approved both motions. The next SCCA meeting will be held at the Club house @ 3673 St. Rte. 145 Cobleskill, NY on May 29<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM. There will be a collection of old, ragged American flags at the next meeting to turn into the American Legion who will have a ceremony to destroy the flags on Flag Day, 6/14/25. The SCCA did help NYS DEC to stock Trout on April 28<sup>th</sup> @ 10:30 AM, meeting at the Gilboa Post Office. There were over 2000 trout stocked between the Mallet Pond, Westkill Creek and the Cobleskill Holding Pond. We had several youths helping with the stocking including several students from Schoharie Central School.

Shaul Roofing has agreed to sponsor the ticket printing cost again this year for our Kayak Raffle at the Cobleskill Fair. They have done this for several years, Thank you Dick Shaul & Michael Shaul. SCCA members voted to donate another shotgun for a prize to the Youth Turkey event held on 197 Trux Road near Amsterdam. This will be the second year SCCA has done this. SCCA did set up a display at the Cobleskill College Wildlife Festival on April 26<sup>th</sup> from 10 AM to 4 PM. Even though the day was a little cold and wet, SCCA still sold \$830.00 worth of Kayak raffle tickets thanks to Doug Handy, Mike Zeh and Dave Wood. John Nesel was there to hand out tree seedlings to the youth. SCCA voted to be a sponsor for the event donating \$300 (Eagle Sponsor) to help we the cost of the Event. This is the first year that the students have asked for a donation for the Wildlife Festival. Greg Warner is taking care of the Ramp on the SCCA Booth at the fair-grounds. When we raised up the booth to level it, we had to raise the front of the booth about 4 inches. Hopefully we will get a chance to paint the building also. SCCA will be sponsoring a Youth Fishing derby on June 28<sup>th</sup> from 8am to 10am and 10am to 12 noon at the Cobleskill Holding Pond. Worms will be provided. SCCA did receive the budget request from the Schoharie Board of Supervisors month. This money helps SCCA pay for the postage and printing of the monthly newsletters which serves as a communication tool between the other clubs and individual members who pay dues to the SCCA. The New York Power Authority announced that the boat launch will start construction in June of this year. The design has been approved and there were three different contractors bidding on the job. The boat launch will be closed except for a Kayak launch during construction.

**SCCA:** All annual dues are due January 1st. A dues registration form will be included in your SCCA newsletter to fill out if you haven't paid your SCCA Dues for 2025. Please send in your dues. I have received association dues from twelve clubs so far this year and about thirty-one Individual Members who have paid. Association dues are \$30 annually. Each club officer and delegate receive a SCCA Newsletter monthly by mail or e-mail. Individual dues are \$10 annually. Please send in your dues. SCCA P.O. Box 325 Central Bridge, N.Y. 12035. **IRS Taxes for 2025 have been filed for SCCA.** They were due by May 15<sup>th</sup> but I did them early.

**Region 4 State Board Meeting (Fish & Wildlife Management Board) was held at the SCCA club house, 3673 St. Rte. 145 Cobleskill, NY April 23rd 5:30 pm.**

Mike Clark, NYS DEC Region 4 Wildlife Manager reported that decision yet on the Habitat-Access project funding yet because the NYS Budget hasn't been approved yet. He is looking for projects for 2025-2026. Timber cut on Partridge Run has not been completed yet. Bear Spring Mountain harvest cut complete. Rensselaer County – 68 & 41 acres cut complete. Archery Range in Albany County is being funded by Federal money. Brick yard in Columbia County – Grassland Habitat creation. Louise E. Keir – Burn should happen this week, 30 acres. Rensselaer & Otsego Counties DEC hiring Lieutenants to fill vacancies. Rensselaer County may lose pheasant stocking site because of a new house being built. (Need 500-foot protection restriction). Chris VanMaaren, Region 4 Fish Manager reported DEC is checking on spawning in Otsego Lake along with Cobleskill College students. Looking for White Fish eggs. Stocking of Schenectady Creek and looking at providing more cover to protect trout from Merganser duck. DEC has gained a couple more fish stocking areas in Otsego Creek thanks to the help of Sportsmen. Josh Choquette, Region 4 Access Coordinator reported up to date fish stocking with signature for access, state will be working on PFR signs later this summer, 150 landowner permission slips largest in the state – 234 parcels. Beverkill access 12.5 acres being purchased by the state. Docks being built for Germantown & Henry Hudson Sites. **Next Region 4 FWMB will be held on July 23<sup>rd</sup> @ NYS DEC office in Rotterdam/Schenectady.**

**SCOPE:** The next SCOPE meeting, June 16<sup>th</sup> @7PM, at the Middleburgh Rod & Gun Club. SCOPE did hold a special raffle, 100 each \$10 squares, prize was \$500 worth of fuel, (fuel oil, fire wood, propane gas, or electrical) winner's choice. **The winner of the raffle was Kathy Skowfoe.** Drawing was selected at the May meeting after all squares were sold. At the March meeting NYS SCOPE President, John Elwood was in attendance. He reviewed the top 10 egregious firearms legislation being considered in the NYS Legislature. Bill # A00929 - sale of firearms outside state in NYS Residents; Bill # A 02228 – requirement of background check for the purchase of 3D printers; Bill # A01774 – requirement of any person possessing a firearm to hold safety firearm safety certificate ; A # 01774 Establishes a class A misdemeanor to procure more than one firearm during a period of 30 days; Bill # A00346 Unlawful for persons under 21 to possess firearms; Bill # S 05813 – Imposes an excise tax of 11% on sale of firearms, major components and ammunition; Bill# A03376 – Requires liability insurance for owners of firearms, rifles, & shotguns; Bill # A01210 Establishes a 10 day waiting period before a firearm can be delivered to a person; Bill # A03021- Requires the division of criminal justice services to establish and maintain a database and maintain a database relating to the sale of micro stamped guns in NYS; Bill # S01358 – One year after enacted, all pistols or revolvers sold, delivered or transferred at retail must contain a child proofing device to effectively preclude an average 5-year-old from firing. Next meeting bring a friend or neighbor to join. "S.C.O.P.E. Shooters Committee on Political Education" [admin@scopeny2a.org](mailto:admin@scopeny2a.org). Schoharie-Otsego SCOPE will have an information booth set up at the Cobleskill Fair this year. We are looking at selling raffle tickets for a fund raiser. Tickets will be \$5 each or 5 each for \$20. Prizes will be a Gun Safe and a lockable gun case for travel. 300 tickets will be printed.

**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. The snowmobile clubs have created a parking area for trailers & vehicles for use during the winter snowmobile season at the SCCA Club House.

**Middleburgh Ridge Runner Snowmobile Club** donated \$1000 toward the cost of construction of a Privy being built on Cotton Hill located near the Long Path North Hiking Trail. They also help pay for the driveway expansion which will be used as a parking area for trailers & vehicles this winter. This is along side the driveway leading to the SCCA club house. The snowmobile trail cuts across the property of the SCCA club house driveway.

**SUNY Cobleskill College:** SCCA is still offering the \$400.00 Dorwin Hamm Scholarship to students in the Fisheries and Wildlife programs. POC is Roger Masse 518-255-5292 or Marc Cornwell 518-337-7044. **SCCA has received 6 Dorwin Hamm Scholarship applications this past month.** These will be reviewed by the Board of Directors and notices will be sent out by e-mail. Thank you Charles Cotton, one of the college professors. SCCA did set up a booth at the Wildlife Festival April 26 in the Park. SCCA did award \$500 to the students going to Nashville in Jul for travel expenses. SCCA did an Eagle Sponsor (\$300) for the college students supporting the Wildlife Festival.

**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. American Legion Zaloga Post, 4 Everett Rd, Albany, NY 12205 Joseph E. Zaloga American Legion Post #1520. 4 Everett Rd. Albany, N.Y. 12205 POC: Roy Lamberton 518-421-2500. There will be an annual meeting held from 12pm to 3pm @ Hathorn Pavilion, Saratoga Spa State Park. Chapter election will be held, come and join us. There will be food & drink available, June 1, 2025 Great raffle prizes, casting demos, lawn game and Chapter Awards.

**Long Path North Hiking Club:** Next meeting will be held on July 16<sup>th</sup> @ 6 PM in the SCCA club house 3673 State Rte. 145 Cobleskill, New York. The new Treasurer is Jean Mammato from Cobleskill, NY. Her e-mail address is [Jean.lpnhc@gmail.com](mailto:Jean.lpnhc@gmail.com) There are now 163 members with 55 lifetime members. The passing of Cherrie Clapper in December is a big lost. She was a lifetime member with 30 plus years. She was our treasurer for over 30 years. List of Hikes coming up: June 8 Cole Hollow Bridge Replacement which will take several trips, HELP! (see related story) contact Mark for details; June 14 Newly opened Bromley Mt. Fire Tower near Delhi, 3.5-mile loop, leader: Steve; July 12 Settle Mt. Nature Preserve by Cobleskill, owned by the Schoharie Co. Land Trust, two loops totaling 5 miles, Call Mark.; July 26 Gifford/Plotterkill Trail workday, 2 miles, bring your gloves and clippers, led by our maintainer, Don; Aug 2 Bald Mountain near Stamford, we were rained out last year, 4-5 miles, call Russell to try this again. 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 will have a banquet on April 18<sup>th</sup> @ Chieftain's in Cobleskill POC - Dave Hendrick 518-657-1787 Doors open at 4PM. E-mail - [hendrickrd@gmail.com](mailto:hendrickrd@gmail.com). The banquet was a big success with over 200 in attendance. There were several rifles and shotguns along with a few pistols given out as prizes. Between the silent and live auction along with raffles the event raised over \$40,000.00. After expenses the NWTF had almost \$10,000.00. Great Job done by Dave Hendrick. Food was great. Lots of fun by all.

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**Richmondville Fish & Game Club:** Monthly meetings are the first Wednesday of each month at the club property located on 811 High View Rd. The youth's teams are shooting every Tuesday night at 5PM. 12- to 18-year-old. 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, starts March 30<sup>th</sup>. The club is running a special raffle to support the cost of ammo for the youth shooting team. The members did hold a Youth Ice Fishing Derby on February 15<sup>th</sup>, 8AM to 1PM on Fancher Pond just off NYS Rt. 10. There were 40 to 50 in attendance. No Perch or Pickerel caught, just Black Bass which were out of season. Questions – call Greg. If anyone needs the Trap shooter's schedule, please email me.

**Summit Conservation Club:** Next meeting will be in April 14<sup>th</sup> @ 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; April 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>. Also, Pancake Breakfast 8AM - 11AM: April 6<sup>th</sup>. The club donated \$500 to the Richmondville/Cobleskill Trap.

**Middleburgh Rod & Gun Club:** Last meeting had over 50 in attendance. More info available on website [Middleburgh r&g club.com](http://Middleburghr&gclub.com). 18 College students are shooting archery again on Friday nights. Women Pistol league has 19 women shooting. Had 20 shooters on Sunday for Pistol Outdoor shoot. Wayne Skowfoe was appointed as new Chairman of the Dec. Raffle. Always looking for volunteers. Youth Archery Banquet on March 29<sup>th</sup> had over 200 in attendance. Had 17 sponsors for the Youth Archery Program plus Middleburgh R & G. Fish derby June 21<sup>st</sup>. Pistol course offered May 17&18, Sept 6&7, Nov. 15&16. Cost is \$300. 16 - hour course. Youth Fish derby is June 21<sup>st</sup>, Pond clean-out June 14<sup>th</sup>, Open to the public, Youth 3 to 15 years old, starts around 10AM.

**West Rod & Gun Club:** The membership voted to donate \$1000 to the Youth Trap shooters, shooting at the Middleburgh Rod & Gun Club. Annual Dues of \$20 are due at the diner. Next meeting will be held on May 6<sup>th</sup>. There will be another work party on May 4<sup>th</sup> on Rossman Hill near Looking Glass Pond. Will need PPE including Hard Hat, Eye protection, Hearing protection, High-visibility vest or coat, boots, & gloves. Spring Fever Party on May 10<sup>th</sup> at Pee Wee's

starting around 12 noon. Bring a dish to pass. There about 25 in attendance with members and spouses. The club is supplying the main course along with beer & soda. There will be a special raffle \$10 ticket, one per member. Must be in attendance at the spring party to purchase a ticket. Raffleing off a Henry Big Boy .44 Rifle. The rifle was won by Sean Dooling. The club's address is PO Box 99, Fultonham, NY 12071. Club's E-mail address is [westfultonrodandgunclub@gmail.com](mailto:westfultonrodandgunclub@gmail.com).

**Schoharie County Veterans Service** – Peer to Peer Advocate, Eileen Fisher, POC 518-295-2053. The Schoharie County Veteran Service provided lunches for over 60 vets on April 16 @ the Gathering Place in Cobleskill. On April 17 @ 10 AM they provided breakfast at the Conesville Country Store. On April 17 & April 24 @4PM the Veterans Service will continue their Equine program at SUNY Cobleskill. POC is Carolyn 518-225-5900. On May 21, The Veteran Service will have a presentation Remembering the Four Chaplains who gave up their life preservers to soldiers saving lives but sacrificing their own. The American Legion has created 20 minutes to review at the event. This is also held at the Gathering Place @ 1200 noon in Cobleskill. POC is Kim 518-823-4338.

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 next SCCA (Schoharie Co. Cons. Assoc.) meeting will be held on May 29 at 7 PM at the SCCA Club house @ 3673 St. Rte. 145 Cobleskill, NY 12043.

**N.Y.S. Dept. of Conservation – 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, 2025 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 Club Association \_\_\_\_\_

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