



Federation of Dutchess County Fish and Game Clubs, Inc.

P.O. Box 3201, Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12603

Meeting March 13, 2014
Copperfield's Restaurant

Attendance: 22 clubs represented, 30 delegates and guests

Announcement: Tom Holsopple introduced a new delegate from Green Haven Fish & Game Assoc. Steve Zammikiel

Guest Speaker: Dave Clayton DEC ENCON reported that they have been short handed and two lieutenants have been doing the work of four. The good news is the region has two new ECO's from Albany. During the big game season there were a few minor incidents, but no fatalities in Region 3. ECO Whalen is on light duty until March 23 and Captain Martin will retire April 23, There will be a new director appointed soon. The ice fishing season has been good because the ice has been good this year. He reminded everyone that ice fishing shanties must be removed by March 15. Dave also reported that they have purchased a used 24' Whaler for Long Island Sound and the Major has secured another new/used boat that is being refurbished at Whites Marina. The department has not had a seaworthy boat in some time and are now gearing up for marine enforcement in the upcoming stripper season. A new state record was established when Richard Beauchamp of Silver Lake in Hamilton County caught a 6 lb brook trout. This information and more can be found on the web at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor>.

Pete Kraayenbrink reported that Algonquin, Chestnut Ridge, Pawling, Red Hook and Poughquag have not paid their annual Federation dues.

Communications: Tom Holsopple read a thank you note from Candy Olson for the Achievement Award she received at the annual dinner this year.

Committees:

Conservation Camps: Scott Emslie reported that of the 3 kids who could not go last year only 1 has accepted this year, and of the 13 others chosen this year – 12 are signed up. 1 camper – Anthony Lapore has not responded to multiple attempts to contact him. A letter sent to him was returned undeliverable as addressed and phone calls and emails have not been answered. Scott reminded everyone that the information on the applications the clubs submit needs to be accurate. Scott and Pete both asked the delegate whether they have anyone who would like to go and was not selected this year, there are three camp spots available and there is room in Camp DeBruce. If any club has someone call Scott and get the info to him ASAP. The money has been deposited and it would be nice to sponsor the campers.

Outdoor Journal: Bill Conners asked that any ads for the journal be emailed to him by this weekend. His email is conners@billconners.net.

Annual Dinner: Penny Hickman reported that the Annual Dinner was a success, the food was outstanding and concluded by 9pm. Pete Kraayenbrink reported income from the dinner was \$3560.00, expenses \$3786.09 with a negative of \$226.09 but the raffle brought in \$1310.00 leaving a profit of \$1083.91. Thanks for the find job Jackie and Scott Emslie did running the bucket raffle, and to all those who contributed to it.

Hunters Helping the Hungry: Penny Hickman reported that to-date 3900 lbs of meat has been processed. There are 18 deer in the freezer and that will probably produce another 500 lbs. Innisfree and Bilmar Nursery have permits and Penny was asked how many deer they have to give to Hunters Helping the Hungry – ½ need to be donated. Penny further reported that she is staying in touch with Clove Valley since they usually donate over 3000 lbs of birds. It will be coming to the end of their season and after the members take what they want she is hoping they will have some to donate.

Penny reported that a lady from across the river asked for hides for an elderly Native American gentleman to use to teach a traditional drum making class. Penny took this request to the Board and approval was given. Penny plans to attend the class and receive a drum to put in the booth for the fair this year.

Fish Stocking: Ken Rose reported that the stocking for Fishkill and Sprout Creek was ~~3/2/14~~ Roeliff Jansen Kill and Casper Kill 3/26, Ten Mile and Webatuck 3/28 and Wappingers on 4/1.

Old Business: Tom Holsopple reported the Bylaws Committee is preparing to review the current Bylaws and needs 2 volunteers from the delegates. Scott Emslie stated he is working on getting the pages together and will email copies to the committee when he has them completed,

New Business:Legislative Report: Paul Annetts reported that Senator Gipson is supporting the crossbow, Back Tag and selling ammo at trap shoots legislation. He will comment about the SAFE act later. Senator Gipson's scheduler contacted Paul and wants the Senator to have a meeting with the Federation to field questions from members. Paul further reported that the entire Legislative Report will be emailed to all delegates who have an active email address. He further reported that he and Bill Connors went to a Conservation Council legislative meeting on Saturday and participated in the voting process. Some Senators and Assemblymen are not familiar with their bills and rely on their support staff for input. Paul found an app for smart phones that will provide contact with assemblyman and senators and their staff who can provide info on bills. The NYS Conservation Council site has all of the bills in pdf format that can be downloaded. Judy Coons reported that their club posts the legislative report on their club's bulletin board. Bill Connors reported that he was in a meeting on Tuesday with Gov Cuomo, DEC reps and others from around NYS to talk about the SAFE ACT. Bill stated that the gov will not remove any part of the SAFE act – we can write and protest, but it will not make him change his agenda. Bill reported that they want to put an ICON on driver licenses to indicate hunting licenses. This is only valuable for fishing licenses – DO NOT DO IT. Bill asked if there is any guarantee that if you are pulled over by police and they see the hunting license icon on your drivers license that they will not pull you out and search the vehicle for guns. The answer was no. Bill further reported that they are not in favor of the 3 and 5 year licenses; in 2009 the fees were raised then in 2013 they were lowered and the offerings were simplified, now they will be more confusing and will reduce funds.

Acella is not working well, of the 1500 point of sale terminals only 4 or 5 hundred have sold licenses, many of the former retailers are not selling licenses anymore and the system is frequently down or not available. Bill reported good news for the Wassaic public access lands, there is a Stewardship Agreement and Bill would like to see Federation clubs from the Harlem Valley area involved in cleaning up and maintaining the area – remove trash and garbage – bag it up and haul it away. Bill is not suggesting a dumpster since this would create a problem. Bill suggested that pictures be taken and sent to the DEC showing evidence of illegal dumping. Skip March reported that he has done this in the past and nothing happened. Bill recommended that the DEC be contacted for enforcement, not the local police departments. Bill also reported that anyone working on this project would be covered by the State's insurance and there are funds and materials available to fix the ruts in the access roads. Bill reported that Gov Cuomo's budget bill has a lot in it that is not in the Assembly's budget bill that was recently released. A number of items differ - \$400 million for fish hatcheries, \$6 million for 50 projects that would make public lands more accessible, \$215,000 for Tivoli Bays; gates, cleanup and maintenance to be able to open this area in the fall after the fishing season. Pete Kraayenbrink said his wife got a letter about lifetime licenses and in it was information about purchasing license plates with hunting logos. Bill Conners reported that this has been removed from the bill and there will not be options for these license plates.

Joe Lurenz presented Roger Humeston with a Director Emeritus plaque for his many years of service to the Federation. Roger said there were many others who help too. He recalled the beginnings of Hunters Helping the Hungry; when he, Dave Wohlbach and Bill Emslie started picking up deer in Pleasant Valley and getting a cooler from the NRA. More and more people got involved and now there is a building for butchering and more coolers. Roger encouraged young people to get involved and for the delegates to get young people from their clubs involved in the Federation and Hunters Helping the Hungry.

Tom Holsopple reported that Cathy Culkin was asked to fill the Secretary position and the Board made that appointment.

Steve McDonald presented a handout with information from HREMAC for a universal fishing event in 2015. Carole Frasier & DEC are working on finding a location in Dutchess Co with universal access, and hope to work with local clubs and groups to prepare. Several clubs sponsor Boy Scout Troops and making rod holders for wheel chairs would be a good Eagle Scout project.

Announcements Friends of NRA Dinner Saturday 4/5/14, set up on Friday night and all day Saturday.

Northern Dutchess Rod & Gun Club – Pancake Breakfast 3/22/14 9 am to 1 pm

Green Haven Fish & Game – St Patrick's Day Dinner 3/15/14 4 pm \$20 per person

Steve McDonald is moving – he has done a GREAT job and will be missed.

Next Federation Board of Directors meeting – March 24, 2014

Next Federation Monthly Delegate meeting – April 10, 2014

Respectfully Submitted, Cathy Culkin