

Federation of Dutchess County Fish and Game Clubs, Inc.



P.O. Box 3201, Poughkeepsie, New York 12603
www.dutchessfishandgame.org

The Voice of the Sportsman since 1932

March 9, 2017 Regular Delegates Meeting

Copperfield's Restaurant, Washington Hollow, NY

The meeting was opened at 7:40 PM by President Paul Annetts.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Bernie Walker

A moment of silence was observed for our Armed Forces members and our friends in Law Enforcement.

Attendance: There were 23 clubs represented and 32 people present.

Guests Speakers: Lt Dave Clayton, Burn Ban starts March 15, 2017 thru May 15, 2017. D.E.C has an academy going on. There were 45 ECO and Ranger recruits, 5 ECO recruits dropped out and 1 is undecided now they're down to 34 ECO recruits. Academy due to graduate in August 2017. DEC Commissioner stated that 2016 was the safest year for NY state hunters despite 4 fatalities. There were 13 hunter related incidents, 7 of which were self-inflicted. DEC announced that their Falconry Wildlife Rehabber and leashed tracking dog exams are coming up. They're set for April 7, Registration deadline is March 17, 2017. Exam registration forms are available from DEC's website. A couple weeks ago, the hunter that shot ECO James Davey in Columbia county plead guilty to Assault 2nd. and is still in jail awaiting sentencing. He could face 7yrs in prison and a \$5,000 fine. DEC has adopted some Fresh Water Fishing regulations. i.e adjustments to existing Walleye regulations in various waters throughout the state. Modifications to DEC Region 7 Finger Lakes rules to increase survival of Rainbow Trout. Allowing ice fishing in some waters and restricting the number or use of devices used for fishing through ice in other waters to protect self-sustaining populations or limit fishing pressure. Simplification of the Black Bass regulations in Lake Erie by compressing the three existing seasons into two while expanding opportunities to use live bait and harvest one large Bass per day during a special season. Greater protection for Northern Pike in the St. Lawrence River due to declining abundance of spawning adults. Relaxing of special regulations for Trout and Atlantic Salmon for various waters in DEC Region 5 due to poor survival. The Black Bear Harvest report are out in NY state. Hunters took 1,539 bears during the 2016 hunting season. In Dutchess County a total of 12 bears were taken, 7 during the bow season and 5 during the rifle season. The big town was Northeast with a total of 4 bears taken. Lt Clayton informed the members that he's considering putting in his retirement papers by the end of May. After 38 years of service the Federation wishes to give their undying gratitude to Lt Clayton for his service and friendship.

Minutes of the previous meeting: There was no meeting in Feb. due to inclement weather.

Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting on Feb 27, 2017 were accepted.

Treasurer's report: was accepted as presented

Communications: 1st V.P Anthony Pittore: The NRA Grant came forward and approved for the 4H shooting kids/ Dutchess County Long Rifles and the end result \$4,681 was allotted to purchase shotguns and a partial payment for a trap machine. Last year the federation purchased eight cases of ammo. This year if anyone or club is interested in contributing for the purchase of ammo for the please contact Bob Jenks or Anthony Pittore.

One case of ammo cost \$140.00 that's 3,250 rounds. Motion was made to purchase one case of ammo for the Dutchess County Long Rifles (4H Youth Shooting Sports). Motion was accepted and seconded.

Committee Reports:

Hunters Helping the Hungry: There's 150 lbs. of meat in the freezers. So far this year 7000 lbs. of game has been processed and distributed since Oct 1st.

Legislative Report: Bill Connors highlighted some of the important issues before the state legislature in the March 2017 issue. Bill mentioned some high flyer issues such as the Safe Act Repealer rally to be held upstate. If you can't attend the rally you can call your State Legislature and voice your concerns. Remington Arms laid off 122 workers at its factory in New York's Mohawk Valley. Company officials attributed the layoffs because of slowing sales and high inventories. There's a plan in the works to come up with a mandatory antler restriction bill statewide. The council is absolutely opposed to the bill. The Council's position is that Bills like this one undermine the NYS DEC and their ability to effectively manage the whitetail deer in NYS, on the behalf of the People. Lifetime License Account, the Council is asking from the Legislature is a that law will allow a more aggressive laddered investment plan for your money. If the Council gets this Bill through, the Council anticipates seeing well over a million dollars from now on.

Cross Bows: You can use Cross Bows, they're in fixed parts of the schedule season. We would like to get back to using them throughout the season. Last but not least getting back to allow 12yr old's to big game hunt. Inside the Journal Bill Connors included an insert explaining the NYS Legislative process of how a Bill becomes Law.

HHH/Deer Cull: The Federation will not participate in the Deer Cull scheduled for Long Island this month because of logistics problems.

Fish Stocking: Begins March 22nd, starting with the Ten Mile River, Webutuck Creek, and Swamp River. March 23rd. Roeliff, Janson Kill, Crumb Elbow, Saw Kill. March 24th. Fishkill Creek, Sprout Creek. March 28th. Wappinger's Creek. Second round starts in April. Volunteers needed, contact Ken Rose. Kids invited to assist.

Dutchess County Fair: Will report next meeting

Junior Pheasant Hunt: Updated Report in April

Conservation Camps: Updated report in April

New York State Conservation Council : Spring/Legislative meeting is March 18 in Ilion. Updated report at April delegates meeting.

Bill Connors briefly discussed the issue of how one can become unsubscribed to the Conservation Council's Constant Contact list. He will email additional information to everyone regarding the problem in the next week or two.

Unfinished (Old) Business None

New Business: Paul Annetts wants to invite a speaker at each monthly meeting to add a bit of variety of what's going on in the County. Annetts acknowledged the good ideas received from various members and will bring them up at the next BOD meeting. Annetts want to revamp the committees. He's completed his plan and will bring them up at the next BOD meeting for the Boards approval and suggestions. HVSA Delegate Hal Brilliant suggested that anyone in touch with the Big Brothers/Big Sisters organization reach out to them and encourage

them to take the kids and expose them to fishing and camping to experience that aspect of outdoor sports. Director Tom Holsopple recommended that the various clubs create a mentoring list to take the kids out fishing and hunting. Delegate Michael Buts voiced his concerns about fishermen hanging around the creeks awaiting the stocking of the creeks to get a jump on the other fishermen. He has observed fishermen scooping fish with nets. It is recommended that anyone seeing fishermen scooping fish with nets to call the DEC or Troopers and report this illegal act. Take a picture or report the license plate numbers of the fishermen that's breaking this law. A motion was made by Michael Butts and seconded by Pete Kraayenbrink to suggest that the DEC explore the possibility to closing down the lower Wappinger's for the month of March for when the fish are stocked it will give the fish time to disburse.

Announcements: Washington Hollow is having a game dinner March 25th @ 6:30 pm. Tickets are \$25.00 for adults, \$12.00 for kids and free for kids 10yrs. and under. There will be a Gun Raffle, 1st. Raffle tickets are \$20.00. Washington Hollow will be holding a Hunters Education Course, April 15th. Women on Targets starts on June 3rd. On April 29th. Town of Pleasant Valley will hold its Huck Finn Tournament April 29th. & April 30th. 8:00am- 12:00 noon Rain or Shine Free Prizes donated by local merchants. Raffle every half hour. Light refreshments. Boys and Girls 15 yrs. and under. To be held at Pleasant Valley Trout and Game Club.

50/50 Winner:

Next Federation Board of Directors Meeting April March 27, 2017

Next Federation Monthly Delegate Meeting April 13, 2017

The meeting was adjourned at 8:41.

Respectfully submitted,
David Compton, Secretary