



**SCCA Newsletter – Meeting at the Curtis
Mott Bldg. SUNY Cobleskill College
Room #106, Cobleskill on February 27, 2025.**

Greg Warner, President of Schoharie County Conservation Association called the meetings to order with the pledge of allegiance with 23 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 and several SCCA Associates along with 5 students from SUNY Cobleskill.

NYPA: New York Power Authority did hold a Wildlife Task Force meeting on March 11th, 11:30 am @ Visitor Center in Blenheim with 15 in attendance. Tim Rich, the new Manager gave an overview of NYPA and BG Operations. Representatives from DEC, SCCA, LPNHC, NYPA, MINEKILL PARK, to mention a few. Over 3000 attended the car show, 4500 in attendance at the Wildlife Festival in 2024, NYPA issued 44 hunting permits for deer/turkey, 1 The NYPA had one spill training event on the reservoir. as for fish stocking the NYPA stocked 500 tiger trout, 1700 brown trout, 800 brook trout, and 1300 Walleyes. These fish were split between the two reservoirs. A review of the parking areas on the upper reservoir is being done to increase sizes. Monitoring of stone structures for fish spawning. **Update on boat launch – design will be approved next week with construction to begin in April or May. Four different contractors are bidding on project.**

Update on Minekill Park: 10 – 15 bald eagles active at park, new nest on reservoir, the trees which were treated are doing well, most survived, Ash Bore found in 2019 are being treated by releasing mouths, which pry on ash bore. 40% increase usage on nesting boxes, trail cameras detected bear, whitetails, bobcat, grouse, turkey. Kiddie pool under construction – should be complete by start of season. Looking at installing dump station for campers @ Max Shahul Park and Free fish clinic on June 29.

SCCA: All annual dues are due January 1st. A dues registration form will be included in your SCCA newsletter to fill out. Please send in your dues. I have received about three so far from clubs and about ten Individual members who are paid ahead. 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. For 2024 we had 17 Associate clubs pay \$30 dues and 40 Individual members pay \$10 dues. If you forgot to pay the annual dues, please send them in. Normally we have around twenty clubs paying \$30 Annual Dues. Two years ago, we had close to 50 members, last year we only had about 40 paying members. Please send in your dues. SCCA P.O. Box 325 Central Bridge, N.Y. 12035. 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 year 1020 pounds of venison was donated. This venison is delivered to eight different food pantries locations throughout the county. Schoharie County Whitetails Unlimited did donate another 50 Caliper CVA Black Powder Rifle to encourage Deer Hunters to donate a whole deer to the program. This venison is ground into packages of 1 to 2 lbs. We did have a drawing from all the names who donated a whole deer at the January 2025 SCCA meeting. Joe Mallozzi is the lucky winner this year. It cost SCCA \$2,270 for the meat processing this 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 did the meat processing again this year. Eric Haslun is POC – 518-231-1744. Amber Blu said she would cut our price to \$2.50 per pound. So SCCA will give Amber \$2,270. She processed 908 pounds. We had 5 deer donated from DEC and 2 deer from USDA Saratoga airport. The two from the airport were funded by another source.

Call to Order – 7:10pm; Treasures report read and approved

Old business: Attending the Wildlife festival April 26th – Approved to attend- Mark Hotaling and Doug Handy will bring stuff up. John Nesel to bring tree seedlings to hand out to the youths. No tables were needed. Provided at event. Greg asked for more volunteers; Kayak Raffle at Cobleskill Fair in August. Approved; DEC Youth Camp – Approved the sponsorship of 2 youth to attend. Registration opens March 23rd at 1pm Registration online. Pay upfront, club pays half on receipt and other half when attendance is confirmed; Lifetime hunting and fishing license drawing in November 2025 – Approved; Gun that was donated to be given away on Youth Day Around April 26th. One gun a year.; Dinner for April 18th NWTF @ Chieftain's– Pick 8 for table at next meeting, draw names; SCCA Ice Fishing Derby – \$151.00 donations for SCCA - bait and food/drinks. West Fulton Fishing Derby – The 3 tickets for unauthorized motor vehicles on state land that were handed out to participants by the forest ranger were rescinded. Dave Wood called the regional director and told him 20 years we have been doing this; it was our understanding that if you enter by private land, you could have a 4-wheeler or snowmobile on the ice. The Forest Ranger did not agree and issued 3 tickets. A meeting is to be held with Mike Clark, ECOs and the forest ranger to discuss but was cancelled. Dave talked to somebody and they were going to rescind the tickets. The Town of Broome Judge said he would throw the tickets out, to rip them up; Talk of the boundary line of the wildlife area.; Organized event with permit allows for 1 motorized vehicle. West Fulton Fishing Derby – Attendance less only 10 adults and split it between the winners.; Richmondville Ice Fishing Derby –20 adults and 13 youth Discussion with Melissa to possibly change to a Bass tournament with permit for next year. No target fish were caught.; Summit Lake – Schoharie School held an event Summit Lake to educate students.

Solar lights for club house – More powerful solar lights, never put up the other lights, will mount the new lights on either side of the sign, John Nesel will go over when it is dry to put them up.

College Students – Laura Green, student from the Wildlife Society is selling tickets; prizes - Camping Set, Visa gift card \$5 each or 5 for \$20.; Joe Simond, Student Chapter Ducks Unlimited Yeti cooler prizes \$5 each or 3 for \$10 or 8 for \$20

Both to be raffled off at Wildlife Festival April 26th.

New business: Trapper Courses - 8-hour course to get license– Approved to be held at SCCA on March 29, 2025, and September 27, 2025. Time 8am -5pm. They will be available to sign up for online.

Calendar and Building Use – Vice President, Doug Handy (518-231-0970) stated we need one person and one person only in charge of the building. Greg nominated Doug; Congratulations; Approved Doug as the new point of contact for building use Insurance coverage for use of SCCA building. Doug said put John Nesel's name on it too. John just volunteered to help.

Jeff Taxidermist at the wildlife museum to clean mounts from the fair booth at no cost. Suggested a hands-on exhibit board with fur for kids to guess what the furs are from, flaps to give an answer. Possibly two mounts coming, a baby fox soft mount and mom together plus deer skin with hair on it.

Ameri gas tank-still there: Doug to send a letter to get it out, and charge a little money for storage. We are tearing up the lawn when plowing, having to plow out farther. It is also a liability. 500-gallon tank which is 30% full.

Dave Wood to bring coffee and snack next meeting. Doug and John, possible donation of mounts from someone.

NYS Conservation Council Spring meeting Arnot Forest April 11th- 13th discussion on who can attend. We will revisit this next meeting.; The college students will be attending Alberta Canada next fall, October, they have workshops and network events they will be attending. Looking for possible donation.

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

Doug is going to purchase coffee makers for the club house.; Next meeting March 27th 7:00 pm at Cobleskill College. To allow college students to do presentations. Approved; Minnows sold @ Fishing Derby – college students made around \$66 – 3 clubs attending, \$40– 2 clubs attending. Meeting Adjourned 8:10 pm.

SCOPE: The next SCOPE meeting, April 15th @7PM, at the Middleburgh Rod & Gun Club. At the March meeting NYS SCOPE President, John Elwood was in attendance. He reviewed the top10 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 s 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.

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: 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 handed out four applications for the scholarship at the Ducks Unlimited Banquet hoping to increase interest. SCCA does plan on setting 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.

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. Join us for the Annual Sportsman's Flea Market, Saturday, March 22 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM; American Legion Zaloga Post, 4 Everett Rd, Albany, NY 12205.

* 25 tables of gently used (including some vintage) fishing and sporting gear from 15 vendors! *

* Fly tying materials *

*Tying demos by 6 of the best tiers in the Capital Region *

* Books and magazines *

* Coffee by Brewtus Roasting*

Exhibitors include: Trout Unlimited Northeast, NYS Trout Waters Youth Camp, Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy, Environmental Clearinghouse of Schenectady (ECOS), and Schoharie River Center.

This is sure to be a fantastic event with our biggest lineup of vendors yet!

Swing by in the afternoon for a chance to win great door prizes! Door prize tickets will be given out with each new admission starting at 12:30 PM, with drawings every 1/2 hour until closing at 3:00 PM.

Entry is \$3 per person; Free for children under 12. Next meeting February 24th @ 7pm. With guest Scott Meyer. 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 May 14th @ 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. There are now 170 members with 55 lifetime members. The passing of Cherrie Clapper in December is a big loss. She was a lifetime member with 30 plus years. She was our treasurer for over 30 years. List of Hikes coming up: Apr 27 Sunday, Cole Hill SF loop, about 5 miles, our leader will be Pat at patfrik@gmail.com. May 3 Bozenkill Preserve's new trail, about 3 miles, call Marilyn; May 6 Tuesday, Highway Clean-up on Rte. 30 by Vroman's Nose, HELP NEEDED; please contact Mark; May 10 LP Sect. 32, Treadlemire Rd. to downtown Middleburgh, 5.5 miles with great views of Valley, Leader: Steve; 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 18th @ Chieftain's in Cobleskill POC - Dave Hendrick 518-657-1787 Doors open at 4PM. E-mail - hendrickrd@gmail.com.

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 30th. 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 15th, 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 are 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 14th @ 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 26th & 27th. Also, Pancake Breakfast 8AM - 11AM: April 6th. The club donated \$500 to the Richmondville/Cobleskill Trap.

Middleburgh Rod & Gun Club: Last meeting had over 50 in attendance. Nine applications were read, two were voted on. More info available on website **Middleburgh r&g club.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. Officers’ elections were held in January. Joe Kopacz stepped down as President. He was elected as one of the Board of Directors. Jennette Hall is our new President, Dave Gode will stay as Vice President, Rick Poquette as Treasurer and our new Secretary is Nicole Thompson from Howes Cave. Always looking for volunteers. Call 518-92806301 for information. Youth Archery Banquet on March 29th. Had 17 sponsors for the Youth Archery Program plus Middleburgh R & G. Fish derby June 21st. Pistol course offered May 17&18, Sept 6&7.

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 April 1st. The club did have an ice fishing derby for our youth on February 8th from 8AM to 1PM. 10 adults and 9 youths, The Kids caught 16 fish and adults caught 9. Pickerel – 22.2” / 2lbs 11ozs by Carson; Perch – Gabe 10” / 11ozs; (kids) AM Pickerel Bentley 21” 2lbs. PM Kids – Pickerel – Landon 19.7 “12 oz. & Perch – Andrew 10.5 “9ozs. The club's address is PO Box 99, Fultonham, NY 12071. Club’s E-mail address is westfultonrodandgunclub@gmail.com.

Schoharie County Veterans Service – Peer to Peer Advocate, Kristain Hofeller, POC 518-929-2832. Cobleskill’s Dwyer program will start back up on Mar 4, Mar 12, Mar 13, Mar 19, mar 20, for more info: call 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. The next SCCA (Schoharie Co. Cons. Assoc.) meeting will be held on March 27 at 7 PM @ SUNY Cobleskill in the Curtis Mott Bld. Rm106.

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

Organization _____

Signature of Parent_____ **Date**_____