



SCCA Newsletter – Meeting at the club house @ 3673 St. Route 145 Cobleskill, New York on June 26, 2025.

Greg Warner, President of Schoharie County Conservation Association called the meetings to order with the pledge of allegiance with 17 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 one student from SUNY Cobleskill. Also attending the meeting were Justanna Bohling, Melissa Burgess our two NYS DLC Encon Officers for Schoharie County along with their supervisor, Ryan Grogan NYS Division of Law Enforcement. The SCCA minutes were approved by a motion from Dave Wood, second by Doug Handy. The treasurer report was approved by a motion from Al Zwick, second by Deborah Skowfoe Work. The membership voted and approved both motions. The next SCCA meeting will be held at the Fair Booth located on the Schoharie County Fair grounds in Cobleskill on July 24 at 6 PM. Pizza, chicken wings and soda/water will be provided.

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 & Michael Shaul. There will be six prizes this year. 1st prize will be choice of two 10 - foot Kayaks or \$500, 2nd Prize will be a 50 Cal. Black Powder Rifle donated by Schoharie County Chapter of Whitetails Unlimited, 3rd prize will be a Wildlife Framed Print, 4th Prize will be \$100 prize donated by Chris Tague our local Assemblyman, 5th Prize will be \$50 donated by the Bank of Richmondville and 6th prize will be \$50 donated by NBT Bank of Cobleskill. The fair dates are from August 5th through August 10th 10 AM to 10 PM. We are looking for volunteers to help sell kayak tickets and instruct Hunter Safety at our BB Gun Booth to our youth. This is free, no charge to shooters. We need four volunteers each shift from 10am to 4pm and 4pm to 10pm. Entry tickets will be given to all volunteers. We will be setting up a list of volunteers at the July meeting. SCCA members have been working on the fair building, raising it up 12 inches off the ground and painting the building, installing lattice around the bottom of the building. The Shaul boys donated the tracks for the lattice to set in. Cobleskill Stone is donation black top the for the ramp.

SCCA voted to donate another shotgun for a prize to the Youth Turkey event held at 197 Trux Road near Amsterdam for next year. This will be the second year SCCA has done this. Jeff Almy has finish painting the Fair Booth building. SCCA did sponsoring a Youth Fishing derby on June 28th from 8am to 10am and 10am to 12 noon at the Cobleskill Holding Pond. Worms were donated by Jeff from Off the Beaten Path for the bait. Local 157 Labor's Union donated \$300 toward the cost of the prizes and trophies and Stewarts donated ice-cream-sundays for the all the youths. There were about twenty-five fishing with about fifteen fish caught. Everyone got a prize for their efforts. SCCA's Vice President Doug Handy did an excellent job putting this derby together. SCCA did receive the budget request from the Schoharie Board of Supervisors. 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 period. The construction started around the 1st of July.

Region 4 State Board Meeting (Fish & Wildlife Management Board) The next meeting will held in Rotterdam at the NYS DEC Office on September 10th at 5:30 PM. Pizza will be provided. The two Habitat/Access projects that were submitted last December for Schoharie County have finally been approved by NYS DEC. They had to wait for the NYS Budget to be approved before funding could be released. The two projects involve an access bridge across Panther creek on the Long Path North Hiking Trail and another project on the Trail up near the Looking Glass Pond where the trail was very wet.

SCOPE: The next SCOPE meeting will be held August 19th @ 7PM, at the Carlisle Town Hall. SCOPE did run 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 from Middleburgh.** Drawing was selected at the May meeting after all squares were sold. Next meeting, bring a friend or neighbor to join. "S.C.O.P.E. Shooters Committee on Political Education" 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 and a third prize of \$100. Drawing will be held the last day of the fair. 300 tickets will be printed. SCOPE – SHOOTERS COMMITTEE ON POLITICAL EDUCATION – Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month @ 7PM.

Legal Updates

Every month, Schuyler County publishes Legal Updates. The following are some 2nd Amendment highlights for June and July. New York state budget creates Office of Gun Violence Prevention.

The enacted state budget for fiscal year 2025 creates a formal New York State Office of Gun Violence Prevention to consolidate gun control efforts. OGVP will be part of the Division of Criminal Justice Services, the agency that oversees law-enforcement training and data collection.

The budget bills specifically earmark just under \$60 million that's new:

- \$2.5 million for the OGVP
- \$7.2 million for community-based gun- and domestic-violence prevention programs
- \$40 million for police and legal costs to better enforce Extreme Risk Protection Orders, or "red flag" laws

\$10 million in competitive grants to local community groups like the Greater Direction mentorship programs in Buffalo

Republican legislators far and wide have decried most of the budget for being too expensive and ignoring effective solutions to violent crime.

New Mandatory Insurance Law Could Lead to Civilian Disarmament. A new bill in New York State, known as Senate Bill S5974, could force all gun owners to carry at least \$1 million in liability insurance. Sponsored by Senator Kevin Parker, this proposal isn't just aimed at new buyers – anyone who already owns a gun would also be required to comply. According to the bill, insurance must be purchased before someone can legally possess a firearm, and it must be maintained continuously. If you lose your coverage, you lose your legal right to own the gun. That's not a suggestion – it's automatic revocation. The insurance requirement in the bill specifically covers damages from negligent acts involving firearms. In simple terms, if you accidentally fire your weapon and someone is hurt or property is damaged, the insurance is supposed to help cover those costs. However, if the firearm is used in self-defense, which is considered an intentional act, most general liability policies wouldn't pay out.

As William Kirk of Washington Gun Law explained, "Insurance is only going to cover you for negligent activity at best." That means people using guns legally in defense won't even benefit from this requirement. Kirk points out that the kind of insurance this bill demands doesn't actually exist in most markets. If your insurance lapses, your registration and permits are automatically void. That gives the state the power to confiscate your guns, without any new due process. "They've created essentially a domino effect," Kirk said. "Cancel the insurance, cancel the permit, then confiscate the firearms."

That's a serious escalation, and it shows how financial requirements can be turned into legal weapons. One of the more overlooked aspects is how this could disproportionately hurt working-class Americans. It sets up a financial barrier that many can't afford, especially in cities where gun ownership is already hard to navigate. This could become a form of economic discrimination that punishes the poor. As Kirk said, "This is a law that's really just designed to throw up yet another barrier... to access what is supposed to be an inalienable right." If it passes, expect other states to follow. If it fails, expect it to come back next year, just like it has every year since 2013. Either way, it's clear the battle over civilian gun rights is moving into the realm of insurance, and that should concern every American who values their freedom.

Citi Ends Political De-Banking Policy, Rescinds Requirement for Clients to Restrict Gun Sales. Financial services company Citi is walking back its political de-banking policy and its requirement for retail clients to restrict gun sales, making it the latest large corporation to distance itself from progressive corporate governance. Citi announced the changes ...after examining its corporate policies in light of shifts to the regulatory climate and

President Trump's executive orders. Citi's rescinded policies are both part of the environmental, social, and governance (ESG) movement in corporate America that seeks to use corporations as vehicles for progressive goals. Conservatives have raised the alarm about financial companies "de-banking" right-wing clients and denying them access to services because of political orientation. The practice has mostly impacted right-wing extremists, but it has spilled out into industries disfavored by the left and other conservative institutions. Republican lawmakers have also raised the alarm about cases of debanking involving gun dealerships and religiously affiliated institutions.

Schuyler Co. Legal Updates

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, Charles Cotton 518-255-5877 or Marc Cornwell 518-337-7044. **SCCA has received 6 Dorwin Hamm Scholarship applications this month.** These have been reviewed by the membership and were all approved. Thank you, Charles Cotton (CHIP), one of the college professors who got the students to apply. The six applications are on all invasive species. Green Sun Fish, Black Crappie Fish, Water Chestnut Plants, Round Goby fish, Mussel Clams, and Rusty Cray Fish. Once the students have given their power point presentation to the SCCA membership the student receive a check for \$400. SCCA did award \$500 to the students going to Nashville in July 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.

Long Path North Hiking Club: Next meeting will be held on September 13th. This will be our Annual Meeting, @ 10 AM in the SCCA club house 3673 State Rte. 145 Cobleskill, New York. Our new Treasurer is Jean Mammato from Cobleskill, NY. Her e-mail address is Jean.lpnhc@gmail.com She has been doing an excellent job. There are now 163 members with 55 lifetime members. The passing of Cherrie Clapper in December was 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: 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 did 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. The banquet was a big success with over 175 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.

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 hosts an open trap shoot to the public each Tuesday night at 5PM. The club has been sponsoring a Youth School Trap league, CRCS students in grades 7-12. They shoot twice a week in the spring and fall leagues. Questions call Greg Warner @ 518-265-8647. If anyone needs the Trap shooter's schedule, please call Greg.

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. The club donated \$500 to the

Richmondville/Cobleskill Trap. The club did have a diner on June 2nd to thank the members who volunteers for the pancake breakfasts and the stuffed pizza during the winter & spring months.

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). Women Pistol league has 19 women shooting. Wayne Skowfoe was appointed as new Chairman of the Dec. Raffle. Always looking for volunteers. Fish derby June 21st. Pistol course offered Sept 6&7, Nov. 15&16. Cost is \$300. 16 - hour course. Youth Fish derby is June 21st, Pond clean-out June 14th, Open to the public, Youth 3 to 15 years old, starts around 10AM. There were about 55-60 kids fishing during the derby. Every youth received a prize for their efforts. Several fish were caught. The Youth Trap League attended the State Tournament held in Bridgeport, and came in 8th place as a team with over 2000 youths shooting. The club didn't receive any scholarship applications this year from the Middleburgh School or the club memberships. Joe Paco won the 4-wheeler which was drawn at the June Meeting. Friday Trap shoots are doing excellent, very good turn-out.

West Rod & Gun Club: The membership voted to donate \$1000 to the Youth Trap shooters, shooting at the Middleburgh Rod & Gun Club. Next meeting will be held on August 5th. There will be another work party on Sept 20th on Rossman Hill near Looking Glass Pond. Will need PPE including Hard Hat, Eye protection, Hearing protection, High-visibility vest or coat, boots, & gloves. The club's address is PO Box 99, Fultonham, NY 12071. Club's E-mail address is westfultonrodandgunclub@gmail.com.

NYSCC: Received a list of Resolutions to be voted on in September at the Fall NYSCC Meeting. SCCA received a copy of the nine resolutions to be voted on in September at the Fall NYSCC meeting. This year there have been 9 resolutions that came from the membership and submitted to the resolutions committee. In accordance with the procedures, these resolutions were distributed to the respective committee for review and comment. All voting members in good standing will have the ability to vote on these resolutions in person at the fall convention this September. If your delegate cannot attend the fall convention, your organization can vote by proxy by completing the form on the website. If you have any questions, please email resolutions@nyscc.com or contact Steve Wowelko at (315) 506-2117 or Jim Steel at (716) 983-7867

We will review these resolutions at the next SCCA meeting. Deborah Work will be our Representative! 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@nvcap.rr.com. The next SCCA (Schoharie Co. Cons. Assoc.) meeting will be held on July 24th at 6 PM at the SCCA Fair Booth

N.Y.S. Dept. of Conservation – 2025 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 _____