



**SCCA Newsletter – Meeting at the fair booth
which is located on the fairgrounds
in Cobleskill, New York on July 24, 2025.**

Greg Warner, President of Schoharie County Conservation Association called the meetings to order with the pledge of allegiance with 20 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. The SCCA minutes were approved by a motion from Jeff Almy, second by John Hornauer. The treasurer report was approved by a motion from Al Zwick, second by Mark Hotaling. The membership voted and approved both motions. The next SCCA meeting will be held at the SCCA club house @ 3673 St. Rt. 145 Cobleskill, N.Y. 12043 on August 28th 7PM.

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 were six prizes this year in our Kayak Fair raffle. 1st prize – won by Ethan Morrell who chose to take the two Kayaks. Second prize was won by Nick Ingram - a 50 Cal. Black Powder Rifle donated by Schoharie County Chapter of Whitetails Unlimited, 3rd prize was won by Jen Overholt - a Ducks Unlimited Wildlife Framed Print, 4th Prize was won by Liam Kane a \$100 cash prize donated by Chris Tague our local Assemblyman, 5th Prize was won by Harry Rode a \$50 cash who donated it back to SCCA. This prize was donated by the Bank of Richmondville and 6th prize who was won \$50 by Bill Townsen which was donated by NBT Bank of Cobleskill. Volunteers who helped this year to help sell kayak tickets and instruct Hunter Safety at our BB Gun Booth to our youth. Are listed below. This is free, no charge to shooters. We need four volunteers each shift from 10am to 4pm and 4pm to 10pm. Entry tickets were given to all volunteers. Members who helped were Don Reinhart, Mike Zeh, Larry Bradt, John Hornauer, Ron Beilby, Al Zwick, Katelynn Collins, Greg Warner, Stacey Betts, Paul Betts, Katie Butler, Jerry Seyboth, Kayla Kosier, Carolyn Warner, Jeff Almy, Gabe Warner, Doug Handy, Deborah Work, Dennis Handy, Mark Hotaling, Dave Wood, and Andrew Work. SCCA would like to thank all the volunteers, without them we wouldn't have sold as many tickets. We sold more tickets this year than last year. 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 donated the black top the for the ramp which was done the week following the fair. Crossbow Bill has passed both Houses and now sits on the Governors desk waiting to be signed.

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.

Sports men and women, don't forget to purchase your license before September 1st if you want to apply for a doe permit. That is the cutoff date. Also, Deborah Work will be representing the SCCA at the New York State Conservation Council. The three-day event will be held on Sept.5th, 6th, and 7th @ Great Camp Sagamore in Raquette Lake, N.Y. She will be voting on the nine Resolution which were outlined in the May SCCA newsletter.

SCOPE: The next SCOPE meeting will be held Sept. 16 @ 7PM, at the Carlisle Town Hall. 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 did have an information booth set up at the Cobleskill Fair. We did sell raffle tickets for a fund raiser. Tickets were \$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 was held on the last day of the fair. 300 tickets were printed and sold. The winners of the raffle were 1st prize - Bonnie Bradbury (Gun Safe), 2nd prize - M. Gauthier (Gun Carrying Case), and 3rd prize - \$100 Cash. We would like to thank all our ticket buyers for their support. SCOPE – SHOOTERS COMMITTEE ON POLITICAL EDUCATION – Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month @ 7PM.

Not Coming After Hunting Rifles - Yet

Hunters, notoriously, don't vote. One study said that, nationwide, only between 30% and 50% of hunters vote.

Why don't they get involved since Democrats have been coming after 2nd Amendment gun rights in increasingly radical fashion? One answer is that some hunters feel the Democrats are not coming after their guns. That's no longer true (actually, it never was true but now there is proof.)

Connecticut State attorneys are arguing before the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit that hunting rifles, particularly semi-automatic ones like the AR-15, are not protected by the Constitution.

Background:

The National Association for Gun Rights (NAGR) and co-plaintiffs are suing the state of Connecticut to overturn their assault weapon and magazine bans as infringing on Second Amendment rights.

As well, NAGR seeks a preliminary injunction to stop enforcement of these laws.

In a 2nd Circuit appeals court hearing as to the preliminary injunction, the Connecticut Attorney General's office raised a surprising new issue; it argued that the Second Amendment only protects guns commonly used for self-defense but does not protect hunting rifles, particularly semi-automatic ones. Connecticut is saying the AR15 is a hunting rifle, NOT a self-defense weapon and, therefore, Connecticut has the authority to regulate it.

Connecticut based their position on a previous Supreme Court ruling (Heller) which stated that the Constitution guarantees the right to self-defense but does not offer blanket protection for all weapons.

NAGR counterargued that the AR-15 is the most popular rifle in the U.S. (in common use) and is neither dangerous nor unusual and, counter to media hype, are rarely used in mass shootings.

The eventual decision will only involve the preliminary injunction to stop enforcement of the law while the actual suit over the law is being heard. The issue of 2A not protecting hunting rifles is likely to be a big issue when the actual suit against the laws is heard.

For now, hunting rifles remain legal in Connecticut since existing law has not banned them.

A circuit-level victory here will establish legal precedent throughout the entire 2nd Circuit, which includes New York State. NAGR losing would open the door to NY State banning AR-15's as non-self-defense weapons.

Democrat leaders are always looking for any opportunity to further extend their war on guns, no matter how slight. Hunters might want to reconsider not voting while using the excuse that Democrats aren't coming for their guns. As seen in Connecticut, it's not a question of IF but WHEN they are coming.

Some law-abiding gun owners believe that our Second Amendment Rights and Freedoms are "safe" because we have President Trump in the White House and we have a majority in both houses of Congress. While we have a slim advantage, we need now, more than ever, to stand firm and make our voices heard loud and clear in Washington. Time is short and mid-term elections could be game changers.

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 along the side of 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. 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 this past spring @ Chieftain's in Cobleskill POC - Dave Hendrick 518-657-1787 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. The club did have three club members who worked six hours shift for the SCCA Fair Booth.

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. Over half of the tickets are out to sellers. Pistol course offered Sept 6&7, Nov. 15&16. Cost is \$300. 16 - hour course. 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. The club did have several members who helped out at the SCCA Booth at the Cobleskill Fair.

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. The club had three members who helped out at the SCCA Fair Booth.

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@nycap.rr.com. The next SCCA (Schoharie Co. Conservation Assoc.) meeting will be held on the August 28 at 7 PM at the SCCA Club house. 3673 St. Rte. 145 Cobleskill, N.Y. 12043.

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 _____