



## Federation of Dutchess County Fish and Game Clubs, Inc.

P.O. Box 3201, Poughkeepsie, New York 12603  
[www.dutchessfishandgame.org](http://www.dutchessfishandgame.org)

*The Voice of the Sportsman since 1932*

### **March 9, 2023 Regular Delegates Meeting**

Short Hills Restaurant, Washington Hollow, NY

The meeting was opened at 7:38 PM by President Anthony Pittore

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Anthony Pittore.

A moment of silence was observed for armed services personnel, first responders, and past Federation members.

Roll Call: 23 people were in attendance, representing 17 clubs.

#### **Guests**

Deo Reed, DEC ECO, spoke about the following:

- There will another ECO academy next year, separate from the Forest Ranger academy.
- The ECOs are being issued new firearms, 9mm to replace the current .40 caliber.
- They are also implementing a new radio system.
- There are still incidents of striped bass poaching in the lower Hudson River.
- They are seeing increased instances of coyotes with mange and rabies. Please be aware and careful when approaching, or being approached, by these animals.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted upon a motion by Scott Emslie and a second by John Lucas.  
All-in-favor (AIF).

- Treasurer Pete Kraayenbrink reported that a donation was received from Dutchess County Sportsmen in memory of Dick Decker
- Pete also reported that the only club that has not yet paid their 2023 dues is Whortlekill Rod & Gun. Per our By-Laws, any club not paid by April 1<sup>st</sup> will become a non-voting member.

The minutes of the previous delegates meeting on February 9, 2023 were approved upon a motion by Scott Emslie and a second by John Lucas. AIF

The minutes of the Board of Directors meeting on February 27, 2023 were approved upon a motion by Scott Emslie and a second by Tom Gannon. AIF

#### **Committee Reports**

##### **Hunters Helping the Hungry**

Anthony Pittore reported that the cull in Bedford NY has concluded, with 12 deer being shot and donated to our program. Anthony thanked all who helped with the processing the last several weeks.

Bill Conners noted that the local DEC office is now issuing instructions with nuisance permits, to give us half of the deer if over 10 are shot.

### Fish

Anthony stated that our annual Family Fishing Day will be held on April 23<sup>rd</sup> at Overlook Park in Lagrange. Help is needed and appreciated. The pond will be stocked beforehand.

Trout Unlimited will be holding a Veterans Fishing Day the previous day on 4/22. Anthony and Bill Conners will be providing food.

Flyers were handed out for both events.

### Jr. Hunter Pheasant Hunt

The hunt will be held on Sept 23<sup>rd</sup>. The DEC has filled in all the holes and the low spot at the upper gate entrance, and cut all the fields and brush at the Lafayetteville MUA. This will make for much better hunting come fall.

### Conservation Education

Scott Emslie reported that we will be sponsoring 17 kids to the Conservation camps. He sent US mail letters to all the applicants. After that, all communications will be done via email, through which Scott will provide the sponsorship codes. The applicants will have to use the codes themselves, and that should be done as soon as the registration opens on April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 1:00 PM

### Fundraising

Tom Fiumarello stated that the Federation Sporting Clays shoot is planned for Saturday July 15<sup>th</sup> at Mid-Hudson Sporting Clays range in New Paltz. Tom handed out a preliminary flyer for delegates to take back to their clubs to gauge the interest in participating, and to report that back at our April meeting. The goal is to provide the clubs and first responders a really nice day of mildly competitive shooting and comradery. More details will be provided next month upon determining the level of interest.

### Youth Trap Shooting

Tom Gannon stated that the league will start up next week, beginning with a shoot on Thursday at Northern Dutchess Rod & Gun Club at 5:00 pm. For details, contact Tom at 845-233-8824.

### Legislation (and other conservation news)

Bill Conners reported that not much legislation is moving in Albany at the moment, due to ongoing budget negotiations.

One bill introduced was S03302, which would make it illegal to bring back and possess "Big 5" animals hunted in Africa.

The bundled CCIA lawsuits will soon be heard in the Federal Circuit Court. Gun Owners of America (GOA) is leading that effort.

The following clubs announced that they have sent, or will be sending, donations to gun rights groups involved in the lawsuits.

110 Rod & Gun	All proceeds from a fundraising shoot in June.
Southern Dutchess & Putnam	\$1000
Manchester	\$250
Dutchess Couny Sportsmen	\$1000

Upon a motion by Bill Conners, and a 2<sup>nd</sup> by John O'Donnell, the delegates approved donating \$1000 to GOA. AIF.

## **New York State Conservation Council**

Bill Conners. Nothing new to report.

### **Communications**

Anthony reported on a note from a donor of birds to the Hunter Helping the Hungry program, which showed the charitable donation amount they plan to claim for tax purposes. It is substantial.

### **Unfinished (Old) Business**

None reported.

### **New Business**

Bob Haan stated that he will be helping with organizing and staffing the NRA booth at the upcoming Northeast Sports show at the Dutchess County Fairgrounds. Neighbors Gun Club may have an archery exhibit there. Scott Emslie stated that the cost for a booth at the event is \$250.

Scott Emslie stated that the Mid Hudson Friends of NRA Banquet will be held on April 21<sup>st</sup> at the Villa Borghese banquet facility in Wappingers Falls. As before, the committee is seeking donations to underwrite the prizes. Contact Scott for information and flyers listing the prizes available.

### **Announcements**

Brian Mihans still has tickets available for the Ruffed Grouse Society gun raffle.

Tom Gannon reported that Northern Dutchess Rod & Gun Club is holding a raffle, and their annual fishing derby.

Rich Poluzzi reported that Hudson Valley Sportsmen will be holding Trapping, Hunting, and Archery courses over the spring and summer. See the DEC web site for details.

50/50 raffle winner – John O’Donnell.

Next regular meeting date: April 13, 2023.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tom Holsopple,  
Secretary