



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

October 10, 2024 Regular Delegates Meeting

JB's Bar & Grill, James Baird State Park, Pleasant Valley, NY

The meeting was opened at 7:30 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: 24 people were in attendance, representing 16 clubs.

Guests

Caden Kellner and his mom Brooke Kellner. Caden spoke about his project to achieve his Eagle Scout credential. His project is to build a "Take a Fly, Leave a Fly Flybrary" for fly fishers. Like a neighborhood book library, fly fishermen and women could take a fly from the box and leave a fly. In addition, it would offer information such as a seasonal fly chart and a fish identification display. It is also intended to promote flyfishing among youth. It would be located near the Wappingers Creek. After his presentation, Caden passed around a hat for donations.

On behalf of the CAF, Dave Morrison made a motion to donate \$100 toward Caden's project. After a 2nd by Ralph Hafner, the CAF Board members present voted All-in-Favor (AIF).

Anthony Pittore introduced John Wellman, a potential new delegate from Crum Elbow Sportsmen.

Financial Report and Minutes

The Treasurer's Report was accepted upon a motion by Jim Guyette and a second by Hank Eichenhofer. All-in-favor (AIF).

The minutes of the previous delegates meeting on September 12, 2024 were approved upon a motion by Ralph Hafner and a second by Tom Gannon. AIF

The minutes of the Board of Directors meeting on September 23, 2024 were approved upon a motion by Chris Villa and a second by Tom Gannon. AIF

Committee Reports

Hunters Helping the Hungry

Anthony Pittore – 1 deer was processed this past week. There is still 400 pounds of duck meat to be distributed; all other meat has been donated. Anthony thanked all the processing helpers.

Fish

Anthony Pittore – Next year’s Veterans Fishing Day is planned for April 26th, and the Family Fishing Day is planned for April 27th. This year’s family event had over 500 people attend.

The Town of Lagrange is planning their Muddy Hands event for the weekend after. That event has various conservation displays and kid’s activities.

Jr. Hunter Pheasant Hunt

Anthony Pittore – The hunt had 37 kids signed up, but 2 were sick and could not participate. 35 kids hunted over 39 sessions. A lot of birds were taken this year as compared to previous years. Anthony attributed that to many of the kids shooting in our Youth Trap League. There was a shipping hiccup getting the T-shirts in time, so they were mailed out to the kids afterward.

Conservation Education

Anthony Pittore – We received our surplus unused funds back from the DEC. With all of the DEC camps not fully operational in the past several years, we will entertain suggestions about other conservation related camps to which we could sponsor kids. Contact Anthony or Dave Morrison with suggestions.

Youth Trap Shooting

Tom Gannon presented the following report:

This year’s season is winding down, with the remaining sessions through October at Northern Dutchess Rod & Gun Club.

Thanks to Southern Dutchess & Putnam Sportsmen’s Assn, 110 Rod & Gun Club, Pleasant Valley Trout & Game Club, Neighbors Rod & Gun Club, and Northern Dutchess Rod & Gun Club. Chestnut Ridge Rod & Gun may be added in 2025.

A big thanks to Anthony Pittore, Tom Fiumarello, Chris Villa, Ken Foster, Ralph Savoy, Dan & Candy Olson, Chris Gephard, Jim Mayhar, Lucas Blis, Bruce Leach & Rod Royer. And a big thanks to the Federation and the NRA for the support of the group by supplying ammo & clays.

On Saturday, a “shoot-off” will be held for the kids, instructors, and helpers. A pizza lunch will be served.

Publicity

Anthony Pittore – will be meeting soon with Tom Williams of Paradox Consulting to discuss the new web site project. We are seeking volunteers to help with the project and help maintain it after it goes live.

Legislation (and other conservation news)

Anthony Pittore - He and Tom Gannon attended the last FWMB meeting which discussed:

- A new piece of state land near Depot Hill – about 500 acres.
- Doug McHoul is the new legislator rep to the FWMB.
- License sales are normal.
- 7500 medical exemption crossbow permits were issued so far for the upcoming season.
- New wetlands regulations are forthcoming.
- A plan to modernize the state hatcheries. Details TBD.
- An update on Camp DeBruce – if staffing continues to be a problem, then DEC may close it permanently.
- An ECO reported a lot of violations in the early bow season, mostly due to illegal use of crossbows

Anthony reminded everyone that there are only days left to register to vote in the upcoming election. The application must be received (online or via mail) by 10 days before the election. Get out and VOTE!

New York State Conservation Council

Anthony Pittore – planning to attend the next meeting. There is a new council president: Keith Tidball.

Communications

Fundraiser raffle tickets were received from the Dutchess County Sports Museum, of which the Federation is and inducted honorary member. See Anthony if interested in purchasing tickets.

A discussion ensued about the museum and its purpose. Ralph Hafner provided some insight. It is meant to acknowledge, honor, and showcase sports men and women of Dutchess County and their significant contributions to their sports. Displays are in the museum located Carnwath Farm Lane in Wappingers Falls and is only open on Saturdays. Ralph noted that outdoors sports have a very little presence in the museum.

Unfinished (Old) Business

Anthony Pittore – The recent Canine First Aid Clinic was an amazing event, primarily due to the efforts of Tom Fiumarello. A lot of topics were covered.

Bylaws Committee

Tom Holsopple read the 2nd reading of proposed changes from the committee, covering the significant changes. Questions and discussion were entertained.

A show-of-hand vote to approve the proposed changes was held, with a 2/3 majority voting in favor and 1 vote against. Tom will email the updated By-Laws to the club delegates in the near future.

New Business

Anthony Pittore is working on nominating Dave Wohbach (posthumously) to the NY Outdoor Hall of Fame, in recognition for starting our very successful Junior Hunter Pheasant Hunt and the 20+ years that he ran it.

Anthony noted that at the recent Orvis Sandanona Sportsmens Day, Northern Dutchess Rod & Gun Club had a display, which in addition to their own information, had our Federation banner on display and handed out our informational tri-fold flyers.

Announcements

Dutchess County Sportsmen are holding their annual gun raffle. Contact Tom Gannon for details.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 PM.

Next delegates meeting date: November 14, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Holsopple,
Secretary