



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

July 11, 2024 Regular Delegates Meeting

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

The meeting was opened at 7:35 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, especially Legislative VP and Director Bill Conners, Director at Large Bernie Walker, and sportsman John Lobotsky.

Hank Eichenhofer stated that he recently visited Bill Conners' wife Brenda, and that she is now home but still undergoing physical therapy from injuries from an auto accident. A memorial service is being delayed until Brenda is better able to attend.

Hank presented a donation from Chestnut Ridge Rod & Gun Club to the Federation in memory of Bill Conners. He also noted a well-written article about Bill in the most recent Outdoors News publication.

Roll Call: 30 people were in attendance, representing 21 clubs.

Guests

Anthony Pittore recognized Evelyn Wuytack, the new delegate from Dutchess County Pistol Association.

DEC ECO Kevin Wamsley was in attendance and available for questions.

Financial Report and Minutes

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

The minutes of the previous delegates meeting on June 13, 2024 were approved upon a motion by John Lucas and a second by Adam Yasjejko. AIF

The minutes of the Board of Directors meeting on June 24, 2024 were approved upon a motion by Jim Guyette and a second by Adam Yasjejko. AIF

Committee Reports

Annual Dinner

Anthony Pittore stated that the Board decided not to move forward with a BBQ event this year due to all the upcoming activities. A BBQ will be considered for next year.

Hunters Helping the Hungry

Anthony reported that 1 deer was recently processed. The informational cards about the program will need to be updated with new contact information.

Jr. Hunter Pheasant Hunt

Anthony reminded all that the hunt will be held on Sept. 28th. 13 kids have applied so far. We need more. Applications are available. He has filed all the paperwork with the DEC and is awaiting approval. To be confirmed: that the new DEC registration process is needed to get birds from the state for special hunts like this. If we do not use that process for our hunt, we may want to supply the birds ourselves.

Conservation Education

Dave Morrison reported that 6 kids who we sponsored, have attended or will be attending, the DEC summer Conservation Camps.

Fundraising

Tom Fiumarello reported that the Canine Cancer Research benefit shoot had 231 shooters and will net about \$70,000 for a donation to Cornell Veterinary college. This research benefits all dog owners in the county whose dogs need that extra help. The results of this research ultimately also benefits humans with cancer. The CAF is a co-sponsor of the shoot. Sponsors were recently invited to attend a thank-you dinner and informational session hosted by Cornell. Several CAF Board members attended. Tom presented an award to Pete Kraayenbrink in recognition for all his efforts with this event.

Tom also reported on the upcoming Federation Best of the Valley sporting clay shoot fundraiser on July 27th at Mid-Hudson Sporting Clays club in New Paltz. 51 shooters have registered so far. This is lower than last year at this time. The registration cost is \$140 per shooter and includes a hot breakfast & lunch. Shooters not wanting to register using the ScoreChaser site, can call Tom at 845-625-3151.

Tom reiterated that we need shooters, donations, and volunteers.

Anthony Pittore stated that the funds raised go toward supporting all our programs and this is the only fundraiser that the Federation has.

Youth Trap Shooting

Tom Gannon reported that 3 kids attended the last meet and 5 attended tonight's meet. The program is also starting to use the range at Pleasant Valley Trout & Game Club. Flyers about this program were made available.

By-Laws

Anthony Pittore reported that the committee met and drafted several proposed changes, The committee will be meeting again to refine the changes before presenting to the delegates.

Legislation (and other conservation news)

Anthony Pittore attended the last Region 3 FWMB (Fish & Wildlife Mgmt Board) meeting, at which the memory of Bill Connors was honored. At that meeting, Anthony was appointed to replace Bill as our delegate. Tom Gannon is the alternate. Also, Kevin Haight was designated a landowner representative. Anthony relayed some DEC-related news items:

- An additional 500 acres was added to the Depot Hill MUA,
- 6500 acres were added in Sullivan County.
- A reminder that plain paper will be used for sporting licenses and carcass tags, starting with the upcoming 2024-2025 license year. Carcass tags must still be physically affixed to game taken.
- The Taconic Hereford MUA is being logged, to promote understory growth and habitat.
- The current ECO academy is now down to 32 attendees.

New York State Conservation Council

Anthony mentioned that the Council will be having their Fall Convention on Sept. 6-8 in Rome NY.

Communications

None reported.

Unfinished (Old) Business

Tom Gannon reported that all tickets were sold for the gun raffle, the proceeds of which will help fund a pavilion at Overlook Park in Lagrange, where our fishing day events are held.

The winners were drawn and are as follows:

1 st prize (a Browning Citori shotgun)	Tom O'Mara
2 nd prize (a Silver Eagle)	Lisa Gannon
3 rd prize (\$100)	Louis Perotti

New Business

None reported.

Announcements

Millbrook Rod & Gun Club will hold a skeet shoot this Sunday.

Green Haven Fish & Game Assn will hold a Steak & Bake event on August 3rd. Ticket cost is \$60.

A Hunter Education Trapping course will be held at Millerton Rod & Gun Club on July 27th. Must register on the DEC web site.

A Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation fundraiser dinner and shoot will be held on July 20-21 at Mid-County Rod & Gun Club.

Viola Rod & Gun Club will be hosting Pistol Certification courses on July 27-28, and on Aug 17-18.

Gun Owners of America (GOA) will be holding a fundraiser on July 18 in Columbia County.

Next regular meeting date: August 8, 2024.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Holsopple,
Secretary