

FEDERATION OF SPORTSMEN'S CLUBS OF SULLIVAN COUNTY, INC., minutes of March 9, 2011. The meeting began at 7:30 p.m. with a salute to the flag. There were 33 delegates present. Guests: Lt. Deming Lindsley, DEC CO; Honored Guest Carl Lindsley, retired DEC member; Ricky Woods, DEC CO. Carl indicated 210 bears were taken in Region 3. There were 53 bear complaints with 34 class 1 complaints (bears entering dwellings). This is caused mostly by hand feeding and bird feeders. He indicated birds do not need food now as they are traveling in the Spring. Bears must be killed if they enter a dwelling. Deming indicated DEC officer Canfield is retiring the end of the month after serving 34 years. There will be no academy in 2013. He indicated if you take the bolt off the cross bow you can carry it in your vehicle. There was a fisher attacking raccoons on Hurd Road and it killed a family cat. Deming indicated fishers are protected and you must get a permit to hunt fishers. They can be killed if they are threatening your livestock or your home or animals. He indicated they have only 3 officers to patrol our unit now. Officer Woods indicated not to hesitate to call if you see a problem as they will do whatever possible to help. Motion made to dispense reading February minutes since all clubs receive copies. Seconded, CARRIED.

BILLS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

Motion to pay all bills. Seconded, CARRIED. We received a thank you letter from a camper looking forward to going to camp this summer. Received a membership application from Peta Lodge (see New Business). Received letters from Schoharie County Cons. Assn, Inc. (Unit 4G) and Green Co. Federation of Sportsmen (Units 4X, 4R, 4S and 3A) requesting our support of 3 on a side in their areas. (See New Business). Received a letter from Orange Co. Sportsmen's Federation on our position on fracking. (See New Business).

REPORT OF OFFICERS:

PRES.: Predator Hunt ends Sunday, Mar 27th. So far, 49 coyotes taken, 20 fox and 1 bobcat. K. Soul of E. Norwich, N.Y. took 7 coyotes during this hunt. We had 537 registered to hunt our 3 day Coyote Hunt. President thanked the committee for their tremendous support. President made 50 calls to people in last year's contest asking why they didn't enter this year. There were two main reasons, one was the economy and the other too much snow. There were 229 dinners served, \$8,000 pay outs for coyotes, including 1 youth male hunter and 1 youth female, for a total expense of \$17,471.55. During this hunt 8 hunters took 23 coyotes, 11 in Tioga Co., 10 in Otsego, and 2 in Schoharie Counties. President requests the Coyote Committee to meet this Sunday, March 13th. 2 p.m., at the Kauneonga Lake Fire Hall to discuss next year's contest. The Predator Contest will also be discussed. President has discussed our Annual Banquet problems with the owner of the Rockland House and it was decided the hors d'oeuvres will be brought around to tables by the waitresses until all are gone due to congestion problems last year.

V.P.: Thanked everyone for their help with the Coyote Contest.

SEC.: Clubs not paying 2011 dues will receive a bill with these minutes. Grace period for dues expires in March, so please send your checks promptly.

TRES.: After paying bills we have \$19,900.42 in our account. We have opened a new bank account with the Jeffersonville Bank and deposited \$5,357.26 which gives us an actual balance of \$25,257.68. Motion to accept report as read. Seconded, CARRIED.

Council Del.: No report.

STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

FISH: Walleyes are definitely reproducing as 3 were caught recently, one being a 4 pounder.

SMALL GAME: Prices for pheasants will go up to \$9.50 per bird since feed costs more.

Breeder requests a \$2,000. deposit. (See New Business.)

BIG GAME: Brian M. Kolb, Assembly Republican Leader tells us if you are not already receiving the N.Y.S. Assembly Minority Sportsmen & Outdoor Recreation News to please sign up by calling his office (518)455-3751 or email kolbb@assembly.state.ny.us. Brain Worm has been discovered in N.Y. moose in Oct. 2010. A 2 1/2 yr. old moose was lying down in a pasture, couldn't stand when prodded and appeared blind. It was euthanized and submitted to the Wildlife Pathology Unit where it was diagnosed. This is a common disease for white-tailed deer but causes them no harm. It will, however, also cause damage to sheep, llamas and elk. It was thought the deer population would limit the population growth of moose in N.Y. but this hasn't been the case yet. However, brain worm infections have been found in six of 18 moose examined from 2009-2010. Anyone wanting to help look for winter killed deer in deer yards assigned by Region 3 biologist the end of March, beginning of April contact Harvey Dickens 434-4291. At the Region 3 meeting 3/14 muzzleloading hunters shooting drop shed bucks in mistake of does will be discussed as well as winter deer feeding. Other states around us allow this. Please let Harvey Dickens know, at our April meeting, the number of coyotes harvested by members of your club so we can get a county take. Article in S.C. Democrat indicates yearling buck protection or antler restriction program may be ending this year. NYS Whitetail Mgmt. Coalition is a nonprofit organization designed to protect and expand yearling buck protection. You can become a member, free of charge, by joining website www.nyswmc.com and sending letters to support antler restriction which will be delivered to the DEC to NYS Deer Mgmt. Coalition, Inc., P.O. Box 191, Grahamsville, NY12740. Senator Eric Adams (D-20), S.2994 would require firearms to be registered with a \$15. Per gun fee, plus \$10. annual renewal fee and require gun owners to list serial numbers, model, etc. in additional to personal info. Criminals will never register their illegally possessed guns and, in fact., the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that since felons are prohibited from owning firearms, compelling them to register their guns would violate their Fifth Amendment rights against self-incrimination. Contact members of the Senate Codes Committee to ask them to oppose S.2994. Micro stamping is still an issue.

CONS. ED.: No report. All 24 kids we submitted for camp will be attending.

FWMB; No report.

HABITAT: Get applications from Harris Myers, (845)583-6047. Must be back by Sept. mtg.

SPORTSMEN'S ED.: No report. Master Instructor Refresher Course recently held. There will now be a Jr. Sportsman Ed. Instructor Course to train future Hunter Safety Instructors. Cross bow hunters must have a big game license, a muzzle loader stamp and must carry a Crossbow Training/Use Field Certificate which you can get on line or with your NYS Hunting Guide.

DEP: You must read signs posted in these areas since there have been many changes.

GRAHAMSVILLE FAIR AND YOUTH DAY: No report.

NRA: Micro stamp bill is back, bill Schimmel A-1157 co-sponsored in the Senate by Peralta S-675.

SWEEPSTAKES: Raffle tickets probably available at April meeting.

SPORTSMEN'S AWARDS DINNER: Kay needs meat. Bring to next meeting or call her. Dinner will be Saturday, May 14.

SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR: Applications must be in **prior** to June meeting. Get

applications from Edna.

OLD BUSINESS:

Kay made a report on coyotes taken: 29 on Friday, average 37 lbs, temp. average 88.5 degrees 18 males and 11 females; Saturday 9 coyotes taken, 37 lb. average 80.6 degrees temp., 7 males & 2 females and Sunday, 17 coyotes taken 36.3 average lbs., 88.3 degrees with 7 males and 10 females. There were 55 coyotes taken in all with an average of 37 lbs and 85.8 average degree temp. Roger Van Horn of Pt. Jervis took the \$2,000. grand prize. His coyote was taken in Orange Co., was 44 lbs. with a 98 degree temp. Bradley Van Aken was the male junior hunter and took a 34 lb. Coyote with an 81 degree temp. and Erica Straight, female Junior hunter, from Greene Co. took a 38 lb. Coyote with a 80.6 degree temp. Hunters from 34 counties were registered in the State, with 7 from Sullivan Co. and several from other states including Florida. Pat Voges, who handled the predator and coyote mailing free of charge, is donating any funds he spent for our youth programs. Secretary to write a thank you letter and request a note from him requesting amount he spent. Joel Lucks, a freelance photographer from Outdoor Life when on a coyote hunt with Harvey Dickens and came to our Banquet. He took many pictures and they are on his photo gallery on the internet. To see go to Outdoor Life, NY Coyote Hunt. It will take you to pictures 1-31 then go to Dog Days and you will see 1-25. He has captions on each photo and gave our Federation good publicity. Barbara and Warren Krum were given a \$50. dinner gift certificate since dinner was depleted by the time they got to our banquet.

NEW BUSINESS:

Our Federation's support for antler restriction for Ulster, Schoharie and Greene Counties was requested by Federations from those counties and discussed. Motion made to support antler restriction in these areas. 8 opposed. President would not let a vote in favor take place since he felt the issue was so important he wanted it tabled until our April meeting. **He requests that all clubs attend the April 13th meeting to vote on this issue.** He has invited officials from Federations in these areas to attend our meeting. Motion to accept The Peta Lodge as a Federation member and waive the 30 day waiting period. Seconded, CARRIED. Letter from Orange Co. Federation requesting our position on gas drilling. Motion made to not take a stand on this since this is not a sportsman's issue and not make a decision one way or the other. Seconded, CARRIED. Motion made to order 825 pheasants and stay within our budget and forward a \$2,000. deposit. Seconded, CARRIED. Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinners: Claryville Fire House Saturday, 3/12, 4 p.m.,. And Kauneonga Lk. Fire House, Saturday, 3/12, 5 p.m. Carl Lindsey questioned if we would help with the Morningside Park Youth Fishing Derby. President indicated we would but they need more publicity since it was not well attended last year. Motion to adjourn 9:50 p.m., Seconded, CARRIED.

Next meeting: Kauneonga Lk. Fire Hall, 7:30 p.m. 4/13/11.

Respectfully submitted,
Edna Calkin, Secretary