

NRA REPORT 4-13-16

1. On Monday, March 28, the NYS Senate Codes Committee voted along party lines and the Republicans defeated a mandatory storage bill that would have forced gun owners to lock up their firearms, thereby rendering those firearms useless in self-defense situations. S.04291, sponsored by state Senator Liz Krueger (D-28), would have imposed felony penalties for failing to keep guns under lock and key. The Assembly has passed this legislation in previous years, but it has stalled in the Senate. Your NRA-ILA also lobbied against this bill where it was defeated in the Republican dominated Senate Committee. Remember, it is important to be registered and to vote to keep a Republican majority the NYS Senate or all our Second Amendment rights will be legislated away.

2. Hillary Clinton has stated that her number one enemy is the National Rifle Association and she promised to destroy the NRA if she is elected president. Hillary also stated that that she wants to repeal the law that protects firearm manufactures from lawsuits if a firearm is used illegally by a third party. This would be the equivalent of suing General Motors for being responsible if a drunk driver injures people in an automobile accident.

3. The 2016 NRA Annual Meetings and Exhibits will take place at the Kentucky Exposition Center in Louisville, KY May 19-22. Besides all the events there will be 10 acres of guns and gear. To make reservations, pre-register or for more information go to www.nraam.org or call toll free 877-776-7614.

34. Dickerson

SULLIVAN COUNTY MANAGER
APR 18 2016
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BIG GAME REPORT 4-13-16

1. New York bear hunters took 1,715 black bears during the 2015 hunting seasons, the second largest bear harvest on record. Only the 2003 harvest of 1,863 bears surpassed last year's take. Hunters took a total of 1,132 black bears in the Southern Zone, approximately the same as in 2014, but about 30 percent greater than the recent five-year average take. The bear harvest density in Wildlife Management Unit 3K was one bear per 3.0 square miles and the town of Tusten in Sullivan County produced one bear for every 2.2 square miles. The total bear take for Sullivan County for all seasons was 199. The full bear report can be seen on the DEC website under the Black Bear Harvest Summary 2015.

2. Legislation that would expand crossbow use through the entire archery season has been introduced into the NYS Senate by Senator Gallivan and in the Assembly by Assemblywoman Gunther. If approved, crossbow users would be required to take the state's bowhunter education course. The bill would allow 12 & 13 year olds to hunt big and small game with crossbows, permit 150 feet as the setback for firing a crossbow and would allow anyone wishing to use a "draw-loc" device typically used by physically disabled hunters without the need for a special permit. Suffolk and Westchester counties and the archery only areas of Albany and Monroe counties would remain crossbow prohibited areas.

3. Harvey Dickens represented the Federation at a meeting of the county Public Safety Legislative Committee on April 7th when they discussed the possible adoption of animal abuse legislation. Harvey stated to the committee that "wildlife in the State of NY falls under the jurisdiction of the NYS DEC. Hunting, fishing and trapping are legal activities that are highly regulated by the DEC and there are already state laws in place to deal with abusers of wildlife. If the legislature adopts an animal abuse law, that law should only apply to domestic animals and in no way should that law ever be construed to possibly infer that sportspeople legally hunting, fishing and trapping could ever be accused of any form of animal abuse" to which the legislators agreed. The legislation will be discussed further on April 19th at 9 a.m. in a public session at the Government Center.

H. Dickens

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12:30 PM

SWEEPSTAKES: Will be available at next meeting.

ANNUAL BANQUET: Set for Oct. 1st at Rockland House in Roscoe.

SCHOLARSHIP COMM. In the process of selecting students for awards.

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

COYOTE HUNT: Very successful. Will probably set dates for 2017 next month.

CHESTNUT TREES: 110 paid for. Will be shipped the last week in April. Pickup will be Saturday, 4/30 9a.m. If you can't show call Cliff Horton (845)583-4282.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Voted on a new club: Morgan Foundation: All in favor. CARRIED. Motion to run crossbow season with archery season. There were 12 in favor with 11 opposed. Seconded, CARRIED. Motion to support 12 year olds to hunt big game during the firearm season. Seconded, CARRIED. There will be a Youth Turkey Hung at Fur Fin and Feathers in Livingston Manor, NY on Saturday & Sunday 4/23 & 4/24 from 7:30 a.m. to 1 pm. There being no further business Motion to close the meeting at 9:35 p.m. Seconded, CARRIED.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,


Edna Calkin, Secretary,

Sullivan County Sportsman's Federation

FEDERATION OF SPORTSMEN'S CLUBS OF SULLIVAN COUNTY, INC., minutes of April 13, 2016. The meeting began at 7:30 with a salute to the flag. There were 28 members present. Guests: Lt. Mike Fellows, DEC official; J.R. Russel, DEC Region 3 Deer Biologist; Deming and Carl Lindsley. Gene Benson, FWMB Region 3 DEC. Kay Danchak sent us the following note: "Another update. Just finished another 5 day round of chemo in Robert Wood Johnson Hospital in New Brunswick. I am feeling good except food tastes like metal. I eat and am maintaining body weight. Awaiting bone marrow process and then transplant. I think about you members all the time. So get your dues in (you delinquents). It is only \$55. due now. We are a great Federation so help keep it that way. Sweepstake next!" Turkey trapping is over. There will be no more. Carl found a dead turkey released in 2014, 3 yards from where it was release and it had a 2014 band on it. It was caught by a coyote. Deming taught for 3 weeks with 35 students attending. Some dropped out and others enrolled. Lt. Mike Fellows transferred from Region 2. He has been in the DEC for 20 years and will probably be at our meetings for approx.5 years since he has been placed here and lives in the region. John Russel worked with the bear program for 5 years. He indicated in Region 3H there were 53 damage permits issued in 3H and 39 doe were harvested. And 3K had 10 damage permits with 3 does harvested. There were 1132 bears taken in the southern tier with 199 bears taken in Sullivan County which was up 12% from last year. Several members have reported seeing bucks still having their horns. DEC indicates this is normal because there was sufficient food available, lots of acorns and not much snow. Bob Morgan of the Morgan Foundation, established to help our wounded vets with food, wood, etc., can be reached at (845) 252-5815. Call him for info. And if you know someone who needs help. They are a great organization. Motion to dispense with the reading of the March minutes. Seconded, all in favor, CARRIED. Motion to pay all bills. Seconded, all in favor. CARRIED.

REPORT OF OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT: Assembly Woman Aileen Gunther has several bills she wishes our support on. See New Business. Frank LaBuda had a meeting requesting our support. Many of our Federation members were present to support and speak for him. Discussion on possible deer feeding ban.

VICE PRESIDENT: 31 clubs still have not paid their dues. They will be contacted and if dues are not paid by our May meeting they will not receive the May minutes. PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES!

SECRETARY: No report.

TREASURER: After all our bills have been paid we have a balance of \$29,792.42. Motion to accept this report. Seconded, all in favor. CARRIED.

STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

FISH: No report. SMALL GAME: No report. BIG GAME: See attached. FWMB: No report.

CONS. ED.: 21 Children signed up for DEC Camp. There is still room for some girls.

HABITAT: New forms now available. Pick up from chairman now. We have \$7,000. Available. Clubs must sell at least 40 books and submit application to receive reimbursement.

SPORTSMAN'S ED.: Very few courses available. Sull. Co. Coonhound Assn. 162 Hubert Rd., Jeffersonville 4/15 6pm-9pm and 4/16 8am-4pm, must pre-register. Frost Valley YMCA 4/23 & 4/24 9am-4pm, must pre-register. No bow hunting classes so far. Go on line for information.

DEP. There are problems with steam cleaning boats at some locations. It's being worked on

GRAHAMSVILLE FAIR: No report. NRA: See attached. Dues going up to \$40. as of May 1st.