



Seneca County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, Inc.

Affiliated with: **PO Box 355 Waterloo, NY 13165-0355** NYS Conservation Council
www.senecacountyfederation.com FL Conservation Council
National Rifle Association
NYS Rifle & Pistol
NYS SCOPE

MEETING MINUTES March 21, 2023: Canoga Sportsmen's Club

Call to Order

Meeting called to order by President Greg Wadhams @ 7:05 pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call of Members

Attendance: 14 members and 2 guest, representing 10 clubs.

Minutes from February 21, 2023, Meeting

Minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report

Deposit of \$450. Member Clubs annual dues

Paid: Finger Lakes Conservation Council annual dues \$35, Fingerlakes 1 quarterly WEB hosting \$75.

Donation to the NYS Conservation Council \$150.

Report approved.

Guest speakers

ECO Ike Bobseine: Nothing to report for Seneca County. Asked if we had any concerns. We discussed the possible over fishing of perch that is occurring in Cayuga Lake. There have been numerous (22) boats fishing the north end of the lake. Can he check on it. He suggested we get in contact with DEC fisheries to voice our concern and for a possible rule change on the taking of perch in the Finger lakes. There was discussion of feeding deer, CWD, the NYS burn ban which runs from March 15 to May 14. Also discussed how NYS does not fine deer poacher very much unlike other states that charge by the point and can be thousands of dollars.

ECO Rob McCabe: Now that we have brought the perch fishing issue to his attention. He will investigate it. Possible boat patrol of the area. The white deer that was taken illegally resulted in two people being charged, one has paid a fine the other is pending. He commented that our WEB site was easy to use. That is how he found out about tonight's meeting and the address on where it was being held. Should you have a need to contact him, his number is 631-494-5229.

Correspondence/Communications None.

Committee Reports: The C. Scott Sampson Memorial Conservation Scholarship is awarded annually. Applications are open to graduating seniors who are residents of Seneca County and who will be pursuing a degree in a conservation related field. The committee has sent letters to the four public schools in Seneca County and the two private schools that have Seneca County resident students. The scholarship is open to all Seneca County high school Senior's regardless of where they attend school. Applications are due by June 1, 2023. Applications are on our WEB site.

Delegate Reports None.

Old Business

\$150.00 was donated to the New York State Conservation Council.

Our WEB site is up to date, with the latest information received from the clubs.

We are looking at a possible Federation Banquet/fund raiser for September of this year.

New Business:

Discussion on supporting the NRA and other Pro 2nd amendment organizations. Are you a member of a pro 2nd amendment organization?

Discussion on revolving door legal system. Catch and release only works for fishing not criminals.

The President, Vice President and the Secretary are planning on attending the New York State Conservation Council's Spring meeting Saturday April 1, 2023. As written in our By-laws the Federation will cover their actual expenses incurred for the benefit of the Federation.

Motion to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned @ 8:20 pm.

Next meeting: Tuesday, April 18th 2023 at the Lodi Rod and Gun Club. Food will be served at 6:30 pm with the meeting starting at 7 pm.

This write up was on the DEC Delivers e-mail bulletins dated 3/22/23. News from Chemung, Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne and Yates Counties.

Trail Cameras Tell the Tale - Seneca County

After months of investigation, a deer poaching case in the town of Romulus involving bait and trail cameras was resolved. The case started in November 2022, when a hunter spotted the cape and large antlers of a unique white deer at an Oswego taxidermy shop. The hunter recognized the deer from a popular hunting area in Seneca County two hours away. Hunters frequently reported seeing the deer on private land and trail cameras in the area. Fearing the deer was poached on the private land, the hunter and landowner contacted DEC to help determine whether someone harvested the animal illegally. ECOs McCabe and Lieutenant Thomas investigated and tracked down the hunter who took the deer on a piece of land next to the private property. The hunter walked the Officers to the location where he took the deer, passing two bags of empty deer feed on the way. The hunter claimed he didn't know how the bags of feed were placed at the location, but trail cameras told a different story. Photos on the cameras showed the hunter and a friend placing feed at the base of a tree and the white deer eating from the pile multiple times. Officer McCabe also found two additional bait piles on the property. When confronted with the evidence, the hunter admitted to placing the bait and using it to take the white deer. He is charged with illegally taking deer, hunting with the aid of bait, and intentionally feeding deer. The case was recently settled via a Consent Order, with the subject paying a penalty of \$650 and the antlers turned over to DEC.