

September 15, 2026 Recognition Dinner was held at Waterloo Sportsmen's and Conservation club.

Opened with the pledge.

It was attended by 53 people. There were 14 Chinese auction items and the \$1,000 spending spree/cash raffle at the Interlaken Guns & Ammo shop.

Tom Grasek spoke about the New York State Conservation Council they are a State Wide organization advocating for conservation and the sporting community since 1933. The Federation is a member and it is recommended that every club become a member. There are pamphlets on the tables. One of the most important things that the NYS Conservation council does is monitor legislation. They will contact all their members using "Legislative Action Alerts" should there be a piece of legislation of interest to us as sportsmen and women. Indicating if we support or oppose this legislation.

Tom Grasek Secretary, Seneca County Federation of Sportsmen's clubs spoke that there were pamphlets on the tables that explain who we are, what we do, and how we do it. Please look over this and pay special attention to the highlighted section on "legislative Action Alerts".

Senator Thomas O'Mara gave an update on his office and that he fully supports the rights of sportsmen and sportswomen. He spoke about how important it is to get every gun owner out to vote. Gun owners will not do well if we get another 4 years with the present governor. Her energy policies are costing everyone money electric costs are at record highs. She will further erode our gun owner rights. NY City can be defeated if we all vote.

Mike Passalacqua who is running for Seneca County Sheriff spoke of what he will do if elected sheriff. He is a Waterloo Resident. Over 2 decades of Law Enforcement experience. Husband, father, and proven Police Chief (ret.) running to bring integrity, safety, and accountability to the Seneca County Sheriff's Office. He will support every police agency Federal, state and local.

Mark Benjamin who is running for 131st Assembly district spoke. He is a husband, father, coach, former dishwasher, and small business owner. He has built a business and created jobs, he understands the challenges facing families, seniors, and

employers across our communities. Mark is running to bring a dose of common sense back to Albany, protect our farmland, reforming NY energy policies, fight for lower taxes and a stronger future for New York.

Ron Pesta, Seneca County SCOPE spoke on getting out to vote and that there were yard signs available for no charge as long as you display them where people can see them. The future is decided by those who show up. VOTE November 3rd. There were pamphlets on the tables "My Vote Matters" explaining what can be done.

Scott Buisch, NYS Rifle & Pistol Association and NRA recruiter spoke on how important it is that gun owners get out to vote in this upcoming election. If not a member of either of these organization consider joining them. We can make a difference.

President Wadhams Thanked the Banquet committee for their work involved in setting up this event. Gary Brewer, Bill Ryan, and Tom Grasek. He also thanked the Waterloo sportsmen's and conservation club for hosting the banquet and their kitchen staff for the delicious dinner which included various cheese, crackers and vegetables platter with various dips, salad, baked chicken and ham with mashed potatoes and gravy. Desert vanilla ice cream with dark chocolate brownie.

After dinner, Tom introduced the nine clubs (Waterloo Sportsmen's and Conservation club, Buckskin Bowmen Field Archery, Canoga Springs Rod & Gun club, Finger Lakes Conservation Club, Interlaken Sportsmen's Club, Kuneytown Sportsmen's Club, North Seneca Sportsmen's & Rifle Club, Waterloo Rifle & Pistol, and Seneca County SCOPE) who had people at the dinner to be recognized. A total of 16 people were recognized. Each club gave a brief description on why their member(s) were chosen to be recognized. The members were asked to identify themselves and were given a round of applause and Thanked for their dedication to their clubs.

The \$600 cash was won by Gary Brewer.

The \$400 cash was won by Gary Brewer.

Food was excellent and everyone had a good time. Next year's banquet will be held at the South end of the county. We will be seeking a host club for that event.

NEXT Federation meeting October 20th North Seneca Sportsmen and Rifle Club