

MERCER COUNTY FEDERATION OF SPORTSMEN'S CLUBS, Inc.

Harthegig Conservation Club Greenville Sportsmen's Club Hadley Rod & Gun Club
Mercer Co. Coonhunters Association Sandy Lake Sportsmen's Club
Hidden Valley Sportsmen's Club Pardoe Sportsmen's Association

WWW.MCFSC.NET

* Dedicated to Promoting Better Outdoor Recreation and Cooperation Between the Farmers and Sportsmen since 1935 *

Meeting Date: October 28, 2009

Held at: Hadley Rod & Gun Club

Time Meeting Called to Order: 19:08 hrs

Time Meeting Adjourn: 21:08 hrs

Chaired By: Pres. Fordcye

Number In Attendance: 18

Officers Present:

Pres. Fordcye, V. Pres. Anderson, Secretary Myers, Treasurer Tidd, Delegate Preston, Alt Delegate Rhoades

Affiliated Clubs with Delegates Present:

Harthegig, Greenville, Hadley, Coonhunters, Sandy Lake, Hidden Valley and Pardoe

Resource Agency Represented:

Pa. Game Commission, Pa. Fish & Boat Commission and DCNR Forestry

Life, Associate, & Club Members and Visitors Present:

Ricky McDaniel (Grove City/Pardoe Member), Marcus Kohan (Pardoe Member), and Ginny and Walter Richardson

Guest Speakers:

- Ginny Steese Richardson stop by to thank MCFSC for the endorsement of Mercer County Treasurer. Ginny asked for volunteers for the upcoming elections on Tuesday November 03, 2009. She needs volunteers at the polls to pass out information.
Ginny also discussed a rumor going around about her office being several years behind in technology. Ginny assures that is false and her office is completely computerized and uses software that other counties have not started to use yet. She requested that MCFSC supporters let people know that this rumor is false.

Last Month's Minutes:

Motion made and seconded with a unanimous vote to accept the September minutes.

Northwest Division Minutes:

Norwest division minutes to be released soon by NW Division Secretary Rhoades.
Next meeting will be December 13th, 2009 at PGC NW REGIONAL OFFICE, 1509 Pittsburgh Road, and Franklin Pa at 1pm.

Vote/Action on Present and State Resolutions: No Report

Vote/Action on Present County Resolutions: No Report

Presidents Report: No Report

Vice Presidents Report: No Report

Secretary's Report: No report

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Tidd reporting:

Current balance was provided. Checks written to reimburse Secretary Myers for supplies and Delegate Preston for Fall Convention trip. Motion was made and seconded with a unanimous vote to accept the Treasurer's report.

State Delegate Report:

- State office is considering only have one convention a year. Currently there is a spring convention and a fall convention.
- The resolution process is being reviewed to streamline the steps. The current process makes it quite difficult to get a resolution in place for the convention. Through the use of email, the process can be become more efficient.
- At the fall convention, elections were held. There was changes to the officers.

President	Ted Onufrak
1st Vice President	Chuck Lombaerde
2nd Vice President	Lowell Graybill
Secretary	Rocco Ali
Treasurer	Ray Martin
Member-At-Large	Les Haas

- It is time to renew your club affiliation to the PA Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs. Mercer County has a separate form that is to be used for the Mercer County Clubs. You can download the form from www.mcfsc.net/Membership.html. Forms will be available at the November meeting as well. Forms can returned at the next County meeting or mailed directly to Secretary Myers. (Address is listed at the bottom of the minutes)
- There is a change this year to the club affiliation form, you will need to list 10 members from your club, this includes the officers. An address and/or email address is needed. You can list more than 10 but 10 is needed to meet the current By-law requirement of a club affiliation. **The information will stay with the PA Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs and the Mercer County level.** The list of names will help with advertisement. This allows the Executive Director is truthfully state that he has contact information for our clubs.

Alt. State Delegate Report: No Report

Committee Reports:

***Membership Committee:**

- Sharpsville Beagle Club will most likely affiliate with MCFSC in the upcoming year. They needed to know the cost to be able to vote on it.

***Youth Field Day Committee:** No Report

***Fund-Raiser Committee:** No Report

***Mercer County Booklet Committee:** No Report

***Old Timers Dinner Committee:** No Report

***Awards Committee:** No Report

***Legislative Committee:** No Report

***Conservation Committee:**

- Discussion of Marcellus Shale Drilling. We need to stay informed on the damage that is caused by the water that is polluted when a site is drilled.
- With the passing of the PA State budget, some funds were diverted. Money from the Conservation fund was permanently diverted to the general fund. This will most likely bring more layoffs to our resource agencies and limit funds to our state parks.
- PFSC is working on getting a severance tax for Marcellus Shale extraction.

***Stoneboro Fair Committee:** No Report

***Poster Contest Committee:** No Report

***Audit Committee:** No Report

***Sam Aubel Committee:**

- Committee formed to start working on the Sam Aubel dinner. Committee members are Bob Fordyce, Dennis Anderson, and Todd Shipton.

***Election Committee:**

- Contact was made with the President, V. President, and Delegate for each club to see if they would nominate anyone from their respective club for an office in the MCFSC elections. Several contacts were less favorable in their response and did not want to be bothered. We need unity within our clubs to support MCFSC and PFSC. In order to have our voices heard at all levels in Harrisburg, we need to support our club delegate and MCFSC officers.
- There is at least one person nominated for each position for the December election and the nominees have confirmed the nomination. You can still nominate a officer or delegate before the December elections. Contact Marcus Kohan (Kohanco@earthlink.net) or Ricky McDaniel (rickymcdaniel50@yahoo.com). If you prefer to contact by phone, please call Secretary Myers and he will deliver the nominations to the committee. (Phone number is listed at the end of the minutes)

Resource Agency Reports:

US Army Corps of Engineers - Shenango Lake: No Report

Pa. Fish & Boat Commission:

- Local Fishing Report:
 - Conneaut Lake: Fishing picked up with the warmer weather. Anglers were reporting good catches of white bass all week. Walleyes in the 16 to 20 inch range have also been reported in recent weeks.
 - Lake Wilhelm: Since the draw down last month, Wilhelm has filled up again. The pan fish bite continues to be slow, with reports of numerous small fish being caught lake wide. The lake is currently on a draw down so use caution with the lower water conditions.
 - Shenango Lake: Anglers have been reporting catches of crappie and white bass/hybrid striped bass around the access areas of the lake. Individuals are catching a combination of walleye and trout below the outflow.
- Nationwide recruitment for a new Fish and Boat Commission Executive Director is underway. More information can be found on the PFBC website. (www.fish.state.pa.us)
- The number of Pennsylvania fishing licenses sold through September 13 – 871,499 – has already eclipsed the total yearly sales for each of the last four years and represents the largest one year percentage increase since 1980, according to sales figures from the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC).
- Legislation sponsored by Sen. Jane Earll (R-49, Erie County) and signed into law last month implements a number of important changes to the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission's (PFBC) Lake Erie fishing permit program, including allowing the Commission to fund fish habitat projects with proceeds from the sale of these permits.
- Anyone that was issued a Lifetime License may have noticed an expiration date on the license. This was an error that occurred with the new POS system. You can ignore the expiration date.
- Wolf Creek Project : Each year, Trout Unlimited and Grove City Sportsmen's Club sponsors a Youth Fishing Derby. However, the handicap and youth section on Wolf Creek needed to be dredged. A construction company volunteered and they dredged the section of the creek.
- New WCO Class deadline is approaching quickly. The deadline is November 18th, 2009. You can register online at www.ssc.state.pa.us or call 717-783-3058. Looking for 12 -14 cadets.

DCNR - Forestry:

- The passing the state budget has caused cuts to the budgets of DCNR:
 - Forestry was cut nine million or 17%
 - Parks was cut nine million or 15%
 - Insect and Disease Pests division was cut the largest, 55%
- The cuts in the budget may lead to personnel cuts. The decision has not been made were the cuts will occur. The cuts will also affect the services of the Penn Nursery.
- New access roads were created on the State Forest at Kennerdell. Large parking lots were also added. Improvements were funded through timber sales revenue.
- Emerald Ash Borer beetles have been found in Milford Township, Juniata County, bringing to 11 the number of Pennsylvania counties where the ash tree-destroying pest has been identified
- The timber sales have gone up on Ash at a possible record high. Ash is being purchased and they are stock piling the lumber.
- Other timber sales is going up as well.

Goddard State Park: No Report

Pa. Game Commission:



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION
MERCER COUNTY
WCO Don Chaybin - WCO Larry Hergenroeder

OCT. 2009 Mercer Co. Federation of Sportsmen's Club

HUNTER-TRAPPER EDUCATION - INDEPENDENT STUDY COURSES:

Hempfield Station One – Thursday 11/05/09 @ 6:00 pm, Glenn Clark 724-588-8423
Western Reserve Sportsman Club – 11/16/09 @ 6:00pm, Dave Horvath 724-342-9096
additional information and online registration_@www.pgc.state.us

FURTAKING SEASONS – started last weekend for raccoon & fox hunting and trapping .

TURKEY SEASONS: Oct. 31st – Nov 14th : WMUs 1A, 1B, 2D, 2F “Hunters are reminded to wear orange!”

ARCHERY DEER – continues thru 11/14. Archers must also wear orange during the last 2 weeks as that is concurrent with fall turkey hunting!

DUCK SEASONS: Northwest Zone : Oct. 10th – Nov. 28th & Dec. 14th – Jan 1st.
South Zone Oct. : 10th -17th & Nov. 16th – Jan. 15th
Lake Erie Zone: Oct. 26th – Jan. 2nd
North Zone: Oct. 10 – 24th & Nov. 17th – Jan. 9th.

CANADA GEESE: SJB: Oct 26th – Nov. 28th & Dec. 14th – Jan 28th (3 geese daily)
Resident Zone: Oct. 24th-31st, Nov. 16th-28th, Dec 11th-Feb19th (5 daily)

PHEASANTS : 1850 birds to be stocked this year. (730 M & 1120 F)
1st In Season : 150 M, 210 F 2nd In Season : 150 M, 210 F Late Season : 100 F

BEAR SEASON – Regular season Nov. 23rd – 25th.
Archery Nov. 18th & 19th in WMUs 2C,2D,2E, 2F,2G,3A,4A,4B,4D

RIFLE DEER SEASON – Nov. 30th – Dec 12th

RABIES: Oral Rabies Vaccine “air drop program” done in September. Trap, Vaccinate & Release efforts continuing along PA-OH border now until 100 animals vaccinated.

SEEDLING ORDERS – Should all have been submitted, any club not having turned one in can still respond. WCOs must have by 10/31.

In addition to the field report:

- PGC will have deer available for needy families. You need to be a resident of PA. You can contact the North West office to request a deer or suggest someone who may need the deer. The deer is not field dressed or processed.
- Reminder to review you hunters digest for time schedule and season dates to avoid a violation. Remember not to leave a loaded firearm in the bed of a truck or lean it against your vehicle. Firearm should be unloaded.
- PGC asks for your support in reporting suspicious activities. Contact the Northwest office at (814) 432-3187. Turn in a poacher line is also available for poaching activities: 1-888-PGC-8001
- The Pennsylvania Board of Game Commissioners approved a land exchange with the state Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) that is designed to enable the two agencies to better meet their respective public missions. The Game Commission is transferring 4,816 acres to the DCNR, while the DCNR is transferring 4,250 acres to the Game Commission. However, as part of the exchange, DCNR is transferring 1,863 surface acres of water, and the Game Commission is transferring its 1,698-acre ownership of easement on State Game Land 283 in Clarion County.

With today's approval by the Board of Game Commissioners, future action will include two public open-house sessions, sponsored by DCNR, to gather input on the land transactions. Details of the two open-house sessions are as follows:

The Pymatuning (Linesville) open house will be held from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 17, at the Linesville High School Cafeteria, 302 W. School Drive, Linesville. For details, call 724-932-3142; and

The Cook Forest State Park (Kittanning State Forest District) open house will be 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 19, at the Clarion Holiday Inn, 45 Holiday Inn Rd., Clarion. For details, call 814-774-8407.

Old Business: No report

New Business: No Report

Good of the Order: No Report

Club Announcements:

Jim Tidd announced that Clintonville Fire Department is hosted a dinner and ten gun raffle. See Jim for details and tickets.

Pardoe has started a junior program. They plan to start a shotgun course. They would also like to get other clubs involved by shooting at several clubs. The Allied News sports editor is being fully cooperative with supporting junior shooting programs.

Mercer County Federation website is available. Please visit the site at WWW.MCFSC.NET Feel free to offer suggestions to add content to the site. Individual clubs should review their club page and supply content. Email suggestions to mercercounty.federation@gmail.com.

Next Meeting: November 18th, 2009 at 7 PM at Hidden Valley Club

Jan 28 2009	Greenville	July 22 2009	Harthegig
Feb 25 2009	Hidden	Aug 26 2009	Fair Grounds
Mar 25 2009	Harthegig	Sep 23 2009	Sandy Lake
Apr 22 2009	Coonhunters	Oct 28 2009	Hadley
May 27 2009	-Pardoe	Nov 18 2009	Hidden Valley
June 24 2009	-Greenville	Dec 16 2009	Pardoe

Disclaimer: Reports contained in these minutes are as given by the reporter and don't necessarily reflect the stand or opinion of the Mercer Co. Federation or any of its affiliates. *Any wording found within these minutes in italic form is a Secretary note or comment only and not directly related to the report or reporter.* Any questions regarding information contained in these minutes should be addressed immediately to the Co. Secretary listed below. ***Please ask rather than Assume!***

Minutes taken and entered by Secretary Myers

*Secretary contact information: Shawn Myers/ 523 N Broad St / Grove City, PA 16127/ Cell 724-974-9886 /E-Mail mercercounty.federation@gmail.com www.mcfsc.net