

MERCER COUNTY FEDERATION OF SPORTSMEN'S CLUBS, Inc.

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

Next meeting is the Wednesday, **August 24th, at Stoneboro Fairgrounds**

Meeting Date: July 27, 2011

Held at: Stoneboro Fairgrounds

Time Meeting Called to Order: 19:13 hrs

Time Meeting Adjourn: 20:50

Chaired By: President Fordyce

Number In Attendance: 16

Officers Present:

President Fordyce, Vice President Myers, Treasurer Tidd, Delegate McDaniel

Affiliated Clubs with Delegates Present:

Hadley Rod & Gun Club, Harthegeg Conservation Club, Pardoe Sportsmen's Association, Hidden Valley, and Mercer County CoonHunters

Resource Agency Represented:

Pa Game Commission, Fish & Boat Commission, DCNR Goddard, DCNR Forestry

Life, Associate, & Club Members and Visitors Present:

Ricky McDaniel

Guest Speakers:

Last Month's Minutes:

- May minutes were not prepared in time to approve

Northwest Division Minutes:

- Three (3) counties present at the June meeting
- Minutes are not ready yet but will be sent out soon.
- The Northwest Division has some money available to purchase e-memberships if the clubs have members who are interested in the PFSC.
- Officers of the county who hold an officer position, President/V.President/Secretary/Treasurer/Delegate/Alternate Delegate, must also be an individual member of the PFSC according to the by-laws. There are three officers in Mercer County that do not meet this requirement. In order for MCFSC to be allow to vote at the convention, all officers must be an individual member.
- Next meeting will be September 11, 2011. Location to be announced later.

State Resolutions:

- There is one state resolution that club delegates need to get a vote on at their club meeting for the MCFSC August meeting.

Resolution #1

Lawrence County – Youth Fish Early

Whereas:

We need to introduce youth to the outdoors, i.e. fishing, to ensure its future

Whereas:

You are at a disadvantage on the traditional opening day of trout season, due to the high number of anglers

Whereas:

The trout are stocked to be caught, why not give the youth the first chance?

Whereas:

The catch would not greatly affect the number of trout available for the opening day.

Whereas:

The game commission has introduced many successful youth programs

Therefore be it resolved:

That the PFSC will support and pursue with the PA Fish and Boat Commission that youth 15 years and under be allowed to fish for trout in approved trout waters on the Saturday and Sunday before the opening day between the hours of 8 am and 6 pm with a daily limit of 5 fish.

Secretary's Report: No Report

Treasurer's Report:

- Balance was given
- Motion to accept and second was given

State Delegate Report:

- Sunday hunting talks are staring up again. Rep. John Evans, R-Crawford/Erie, recently introduced House Bill 1760 which aims to remove the current Pennsylvania state ban on Sunday hunting. Sunday hunting is currently allowed in 43 of the 50 states.
- PFSC Fall Convention will be September 16 through the 18th, 2011. Event will be held at the Radisson Harrisburg Hotel in Camp Hill PA.
- ***MOTION MADE*** Motion made by Gene Free and second by Ed Steckler not to send a delegate to the 2011 Fall convention. Motion was passed.

Committee Reports:

***Membership Committee: No Report**

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

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

***Old Timers Dinner Committee: No report**

***Awards Committee: No Report**

***Legislative Committee:**

- The Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen's Club has updated the website. The site now list PA bills that need to be watched with a careful eye. Visit the Legislative site at <http://www.pfsc.org/LegislativeCenter/tabid/140/Default.aspx>.

***Conservation Committee: No Report**

***Stoneboro Fair Committee:**

- Ed Steckler did a great job in creating a floor plan of the new facility.
- Approximately seventeen (17) tables will be available this year and the PGC display will be available again this year.
- There are still tables available. Contact Dennis Anderson at 724-662-4153.
- A reasonable donation for table space at the fair unless you are an affiliated club.

***Poster Contest Committee: No Report**

***Audit Committee: No Report**

***Election Committee: No Report**

***Sam Aubel Committee: No Report**

Resource Agency Reports:

Pa. Game Commission:

- Hunters can add toll-free telephone reporting to the list of methods of submitting harvest reports to the agency beginning Monday, April 25. The Interactive Voice Response (IVR) harvest reporting system telephone number is 1-855-PAHUNT1 (1-855-724-8681).
- PGC License are on sale now.
- PGC news release are available on the PGC website
 - Early Canada goose and dove hunters will be able to take to the fields of Penn's Woods on Sept. 1, as part of Pennsylvania's 2011-12 migratory bird seasons
 - PALS LETS HUNTERS CHECK STATUS OF DOE LICENSES
 - Pennsylvania Game Commission Executive Director Carl G. Roe today praised Gov. Tom Corbett for signing into law a bill that allows adult mentors to transfer one antlerless deer license per license year to a youth participating in the Mentored Youth Hunting Program. Refer to your Hunter and Trapping Digest for details.
- Many bear have been trapped this summer and relocated
- Waterfowl handout should be available late August and ready for the Stoneboro Fair

Pa. Fish & Boat Commission:

- There has been concern about drawing water from streams to the point that the stream dries up. This is against the law to dry up the stream. Anyone seen drawing water can alert the PFBC.
- **Fishing and Boating Report – July 27, 2011**
 - **Conneaut Lake**

The lake is a very busy place during the summer and used by many types of boaters. Remember to stay 100 feet away from other boats while underway. Many areas around the lake are buoyed off so read the buoys and abide by the regulations stated on them.
 - **Pymatuning Reservoir**

Due to extremely warm weather the fishing on the lake has really slowed down. Catfish are still biting. With the warm weather people like to ride on the front of pontoon boats with their feet in the water. This is not allowed and can be extremely dangerous. The causeway bridge is a "slow no wake" zone and boaters must slow down while going through the bridge.
 - **Shenango River Lake**

Fishing has been slow with the increased temperatures of the reservoir. Large catfish are being caught throughout the reservoir. The best time to fish is in the cool mornings and the cool evenings.

Goddard State Park: Park Manager Wasser reporting

- DCNR new park ranger was in attendance; Jill Flanagan
- Smokey Bear suit reserved for Stoneboro Fair. Thanks to Jake Scheib (DCNR Forestry)
- Wildlife Management Institute (Lower Great Lakes Woodcock and Young Forest Initiative) will setup table display near M.K. Goddard Table at the fair
- Jan Keller (Park Naturalist) will help out with the Lakeview School group presentation
- July 30, 2011 at Marina Pavilion (Pittsburgh Post Gazette "Family Fishing Workshop") 1:00pm – 3:00pm
- Park will have a display at I-80 Welcome Center on July 30, 2011 as part of a Mercer County Tourism Event
- August 10, 2011: Vision Quest will bring their Wagon Train through the park and have an afternoon education program before moving on
- FROG did another wonderful job with this year's Pioneer Frolic.
- M.K. Goddard State Park August Programs:
 - August 3 10am to noon: Mid-Week Saunter
 - Enjoy the natural world during a quieter time in the park. Meet at Falling Run Trailhead for a leisurely hike in the shade. Wear sturdy shoes and bring drinking water.
 - August 13 8pm to 10pm: Full Moon Paddle
 - Join us for a leisurely paddle on Lake Wilhelm as we watch the sun set and nightfall surround the lake. Insect repellent is recommended. Bring your own or make arrangements to borrow one of the park's kayaks. A limited number are available.
 - August 20 10am to noon: Nature's Nasties Hike
 - Do you know how to identify stinging nettle and poison ivy? Or how to identify deer ticks? What is West Nile Virus and can it affect me? Meet at Falling Run Trailhead. We'll walk this ½ mile trail and discuss how you can avoid some potential hazards of the natural world.
 - August 27 10am to noon: Home Energy

- Conserving energy around your home is good for the environment and is money in your pocket. Meet at the Environmental Learning Classroom to discuss the latest technology to reduce your energy bills and environmental impact.

For more information on any of the programs, contact Jan Keller (724) 253 - 4833

DCNR Forestry:

- The Asian longhorned beetle (ALB) have been found in Ohio and could be soon found in Pennsylvania
- The Asian longhorned beetle (ALB) is an exotic pest threatening a wide variety of hardwood trees in North America. Adults are large (0.75 - 1.50 inches long) with very long black and white banded antennae. The body is glossy black with irregular white spots



- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has received an additional \$6.3 million dollars to help landowners install conservation practices that improve natural resources on farms, forestland, and wetland areas throughout Pennsylvania. Clubs may qualify but would need to discuss the situation. Contact Jake Schieb for more information. jschieb@state.pa.us

US Army Corp of Engineers - Shenango Lake: No Report

Miscellaneous:

Old Business: No Report

New Business:

- Discussion around becoming more active with contacting legislators on issues within the state and county. Trout Unlimited is a good resource and active resource on Marcellus shale. Further discussion was tabled.

Good of the Order:

- The MCFSC.NET website has expired. The site is currently unavailable.

Club Announcements:

- August 7th will be Hartheig's Family Fun day
- August 13, 2011 Savage Arms Range Day at Hidden Valley Sportsmen's Club. Shoot a Savage Rifle-See for yourself the meaning of "Out of the box accuracy"

Next Meeting:

Jan 26 2011	Greenville		July 27 2011	Fair Grounds	
Feb 23 2010	Hartheig		Aug 24 2011	Fair Grounds	
Mar 23 2010	Pardoe		Sep 28 2011	Sandy Lake	
Apr 27 2011	Hartheig		Oct 26 2011	Pardoe	
May 25 2011	Hidden Valley		Nov 16 2011	Coon Hunters	← 3rd Wednesday NOT 4th
June 22 2011	Hadley		Dec 21 2011	No Meeting	← 3rd Wednesday NOT 4th

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 Vice President Myers