



South Shore Wildlife Association

1632 Camperdown Rd.,
Camperdown, N.S.
B4V 6S5

Date: January 14, 2013

<p><u>In Attendance:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stephen Joudrey Eugene Herman • Jeremy McEachern Barry Kelley • Greg Himmelman Burt Schrader • Ron Thompson Gary Mader • Annette Mader • David Woodworth Billy Hirtle • Vincent Westlake Linda Joudrey • Reg Archibald Otis Scott 	<p><u>50/50 Tonnie Draw</u></p> <p>Ron T. = \$14.00</p> <p>Labatt 'Copper' hat - Burt</p>	<p><u>Executive Phone List:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stephen Joudrey (President) 543-9891 • Eugene Herman (Sec/Treas) 543-2893 <p><u>Email :</u> sellherman60@hotmail.ca</p> <p><u>Web-Site:</u> sswa.chebucto.org</p>
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Stephen opened the meeting at 7:05 pm. Eugene read the minutes for the Dec. meeting. Barry moved for adoption of the minutes as read. Seconded by Greg.

Old Business:

- **Young Naturalists Club:** Our proposed large mammal presentation for January was postponed due to organizing problems within the local YNC branch. Adding to the problem is a changeover in the Halifax head office staff due to sickness, so their communication link suffered. However the person filling that position temporarily seems keen to make this happen and volunteered to come down herself to head the local group for our session in Feb. if need be. Stephen will stay in contact with her to find a date that works for both clubs. (The new date looks like Feb. 16th)
- **Anti-Littering Signs:** Eugene contacted Tim to get the name of the contact we used before but his contact has since retired. Tim will try finding us a new contact. In the meantime Ron T. is checking with his contacts to help find out who we should be working with.
- **SSWA Meeting Dates:** All dates for 2013 have been confirmed and booked.
- **Calendars:** The Cobequid Wildlife Rehab Center calendars have been received. Stephen brought them to our meeting. If you recall we agreed to purchase seven @ \$15 each, plus shipping, in support of Helene's fund raiser. The first one was auctioned off at our meeting along with several other items in a "penny auction". If anyone is interested in purchasing one of these please contact Stephen.

Correspondence/Info: In a variety of news reports and email items reviewed by Stephen and Eugene, included were:

- **Bill 161:** There has been a private members bill tabled before our Provincial Legislature: In essence it says that any land owner in N.S. cannot cut a tree or even a branch from a tree on his own property without first applying for a permit from the Dept. of Environment. There was considerable discussion at the meeting on this topic. “What about the Christmas tree industry?” “Does that mean we can’t cut firewood on our own land?” We decided that the best immediate approach was to launch a telephone barrage of calls to our local MLA’s to voice our opposition. **As a follow up:** The initial result of that phone ‘attack’ was a clarification call to Stephen from MLA Pam Birdsall to explain the distorted facts. Basically, “the N.S. NDP Government has no intention of proceeding with that private members bill.” A letter to this effect was recently published in the Progress Bulletin by Pam. Thank God clearer heads prevailed!
- **Gun Control in the USA:** This will be a hot topic for some time to come. There are two strong movements (for and against) in the States. It will be interesting to sit on the sidelines this time and watch. Hopefully hot heads on the either side will not resort to more violence in an effort to gain momentum in public support!
- **Litter Article:** Stephen read an article from Saltscapes Magazine handed to him by Gary regarding the littering epidemic in Nova Scotia. In many ways it mirrored our own conclusions regarding our local efforts, in particular the fact that the general emphasis seems to be on cleanup and not prevention! It was such an impressive article that Stephen will touch base with the authors to see if more can be done.
- **Firearms Courses at NSCC:** Stephen contacted Woody at the Federation for clarification on this issue. We had reported that NSCC would no longer be handling these courses but they have listed training courses at our NSCC for the next few months. Woody’s reply was that they are stopping the courses as of April 01’st. However, the NSFAH has not been able to get further information regarding who will be asked to take over, or even if the Gov. will change their minds and resume responsibility for bookings, etc. We will keep you posted as info comes available.
- Stephen read an invitation from Big Brothers urging support for their 100’t anniversary celebration on Jan. 15’t. They will be represented at the local radio stations for the entire day talking about their history, their stories and experiences, etc. and will be driving for 100 local organizations/businesses to each donate \$100 for their fundraiser. Barry highlighted the fact that Big Brothers / Big Sisters are a very worthwhile cause and this was a special event celebrating their 100 years on the following day. He also moved that in light of where SSWA has sponsored a fishing event for about 12 years, we should donate \$100.00. Seconded by Reg. Passed. In discussion before the vote, Eugene cautioned about taking on new donations/expenses in light of what the budget revealed and that we could only do that if we cut somewhere else. It was determined that we had supported the Bonnie Lee Christmas Party for several years and perhaps this year we’ll support BB/BS for the same amount instead.

Treasury Report: We have a balance of \$ 3888.11. However checks were written at the meeting for a total of over \$1200.00. (NSFA&H membership dues, NSFA&H Convention delegates, postage and envelopes for mailing minutes to those without email.)

Eugene also presented a very detailed report showing the results of our 2012 budget and the proposed budget for 2013. The bottom line is we spent \$583.71 more in 2012 than we brought in. Also, if we continue a similar path as last year, we’ll be short another \$1045 at year end. Therefore we need to start policing our costs and donations and take any steps we can to reduce spending while increasing revenue. As an initial step for instance, it is important to collect unpaid memberships as soon as possible. If you can help with this please don’t procrastinate any longer.

New Business:

- **Two Resolutions:** “Lyme Disease” education was suggested by Greg and was to be drafted up by Eugene and Ron. There was an article in the daily newspaper that addressed that topic so Ron & Eugene made the decision not to pursue the resolution avenue. Also Otis brought in several articles from the internet that he had researched on the topic. According to that information there is a vaccine available and approved by the Canadian Health Authorities. After more discussion, it was decided that we should write a letter to the editor highlighting this information and encouraging news media to better educate people. If newspapers could do some editorials on the topic a majority of the people could become better informed. Stephen and Eugene to follow up on this.

The second one was an “earlier fishing season”. Stephen prepared and presented a resolution to this affect and it was accepted to be forwarded to the Federation for the 2013 Convention.

-Whereas Nova Scotia winters have seen a noticeable decrease in severity over the last number of years.

-Whereas rivers and lakes are ice-free much sooner than they used to be.

-Whereas spring water levels drop much sooner than they used to.

-Whereas opening day of fishing season has previously been shifted from April 15 to April 01 to keep pace with the shorter winters.

-Therefore be it resolved that opening day for trout fishing be moved from April 01 to March 15'th for at least the Western half of Nova Scotia.

- Gary and Annette Mader have agreed to be our delegates for the March Convention being held again in Bridgewater. Eugene will complete the form along with a check for \$260 for our delegates and mail it to Tony Rogers. Thanks to you both once again.
- **Amy Cambell:** Stephen read a request from this individual who has contacted several of our organizations. She is attempting to get support in her efforts to encourage the Provincial Government to look at trial introductions of caribou on several islands. She has done research and is convinced that there is a distinct possibility for their survival. We discussed the initial problems foreseen and decided it is of little interest for us at this time.
- Stephen also briefly touched on the latest report of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan. He has sent this info to all members of our Waterfowl Committee. However, none were present to discuss the plan and advise us of any changes or statistics.
- Stephen was contacted prior to our meeting by a DNR rep from Liverpool, requesting our involvement in their Winter Youth Hunting Camp this March. It is the 3'rd year for the camp, and if you recall we had sponsored two young people to the first year camp in Halifax. Last year they increased it to two locations – Halifax and McGowan Lake in Queens. We attempted to sponsor two more but the entries filled too quickly. We ended up paying for the two young ladies who attended. This year they have added a third camp in the Pictou area. Needless to say this is very encouraging – the popularity speaks for itself. SSWA has been asked to put on a demonstration for the group at McGowan Lake, and we were given an open book to select from. We decided we would like to do a session on rabbit snaring. Gary and Annette, Ron Thompson, Stephen and Greg expressed an interest in taking part in this. Stephen will get back to the DNR contact and book our position to become part of this wonderful outing. It will likely develop into an annual event for all who make up the agenda this year. It is important for clubs like ours to

become involved in this program. It is the only way that these winter camps will expand and flourish for our young participants as the DNR could never handle these on their own.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:35 pm, followed by our auction and 50/50 draw:

AUCTION: We were going to hold a Chinese auction but on Burt's suggestion and to save time we used the 'penny auction' concept. Tickets sold for \$1.00 each and there were six prizes lined up on a table to win. You could then drop tickets in any hat in front of whichever prize you wanted to - the more tickets you dropped into a hat, the higher your chances were of winning that prize. Thanks to EVERYONE for making it fun and a success. We made \$127.00 (the cake receiving the highest number of tickets!) Also thanks to those who donated the prizes! The auction was quick and easy to do, and a lot of fun! Here are the results:

- Prize # 1 a lovely hanging wildlife tapestry donated by SSWA went to Annette Mader
- Prize # 2 12 gauge shot shell reloading kit donated by Barry went to David Woodworth
- Prize # 3 Box of 3 inch 12 gauge shotgun shells donated by Ron T went to Burt Schrader
- Prize # 4 Wildlife Calendar from Helene Van Doninck donated by SSWA went to Barry Kelly.
- Prize # 5 a large homemade carrot cake donated by Otis went to Billy Hirtle
- Prize # 6 a humorous metal deer crossing road sign donated by Barry went to Eugene, who in turn presented it to Ron Thompson for his camp.

NEXT MEETING February 11—7:00pm in Sobey's Store meeting room – back left corner by the washrooms and up the steps, or use the elevator (key required from front desk). Meetings are open to all members and friends. Dates for the rest of 2013 meetings are Mar. 11, Apr. 15, May 13, Jun. 10, Jul. 15, Aug. 12, Sept. 16, Oct. 21 and Dec. 09th. Please mark your calendars.

Did You Know?

- ☆ Two parcels of private land have been donated to the N.S. Provincial Gov., near the N. B. border to be protected as a moose crossing. It is believed that the moose in the two provinces need to mate in order to protect the N.S. moose from too much inbreeding. This in turn will help protect them from some diseases. (Jan. 26 Halifax Herald)-

Smile of the Day: - Democracy: the worship of jackals by jackasses.
- She not only kept her figure, she's added quite a bit to it.

Thought of the Day: - When you wake up in the morning you have two choices – go back to sleep and dream, or get out of bed and chase those dreams!
- Time is like a river – you can never touch the same water twice.

I Believe: - One should never:
- Make a promise when you are happy
- Reply when you are sad
- Make a decision when you are angry
- You're never too old to learn something stupid!