



South Shore Wildlife Association

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

Date: March 14th, 2016

In Attendance:

- | | |
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| • Stephen Joudrey | Linda Joudrey |
| • Otis Scott | Doug Joudrey |
| • Jerry Read | Annette Mader |
| • Burt Schrader | Gary Mader |
| • Billy Hirtle | Eugene Herman |
| • Blair Moland | Philip Dagley |
| • Vi Mann | Julia Mann |
| • Belinda Eisenhauer | Doug Corkum |
| • Ron Thompson | Bruce DeLong |
| • Kerry Eisenhauer | Harley Conrad |
| • Greg Himmelman | |

Regrets: Reg Archibald & Barry Kelley
Special Guest: Peter MacDonald DNR

50/50 Toonie Draw

Philip Dagley = \$20.00

Door Prizes:

T-Shirt = Doug Joudrey

Tennis Balls = Gary Mader

Hat = Julia Mann

Brain Game = Otis Scott

Executive Phone List:

Stephen Joudrey (President) 543-9891

Eugene Herman (Sec/Treas) 543-2893

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Website:

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Stephen brought the meeting to order at 7:12. He then introduced our special guest, Peter MacDonald, Large Mammal Biologist for the N.S. Department of Natural Resources. Peter gave a talk and slide presentation for the next two hours, fielding questions as they came up. See more info. on this in the minutes. Unfortunately, because there was still a meeting to conduct, we had to cut his time a bit short. After Peter's presentation and questions/comments from the floor, Stephen thanked him for his time and efforts. We then hastily moved onto our monthly meeting. Because Peter's presentation took longer than anticipated, Ron T. moved we forego the reading of last meeting's minutes and adopt the Jan. minutes as written, seconded by Doug J. All agreed.

Old Business:

- DNR's Youth Hunting Camps are being held this week during spring break. In addition to the one we are taking part in, two others are taking place in other parts of the province as well. These camps are extremely popular with the young participants, and usually there is a waiting list despite the \$62 registration fee, and distance some of them have to travel to attend. Our involvement is taking place tomorrow morning. Annette, Gary, Ron T., Greg and Stephen will meet at 8:00am, Tuesday, to car pool to the DNR depot at McGowan Lake, Queens County, where they will convey some knowledge on rabbits to the twelve young attendees. This will include a talk and presentation on setting snares, hands on activity in making snares, an outdoor session setting their own snares, and an actual cleaning demonstration that they can take part in also. Gary and Annette provide a

varied display of animal pelts and skulls for the group to examine, which is always very popular. A follow-up report will be included in next month's minutes. SSWA has taken part in this Youth Camp since the beginning in 2013, and has also assisted with these camps by either providing some prizes, or covering the fees for one or two of the young people in attendance. We are pleased to report that this year we will provide checks for fee reimbursement to three participants of the Youth Hunting Camp. These three registration fee reimbursements from SSWA will be an annual event from now on in memory of the late Greg Tanner (SSWA member). Selection will be made at the closing ceremony, simply by pulling three names out of a hat. These three youths will then be handed a check for \$62.70 to cover the cost of their application fee. Greg was an avid outdoorsman, and we feel this is a fitting 'In Memoriam' to help establish some of our youth on the same path to our great outdoors.

- Letter of support has been sent to Municipality of the District of Lunenburg on behalf of SSWA to provide access to Sherbrooke Lake.
- In January, Stephen sent a \$300 check to the NSFA&H to cover the cost of having Gary & Annette represent SSWA at the annual convention in March. To date, the check has not cleared the bank, and there has been no communication from NSFA&H regarding it.
- No new info yet from Andrew Breen of BCAF. The teams are just about ready to start the fishing study for him in May & June.
- Our Giant Flea Market date has been finally settled to be held on June 25'th. A contract with the Michelin Social Club has been received. More info to come later on set up time.

Correspondence/Info:

Stephen & Eugene reviewed letters, newspaper clippings and website articles such as:

1. SSWA Insurance Policy from Allied Insurance and premium of \$186.00 has been received and paid.
2. We have also received an email and a card of thanks from Hope for Wildlife for our donation of \$500 to support them in purchasing items they need in the rehabilitation of injured/sick birds and animals.
3. Gary was talking to the president of NSFA&H at the Sports/RV Show and he was informed that eight resolutions have been submitted to the Federation on deer hunting regulation changes being suggested by various clubs. SSWA has submitted three. These eight will be combined into one by the Federation before the annual conference.

Treasury Report:

Bank account balance to March 14th is \$4352.46. This is roughly \$1500 less than it was in January due to checks being written for: \$300 to NSFA&H, \$500 to Hope for Wildlife, \$274 for office supplies, \$186 for Insurance, and three checks to Youth Hunting Camp for \$62.70 each. There will also be travel and lodging fees to be paid to our reps after the Convention in early April.

We wish to thank Annette & Gary for auditing our books for 2015! Your extra work has not gone unnoticed. Gary commented that everything looked good.

Note: Most members have now paid up but we still have a few stragglers who are not renewed as of yet. Anyone not paid up by April 1'st will be removed from our list as a member of SSWA.

New/Current Business:

- **Big Brothers/Big Sisters fishing day is scheduled for April 23 with a rain date for April 30. Community Services fishing day will be scheduled at our April meeting.**
- **Stephen received a request from Helene Van Doninck to find out how much interest there was to participate in a program for swapping lead fishing weights for non-lead supplies, similar to the ammo swap program we took part in. No interest shown at this time.**
- **Robert Cross has requested a letter of support to stop the N.S. DOE from restricting access to public lands. We have already spent a fair bit of time investigating this cause. Unfortunately, there was no time to discuss this and it was deferred to our April meeting.**
- **A Liberal MP has submitted a Private Members Bill C-246 to stop animal abuse. This could lead to serious limitations in hunting, trapping, fishing etc.**
- **A letter was received from Dolly Campbell looking for comments and opinions on the serious condition of the Lahave River. She is doing a study for BCAF to assist with their 'Recovery Strategy' program for the river, and is interested in ideas from people who are well versed in the decline of fish populations, pollution, clear cutting along the river, etc. Stephen has involved two other members of SSWA in addition to offering his own comments.**
- **SSWA honorary member Ruby Bower turns 100 years young on March 25th.**

“Happy Birthday Mrs. Bower!” Stephen has been tasked with purchasing flowers and a card to deliver to Mrs. Bower in Lower Ohio on her big day to congratulate her in reaching such a fantastic milestone! A remarkable lady, she was still a very active and successful deer hunter well into her 90's!

Meeting dates for 2016: We will meet on the following dates, in the same location - Sobey's Store Community Room (back left corner by the dairy products). Meetings will generally be on a Monday. Our next meeting *April 11th*. The remaining dates are: May 16, June 13, July 11, August 15, Sept. 12, Oct. 17, Dec. 12

Peter MacDonald - DNR:

Peter had some great information on our white tailed deer. There were many charts and graphs describing the number of reported kills by various weapons of choice, road kills, health of road kills, the number of females verses males verses fawns harvested for the last several years.

He discussed winter impact and hunter impact by year, studies they do to determine the population of the herd, and how they determine the number of antlerless deer tags up for draw by zone.

All analysis has not been completed as yet so we've asked Peter to forward the results to Stephen when they become available. We will include them in future minutes once we receive them.

Here are the harvest results for the last three years for your information:

2013 deer harvest results 10,660

2014 deer harvest results 10,455

2015 deer harvest results 7,815

Comment: Some parts of the province seemed to be less populated than other areas. We all know the winter had an impact but we don't know to what degree. Also coyotes should have had an easier time catching deer due to the deep snow. We've asked Peter to do a deer/coyote ratio if possible. It might be difficult since in recent years DNR used the trapper's coyote harvest reports to guesstimate the population, but since the bounty has been removed the numbers harvested are not comparable. Peter did not discuss potential changes to the 2016 permit numbers to be issued by zone. It's a wait and see game at this point. He still has a lot of work to do before he can make his recommendations to the minister of Natural Resources. Not an easy job! We may entertain the idea of requesting him back for just a discussion in order to cover our perceptions/ideas/concerns/suggestions, etc.

Dates to Remember:

Youth Hunting Camp Demonstrations	March 15
Big Brother / Big Sisters Fishing Experience	April 23
Social Services Fishing Experience	April/May ?
Giant Flea Market	June 25
Trapper Rendezvous and SSWA BB/Pellet Gun Shoot	Aug. ?

Did you know? Google (googol) is actually the common name for a number with a hundred zeros.

Smile of the Day: “Dad, did you know that in some countries you don't know who your wife is until you get married?”
“It's like that everywhere son!”

I had a dancing goldfish that could break dance on the carpet – but just for a short time.

Why did the cows return to the marijuana field? It's a classic example of the 'pot calling the cattle back.'

Thought of the Day: To realize the value of one week, ask the editor of a weekly newspaper.

If you are depressed you are living in the past; if you are worried, you are living in the future; but if you are at peace you are living in the present.

Even the smallest person can carry the biggest grudge.

I Believe: No matter how big a hammer you use, you can't pound common sense into some people.

Every path has a few potholes.

Life is much simpler when you plow around the stump.