



South Shore Wildlife Association

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

Date: April 10, 2017

In Attendance:

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------|
| • Stephen Joudrey | Billy Hirtle |
| • Otis Scott | Ron Thompson |
| • Lawrence Baltzer | Burt Schrader |
| • Gary Mader | Eugene Herman |
| • Greg Himmelman | Reg Archibald |
| • Harley Conrad | Doug Joudrey |
| • Jerry Read | Ron Johnstone |
| • Russell Ramey | Marilyn Ramey |

Regrets: Barry Kelley

Guest: Wade Himmelman

50/50 Toonie Draw

Jerry R. = \$15.00

Door Prizes:

Hat - Ron T.

Pencils - Otis S.

Watch band - Doug J.

Executive Phone List:

Stephen Joudrey (President) 543-9891
Eugene Herman (Sec/Treas) 543-2893

Email:

southshorewildlifeassociation@
hotmail.ca

Website:

southshorewildlife.weebly.com

Stephen brought the meeting to order at 7:00. Eugene asked Ron T. to read the SSWA minutes for March. After the reviewing the minutes Ron T. moved to accept the minutes as read - seconded by Otis. Passed.

Old Business:

- **Catch & Release signs:** We have the list and design of the sign and await an agreement of the committee so the order can be placed. (Eugene, Jerry, Ron T, Stephen and Gary are the committee working on this)
- **DNR's Youth Hunting Camp:** Greg, Gary, Ron T and Stephen attended this at McGowan Lake Depot on March 14th to teach the attendees all about snaring and cleaning rabbits. Gary also took a display of traps and pelts from his collection so the young people could

handle them and ask questions, etc. On the last evening of the camp DNR drew three participant's names from a hat to receive their membership fees back (sponsored by SSWA). The lucky winners were: Faith Whalen, Harrison Atkinson, and Grayson Lowe.

- **NSFA&H Annual Convention** was held in Truro March 24-26th. Gary Mader and Eugene Herman attended for SSWA. Gary gave a report on the Fish & Bird workshop, and also on the directors meeting. (See his reports at the end of these minutes.) Eugene then gave his report on the Large Mammal workshop and some interesting facts from other presentations. His reports will be in the May minutes.
- **BCAF Fish Study on Fancy Lake:** We still are looking for someone to help with this. We would like a team of two people with a boat and boating license to help out six or seven times between April and the end of season. Jerry Read has volunteered to accompany someone who has a boat. Eugene actually made the suggestion that if necessary the teams from Wallace Lake and from Garber Lake could split the task to make sure we get it fished. Contact Stephen if you are interested. Groups must fish under controlled guidelines as far as lures are concerned, and details must be logged for weather conditions, temperatures, species caught, etc.

Correspondence/Info:

*SSWA member Ron Seney was nominated and has accepted the role of Regional Director for Southwest N.S. for the NSFA&H. Congratulations Ron!

* Lunenburg Rod & Gun Club's official season for range shooting began April 9th and runs to the end of November.

*A reply was received to the letter we sent to the N.S. Minister of Fisheries explaining SSWA's idea of educating the fishing community on a proper technique for handling fish that are to be live released. Included were several suggestions of ways to get this information to the public, as well as several suggestions for the actual handling of catch and release fish of any species. Minister Caldwell responded with a letter explaining that he agrees with our initiative and there is a list published in the 2017 fishing summary handbook.

Treasurer's Report: Eugene reported we have \$4,250.50 in our checking account.

New/Current Business:

- **Big Brothers Big Sisters Fishing Event:** Scheduled for May 6th. This year the Mahone Bay Cubs are taking part as well.
- **Earth Day Cleanup:** This will be done like the last few years. Individuals will clean ditches in their own areas. We will track the number of bags filled and km cleaned. Targeted areas include Hebbville, Pine Grove, Camperdown, and Whynott's Settlement.

- **Community Services Fishing Day:** Has been booked for Wed. April 26th, rain date May 17th. We expect 30+ clients from 9:00 to 12:00 and another 30+ from 1:00 to 4:00pm. Several members volunteered to work that day, and Stephen will round up additional help as needed. He will also schedule the fish and book the MARC facility.
- **Westfor Management Inc.:** In line with this topic Stephen presented a draft a letter to submit to the “Progress/Bulletin” on behalf of SSWA. After reviewing it, Burt made a motion to publish the letter, seconded by Jerry R. Approved unanimously.
- **Michelin Health and Safety Fair** is scheduled for Friday evening June 16th. Stephen and Reg will work on preparing new material for the show.
- **Access to Woodlands:** Harley Conrad spoke at length on his intention of having a booth set up at the South Shore Expo in the Emera Centre in Liverpool from May 5th to the 7th. Few at the meeting were even aware of this event taking place. Harley is heavily involved in the fight for rights of individuals to access woodlands that are being put under wilderness protection.

Meeting adjourned at 9:50 after our 50/50 toonie draw and 4 door prize draws. Winners are listed at the head of these minutes in the middle box.

Meeting Dates:

Next meeting **May 15th**, followed by meetings June 12, July 17, Aug. 14, Sept. 11, Oct. 16 and Dec. 11th. All meetings are scheduled for the conference room of the Sobey’s Store, Bridgewater. (upstairs behind the egg section in the back left corner of the store.) All meetings are held on a Monday night and start at 7:00pm. An elevator is available if required, just ask for the key at the front desk.

Smile of the Day: “How’s the diet going?”

“Great. I had two eggs for breakfast.”

“Scrambled?”

“Cadbury.”

Thought of the Day: The best sermons are lived, not preached.

I Believe: Success is when you look back at your life and can smile at the memories.

Information from the 2017 Convention

At the Saturday night banquet, one of the special guests was Chief Ron Googoo of Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi’Kmaq Chiefs. He gave an interesting speech about his people and the Federation of Anglers and Hunters having the same interests about conservation and the need to work together. Chief Rod Googoo and Ian Avery surprised the D.N.R. minister when they came to a meeting together. In the Chief’s speech he talked about controls on the Native Harvest with respect to numbers taken. He also stated they are in favor of a spring bear hunt. The Federation now claims to have 25000 members and supporters including the Mi’Kmaq.

South Shore Wildlife Association won the Curtis Cup for a Conservation Project for our assistance on the Atlantic White Fish project.

At the Directors meeting Sunday morning, Bob Cross said he is planning to form a coalition with user groups including the Mi'Kmaq to obtain motorized access to protected land.

The Federation is going to bring back the popular magazine, Nova Scotia Outdoors. They will be looking for sponsors and articles from the clubs. The magazine will be free to members including member clubs.

**Submitted by,
Gary Mader**

Nova Scotia Federation of Anglers and Hunters 2017 Fish and Birds Session

For the morning session we had Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture, Fisheries and Oceans Canada and Lita O'Halloran from Acadia University who is doing research on Stripped Bass.

Fishing License sales increased by 15% over last year. It's been increasing steadily since 2006. There was one million days spent fishing in N.S. It is felt that the Learn to Fish program contributed to this increase. In 2016 there were 72 sessions involving 3000 youths. Since the program was introduced there have been 290 events with 10,600 students.

Reducing the bag limit to 3 fish, and only one can be 35cm (13.8 inches) in length, for trout on some rivers seems to be improving their stocks in number and size.

There is a creel survey planned for the Upper Medway River system for 2017. Two check points will be in place to talk to fishermen and check the number and size of fish being caught. There has been \$800,000.00 made available to keep invasive species from entering Kedge Park. There should be an announcement on a Marine License within several weeks. If it is put in place there will be consultations with interested groups.

The LaHave River salmon count at Morgan Falls for 2016 was 45 salmon, 48 grilse, a total of (88). For 2015 was 19 salmon, and 160 grilse a total of (179). Conservation escapement requirements are 1320 fish. A decision will be made in the summer of 2017 to determine if they will be listed as endangered.

A Striped Bass study is in place to find out how abundant they are and where they originate. The Bay of Fundy and Atlantic Coast fish are mostly from Shubenacadie River or New England States. Other Rivers that historically supported Striped Bass have dropped off. One example is the Annapolis River. When the Tidal Hydro Plant was first built on the River it is believed it blocked the Bass from their spawning grounds. The Northumberland Strait Bass originate in the St. Lawrence River and Miramichi River. Scale samples are collected from caught fish. The D.N.A. from scales will tell what area they originated from. Fishermen are being interviewed about their observations and catch results. Stripped bass do not spawn until they reach 68 cm. or 26.7 inches or more. This is the reason for the size limit.

We also had a session on Migratory Birds with Bruce Pollard, Glen Parsons and Scott Guilliland. Migratory Bird hunters have declined 50% since the 1980's. Duck season for Zone 2 will return to October 8'th from October 22'nd for the 2018 season. Most of the presentation was on the Common Eider duck which is in decline. The Eider nests on islands of the Atlantic Coast of Nova Scotia. The Eider is the largest duck species we have. They can live to be 30 years old. They have declined by 50% since 1990. The best nesting islands have been identified and have been studied. They have found that a lot of females are being killed by mink and eagles. Mink are very abundant on the islands and the eagles are nesting on the islands. Since Eiders nest on the ground they are vulnerable to mink. They also found evidence of seals robbing the nests. Also, one of the main foods of Eiders is mussels. Apparently mussel beds are in serious decline. It has been found that acidity of water causes mussels to not have the ability to attach to objects. Invasive Rock Weed is also affecting mussel beds. Mussels are disappearing at an alarming rate.

S.S.W.A. 's only resolution was concerning the proper release of all species of sport fish, including salt water species. This resolution passed unanimously.

Submitted by Gary Mader