



South Shore Wildlife Association

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

Date: August 13, 2018

In Attendance:

- Stephen Joudrey Otis Scott
- Doug Moore Gary Mader
- Greg Himmelman Barry Kelley
- Doug Joudrey Eugene Herman
- Billy Hirtle Harley Conrad
- Ron Thompson

Regrets: Annette Mader & Linda Joudrey

Special Guest: Amber Creamer - Learn 2 Fish Program Coordinator with N.S. Dept of Inland Fisheries

50/50 Toonie Draw

Ron T. = \$10.00

Door Prizes:

Eugene H.- Pen

Barry K. - Hat

Greg H. - Gloves

Executive Phone List:

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

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Website: southshorewildlife.weebly.com

Stephen opened the meeting at 7:03 with the introduction of our guest speaker, Amber Creamer, Learn 2 Fish Program Coordinator with N.S. Dept of Inland Fisheries. Amber spoke on various topics, including giving us insight into how the Learn 2 Fish program has evolved. Her job entails traveling around the province during spring, summer and fall seasons speaking to various groups that request her presence to put on this program for them. This includes school children from grades four to junior high, the Scouting and Girl Guides organizations, 4-H groups, and others that fall under the guidelines. This program has become so popular that she has had to recruit help in order to keep up with the demand. Several organizations, including SSWA, have trained members who can assist her when a session is being done in their area, but still many are done without help. She starts out by speaking to the group in a classroom setting. With the assistance of slides and pictures, as well as examples of fishing rods and reels and fishing tackle, children learn the basics of the various types of fish, the proper methods to outfit a rod for the fish they will be fishing for, and the required safety practices in the use of this equipment to minimize any risk of injury. She then reviews the proper handling of the fish for live release should that be desired, although not many participants want to put their prize back. For many, this will be their first time fishing, and the pride and excitement of landing a fish usually trumps any thoughts of letting it go.

This classroom session can last for an hour or so, and is followed up by taking the group to a pond or lake where the young people finally get to cast their lines and hopefully catch some

fish. She noted that one recent improvement in the program has been the addition of barrier free access points in nineteen of the locations where these L2F outings are held.

Amber then talked a bit about invasive species and some of the things that are being done to prevent/reduce their introductions into some water systems. She showed maps of the known areas in the province that small mouth bass and chain pickerel have been confirmed. The statistics are alarming, much greater than any of us expected, but even more concerning is the fact that these maps are very likely not totally accurate in that these predator fish continue to spread at a rapid rate. The recent discovery of a pickerel within the Keji Park boundary has set off alarm bells. Parks Canada is investing a lot of time and money to try to prevent the further spread of these killing machines.

She also spoke on the DOF stocking agenda in waters across the province. They do a spring and a fall stocking program, putting brook trout, brown trout, rainbow trout and Atlantic salmon across the province in designated locations. There is a web site where you can monitor how many fish are stocked and in which waters. She also stressed that it is illegal to have live fish in your boat or vehicle. Many people are not aware of this. When you land a fish you must either release it or kill it immediately. This was introduced a few years ago when it was determined that anglers are purposely transporting certain species of fish and introducing them in areas where they did not exist previously. This rule also applies to live wells on boats, but exemptions are made for official fishing tournaments to allow for documenting lengths/weights. Also, anglers may be unknowingly spreading unwanted species by emptying minnow buckets in lakes, etc. It was a very informative presentation. Amber answered questions as raised, and ended her talk with a request for ideas to make fishing in the province a more attractive sport to get more people involved. Unfortunately, the general consensus with members present was that it may be too late to promote NS as a fishing haven. The introduction and uncontrollable spread of destructive predator fish is having a definite opposite effect.

After Amber finished her presentation Stephen presented her with a Timmy's gift card to thank her for her attendance, as she traveled from Pictou to speak at our meeting.

We then resumed our regular meeting at 8:23, after Amber's departure. To save time, Ron moved we accept the July minutes as issued, seconded by Gary. Passed.

Old/Ongoing Business:

- **Wood Carving:** There have been no inquiries from the ads put on two social media sites so far. We will continue to run these for a while yet. If no interest is expressed after an acceptable time period we will pursue another avenue to sell this folk art.
- **Flea Market:** Before Eugene had a chance to purchase the "Chase The Ace" tickets from the MSAC someone actually drew the Ace and the game was over. After some discussion between Stephen and Eugene, they decided to just go ahead and donate the \$250 as was originally planned anyway. This actually was better for the Social Club because they would receive all \$250, whereas by purchasing the tickets the Club would only have received \$175 toward the cost of the new floor after the rest was allotted for the prize money.

- **Rod and Gun Club Report:** Otis reported that August 5th had a good turnout with 37 shooters, up from 14 a year ago. The Morris Nowe shoot on September 10th will be for sporting clay, rifle, shotgun, handgun and archery. Also on Sept. 9th there will be a shoot at the Gay's River Club. Anyone interested in more info on the Lunenburg Rod and Gun Club or any other shoots can contact Otis @ 543-8040.

Correspondence/Info: Due to the time allotted for our guest speaker, we once again reduced the number of articles reviewed. There is continued coverage on Lyme Disease as the problem escalates here in Nova Scotia, and indeed across Canada. The clear cutting issue continues to threaten all of us, especially here in South West NS. And once again, the rumblings of gun bans and controls are starting to surface.

Treasurer's Report: Eugene reported a balance of \$5145.22

New Business: SSWA members will recall a guest speaker we entertained on two occasions, Helene Van Donnick, who gave a presentation on the effects lead had on eagles and other birds of prey that ate carrion from hunter's gut piles. Bullet fragmentation's in the waste caused slow and painful death to these large birds of prey. Helene made it a crusade to save these magnificent birds by starting an educational program for hunters and all concerned. At her rehab center she treated many of these birds and managed to save some. She had a special flight cage built for these creatures to assist in their recovery. Helene traveled to several provinces and States as an invitee to speak to various groups of concerned clubs and associations. We are very saddened by the news this week that Helene has succumbed to ovarian cancer at the age of 52. (d. Friday August 10, 2018) Anyone wishing to donate to her cause can send a cheque to the Cobequid Wildlife Rehabilitation Center. Ron moved that SSWA donate \$200 in her name, seconded by Barry. Passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 after our 50/50 toonie draw and door prize draws. Winners are listed at the head of these minutes in the middle box.

Next meeting September 10th: Special Guest Speaker will be Wanda Baxter from Watch For Wildlife.

All meetings are held in the Community Room in the Sobey's Store, Bridgewater (stairs beside the egg section at the back left corner of the store.) All meetings are held on a Monday night and start at 7:00pm. **Meetings for 2018** are now scheduled for Oct. 15 and Dec. 10.

Dates to Remember:

Wanda Baxter, guest speaker (Watch for Wildlife)
Lobster Ticket Draw

September 10th meeting
December 10th meeting

DID YOU KNOW?

- The Federal NDP /leader Jagmeet Singh has formally asked the Prime Minister to immediately give cities the freedom to ban handguns! Aug.03, 2018 Herald
- 2.1 million Canadians own firearms for sport shooting. Banning handguns would take their sport away and be unconstitutional. Aug.05, 2018 Herald
- At a New Mexico Compound a father from Georgia was found to be training children to commit school shootings. Siraj Ibn Wahhaj was conducting weapons training using assault weapons..... Aug 09, 2018 Herald
- Montreal Council unanimously adopted a motion for the federal government to ban the possession of handguns and assault weapons across the country except for military and police. This follows a motion passed by Toronto City Council in July. Aug. 22, 2018 Herald
- There is a new club in Canning, N.S. “Seawinds Horse Archers” where they practice archery on horse back. Kassai Competition is a martial arts style archery from Hungarian heritage. You shoot 4 arrows at targets in 45 seconds while riding at full gallop. Aug. 10, 2018 Herald
- Finally the Forestry Report is available with 45 recommendations for the N.S. to ponder. Liberals say they will review the recommendations and determine which ones, if any, they will adopt. Aug.22, 2018 herald
- Also Northern Pulp has requested permission to spray 794 hectares and 2000 hectares of private land. Aug. 22, 2018 Herald

Smile of the Day: - If a police officer ordered you to take a nap, and you refused, you would actually be ‘resisting a rest.’

- I didn’t say it was your fault, I said I was blaming you!

Thought of the Day: - However beautiful the strategy, only the foolish ignore the results.

- Make a decision, right or wrong. The road in life is paved with flat squirrels who didn’t.

I Believe: - Behind every successful man is a woman. Behind the fall of a successful man is likely another woman.

- Middle age is the time when you finally get your mind in great shape only to see your body start to fall apart.