



WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO HELP PRESERVE OUR FREEDOM?

Part 3

By Larry Becker

In part one of "What are you doing to help preserve our freedom?" I discussed what I feel is our obligation to fight for the freedoms, beliefs and values our country was founded on. I also outlined some brief summary points on actions we must take in doing our part as responsible citizens. In part two, I outlined some tools and techniques to assist you as you take these actions. In this final article I am outlining some additional tools and techniques.

It is important to recognize that you have the opportunity to influence elections at every level of government. For example: At the local level you may have the opportunity to vote for School Board, Town Board, Supervisors, County Board, Mayor, City Council, etc. At the state level you may vote for: Legislators, Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, and Comptroller. At the federal level: Senators, Representatives, President. The following web page outlines brief descriptions of some of these elected offices: <http://gograssroots.org/files/nysselected.pdf>

Do not forget or ignore the judiciary at the local and state levels of government. Judges hold very important positions and how they interpret the law and the final outcome can have a significant positive or negative impact. Their ideological views will often sway how they rule. This is particularly important when it comes to Supreme Court Justices but should not be ignored when it comes to vetting and voting.

Vetting candidates for office:

- o Read their campaign information, view their websites and listen to their campaign speeches. If there are debates, make a point of viewing and listening to them. With today's technology it is pretty simple to "time shift" and record the speeches and debates; and generally these can be found and viewed on YouTube.
- o Whether they knock on your door, have a town hall meeting or open the opportunity for questions through a web site, make sure you question them as to their position on key issues and values that are important to you. Always be respectful but ask them fair, direct questions. If at all possible do your research in advance and do not be afraid to politely challenge them if their track record does not coincide with the answer they are currently presenting.
- o If the candidate is an incumbent or has held another political office I recommend you research the bills they have sponsored or signed on to and their voting record. This will give you a fair understanding as to whether they represent your views. You may not be in alignment on every issue so you will need to weigh the relative importance of issues you disagree versus those you agree on.
- o Do a little research and try to determine what organizations and individuals are supporting which candidates. Use your own personal network to see if your friends and associates have any information that will help you make a decision.
- o There are organizations that rate candidates; become familiar with them and review their ratings. When it comes to second amendment rights the NRA, Gun Owners of America, NYS Rifle and Pistol Association and SCOPE rate candidates. Review and compare all the ratings you can access.

Pass it on:

- o Talk to every friend and family member you know who shares your values and help educate them based on what you have learned. Learn from them. You can actually make this a fun challenge by having different individuals research different candidates or split the responsibility by each person searching different sources. Get together and share what you learned and determine where you need more information.
- o Ask everyone you know who shares your beliefs and values if they are registered to vote. If they are not registered, convince them about how important it is to not only register but to actually vote in each and every election. You may hear some common excuses as to why they are not registered, such as:
 - I don't know how to register - Forms are available at your local voter registration office or obtain the form online at <http://www.elections.ny.gov/NYSBOE/download/voting/voteform.pdf>
 - If I register I may be called to serve on a jury - Jury pools are selected from lists of everyone who has a driver's license as well as registered voters.
- o Qualifications to register:
 - Be a **U.S. citizen** (or born in Puerto Rico, Guam or U.S. Virgin Islands).
 - Be 18 years old by December 31st of the year that you register.
NOTE: You must be 18 years old by the date of the election in order to vote.
 - **NOT** be in prison or on parole for a felony conviction.
 - **NOT** be adjudged mentally incompetent by a court.
 - **NOT** claim the right to vote elsewhere

Voting:

- o Ask everyone you know who share your beliefs and values if they will commit to voting in the next election. If they say yes ask them to take a friend, relative or neighbor to the polls with them. If they say no, convince them not only of the importance, but it is also their responsibility and obligation to help preserve our freedom. Some common excuses you may hear as to why they do not or will not vote:
 - My vote will not make a difference – There are many examples where one or two votes absolutely made a difference in the outcome. To paraphrase a quote from an unidentified source: one person who votes dictates how two people who do not vote will live.
 - One or two major cities in our state control the outcome of all elections - Check the stats for your state. In the case of NY, New York City has a large population but only ~ 32% of the active voters actually vote; and there are more active voters outside of the city but only ~49% of them vote. Another example related to gun control is that it is estimated there are 6 million gun owners in the state but only 20% vote. We cannot win if we do not vote. If you give up before you start, defeat is inevitable.
 - I do not think any of the candidates that are running are qualified or deserve my vote - Unfortunately this is sometimes true. In this case all you can do is vote for the person you think will do the least amount of harm. And if that person gets elected, work hard to get them to represent your views.
 - I don't get involved in politics – You are involved whether you vote or not. The reality is that what the people elected to office implement does and will affect many aspects of your life. You can help influence this or be an ostrich and live with the consequences. *“One of the penalties for refusing to participate in politics is that you end up being governed by your inferiors”* Plato (437-347 BC).
- o I will not be in my home town during the election – Get an absentee ballot in advance and send it in.

- o Qualifications to vote: you must be registered and live at your present address at least 30 days in advance of the election.

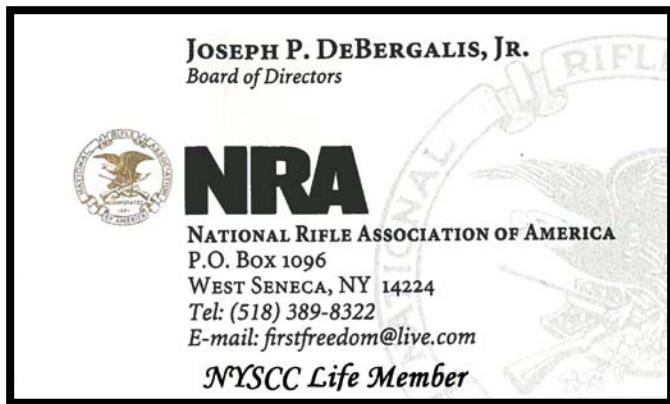
Follow-up:

- o No matter who is elected make sure that you weigh in on all legislation that is important to you. Write, call or email (in that order of effectiveness) and let the legislators know where you stand on how you would like them to support or oppose an issue. If you belong to the aforementioned organizations they will alert you when it is time to take action but you can also track the legislation yourself as mentioned in part two.
- o Depending on where the legislation resides, contact your county leaders, legislators, governor or the U.S. President and let them know where you stand.
- o We have good examples of where, at the last minute, we have turned things around in the legislature and also convinced the Governor to veto legislation. There is power in numbers and the majority of voices heard can make the difference on whether legislation is passed or defeated.

This is the last of a series of three articles I have written on your role in preserving our freedom. I will repeat a few sentences I stated in the first article.

We who are not currently serving our country through military service to protect our rights and freedoms are riding on the backs of those who are and those who served before them! If you value the freedoms, beliefs, and the values our country was founded on then you have an obligation to fight for what is right and the preservation of our values and ideals. You owe it to your family, friends and yourselves. You owe it to past and present military personnel who served our country for you. It is time for you to serve in a different way so their sacrifices have not been in vain!

Get started now!



YOU CAN USE GRASS ROOTS NEWS TO PROMOTE OR HIGHLIGHT YOUR CLUB ACTIVITIES

Send an email to nyscc@nyscc.com telling about the who, what, when, where and why of your upcoming event. Include your name and phone number for people to contact you if they want more information. The deadline for submissions is the third Wednesday of each month.

If you want to feature an activity in greater depth, tell us in more detail about the who, what, when, where and why. Include photos of the people involved, preferably doing something associated with your event, i.e., kids tying flies or actively fishing or hunting as opposed to standing in a group holding prizes or trophies. When you take photos ask people to remove their hats so their face won't be in shadow. Identify people in the photos so we can put proper captions with any pictures we might use. And ask parent's permission to take and print their child's photo.

TURKEY OPENER IN OTSEGO COUNTY

By Bob Brown- Executive Program Director

Lester the Landowner said "It's a different year; the birds are not coming down in the lower field this year. They're hanging around the upper meadow, so sit at the edge of the old hollow tree." I glassed the upper meadow and saw four jakes and a tom in that area, backed out of the farm yard and back to Ernie's house for the night. Tomorrow is opening day of Turkey Season.

Early the next morning I hiked up to the hollow tree and settled in. I spotted one hen pecking at stubble in the lower field, but no other birds were in sight. My thoughts turned to my new "blowup" hen decoy and wondered how it would look in the field in front of me even though I had not needed a decoy in this spot in the past. I just wanted to see it sitting about twenty yards out in front of me. "Might as well set it up," I thought; and moments later after blowing it up and grabbing the stake, I proceeded to place it in the field. It was not a happy sight to discover the four jakes and big tom watching me from the lower field, where Lester said they would not be. Oops! The race was on.



I decided that they would run behind me to the far woods for safety and then run up a hill about 400 yards, keeping to the woods until they were above the brushy upper meadow and into the hard woods on top of the ridge.

Up the hill I hiked, stopping often to catch my breath. About 20 minutes later I made it to the upper meadow and selected an old apple tree surrounded with briars to set up my ambush spot. I found some old dead branches to lean up against the limbs of the tree to better conceal myself and then quickly set up some decoys. I set up my new one out in front where it could be easily seen from the upper woods, followed by a foam hen decoy on a stake that provides movement. Then I rigged a blowup hen on the ground with a foam jake mounting her! Sitting back at the apple tree, my little flock was ready. I picked up my Jezebel paddle call and let 'er rip. The gobble reply was instantaneous. The tom was directly above me on the ridge and hot! We repeated the duet again. I shut up and positioned my shotgun. Within two minutes I had a jake in front of me searching for any movement. I froze. The tom gobbled again, but somewhere behind the jake out of sight. For the next fifteen minutes that jake had me pinned down and the tom gobbled out of sight. Now my eyes are straining, my knee hurts, my back is aching and I am in pain, but I can't move.

Finally I spot the white head of another turkey about twenty yards past the jake, but I can only see the head, neck and beard with brush behind it. I look back at the jake and compare his beard with the one behind him. I think the beard of the farthest bird is longer. I drop my head slightly to align the front bead on the barrel with his head and pull the trigger. BANG. The bird is flopping in a death throe and the jake is shocked, alert and looking everywhere but not moving, while I am still frozen in my original position. (I have not even ejected the casing). A third bird is now visible farther down the field and is putting back and forth with the jake near me. They both slowly start across the field and disappear into the brush.

Now I am trying to move, put the safe on, and stand up. It is not easy. I slowly hobble over to the dead bird and pick it up. I now have a big smile because I did choose the tom. It was 16 lbs. and had a 9" beard. It was a long wait but it paid off. I took the bird up and laid it beside the decoys. Back under the apple tree I sat down, opened up a snack bar I found in my pocket and got out my cell phone. "Hi Honey, I love you. I just got a nice tom. Wait till you hear this story."

NYS CONSERVATION COUNCIL GUIDE TO PARTICIPATION IN STATE LAND USE PLANNING

Prepared by Walt Paul- Access and Land Use Specialist

The N.Y.S. Department of Environmental Conservation prepares **Unit Management Plans for state owned lands and Recreation Management Plans for lands where the State has purchased conservation easements.** The plans assess the natural and physical resources present within a land unit or easement and also identify and articulate opportunities for public use, including roads open for motor vehicle use, biking trails, lake and river access, hiking trails, snowmobile trails and other access opportunities. Unit Management Plans and Recreation Plans that provide and articulate access for hunting, fishing and trapping are critical to our traditions, our sport and the economy of New York State. Refer to the attached Statewide UMP Schedule for 2014.

To maintain and improve sporting access you MUST get involved locally and PROTECT YOUR BACK YARD!

D.E.C. Action	Sporting Community Action
D.E.C. provides NYSCC with list of UMPs by region and notices of pending actions.	<p>List of plans made available to Council members, county federations, Fish and Wildlife Management Boards and other members of the sporting community.</p> <p>Inquiries made to local and regional D.E.C. offices requesting to be an integral part of the process. D.E.C. staff invited to local federation meetings to discuss pending plans, allowing sportsmen and women to articulate needs and specific requests.</p>
D.E.C. conducts resource inventory of the unit area for which the plan is being developed.	Monitor
Solicits written and verbal input from the public through press releases and public meetings.	<p>Review maps, visit lands and attend scoping sessions prepared to make specific requests on roads and types of vehicles, access to lakes and rivers and other specific needs of sportsmen and women. Identify opportunities for habitat improvement.</p> <p>Reduce requests to writing and submit to D.E.C. regional offices. Be specific and don't be bashful! Ask for sporting access opportunities to be labeled as such on maps.</p>
Releases draft UMP and conducts public hearings.	<p>Closely review draft plan, paying attention to: Management actions and maps contained in appendices that reflect roads to be open, river and lake access, etc. Look for charts that show number of miles of roads prior to UMP development and number remaining after plan development.</p> <p>Submit written comments to D.E.C. that identify actions that hinder access and make specific recommendations for improvement.</p> <p>Attend public hearings and make comments. Provide written copies of your comments at public meetings.</p> <p>Review UMPs and R.E.C. plans at regional FWMB meetings, pass resolutions and submit letters outlining support or opposition to the plan and why! Move beyond the typical show and tell.</p> <p>Send copies to elected officials in your region as appropriate.</p>

Prepare a draft plan (for the APA to review in the Park).	Send comments to APA when Unit is in the Adirondack or Catskill Park.
DEC Commissioner gives final approval and the UMP is adopted.	Send your written comments to the Commissioner.

The process for Recreation Management Plans for conservation easements is similar in nature. The process in Adirondack and Catskill Park may vary.

For additional information go to:

- Unit Management Plans <http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/4979.html>
- Conservation Easements <http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/41156.html>
- Recreation Management Plans <http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/36147.html>

If we are going to make any progress on the issue of access for hunting, fishing and trapping on public lands we are going to have to become far more proactive during the Unit Management Plan (UMP) and Recreation Management Plan (RMP) process. If we don't, it is highly unlikely that any consideration will be given to sporting activities as these plans are pulled together and then implemented.

We have provided what is probably the most comprehensive list of UMPs and RMPs that the Council has ever seen. These plans are either in progress or will be in progress over the next several years. Working cooperatively through the Regional Fish and Wildlife Management Boards, we can make a difference.

Our hope is to have folks from each region become involved in the UMP and RMP process. That means getting involved as the earliest draft plans are pulled together and staying involved until the plans are released and implemented.

The Regional Fish and Wildlife Boards can help, but they can't do it alone. The best way to get the DEC's attention is to have each public meeting well-attended by sportsmen and women. That means going armed with information and letting the DEC know what we expect to see in these plans. It's time!!

Statewide UMP Schedule - 2014					
Year	Unit Management Plan	Region Office		UMP Ac.	Acres/Yr
2014 (9)	Lower New England East	3	NEW PALTZ	6,712	118,966
	Albany	4	SCHENECTADY	5,889	
	Mt. Pisgah	4	STAMFORD	7,985	
	Northern Franklin	5	RAYBROOK	20,733	
	Westward Waters	6	LOWVILLE	38,639	
	Fish Creek	7	CORTLAND	3,404	
	Long Pond	7	SHERBURNE	3,722	
	Bare Hill	8	BATH	737	
	Cattaraugus	9	ALLEGANY	31,145	

2015 (8)	North Atlantic	1	STONY BROOK	646	51,484
	Treaty Line	4	STAMFORD	19,137	
	Mohawk Vista	6	HERKIMER	5,846	
	New Field	7	CORTLAND	2,529	
	Broome	7	SHERBURNE	5,727	
	Nelson Swamp Unique Area	7	SHERBURNE	890	
	McDonough	7	SHERBURNE	13,233	
	Livingston	8	BATH	3,476	
2016 (10)	Lower New England West	3	NEW PALTZ	8,151	109,451
	Pine Bush	4	SCHENECTADY	1,594	
	Eminence	4	STAMFORD	17,162	
	Boreal South	5	WARRENSBURG	4,468	
	Ontario Plain	6	LOWVILLE	3,096	
	St. Lawrence Foothills	6	POTSDAM	16,524	
	Lower Salmon River	7	CORTLAND	621	
	Tioughnioga	7	SHERBURNE	3,730	
	Canisteo River Basin	8	BATH	7,405	
	Allegany	9	WEST ALMOND	46,700	
2017 (7)	Leatherstocking	4	STAMFORD	11,568	38,683
	Rome Sand Plains	6	HERKIMER	1,786	
	Tioga	7	CORTLAND	3,862	
	Hewitt-Cayuga Highlands	7	CORTLAND	9,526	
	Onondaga	7	CORTLAND	386	
	Five Streams	7	SHERBURNE	9,650	
	Canandaiqua Highlands	8	BATH	1,905	
2018 (5)	Hudson Valley	4	SCHENECTADY	435	33,152
	Sacandaga	5	WARRENSBURG	6,223	
	Tug Hill East	6	LOWVILLE	21,092	
	Great Divide	8	BATH	2,147	
	Niagara Frontier	9	ALLEGANY	3,255	
2019 (12)	Neversink River	3	NEW PALTZ	8,389	112,453
	Charleston	4	STAMFORD	7,468	
	Forty-Six Corners	6	HERKIMER	18,042	
	St. Lawrence Rock Ridge	6	POTSDAM	21,006	
	Tri-County	7	CORTLAND	3,349	
	Virgil	7	CORTLAND	6,883	
	Cuyler	7	CORTLAND	7,123	
	Rapid Waters	7	CORTLAND	12,844	
	Chenango Trail	7	SHERBURNE	5,455	
	Pharsalia Woods	7	SHERBURNE	13,621	
	Muller Hill	7	SHERBURNE	6,972	
	Erwin	8	BATH	1,301	

2020 (8)	Taconic Highlands	4	SCHENECTADY	12,471	66,381
	Taylor Pond	5	RAY BROOK	6,800	
	Northern Piedmont	5	WARRENSBURG	4,030	
	Oneida Hills	6	HERKIMER	13,644	
	Winona	6	LOWVILLE	9,225	
	Hill and Hollow	7	CORTLAND	7,351	
	Between Rivers	7	SHERBURNE	9,161	
	Keuka Highlands	8	BATH	3,699	
2021 (6)	East Branch	4	STAMFORD	4,673	38,754
	Northern Clinton	5	RAYBROOK	4,111	
	Upper Salmon River	7	CORTLAND	8,776	
	Twin Sheds	7	CORTLAND	5,188	
	Taylor Valley	7	CORTLAND	10,210	
	Keuka Lowlands	8	BATH	5,796	
2022 (7)	Shawangunk Ridge	3	NEW PALTZ	9,591	110,444
	Catskill Creek	4	STAMFORD	9,928	
	Vienna Woods	6	HERKIMER	1,299	
	Tug Hill North	6	LOWVILLE	37,218	
	Brookfield	7	SHERBURNE	13,394	
	Six Nations	8	BATH	21,697	
	Chautauqua	9	DUNKIRK	17,317	
2023 (9)	Gateway	2	LONG ISLAND CITY	156	92,750
	Cherry Valley	4	STAMFORD	11,577	
	Chazy Highlands	5	RAY BROOK	9,780	
	Adirondack Foothills	6	HERKIMER	6,692	
	St. Lawrence Flatlands	6	POTSDAM	30,763	
	Rockefeller	7	CORTLAND	5,784	
	Eastern Lake Ontario	7	CORTLAND	5,589	
	Northern Chenango Highlands	7	SHERBURNE	15,778	
	Hemlock Canadice	8	BATH	6,631	

2013 Leftover	Gateway	2	LONG ISLAND CITY	
	Cherry Valley	4	STAMFORD	Late Jan per Bill
	Chazy Highlands	5	RAY BROOK	
	Adirondack Foothills	6	HERKIMER	Sept 2014.
	St. Lawrence Flatlands	6	POTSDAM	RD review as of ?
	Rockefeller	7	CORTLAND	RD review as of 1/3
	Eastern Lake Ontario	7	CORTLAND	Not finished as of 1/3
	Northern Chenango Highlands	7	SHERBURNE	Not finished as of 1/3

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR OUR 34th AWARDS PROGRAM

The New York State Conservation Council, Inc. (NYSCC) is asking for your help in identifying New York State's outstanding conservationists for our 34th Awards Program. This is an ideal opportunity to honor those who have worked long and hard for our natural environment and who may not have been recognized for their efforts.

Nomination Procedure:

- ✓ Nominations are open to residents or groups in New York State, both professional and volunteer.
- ✓ A nomination may be submitted by an individual, a club, or an organization.
- ✓ Affiliation with the NYSCC, Inc. is not necessary.
- ✓ Nominations must be for individuals or groups that have been active during the past year and have exhibited ongoing interest in conservation.
- ✓ Please furnish complete information about the nominee. *Make it informative and to the point. Give facts, dates and accomplishments which support that nomination. Documentation is helpful.*

Nomination Deadline: August 1, 2014

Presentation Date: Awards will be presented at the 81st Annual Meeting of the New York State Conservation Council in September, 2014.



Award Categories:

- ✓ Volunteer Conservationist -- For outstanding conservation achievements and significant contributions by a volunteer to the cause of conservation of the state's natural environment.
- ✓ Professional Conservationist -- For outstanding conservation achievements by a professional in any field, including but not limited to fish, wildlife, forest, water, air or soil management.
- ✓ Youth Conservationist -- For a youth or group of youths under the age of 19 who have demonstrated outstanding leadership and accomplishments in some phase of conservation.
- ✓ Conservation Educator -- For an individual (professional or volunteer) who has exhibited outstanding achievement in educating others in conservation. Nominees should have demonstrated recognized methods directed toward the wise use and management of our natural environment.
- ✓ Outdoor Education Program -- For programs which exhibit worthwhile efforts in conservation awareness. These programs may be of any size or duration. *Be sure to include age levels of participants.*
- ✓ NYSCC President's Award -- For outstanding achievement by a member club.
- ✓ Outstanding NYSCC Member -- Awarded to one Council member who does more than just attend meetings; works for the betterment of NYSCC by using a considerable amount of time and effort to educate sportsmen and the general public about the Council, promote the Council's message on various issues, and secure funding for the NYSCC.
- ✓ Lifetime Achievement -- Awarded to individuals who have dedicated many years to working for conservation and the interests of sportsmen, women and youth.

Note: The NYSCC Awards Committee reserves the right to change nomination categories based on information presented. In the event nominations fail to meet the requirements for state-wide recognition, the Awards Committee will have the prerogative to withhold any award.

Be sure all nominations include a cover sheet with the following information:

- ✓ Award Category
- ✓ Name, Address & Phone for the nominee *and* the nominator
- ✓ What supporting documentation must be returned to the nominator

Mail applications to: NYSCC, 8 East Main Street, Ilion, NY 13357. **Remember the deadline:** August 1, 2014.

WHAT'S HAPPENING OUT THERE...

Hudson Valley Sportsmen's Association, 120 Daley Rd, Poughkeepsie (off of Maloney Rd) will hold 2014 firearms instruction courses. For information contact Jackie Emslie 914/475-4901 or jslie@earthlink.net



- June 7- Women on Target Instructional Shooting Clinic – Pistol: 9am – 4pm. Perfect opportunity to learn about pistols! \$45 registration includes pistol instruction and use, ammunition, targets, hearing and eye protection, buffet lunch. Pistol license required for women 21 years and over. Girls 14 – 20 years old may attend but must be accompanied by an adult woman. All experience levels welcome!
- June 11/12/13- NRA Basic Pistol Shooting Course: 6:30pm – 9:30pm each evening – must attend all three sessions. \$85 registration fee includes pistol instruction and use, ammunition, targets, hearing and eye protection, certificate of completion. Pistol license required for persons 21 years and over. Persons 14 – 20 years old may attend but must be accompanied by an adult. All experience levels welcome!

Whortlekill Rod & Gun Club, Route 376 in Hopewell Junction -- Steak and Lobster Bake on Sunday, June 1, beginning at 12 noon. For details call Roger 845-656-5013 or Tom 845-721-1203.

The Redfield Fish & Game Club will be hosting the following event at the clubhouse, 33 Harvester Mill Rd. in Redfield:

- June 21: Bear Field Trial and Water Race. Registration begins at 7:00 am. First event, the field trial, starts at 8:00am. Public is invited. Refreshments will be available. For further information, contact Don Hillman at 315-591-0581 or hillmanf@yahoo.com.

Iroquois Chapter of Trout Unlimited will hold its 3rd annual picnic on Wednesday, June 4, at Carpenter's Brook Fish Hatchery from 5-8 pm. Fundraising raffles, food and fun ... bring your fly rod; the ponds are open to fishing and casting. Cost is \$10; RSVP to Abby Klein at ladyabigail.iroquoistu@gmail.com.

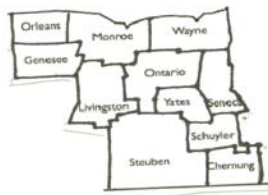
Safari Club International is looking for a young, disabled hunter (male or female, age 11-18) to go on an elk or red stag hunt this fall in Quebec, Canada. Person must be wheel chair disabled or have similar extensive disability and should be able to speak on camera, since the hunt will be filmed. All expenses will be paid by SCl and an adult mentor/parent will accompany the youth. For further details and to discuss application criteria, contact George Franke at 607-316-8869

FINGER LAKES CONSERVATION COUNCIL INC.

Representing County Federations and Affiliate Clubs of New York State Region 8

Member Federations 2013

- Chemung Co Fed of Sportsman's Clubs
- Genesee Co. Fed. of Sportsmen's Clubs
- Livingston Co. Fed. of Sportsmen's Clubs
- Monroe Co. Conservation Council
- Ontario Co. Fed. of Sportsmen's Clubs
- Orleans Co. Fed. of Sportsmen's Clubs
- Seneca Co. Fed. of Sportsmen's Clubs
- Steuben Co. Fed. of Conservation Clubs
- Wayne Co. Fed. of Sportsmen's Clubs
- Yates Co. Fed. Of Sportsmen's Clubs



President Mike Elam
 Vice President Paul Griffen
 Secretary Glen Adams
 Treasurer Dennis Race

JOHN L. CUSHMAN
Board of Directors

NYSCC Life Member since July 1990

NRA

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

107 TRUBERG AVENUE
 PATCHOGUE, NY 11772
 Tel: (631) 475-8125
 Fax: (631) 475-8125
 E-mail: jcushman@juno.com



ARE YOU FISHING FOR INSURANCE?

To request an enrollment form or discuss coverage, call United Insurance Agency, Inc. at 1-800-728-4522, ext. 313 or email John Long, Jr. at: johnjr@uia.com

BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- Competitive Rates
- Superior Customer Service
- Experienced Claims Handling
- Knowledgeable Underwriters
- Representing the Shooting Sports Industry Since 1980
- A+ Rated Carrier

COVERAGES INCLUDE:

- \$1,000,000 Per Occurrence
- \$2,000,000 Per Occurrence Option is also available
- Defense Investigation and Related Cost in Addition to Limits of Liability
- Additional Insured, Such as Landlords, Added at No Additional Charge
- No General Aggregate



UNITED INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.

ORLEANS COUNTY FEDERATION OF SPORTSMEN'S CLUBS, INC.
Est. 1938



Albion Rod & Gun Club
Barre Sportsmen's Club
Black North Rod & Gun Club
Holley Rod & Gun Club
Junior Wilson Sportsmen Club, Inc.
Medina Conservation Club
New York State Bowhunters, Inc.
Oak Orchard River Chapter, National Wild Turkey Federation
Orleans County Bluebird Society
Orleans County Ducks Unlimited
St. Mary's Archers Club
S.C.O.P.E.
Yates-Carlton Sportsmen's Club



GENESEEE CONSERVATION FOUNDATION, INC.

Charles O. Hancock, President

(585) 223-1850 Phone (585) 223-6855 Fax
chancock@rochester.rr.com Email

A charitable foundation concerned about conservation issues, with special interest in Genesee, Livingston, and Monroe Counties.

GET GRASS ROOTS NEWS VIA EMAIL

Grass Roots News is available via email for those interested in reading the publication on their computers. If you are interested in receiving the newsletter via email, send a message to nyscc@nyscc.com with "email GRN" in the subject line. Please include your name, club name if applicable, and membership code (a 3- or 4-digit number) found on the mailing label of your envelope. Those who have changed to email service say they like it – you can see the photos and graphics in color! Why not give it a try?

Thank you!

BUCK A MEMBER DONORS:

- Alden Rod & Gun Club, Inc., Alden * Burlington Flats Fish & Game Club, Edmeston
 Canaan Rifle Club, Inc., Canaan * East Aurora Fish & Game Club, Inc., East Aurora
 Finger Lakes Conservation Club, Waterloo * Niagara River Station Fishing Club, Grand Island
 Pioneer Fish & Game Club, Hoosick Falls * Rockdale Rod & Gun Club, Inc., Mt. Upton
 South Shore Association of Oneida Lake, Cicero**

IF YOU ARE NOT CURRENTLY A MEMBER, ENROLL TODAY AND RECEIVE YOUR OWN COPY OF THIS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER.

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 E-mail (print clearly) _____

Check one:

_____ Guardian \$25
 _____ Defender \$60
 _____ Life \$350 (individuals only)

Send application to:
 Membership Program
 NYSCC
 8 East Main Street
 Ilion NY 13357.

____ Enclosed is my check or money order, payable to NYSCC

**PLACE YOUR AD HERE!
 GRASS ROOTS NEWS ADS**

Business Card Size: \$30 per issue

Quarter Page Ads: \$40 per issue

Other Size Ads are available.

For more information, contact our office at nyscc@nyscc.com or 315/894-3302, or write to NYSCC at 8 East Main Street, Ilion, NY 13357.

GRASS ROOTS NEWS



**SAVE THE HABITAT.
 SAVE THE HUNT.**



NWTF's NYS Chapter is participating in a new 10 year initiative named

Save the Habitat. Save the Hunt.

Together, with your help, we can and will conserve 4 million acres of wildlife habitat, open 500,000 acres for public hunting access and encourage 1.5 million new hunters.

For more information on this new initiative please visit:
www.nwtf.org/Save-the-Habitat-Save-the-Hunt/

Yes, I would like to support the NWTF, a non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation of the wild turkey and the preservation of our hunting heritage.

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ E-mail _____

Please check membership option:

Annual Memberships: \$35
 ___NWTF ___Women in the Outdoors ___Wheelin' Sportsmen
 Sponsor Member: ___ \$250
 Life Sponsor: ___ Silver \$5,000 ___ Diamond \$10,000 ___ Patron \$25,000
 ___ JAKES Member \$10 ___ Xtreme JAKES Member \$10 Birth year _____

Make checks payable to NWTF and mail to
 Deb Opferbeck, Treasurer; 3164 N. Nine Mile Rd., Allegany, NY 14706

What Are You Doing to Help Preserve Our Freedom? Pt 3 by Larry Becker	1-3
New Members	3
Promote or Highlight Your Club Activities	3
From The Desk of Bob Brown	4
Guide to Participation in State Land Use Planning	5 - 8
Call for Award Nominations	9
What's Happening Out There	10
GRN Available Via Email, Thank You	11