



# Wildlife Action

## PEE DEE CHAPTER

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### August 2023 NEWSLETTER

There were approximately 25 members were in attendance this Sunday. Meeting was opened at 2:30 pm with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members present were Wade, Adams, Cox, and O' Harra. President K.Casper led the meeting.

We had two visitors in attendance Cullen Shelly and John Andrews. They wish to apply for WLA membership. Both are former members from about ten or more years ago. D.Wade is their sponsor. The Board members in attendance approved them as candidates for Park Membership.

The minutes from the July 9th Chapter meeting were accepted as printed.

#### **Old Business and Standing Committees**

Max Sitero (VP for the new PDWLA - NRA chapter) plans on having the first banquet in October. The desired venue is the Armory, with the outside Darlington Raceway "Taste of Darlington" pavilion as backup. Venue location and date has not been confirmed yet. Lots of help will be needed from PDWLA membership to support this event. Stay tuned status reports will be sent via email to all Pee Dee members. It is important to support this initiative to build a positive reputation with the NRA when applying for grants in November. D.Wade and C.Adams stated we could apply for two 20 Gauge gas operated shotguns that would enable our youth activities. D.Wade suggested to apply for a grant to replace our two aging Winchester trap machines.

Kevin mentioned we have deterioration related damage on the 100 yard range. The north bay backstop assembly requires permanent repair. Billy Marrero volunteered to take care of it in the next week. S.O'Harra agreed to help after conducting a post meeting inspection.

#### **CRSO Report**

Cox gave the CRSO report. We now have 90 members on the August Roster. There are also a couple listed who are pending as park candidates. We have 1 member who may be dropped in September for WLA(National) nonpayment even after repeated attempts. Cox reminded the group members need to keep their WLA and Park fees current to maintain shooting privileges. Member status is updated each month on the posted roster on the wall of the sign in shed. If an individual is not on the roster or has past dues listed, they are not to use the range facilities. All RSO's on duty are to enforce this rule! It usually takes approximately 2 months of non-payment before a member is removed from the roster. Remember, after removal a reinstatement fee is assessed plus any outstanding fees paid before the individual is restored to good standing and has shooting privileges.

Another visitor Jason King joined the meeting later and introduced himself to the group. Jim Taylor is his sponsor. The Board members in attendance also approved Jason as a candidate for Park Membership.

### **Treasurer Report**

K.Wyrick gave the Treasurer's Report. We have recently paid \$727 for the 2nd insurance premium (allocated thru National) this period. Keith reported we have \$7,511 in checking (\$1860 are Hunt Club funds) plus \$5,000 in contingency savings ...\$12,511 total balance.

### **New Business:**

Bill Feley updated the group on recent changes to the Legacy Board competition for D. Packard, Jeff Sears, W. Feley, S. O'Harra. Lots of good heckling, humor, and position changes! A by product is as a group we are becoming better marksmen and some upgrading with needed equipment.

K Casper reported we have renewed our CMP (Civilian Marksmanship Program) membership for the year. This allows us to purchase government surplus firearms as well as ammunition. The CMP ID for PDWLA members is 037065. The only club obligation with CMP affiliation is we must conduct an occasional CMP event. Our preference is to have a CMP Training seminar. FYI See Kevin or S.Cox if you want to open a CWP account. It is an initial trying process pain, but gets easier with subsequent orders.

Kevin asked the group if there was interest in having a hamburger and hotdog outing or shotgun event in September. Consensus was to wait for cooler weather. Instead, we will have another swap meet next month.

### **Environmental Report**

Kevin reported on a great example of environmental delicate balance in nature from his recent visit to Montana's Glacier Park. About 40 years ago a Lake Trout was introduced in Montana's Lake since they are larger fish then regular trout. This is now an environmental nightmare because the Lake Trout is replacing the native trout species of Rainbow, Brown, and Speckled. It appears the Lake trout can grow in excess of 40 lbs. and they reside at a depth of 300 ft deep making it exceedingly difficult to catch. There they eat the food for the native species (about everything) that rise to the surface.

Also, Montana's glaciers are being reduced from 100 to about 25 because of Global Warming. The Mountain Goat (long white hair) cannot survive when temps are above 65 degrees. They need the ice to survive.

### **Fishing Report**

R. Burrows gave the Fishing report. It is hot ! Do your fishing early in the morning shortly after daybreak. Bass are biting in Santee. Use plastic jigs a little deeper. Shell Cracker and Bream are bedding after the full moon. Go to the rivers for catfish and fish deep early in the morning or late in the evening.

### **Hunting Report**

R. Burrows and D. Wade gave the Hunting Report. Youth Days are coming up for those 17 and younger. Licenses may be waived, but youth may be required to complete the SC Hunter education Course. Check with the DNR web page. Deer hunting with firearms starts Sept 1 and bow hunting starts Sept 15th. Again, check the DNR web pages to verify details.

### **Educational and Trivia:**

How many estimated firearms are there in the USA? Answer 466 Million

What area in the world has the most shark attacks? Answer N. Carolina and S. Carolina.

How many fatalities are there in the world as a result of mouse? Answer including car collisions 650!

How many bear fatalities worldwide? Answer 40 with 11.4 in North America.

**Meeting adjourned at 3:10 PM**