



Wildlife Action

PEE DEE CHAPTER

P.O. BOX 5022 - FLORENCE, SC - 29502

www.WildlifeActionPeeDee.com

pdwildlifeaction@gmail.com

Join us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/WLAPeeDee/>

December 2023 NEWSLETTER

Meeting was opened at 9 AM with Prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Approximately 20 members were in attendance including Board Members Wade, Adams, O Harra, Sprenger, & Cox. Meeting was led by Vice President J. Etheridge. (Today's meeting was scheduled to be abbreviated to accommodate the following Christmas Festivus Activities.)

New Business:

D.Wade reported the new Atlas 3 Axis Clay Thrower is now on site and ready to use today for our Festivus. (approved capital expenditure by the Board on 11/30/23). Wade proposed an additional expenditure NTE 300\$ to set up a low-cost lead acid battery and solar charging system for the new machine. Vote was approved by those in attendance. J. Etheridge has generously offered to fund and arrange on site erection of a wood enclosure to house the downrange unit. Staining will be the responsibility of PDWLA. Build is to be completed before year end.

CRSO report was given by S.Cox. We now have 103 members. Range members were reminded to sign in today for RSO and Volunteer hours to be accrued during Festivus. Cox also asked members to be sensitive to park security needs with the expected visitors attending the Festivus. Wrist bands will be given to the youth that have completed today's firearm orientation for Festivus. This is another opportunity to teach youth safe gun handling and use. RSO staffing needs for Festivus were clarified by D.Wade and D.Packard.

Treasury Report was given by K.Wyrick. \$8611 is in checking (including \$4060 from Hunt Club) and \$5000 is in Contingency Savings. K.Wyrick informed the membership that we have received over \$1500 in donations the last two months. Some of these funds have a designated use. D. Wade advised we may also be receiving another substantial donation by the local chapter of Whitetails Unlimited to support our programs.

Fishing Report was given short and sweet by J. Etheridge, “fish are in the water”.

Education report was presented by J.Etheridge. Clemson University has recently completed a comprehensive study that concluded that wild hogs cause \$110 million dollars in damage to SC crops.

Ed Sprenger shared the SC Youth Shooting Foundation recently held a Clay Shooting event in Society Hill. Sponsors included Palmetto State Armory, USA Midway Foundation, and Heybo. Over 750 youth participated in the Rookie, Junior, and Senior categories. Two shooters tied for first place in the Rookie Division with an impressive score of 98. All participants were well mannered and competed with zero safety related incidents.

Hunt Club report was given by J. Etheridge. Good population of deer are in the woods.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:20 am.

=====

Festivus Highlights:

Approximately 35 people were in attendance. Visitors included Ron Nesmith, Lawton White and his son. Approximately 12 youth also participated in Clay shooting, 22 caliber Rifle plinking, and longer Rifle Range Shooting, and Archery activities. The Turkey shoot (\$1 per target) was won by Pack Packard. The grand prize was 17\$ (\$7 which was funded by targets purchased by his family members 😊)

E. Sprenger presented the 2023 Member of the Year award to D.Wade along with a gift card for Wholly Smoking BBQ . Ed was also gracious to provide hamburger and hot dog cooking duty. We also thank Susan Evans for assisting with setup and food prep activity. R.Armstrong provided extended RSO services for Saturday afternoon on the rifle range. Thanks to all who participated and help make this annual event a success.