



Wildlife Action

PEE DEE CHAPTER

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FEBRUARY 2025 NEWSLETTER

Meeting was opened at 2:30PM by Kevin Casper. Donnie Wheeler led prayer and Kevin followed with the Pledge of Allegiance. Approximately 34 members were in attendance including Board Members, Steve Cox, Roger Burrows, Dennis Wade, Steve O’Harra and Dan Packard... Keith Wyrick Treasurer, Donnie Wheeler Secretary. Meeting led by Kevin Casper.

January minutes were reviewed and approved.

New Member:

- New member candidates were introduced:
 - Rob Hall sponsored by Donnie Wheeler. He has been accepted by the Board as a candidate for Park Membership
 - Rolf Hargrave is being re-instated after moving back to the Florence area.

CRSO report - Steve Cox

There are currently 105 members in the park not including the new members being sponsored. It appears likely up to 15 current members are not renewing their memberships in 2025.

2025 PUF fees are due and will be accepted without penalty until February 28, 2025.

Locks will be changed on February 28, 2025.

Badges and new keys are still being distributed to park members who are current.

Steve O’Harra is the Skeet Range Manager and Training Officer for that range. Any RSO who desires to be a Skeet Range RSO should contact Steve O’Harra for training. You must be a

Skeet Range RSO to operate the range equipment.

The issue related to the leaning tree on the utility lines has been addressed

Treasurers Report was given by Keith Wyrick.

Treasurers report shows favorable balance at this time. Club has approximately \$12,270.00 balance in checking/savings. Recent expenses relate to cost to purchase new puck locks and keys and fee to renew the chapter PO Box. Does not include Hunt Club balance of approximately 4,630.00.

PUF payments for 2025 are being collected and should continue thru February 2025. PUF fees can be paid thru the PDWLA website, by phone or in person. No change in Park Use fees for 2025.

Old Business

The clearing/widening of the rifle range has been completed. The south 200 yd shooting lane visibility is greatly improved.

Walker Floyd and Kevin Casper spoke at the Kiwanis club meeting last month. This an excellent communication tool for the Florence community. Some members of the Kiwanis are interested in a tour and learning more about the PDC/WLA

New Business

Discussion about scheduling a workday for the membership to address general cleanup of leaves, etc., maintenance on various target frames, general cleanup and maintenance as spring approaches. The Board will meet to consider this and provide an update on a date for this workday.

Bob Veasey discussed an option to purchase a lead processing machine that can melt and form multiple calibers of lead bullets for use in re-loading. He will research and present more information to members.

Dennis Wade discussed his desire to see a weekly trap training, practice and competition on the shot gun range among members possibly Monday or Wednesday mornings to include a light lunch afterwards. This could also be held on Saturday mornings except during the Maranatha trap team season. The Maranatha schedule is being finalized now and will be submitted soon.

Fishing Report was given by Roger Burrows

Around time for the new moon in February there will be great fishing(catching) of shad and herring at the Diversion canal near St. Stephens. Page 3 in DNR book of regulations is where you find catch limits and rules for fishing. General fishing opportunities in deep water pools.

Hunt Club

Hunting season for squirrel and quail continues. Still an abundance of raccoon on the property. No hogs so far in this area. Dennis requested members assistance in clearing around the pond to provide access for fishing the pond and installing double gates.

Education report Bob Veasey

Swine Brucellosis is communicable to humans from wild hog and bear. Take special care in handling and processing any animals to include eye and hand contact. Be careful to bury or burn all remains and waste from animals processed. This illness can be treated in humans but has an extended recovery period. To kill any bacteria, it is recommended any meat be cooked to a temperature of 165F.

Environmental Report Kevin Casper

Reviewed interesting facts around Beaver castor or Castoreum

Castor sacs are glands used to excrete scent for mating. Commercial use of this excretion includes ingredient in cosmetics and perfumes, flavorings in Schnapps and in flavored cigarettes

Meeting was adjourned at 3:05pm.

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Board Meeting convened following today's Chapter meeting.

Highlights from this meeting

- Effective 2025 RSO volunteer hours requirements are reduced from 12 hours to 6 hours annually. Serving at least 3 of these hours as a scheduled RSO during a weekend is still required. The remaining 3 hours can be an "anytime" scheduled RSO session or other volunteer activity.
- The club will continue to publish phone numbers for Steve Cox and Kevin Casper as contacts for non-key holding park members (typically non-RSOs) wanting to shoot during times there is not an RSO scheduled to be on duty. Pls allow 48 hrs. notice!