



# WILDLIFE ACTION

## PEE DEE CHAPTER

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## JUNE 2019 NEWSLETTER

### PRE-MEETING



Remaining CMP certificates from the February 17th match were presented to Roger Burrows –Best Overall, Ron Lochner- beating Nick Osorio (with Nicks personal rifle), and Nick Osorio...All Around Participation Award.

Kevin Casper also presented Nick with two Red Ryder BB guns for both him and his wife Abigail in recognition of their outstanding service to the Pee Dee Chapter over the last 4 years. Nick and his wife will be missed with their upcoming move to Florida.

Severely water damaged Mullins Chapter WLA rifles were shown to the membership with an example how they could be cleaned up. Tom Pleasant offered to complete the restoration on the remaining small youth 22 caliber models. Kevin said he has tried drying the wet 22-LR bulk ammunition with limited success and will be splitting that reclaimed material between the Mullins and Pee Dee Chapters.

### **.BUSINESS MEETING-NOTES**

The meeting was called to order at 2:30pm Sunday June 9, 2019.

2:30 Bill Bessenger opened the meeting with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Eighteen members and 1 guest were in attendance. Officers included:

Kevin Casper – Chapter President

Bill Bessenger – Chapter Vice President

Nick Osorio – Outgoing Board member

Keith Wyrick – Board member

Ron Lochner – Board member

Steve Cox CRSO / Board member

Dennis Wade – Sr. VP Hunting / Board member

Roger Burrows – Sr. VP Fishing

Larry Davis – Treasurer

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Block House - Kevin is going to make a proposal to the landowner for PDWLA to assume responsibility for the house property (instead of the landowner wanting to tear it down). Plan is to secure the house for club use as membership grows.

Trap Activity – Rodney Howard (Maranatha Coach) gave an update on the team's recent performance at the State Meet in Orangeburg. Bryan Daniels scored a personal best with 24 out of 25 clays during one match. Most of the team members showed improvement.

Larry Davis gave an update on pledge funds received to date for the new Atlas AT 300 machine that is already in service (\$2750 vs \$3226 purchase price) Kevin Casper shared there are still pledges outstanding for the machine that have not been collected.

Steve Cox gave an update on the proposed permanent Trap House installation and design. Hi spot cost is still \$1000 and it is currently unfunded. Rodney Howard said he will share this information with the team parents.

Cox recommended Trap House construction not start until funding is in place. (Today's trap shooting session was cancelled due to inclement weather)

## **WLA MULLINS DAY CAMP SUPPORT**

Steve Cox shared that PDWLA RSOs Kevin Casper, Dave Evans, and himself recently spent June 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> providing 22 Rifle instruction and supervising range practice for campers aged 6-12. The 3 NRA "Always Rules" were emphasized. Humor was successfully used as an instructional tool. Since the Mullins Chapter Rifles and ammunition were (again) water damaged from recent flooding, the Pee Dee Chapter red dot equipped single shot rifles and ammo were used.

Facebook and Web page – Continued discussion by Bill Bessenger and others on the merits of a new facebook page and web page vs existing. Dave Evans has the "go do" to attempt securing admin privileges for both legacy media tools before we go down the path of formally implementing new ones.

Isolde Manning and her guest Kara expressed interest in trying out the archery equipment. The chapter still has significant archery related equipment in the storage room & skeet trailer, with target bales stored outdoors adjacent the picnic area.

Open House – Kevin Casper again reported the May 11 Open House for Maranatha School and invited friends was quite successful. Turnout was 54 people...students, their families, and friends. Kevin emphasized that one on one contacts are still the most effective tool the chapter has for recruiting new members. Larry Davis said the total out of pocket cost for this event was only \$120. Kevin reported 1750 rounds of 22 LR ammunition was expended by the group.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Hunt Club update was given by Dennis Wade. Upcoming opportunities include planting sunflowers around the landowners property, dove hunting after the corn is harvested, and restocking the pond for a fish rodeo when weather cools. Roger Burrows advised using locally netted minnows for restocking instead of fish feeders. Dennis is still looking for help to deck the new bridges. Dennis shared there is one remaining opening available for Hunt Club membership.

Cost is \$500 plus another \$250 to cover the newly installed tree stands and related equipment.

Fishing update was given by Roger Burrows. Roger shared it is a great time to go fishing. Bring your wife, children, grandchildren, or friends and have a good time fishing for bass and crappie.

Creeks and local ponds are advised. Use worms, crickets, grasshoppers, or waxworms (keep waxworms refrigerated to minimize their unwanted activity). Roger encourages using a guide on Santee if you are not familiar with that water. Be alert for snakes if bank fishing. Be sure to use repellent for mosquito and tick control. Lake Darpo and Louders Lake have new ramps.

Dargan's Pond and the Great Pee Dee Heritage Preserve are still closed. Take advantage of Lifetime Hunting and Fishing permits.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Larry Davis reported the chapter still has money.... There is a total balance of \$6291 in checking and \$3531 in savings . Hunt Club portion is \$2189 of the total checking balance. Larry also reported the chapter does not have a functioning Debit Card (is typically cancelled if not promptly authorized after issued or subsequently used regularly.) After explanation, he recommends we not have a debit card going forward. No further discussion.

## **NEW MEMBERS**

Steve Rath made a motion to accept Charles Poindexter (Duffy) as a new park member. He had paid fees on line already and had since obtained a recommendation letter that is on file. He was a Local Park member several years ago. The motion was seconded. Charles was successfully voted in by those in attendance.

## **CRSO REPORT**

Steve Cox reported the chapter now has 92 Park members. We had approached close to 100 before dropping individuals who failed to pay the 2019 PUF fee. Cox asked if anyone knew Mark Defields ? He is currently listed as a prospective new member who also had paid fees electronically, but has not been vetted. Cox will contact the individual.

Cox reminded the membership that simply paying the fees does not make you an authorized Park Member. The new member protocol outlined in the SOP includes vetting . Cox also shared there are approximately 20 RSOs on the roster that have zero volunteer hours to date.... He advised those in attendance "don't be that person in December" with no scheduled range supervision sessions

## **CLOSING**

No new business to be discussed. Next Chapter meeting is July 14 th . A motion was made at 3:35 pm to adjourn and was seconded. Meeting was adjourned.

Several members subsequently went to the rifle range to shake down the water damaged Mullins WLA Chapter 22 rifles and reclaimed 22LR ammo.

## **POSTSCRIPT.**

The Board had a brief discussion and has appointed Steve Rath to the Board to complete the term vacated by Nick Osorio.



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