

Mendon Conservation League

May 1, 2011

927 Boughton Hill Road Victor, NY 14564 - (585) 624-1169

From the Officers & Directors Meeting

In the spirit of full and open disclosure, I wanted to inform the MCL membership that at the last Officers and Directors meeting we had Scott Graham, Vice President of Future Forest Consulting Inc. attend .

Scott explained the need and possibility of doing some logging of the timber located on the property. Scott recommends we establish a system to maintain a sustainable Forest. This would include cutting grapevines to the ground to reduce future damage and set up a cycle to harvest one third of the timber density on a 10 to 15 year cycle.

We have 51 total acres of land with aprox 30 acres of timber.

Advantages to the club:

Sustainable Forest (one third less dense tree stand & promoting better lumber in the future)

Providing club future source of income

Clean up of forest, allowing new growth, and promoting wildlife habitat.

\$15,000 timber sale every 10 to 15 years to benefit clubs major projects and expenses.

Disadvantages:

Roads would be cut into property to accommodate logging equipment to remove lumber.

Grapevines would be cut and left to rot.

Tree tops would be cut and left on ground, (could be cut up and used by club for fire wood or left as underbrush for wildlife.)

Some possible interruption in shooting

This is a very complex project with many variables. (town approval, tax advantages/disadvantages, etc) At this time, we are just looking into this project. No contracts have been signed, again we are just looking into this project.

Report from the Fish and Game Officer for April 2011



Fishing

- April 1 was the opening of the season for Trout. The first Saturday in May is the opening for Pike, Pickerel, Tiger Muskellunge, and Walleye.
- When replacing or fixing damaged line, be sure to properly dispose of any excess. Monofilament line degrades slowly in the environment, with heavier lines taking much longer to break down than light lines.

New York has banned the sale of lead sinkers weighing less than half of an ounce because they may be mistaken for food or grit and eaten by waterbirds such as ducks, geese, swans, gulls, or loons. Toxic effects of even a single lead sinker can cause birds to sicken and increases the risk of death through predation, exposure, or lead poisoning.

- **Increased Fish Kills During Spring Thaw.** This winter's harsh cold and record snowfalls may cause increased observance of fish kills this spring. Winter fish kills, or "Winterkills" are the result of oxygen depletion in a water body that has been covered by ice and snow for an extended period of time. The layers of snow and ice block atmospheric oxygen from entering the water, and also inhibit sunlight from reaching aquatic plants, resulting in no oxygen production. Winterkills are usually rare in larger water-bodies over 20 acres in size, as they have the capacity to maintain a sufficient volume of oxygen to sustain life through the worst winters. However, fish kills are more prominent in small ponds that are high in nutrients. Fish populations can often rebound a few years after a Winterkill, as different fish species and sizes of fish have varying tolerances to low oxygen levels and can survive. Additionally, some fish find isolated locations of sufficient oxygen to carry them through the winter.

Hunting

All species are now closed except red squirrels and woodchucks.

Spring Turkey opens May 1 and for junior hunters 12-15 years old it is 4/23- 4/24

The DEC is Seeking Hunter Advice for Fall 2011 Duck Season.

Hunters may submit recommendations on or before April 15, 2011 to regional [Waterfowl Hunter Task Forces](http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/40737.html) (<http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/40737.html>) for the dates of the fall 2011 duck hunting season. Before dates are decided upon, DEC must evaluate task force recommendations and establish a season that complies with federal rules set by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). For fall 2011, DEC expects the USFWS to allow a 60-day duck season, split into no more than two segments per zone, opening no earlier than Sept. 24, 2011, and closing no later than Jan. 29, 2012. Waterfowl hunters are invited to participate by providing duck season suggestions to any [task force member](http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/42364.html) (<http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/42364.html>). For more information, read the [DEC press release](http://www.dec.ny.gov/press/73255.html) (<http://www.dec.ny.gov/press/73255.html>).

Shooting News

Mike Buggie, Officer of Fish and Game announced that his son Kevin Buggie, shot his first 25 straight at Inland Waters League shoot in Newark a couple of weeks ago. Congratulations Kevin for a terrific job representing MCL.

Up date on Rifle Range Project

If you haven't noticed, the far end of the parking lot is looking a little different. Ron Zuber has been contracted to move the FREE dirt that various towns are providing for the new rifle range. Ron is also donating use of his equipment for the project as well as providing us with a very reasonable price! Thank you to Ron and the other members of the Rifle Range Committee for their effort. In addition, the committee has collected \$1600+ to date from MCL members to apply to the project.

Steve Williams has found 100 or so FREE telephone poles that can be used to shore up the parking lot as well as for building the range.

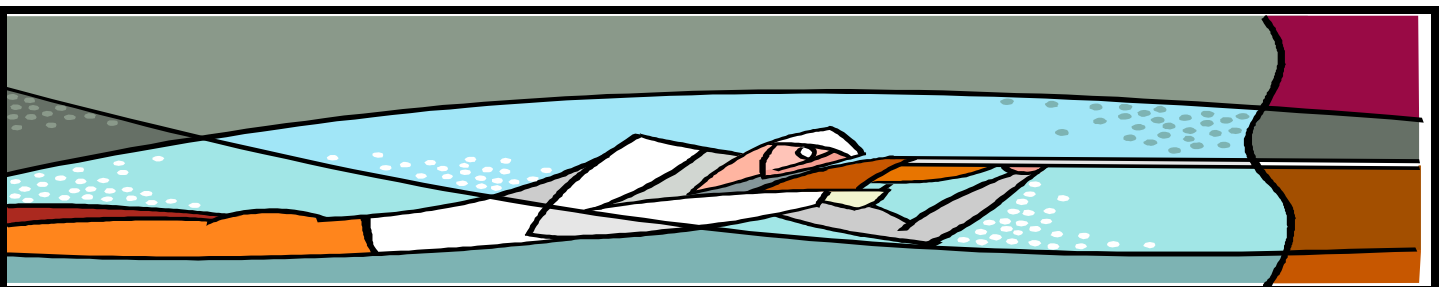
Tom Conroy continues to keep the Officers and Board updated on the progress of the rifle range.

If you haven't yet donated to the range, we welcome additional donations!!!!

MCL Leagues – FYI

It appears we don't have enough interest in Trap and Skeet Leagues at this time.

Still chance to shoot Saturday 10:00 Random Skeet and Double trap.



Spring 2011 Trout Stocking for Monroe County

The following listing reflects the anticipated number of yearling and older trout to be stocked into listed waters during spring 2011. Actual numbers and stocking times may vary depending on fish availability and weather conditions. The fish are stocked with help from County Federated Sportsmen.

Good luck fishermen and fisher ladies

Water	Town	Number	Date	Species	Size (inches)
Irondequoit Creek	Brighton, Penfield, Perinton	1250	April	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches
Irondequoit Creek	Brighton, Penfield, Perinton	2460	April	Brown Trout	8 - 9 inches
Irondequoit Creek	Brighton, Penfield, Perinton	4830	May - June	Brown Trout	8 - 9 inches
Irondequoit Creek	Pittsford	680	April	Brown Trout	8 - 9 inches
Irondequoit Creek	Pittsford	350	April	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches
Irondequoit Creek	Pittsford	680	May - June	Brown Trout	8 - 9 inches
Lake Ontario	Greece	45720	Spring	Brown Trout	8 - 9 inches
Lake Ontario	Hamlin	22860	Spring	Brown Trout	8 - 9 inches
Lake Ontario	Hamlin	20000	Spring	Rainbow Trout	8 - 9 inches
Lake Ontario	Webster	10000	Spring	Rainbow Trout	8 - 9 inches
Lake Ontario	Webster	45720	Spring	Brown Trout	8 - 9 inches
Oatka Creek	Wheatland	350	March - April	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches
Oatka Creek	Wheatland	1440	March - April	Brown Trout	8 - 9 inches
Oatka Creek	Wheatland	350	April - May	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches
Oatka Creek	Wheatland	760	April - May	Brown Trout	8 - 9 inches
Oatka Creek	Wheatland	1270	May - June	Brown Trout	8 - 9 inches

Notes from the General Meeting

Board of Director Update (March 24 and April 27)

Ray Sherbinski reported that the Board approved the concept to improve the pistol range and construct a new 100 yard rifle range on March 28. The town has provided a written approval of the project. On April 27, the Board received a progress report from the Rifle Range Committee. Work is being done to build the required berms. Once the berms are built there will be further discussion to ensure safety features meet requirements.

Work will be done based on the availability of funding.

There was a discussion regarding the logging opportunity as an income producer for the club.

Treasurer Report. Karen Davis reported that we have applied and received approval to be a 501c7 tax exempt organization. This action was required due to recent changes in tax law. As a result, we do not have to be concerned about future taxation issues.

At the same time, MCL needed to clear up a sales tax issue and incorrect filing of sales tax reports for 2010. This cost MCL a few \$1000 dollars but we are confident that these issues are behind us.

Through April, 2011 we are about even from an income/expense perspective. As previously reported, we receive and spend around \$3200 monthly.

Karen requests that when members place money or checks in the drop box they also provide a complete explanation for funds.

Thank you to everyone who purchased raffle tickets and to those who volunteered to sell raffle tickets at the Beikirch sale. So far we've sold \$2388 in tickets. We'd like to at least double this amount. Please let us know if you can sell more tickets!

Officer of the Grounds. Bob Smith asked members to pick up spent hulls in the field now that the snow is gone (causes damage to the mower blades). In addition, pistol range shooters need to pick up their debris after shooting. The Grounds Crew will not be able to mow if the pistol range is not cleaned up properly.

Matt Laniak is posting events on the MCL website (dates and times).

Roland Schindler reported that MCL could hire a design consultant for about \$200-\$250 to provide input for the design of the rifle range. NRA has grant monies that could be applied for that provide up to \$5000 in range related improvements. No guarantees.

The only NRA requirement we do not have is that new club members must be an NRA member. A notice to change the constitution has been posted in the club.

This motion will be voted on at the June 1 general meeting.

In addition, the NRA:

Requires 3 Officers to be NRA members

Requires the printing of a newsletter on a regular basis

Club must be a registered NRA organization for at least 5 years (which we are)

Affiliation with the Boy Scouts is a plus

A portion of new member NRA memberships go to the club (\$10)

Thank you from Bob and Liz

On Saturday, April 30, MCL members attended a Spring Clean-Up Day. Over 30 members and their children showed up! The house and grounds were thoroughly cleaned up. In addition, the skeet house roofs were repaired. A new patterning target stand was set up. Thank you to everyone who attended.

A special Thank You to Chuck Bannister for supplying the group with pizza and to Liz Druziako. who provided bagels in the morning.

Important Vote Meeting Wed June 1

Membership will vote on changing the MCL Constitution to state: any new member will need to be an NRA member or will need to sign-up for an NRA membership

MENDON CONSERVATION LEAGUE 2011

Officers

President:	Homer Cessna
Vice President:	Matt Laniak
Secretary:	Jeff Charles
Treasurer:	Karen Davis
Field Captain:	Carl German
Officer of Fish & Game:	Mike Buggie
Officer of Grounds :	Bob Smith
Officer of House:	Liz Druziako
Quartermaster:	Tom Wallace
Competitive shooting:	Jim Furey
Sportsman Ed:	Dave Arft

Directors

Pat Micari	Don Thorp	Tom West
Stan Popen	Gary Agosti	Dick Olney
Fred Warner	Roger DeBurgomaster	
Ray Sherbinski		

MCL

shooting hours

Monday	10am to Sunset
Tuesday	No shooting
Wednesday	9:00 to 10:00
Thursday	10am to Sunset
Friday	10am to Sunset
Saturday	10: to 4:00
Sunday	10:00 to 4:00

Print and cut this offer and receive first round of Trap or Skeet shooting **Free**. Good on Wednesday night Shooting only. Good from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm only. One coupon per member.

Expires May 31 2011 Please Print Name _____

FREE OFFER

SNOW MCL looking for a member that may be interested in a snow removal contract for the 2011—2012 season. Please contact Karen or Homer.

Calendar of Events

June Liz Officer of House needs Volunteers to help scrub down the walls of the Club House. See Liz to volunteer.

July Dick Gatto will be putting Hunter Safety Course in July or August. See Dick if interested.

August

September

October 5th General Meeting Nominations for office.

November 2nd General Meeting, election of officers ,10 gun rifle drawing



Thanks to the members that helped at the ticket sale at Biekherts on Friday and Saturday April 15th and 16th.

We were able to sell \$660 in raffle tickets. An other event at Biekherts is planned for the Fall. Please volunteer now.

Thanks again to all the volunteers.

Range Committee.

We have received donations of \$1,753 from club members to support the construction of our 100 yard range.

In case you have misplaced your donation form, we are attaching one to this newsletter.

Please feel free to complete the attached form and forward to the club.

Your generosity will be appreciated.

Mendon Conservation League

Dear MCL Club Member,

As you are aware, over the last few years there has been much interest in the construction of a 100 yard rifle range. We are pleased to report that this is no longer just an interest, but an actual project that is unanimously supported by the directors and officers as well as approved by the Town of Mendon Building Department. The range committee is utilizing the resources of the NRA Range Consulting Program. We are proud to say that excavating is already underway by one of our long-time club members. Like previous capital developments, we will not be able to fund this project through current accounts. Therefore, we will be relying on donations to make this approved and supported project a reality. The projected cost to complete this project is \$11,000. The scope of the project includes the following: 1.) the construction of a berm along the east side of the pistol range, 2.) the construction of a 100 yard rifle range which includes berms and backstop, and 3.) the regrading and filling in of the depression in the current pistol range. Although site work has already begun to a limited degree, we need to rely on your generosity to complete this project. Should you choose to make a donation, please fill out the form attached below. This form will ensure that your money will be solely designated for this project. Any contribution you make toward the completion of the rifle range will greatly enhance our recreational facility. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact

Homer Cessna or Matt Laniak.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

The Officers and Directors of MCL

Name _____

Amount enclosed _____

Please apply my donation to rifle range construction fund.

If paying by check, please indicate rifle range construction fund on the memo line.

Return donations to P.O. Box 2, Mendon, NY 14506