

Eight Point Sportsman's Club May 7,2024

General Membership Meeting

A delicious baked haddock dinner was served at 7pm, thanks to everyone who helped in the Kitchen.

Call to Order – Pres. Baker called the Club to order at 8pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Secretary Report – I read the previous month's newsletter and it was motioned and seconded to be accepted into the minutes.

Treasurer Report – Brian Baird having been absent last month, read two months of financial reports to the assembly and submitted written reports to Pres. Baker. Both were motioned and seconded as accepted.

Communications – Marion Larson spoke about MA Wildlife Sportsman's News and submitted the following (via email) for print.

MASSWILDLIFE EVENTS/WEBINARS FOR MAY & EARLY JUNE 2024

May 22: Family Fishing Clinic, Leominster – Join the fun at this family friendly, learn to fish clinic at Barrett Park from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Bring your fishing equipment or borrow ours; limited equipment and bait will be provided. Open to the public, pre-registration is required; check the MA Wildlife website to register or call (978) 534-7529 for more information. This event is being held in cooperation with MassWildlife & Angler Education Program and the Leominster Recreation Department.

June 9 – Becoming an Outdoorswoman Hike and Fish – Come join us for a hike and fish class at Wachusett Reservoir! This class is open to women ages 15 and older. MassWildlife staff will lead a 3- mile round trip hike into Wachusett Reservoir to an open fishing location where there will be plenty of time and space to spread out and fish. This class is open to experienced and new anglers alike, and participants are welcome to bring their own fishing gear or borrow some from MassWildlife. Get more details and register.

Sterling Resident Wins 2023 State Sportfishing Gold Pins

This Spring, MassWildlife's Freshwater Sportfishing Awards Program recognized anglers who caught exceptional freshwater fish in 2023 from Massachusetts waters that are open to the public. Gold pins are awarded to anglers (in youth and adult categories) who catch the largest fish in each species category. Sterling resident Colin Duarte was awarded two gold pins in the Adult Catch & Release category. He caught a 26" brown trout from

Wachusett Reservoir and a 26" landlocked salmon in the Stillwater River. Anglers who catch fish meeting a minimum weight or length can submit proof of their catch and receive a bronze pin. For more information on the program, google MassWildlife Sportfish Awards.

New Membership – Chris Navarro was present and voted in as a new member, Welcome to Eight Point Chris!

Board of Directors – I read a summary of the 16 APR 24 BOD meeting, most of the goings on were related to the preparation for the Fishing Derby. As usual there were a great number of people volunteering to maintain continuity and juggling many details to carry off another great event. Thanks to all who participated and attended.

Activities + Rentals – Pres. Baker reviewed the A+R budget.

Building Committee – No report this month.

Trap – Paul Donovan presented the Club with a current budget report, written report to Pres. Baker and extensively discussed buying opportunities for the next clay purchase. There was a motion and second for the higher budget amount to be voted on in June, this passed unanimously after brief discussion.

Trap/Skeet Hours - Sunday Noon-3pm, Thursday 5-9pm, open to the Public. Warm weather is here, come on down!

Bird – No report this month.

Fish – Following submitted by Greg LaFlamme

FISH COMMITTEE

KID'S SPRING DERBY-This year's event was held on Saturday and Sunday, April 20 th and 21 st .

The winners were 1 st Place-Kole Yeaw at 3.44 lbs., 21 ¼". 2 nd Place-Jameson Wessell at 2.48 lbs., 17 ½". 3 rd Place-William Narris at 2.44 lbs., 18 ¾". In addition to each receiving trophies, they received generous prizes of rods and tackle. The adult winner was James Gerardi at 1.27 lbs., 14".

The top 10 winners from each day also received special prizes of rods and tackle. Some of the rods were customized rods built by member Victor Latek. We were able to give out a large number of prizes due to the generous donations of many members and friends.

Of special note was the ongoing support of our Club from Bass Pro. They have been behind us for several years and allow us to have an extra special Derby. This year we hosted a total

of 148 Junior fishers (15 years and younger), along with 85 Seniors. All Juniors received prizes at the end of each day, regardless of any catching success.

We are very grateful for all these donations. Also, a special call out to Mike Gleason of Mike's Bridge Diner in Lancaster for donating \$300 toward the stocking of "large trout". We appreciate you. I ask all our members to patronize Mike, Bass Pro, and all concerns who donated to our Derby. All for the kids!

CLUB POND STOCKING-The Pond was stocked with trout on April 17 th , just before the Derby. We took in a full truck load. We used Blue Stream Aquaculture out of Sandwich, MA. We have used them for several years now and are happy with the product they provide. On going fishing by Members is encouraged. There are still many fish in the Pond including some sizeable ones.

POND CLEAN UP AND WORK AT THE DERBY-I wish to thank all the members who put in so much time and care at the Club Pond. We actually had 2 clean up days, on April 6 th and 20th. The Shack, grounds, and road all received much attention, and came out looking great. We can all be proud of our facility.

Also, a big thanks to all who worked at the Derby itself, including registration, food sales, beer sales, apparel sales, 50/50 raffles and the Rod Raffle.

GUEST SPEAKER-At our April General Membership Meeting we listened to a great presentation by Adam Kautza from Mass Wildlife. He is a Coldwater Fisheries Project Manager, and spoke on trout resources and management in the Commonwealth. Thank you Adam!

FRESHWATER CUP-Please see April newsletter for specific information. 3 entries so far for the Board. Cameron Pierce with a 25" White Sucker from Banfield Brook in Madison NH on April 24 th . Dave Pineo Jr. with a 16 ½" Rainbow from Lake Winnepesaukee on April 26 th . And Cameron Pierce with a 25" Brown from Lake Bomoseen, VT on April 28 th .

ANGLER OF THE MONTH-Any member caught fish can be entered into this regular ongoing contest. For information or entries for both the Freshwater Cup or Angler of the Month, contact me at gplaflamme@comcast.net or 508-868-4060.

FISH COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN REPLACEMENT-The Club is looking to replace the Fish Committee Chairman. Please see President Charlie Baker. I can stay on during transition and can also stay on the Fish Committee if desired.

Submitted by Greg LaFlamme, Fish Committee Chairman

Fish Note – If anyone is aware of two Kids who participated and forgot their prizes, please contact Greg or the prizes will be donated forward to next year’s derby.

Archery/Rifle - There has been a safety change to the range, please acquaint yourselves with the new layout. The short berm to the right has been removed and replaced on the far left to improve backstop and angle.

Kitchen – Another great meal! Thanks (I heard Ritz crackers and butter are the secret ingredients for the baked haddock)

Worcester County League – Marion Larson briefed the Club about the Apr 19th WCL meeting, thanks Marion.

Old Business – Proceeds from the raffle have been donated to next year’s derby.

New Business – The stand up refrigerator in Kitchen failed, it was removed, replacement or substitution is being considered.

The walk-in cooler repair quote was motioned and seconded, passing after brief discussion.

August 17th Clam Bake date set.

Good + Welfare – Raffle was pulled for several prizes.

Next meeting June 4th.

Respectfully,

Chris Magay

Eight Pont Secretary

