



## ***Here Comes the NYSOWA Spring Conference***

***Get ready for what is sure to be a jam-packed spring meeting for NYSOWA. On the itinerary is one-on-one time with DEC staff, meeting the public at a chicken BBQ, craft improvement focused on photography, public land turkey hunting and trout fishing.***

***It all starts May 7 at the Glen Falls House, on the edge of the northern Catskills, in Round Top, N.Y.***

***We hope to see you there. More details on Pages 3-5.***

# NYSOWA Directory

## PRESIDENT

DEBORAH BROSEN  
P.O. Box 86  
Kinderhook, NY 12106

## VICE PRESIDENTS

Western & Central NY  
DAVID FIGURA  
4080 O'Neill Lane  
Skaneateles, NY 13151

Northern NY

DAN LADD  
PO Box 302  
Fort Ann, NY 12827

Southeastern NY

TOM SCHLICHTER  
P.O. Box 462  
Southold, NY 11971

## TREASURER

STEPHEN GEORGE  
173 Willie Rd.  
Gloversville, NY 12078

## RECORDING SECRETARY

GLENN SAPIR  
21 Shamrock Dr.  
Putnam Valley, NY 10579

## MEMBERSHIP

### SECRETARY

CHARLES A. WITEK III  
1075 Tooker Ave.  
West Babylon, NY 11704

### PAST PRESIDENT

CHRISTOPHER PAPARO  
153 South River Road  
Calverton, NY 11933

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BILL HILTS Jr.  
6409 Sherman Drive  
Lockport, NY 14094

LEO MALONEY

321 Robertson Rd.  
Sherrill, NY 13069

MIKE JOYNER

5239 Town Line Rd.  
McGraw, NY 13101

STEVE PIATT

996 Sayre Hill Road  
Sayre, PA 188402

JERROD VILA

18 Sloan Ave.  
Amsterdam, NY 12010

STEVE ZAHURAK

1070 Day Rd.  
Schenectady, NY 12303

## SUPPORTING MEMBER

### LIAISON

GLENN SAPIR

## NEWSLETTER EDITORS

BILL HILTS, JR.  
billhiltsjr@gmail.com  
DAN LADD  
buck@adkhunter.com

## WEBSITE

MIKE JOYNER  
mjoyner@joyneroutdoorme-  
dia.com  
DAN LADD  
buck@adkhunter.com

## Digital, Social NYSOWA

Website: [NYSOWA.org](http://NYSOWA.org)

[FACEBOOK](#) •

[INSTAGRAM](#) • [YOUTUBE](#)



## Contents

Spring Conference Info: 3-5  
President's Report: 6  
Vice President Reports: 7-12  
Supporting Member News: 13-19  
Meeting Minutes 20  
Membership Applications: 21-22



**We are always looking for members to work with our Conference Committee and assist in hosting Safaris and Conferences in their region. Please email buck@adkhunter if interested.**

## Calendar

May 7-10, 2026  
Spring Conference  
Columbia & Greene Counties  
Fall 2026

Oct. 1-4

Fall Safari - Oneida Lake  
Renew your membership here:  
<https://app.joinit.com/o/nysowa>

**NYS Outdoor Writers Association**  
**2026 Spring Conference**  
**Greene County/Columbia County**  
**Upper Hudson Valley & Catskills**  
**May 7-10, 2026**  
**Headquarters: Glen Falls House**  
**230 Winter Clove Rd, Round Top, NY 12473**

**THURSDAY, May 7**

3 pm Check-in begins

6 pm Meet-n-Greet, main lobby of G.F. House

*Sponsored by: Columbia and Greene County Tourism Offices*

**FRIDAY, May 8**

**Morning Outings:**

On-your-own turkey hunting or trout fishing nearby.

Rest of Day

9:15am Depart for Glencadia Rod & Gun Club, 315 County Rt 46, Stuyvesant

10:00 am Meet and Greet with Glencadia Members, tour of the club

11:30 am LUNCH provided by Glencadia RGC

12:00 pm DEC Presentation

2:00 pm Set up and breakout session for members

5 stand shooting (must sign up in advance)

4:00 pm Doors of the Glencadia RGC open to the public for a meet and greet with NYSOWA. Members who display their products/info during breakout session will be provided a small table space to sell their products to the public throughout the remainder of the evening.

5:00 pm - Chicken BBQ DINNER with NYSOWA.

7:30 pm Return to Glen Falls House

## **SATURDAY, May 9**

### **Morning Outings (Please check one, please return by 11:30)**

- Guided Striped Bass fishing in Albany (limited to 2)
- On your own turkey hunting
- On your own fishing, hiking or sightseeing (circle one, maps to be provided)

### **Lunch**

12 pm - Rip Van Winkle Brewery, 4545 NY 32, Catskill.

- Tour of the brewery followed by LUNCH

- Craft improvement seminar on photography by Chris Paparo

6 pm Annual awards presentation, dinner banquet and silent auction at Glen Falls House

*Sponsored by the National Shooting Sports Foundation*

## **SUNDAY, May 10**

7:30 am Annual membership meeting at Glen Falls House

Depart for "home". Happy Mother's Day to all Moms!

**Breakfasts and snacks will be available for purchase on site in the Glen Falls House "provision grab/go room" or the café bakery. See attached sheets for local area attractions, food venues and opportunities for spouses.**

---

**Registration: \$280 (3 nights), \$205 (two nights), \$110 (one night) Based on double occupancy. Please add \$75/night for solo room.**

**Register online here: <https://ticketstripe.com/NYSOWA-2026-Conference>**

**Name:**

**Address:**

**Phone:**

**Email:**

**Spouse/Roomate Name:**

**Are they included with this registration? Yes / No**

**Amount Enclosed:**

**Please mail reservation form to: Dan Ladd, PO Box 302, Fort Ann, NY 12827**

**Reservation Deadline: April 23, 2026**

*Food • Stories • Community*

# CHICKEN BBQ

— Friday, May 8th —

Hosted by the

**NYS Outdoor Writers Association**

Your purchase helps support NYSOWA's scholarships and contributions to youth and women.

Meet NYSOWA's authors, writers, photographers and artists while sharing hunting and fishing stories over dinner!

**5:00 - 7:30 pm** at the **Glencadia Rod & Gun Club,**  
➤ **315 County Rt 46, Stuyvesant • 5:00 - 7:30 pm** ◀

Dine In (limited seating available) OR Take-out Meals  
**\$20 per person** (Call 518-758-2904 for paper tickets)

— On-line purchases are \$22 —



Advance sales only. Scan or use the link  
— below to purchase tickets. —

<https://ticketstripe.com/NYSOWA-chickenBBQ>

## Chicken BBQ for Sportsmen at Glencadia Rod & Gun Club

Join Us for a Delicious Event on May 8

The NYS Outdoor Writers Association (NYSOWA) is excited to announce a Chicken BBQ for sportsmen on Friday, May 8, 2026. This special event gives sportsmen and women the opportunity to come together and celebrate the outdoors while enjoying great food.

The event will take place at the Glencadia Rod & Gun Club, 315 County Rt 46, in Stuyvesant from 5 pm to 7:30 pm. Doors will open to the public at 4:00 pm to give attendees an opportunity to visit with the authors of NYSOWA while viewing their wares. All sportsmen and their families are welcome to attend.

Tickets are \$20 (\$22 if purchased online). Tickets can be purchased at <https://ticketstripe.com/NYSOWA-chickenBBQ> or by contacting our event coordinator, Debbie Brosen at 518-758-2904. Tickets must be purchased by May 1. Don't miss out on this chance to enjoy delicious food and connect with fellow outdoor enthusiasts

## **NYSOWA President Debbie Brosen**



Spring is in the air! The turkeys are gobbling, trout fishing is open, and youth turkey hunts and fishing derbies are being planned. It's also time for NYSOWA's spring conference! This year our conference takes place in both Columbia and Greene counties, an area rich in history and fishing and hunting opportunities.

Our conference is being held at the historic Glen Falls House in the Catskills, which offers scenic trails to hike, waterfalls, nearby fishing, and surrounding state land to hunt. A few highlights of this year's conference include visiting Columbia County on Friday where we will have the unique opportunity to share and celebrate the outdoors with sportsmen and women while enjoying a chicken BBQ at the Glencadia Rod & Gun Club. A small table space will be dedicated for members who wish to share/sell their wares at this event. On Saturday we will be treated to a tour and lunch at the Rip Van Winkle Brewery, followed by a craft improvement seminar on photography by Chris Paparo. I look forward to our annual banquet on Saturday night where awards are presented for the Excellence in Craft and Photography competition winners. We also have a couple of special awards waiting to be presented to a couple of well-deserving members. Our annual silent auction, which funds NYSOWA's scholarship program, is also a part of Saturday's banquet. If you have something you could donate to the auction, it is greatly appreciated and can be sent to me at PO Box 86, Kinderhook, NY 12106.

If you haven't registered for the conference, you can register here: <https://ticketstripe.com/NYSOWA-2026-Conference>. If you can't make it to the conference but would like to attend the BBQ, you can register here: <https://ticketstripe.com/NYSOWA-chickenBBQ>. Registration closes on the 23rd for the conference and the 28th for the BBQ. Don't delay, register today! We hope to see you there!

NYSOWA continues to take steps to grow and network, but we could use your support to help us with this growth. Please reach out to writers, photographers, bloggers, and anyone with businesses in the outdoor industry and share information about our organization. Send me any highlights, successes, awards you have won, or anything you would like to share with your fellow members, so I can share it and celebrate you with our members. If you haven't already done so, please check out NYSOWA on Facebook and take advantage of our social media posts.

## Northern Region VP Dan Ladd



Spring has been slow in coming here in the North Country, and as I write this there is still over 2-feet of snow in the High Peaks region of the Adirondacks and ice on some ponds. That should change soon. Still, fishing season has gotten off to a slow start, especially where streams are concerned. Stocking, however, is taking place and things should pick up soon.

### **Kids fishing derby**

Speaking of fishing, I'm involved with the Warren County Conservation Council which will be holding its 5th annual Free Kids Fishing Derby, Saturday, April 25, in Johnsbury/North Creek. The location should ring a bell for those

NYSOWA members who came to Warren County for the 50th anniversary conference in 2017, as we enjoyed a full day in the region, including a gondola ride up Gore Mountain, which is where we hold the kids derby. There is a flier for the derby on the next page.

### **Deer proposals**

There's a lot of talk in the North Country about DEC's recent antlerless deer regulation proposals, primarily the earn-a-second buck option. I'm hearing from hunters who both like and dislike certain aspects of it. Deer populations in the Adirondacks vary, and some areas could use some thinning of antlerless deer. I know a number of professional foresters who will attest to this. Other areas, at least perceivably, not so much. I've heard from hunters, and share their concerns, that antlerless deer will be targeted in areas of low deer density in an effort for a hunter to get a second tag. Hopefully, that won't be case. What many Northern Zone hunters do like is the chance to take a second buck during the regular/rifle season, especially those who hunt in groups such as large Adirondack hunting camps. It will be interesting to see what happens.

### **Turkeys**

Of course, with another spring turkey season on the horizon there's plenty of excitement. Because of the fishing derby, I'll miss the first morning of the youth hunt but hope to join a buddy and his grandson on Sunday and take them to one of my more productive spots. I'm all for seeing youth have success and don't mind putting a young person on a gobbler in a personal hunting spot. That said, so far, my scouting efforts have not turned up a lot of turkeys. I know that could change as May 1 approaches and sure hope it does, but overall folks in my neck of the woods are not seeing much for flocks or hearing a lot of gobbling.

### **Crown Point Fishing Pier Closed**

One note from DEC to pass along is the temporary closure of the Fishing Pier at the Crown Point Campground and Day Use Area in Crown Point, Essex County, on Lake Champlain due to structural damage to the pier roof. This closure may continue for the duration of the 2026 season. Let's hope this is not the case. While camping here the past two summers myself and numerous others have caught a plethora of fish species off this pier. Last summer, Deb and John Brosen visited us here with friends and we helped two young teenage boys hoist some nice bass up from here. Later that day, one visitor caught a turtle. DEC will announce the reopening of the Crown Point Fishing Pier once the site is deemed safe for the public.

~

Finally, I hope to see you all at the Spring Conference, and or the Chicken BBQ Deb Brosen has put together. And plans are in the works for coming back to Lake George in 2027.



# Town of Johnsburg

Warren County, New York



Presents its **FREE**  
**5<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL KIDS**  
**FISHING DERBY**  
**-FOR AGES 15 AND UNDER-**

**DATE: APRIL 25, 2026**  
**TIME: 9 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**  
**PLACE: Dr. Jacques Grunblatt Beach at the North Creek Ski Bowl**  
**-This event will be shore fishing ONLY-**

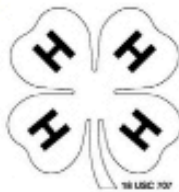
- ➔ PRIZES & GIFT CERTIFICATES
- ➔ LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED AFTER EVENT
  - ➔ A CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION/ 4-H REPRESENTATIVE WILL BE PRESENT

*Brought to you by the:*

*-Johnsburg Fish & Game Club-*

*-Warren County Conservation Council-*

**SPONSORS:** The Warren County Youth Bureau



**Pre-Register**  
**by April 21<sup>st</sup>**  
**to be eligible for a SPECIAL prize!**

To Pre-Register please email Child's Name, Age, and Town to:

[JohnsburgFishandGameClub@gmail.com](mailto:JohnsburgFishandGameClub@gmail.com)

**\*Walk-ins Are Welcome\***  
Child does not need to live in the Town of Johnsburg

There will be an Informational meeting prior to the start of the Derby at **8:45 a.m.**

**PARENT(S) and/or GUARDIAN(S) MUST BE PRESENT WITH CHILD(REN) AT ALL TIMES**

**BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD, THIS PARK WILL BE CLOSED 'TO FISHING' FROM APRIL 23, 2026, 8 A.M. TO APRIL 25, 2026, 9 A.M.**

## West/Central Region VP David Figura

By DAVID FIGURA

### TROUT SEASON OPENER A BUST:

The April 1 trout opener on most, if not all waters in CNY and WNY, was a real downer on many waterways due to high, muddy waters.

I drove by several nearby streams that morning and had no desire to wet my line. The headline on Post-Standard reporter Steve Featherstone's opening day story the following day summed things up: "CNY anglers had a terrible, horrible, no good, very bad opening day of the 2026 trout season."

Featherstone wrote he traveled more than 100 miles up and down three of Onondaga County's most popular trout streams—Limestone Creek, Butternut Creek, and Ninemile Creek—looking for anglers to talk to.

"It was like cruising through the aftermath of a zombie apocalypse. Empty roads, flooded fields. Even the peeping chickadees flitting in the streamside thickets sounded panicked," he wrote.

The streams have since settled down a bit, losing their chocolate milk-like appearance in recent days. Conditions can only get better and catch rates will improve.



### DEC's PROPOSED CHANGES OF DEER HUNTING REGULATIONS :

Anxious to reduce the state's growing white-tail deer population, the state Department of Environmental Conservation recently proposed several changes to the state's deer hunting regulations.

Proposed regulations focus on increasing the antlerless harvest in the state using several measures, including an "earn-a-2nd-buck" system, requiring an antlerless deer to be reported before a second antlered tag is issued. Key changes include reclassifying the regular season tag as antlered-only and allowing expanded, unlimited transfer of Deer Management Permits (DMPs).

In addition, the changes would allow a number of additional WMUs to be added to a special Sept. 11-19 antlerless deer hunting season (including 7J, which is my neck of the woods).

Also, hunters who harvest and report antlerless deer using DMPs in any of the WMUs without a quota would automatically receive bonus DMPs, allowing them to continue harvesting antlerless deer.

I chatted recently with Steve Wowelko, board president of the DEC Region 7 Fish and Wildlife Management Board and a board member on the state's Conservation Council.

The Region 7 Fish and Wildlife Board met recently and discussed the proposals, Wowelko said. The board consists of a sportsman, a county legislator and landowner from each of the WMU's 9 counties.

No opposition to the changes were voiced, he said, adding that there was concern about enforcement of the new regs. They're probably "a step in the right direction," Wowelko said, noting the DEC is basing the changes on research and what other states are doing.

"Right now we have a situation in some WMUs where the DEC can't give enough doe permits away," he said. "We'll see what happens if these proposals are put in effect. And if they don't work, DEC could always go back to the old way of doing things"

For a complete summary of the proposed changes, see <https://dec.ny.gov/news/press-releases/2026/3/dec-announces-proposed-changes-to-hunting-regulations-to-increase-harvest-of-antlerless-deer>

DEC is accepting comments on the proposed regulations through May 17. Comments can be sent to [wildliferegs@dec.ny.gov](mailto:wildliferegs@dec.ny.gov) (subject: "Antlerless Deer Hunting") or to: NYSDEC, Attn: Jeremy Hurst, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-4754.

### TICK TIME

More and more people are being bitten by ticks in Upstate New York, and those ticks are increasingly carrying multiple diseases, new data shows, notes Post-Standard reporter Glenn Coin in a recent article.

"We're seeing more ticks, and more ticks means more disease transmission," said Brian Leydet, an epidemiologist and tick researcher at SUNY College of Environmental Forestry, in Syracuse.

At nearby Upstate Medical University, the tick-testing laboratory has already been receiving ticks from

the public this year, Coin said. While ticks are most abundant in the summer, they can remain active in winter and early spring when temperatures are above freezing, he added.

That's food for thought for all outdoor enthusiasts, whether you're a turkey hunter or hiker.

For more, about tick-borne diseases and steps to keep the disease-bearing bugs off you, see <https://www.newyorkupstate.com/news/2026/04/upstate-ny-tick-update-even-more-bites-and-diseases-expected-in-2026-experts-say.html>.

### **TRACKING THE ANNUAL HUMMINGBIRD SPRING MIGRATION:**

One of the annual rites of spring each year at my house is putting out hummingbird feeders in the front and back yards.

According to the Hummingbird Central website (<https://www.hummingbirdcentral.com>), ruby-throated hummers spend the winter in Mexico and Central America, and migrate north to their breeding grounds in the southern United States as early as February, and to areas further north later in the spring.

Hummingbird enthusiasts each year report sightings during the birds' migration on Hummingbird Central.com and several other websites. Maps are generated showing the tiny birds' progress as they make their way north. I checked while writing this column and none had been reported yet in CNY or WNY. But most likely will change in the coming days.

Research indicates a ruby-throated hummingbird can travel as much as 23 miles in one day. The first arrivals in spring are usually males who stake out an area for food, mating and a nest.

Interestingly, every ruby-throated hummingbird mom is a single mother. Male hummingbirds are sort of the playboys of the bird world, having nothing to do with caring/feeding their offspring.

"Once mating is complete, the male moves on while the female begins nest-building in earnest," according to Perkypet.com. "Unlike some other birds, the duties of creating the nest, incubation and feeding the chicks are entirely up to the females."

Another cool fact is ruby-throated hummers beat their wings on average 53 times a second, according to Cornell's Allaboutbirds.org website.

For more on ruby-throated hummingbirds, see [https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Ruby-throated\\_Hummingbird/overview](https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Ruby-throated_Hummingbird/overview)

### **BOATER SAFETY COURSE**

A reminder. Get your NY boater safety course requirement out of the way now for the upcoming fishing and recreational boating seasons.

To help ensure New York's waterways remain safe and enjoyable, Brianna's Law requires that all operators of motorized vessels, including personal watercraft (JetSki™, Wave Runner™, etc.) and specialty craft must complete a state-approved safe boating course.

Courses are available both in the classroom and online so that you can choose the course that best fits your needs. Some are free, others require a fee.

Once you pass a course, the safe boating certificates are good for life. And most importantly, you must have the original, physical certificate on your person or on board while operating a motorized boat.

For more, go to <https://parks.ny.gov/activities/boating/boating-education>.

### **THREE NOTEWORTHY SPRING FISHING DERBIES**

**\*The Spring LOC DERBY:** Set for May 1-10, this annual competition is for fish caught in the U.S. and Canadian waters of Lake Ontario. Features \$39,400 in cash prizes, including a \$15,000 grand prize for the largest salmon. Cash prizes are also offered for top placing fish in the salmon, lake and brown trout divisions, along with a daily \$1,000 big fish award. For more, including registration info, see <https://loc.org/home-page>.

**\*The WalleyeFest Oneida Lake tournament:** Set for May 2-3 on Oneida Lake and its tributaries. Features \$20,000+ in cash & prizes based on 1,000 anglers, with 25 guaranteed spots and 80 percent payout on optional leaderboards.. Tickets are currently on sale at 11 locations around the lake. This tournament coincides with the traditional opening weekend of the walleye season. The walleye season opens May 1, with a 5-fish daily limit and a 15-inch minimum size for Oneida Lake. For more, see <https://www.oneidalakewalleyefestderby.com/>.

**\*The National Lake Trout Derby on Seneca Lake:** An annual Memorial Day weekend tradition, set for May 23-25. It features major cash prizes (\$7,500 grand prize, with top prizes of \$2,500 for 1st place in the lake trout division and \$1,500 for 1st place in the Brown/Landlock/Rainbow division.) For more, including registration info, go to [laketrounderby.com](http://laketrounderby.com).



## Southeast Region VP Tom Schlichter

It looks like spring has finally sprung across the southeast section of New York with temperatures topping the 80-degree mark at least twice in mid-April, and seasonably appropriate temps being projected in our long-range forecast (for those of you who believe in such folly). Seriously, though, after what has undoubtedly been one of the coldest and snowiest winters in a long time for this region, the arrival of warmer weather couldn't come soon enough.

Almost instantly, many bass lakes have seen a serious influx of anglers joining the die-hards who fished through March, and the season seems off to a decent start. While overall bass action has only been fair so far, I've had several reports of largemouths in the 5.5- to 6.5-pound class already decked and released, plus plenty of solid trout reports in those waters stocked with rainbows and browns.

As you might expect this time of year, most of the bass have fallen to tube jigs, jerk baits and Senko worms. Many of the larger fish, however, have been taken on large glide baits. These have been gaining popularity in recent years, but this is the first year I've seen so many of them show up in this early season action so you might want to consider experimenting with a few.

With the trout, in-line spinners and Rapala Countdown minnows have scored well in numerous waters, as have Berkley Power Baits, corn kernels and night-crawler halves. On larger, deeper waters, spoons have worked well, too. On Long Island, those anglers who continue to book time at Connetquot River State Park Preserve have found solid action with a variety of fly patterns, most notable have been bead-headed black, olive or tan Woolly Buggers, Hare's Ear Nymphs and Pheasant Tail nymphs. My own favorite fly pattern for this time of year is actually a size 10 bead-head Zug Bug. That one works for anything from big blue-gills and yellow perch in the ponds to all sizes of trout in the parks.

Inshore saltwater action has yet to solidify, save for some schoolie stripers in the back bays of Long Island's westernmost bays and on up into the Hudson River. Porgy action is expected to be solid as usual when the season opens on May 1. Expect some of the biggest scup of the year to be caught over the first three or four weeks of the season. Some of these fish can stretch the tape to 18 inches or more. The key is to get on them fast once the first reports begin to trickle in so you can deck a few true slabs before the biggest fish are culled or disperse to other areas. A key tip: smaller clam and worm baits catch the biggest porgies while the water remains cold.

No doubt, stripers will be arriving in force to the shallow bay flats and the back-sides of most inlets any day now. The season for the linesiders opened on April 1 in waters above the George Washington Bridge on the Hudson and Delaware rivers. It opened on April 15 in the marine district. I've had second-hand reports of solid action in the Hudson since opening day. Down along the coast, however, things are just now getting started.

Porgies come in jumbo sizes during May. This jumbo fell to Capt. John Capuano aboard the Hampton Bays open boat Shinnecock Star.

OutdoorTom.com photo.



# NYSOWA Supporting Member News



## New York State Outdoorsmen Hall of Fame Spring 2026 Newsletter

### New York State Outdoorsmen Hall of Fame Honors New Inductees

The New York State Outdoorsmen Hall of Fame announces that it will induct 11 new members at its annual banquet on May 17, 2026. These represent a wide variety of interests and accomplishments and include people from many areas of New York State. We will also recognize 2 Pioneer Award and 2 Special Award recipients.

In order to be inducted into the NYS Outdoorsmen Hall of Fame, two things need to happen. The individual has to devote a lifetime of “giving back” to the outdoor sports and conservation, and someone feels that this contribution is significant enough to submit a detailed nomination for the individual.

The board of directors reviews the nominations and deliberates over the submitted information and documentation to select those they feel are worthy of the designation. Men and women are carefully selected for induction based on their significant contributions to preserve our outdoor heritage, enhance opportunity, or support the causes of conservation and outdoor sports. Selection for this distinguished group is not based on individual achievements, but rather what they have done for others.

**David Agness, Monroe County** - since 2008, Dave has been serving as a Fly-Fishing Guide for the non-profit organization Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing. He has volunteered by teaching at the NYSDEC Women’s Fly Fishing Clinics held annually at the Salmon River Hatchery. Additionally, Dave dedicates his time to initiating a fly-fishing program for wounded veterans through the non-profit organization OASIS Adaptive Sports, Inc. (Outdoor Adventures for Sacrifice in Service). Furthermore, Dave has been actively engaged with the Upstate NY Casting for Recovery chapter. He also serves as a fly-fishing mentor for The Mayfly Project, a program aimed at transforming the lives of children in foster care through the medium of fly fishing. David participated at the NYSDEC National Hunting and Fishing Days at Salmon River from 1996-2021. He is also president of the Seth Green Chapter of Trout Unlimited near Rochester.

**Joanna Bishop, Cayuga County** - is committed to the lifestyle of outdoor sportswomen. She actively participates in various youth initiatives at the Falcon Sportsmen’s Club, such as the kids fishing derby, pheasant program, youth turkey hunts, and a duck banding program in collaboration with the Girl Scouts. Joanna dedicates numerous hours to volunteering and assisting others in appreciating the outdoors. She strives to preserve the traditions of hunting and fishing by educating and instructing others.

**Mike Cummings, Erie County** - Chairman of the Archery and the Muzzleloading Committee at the West Falls Conservation Society. Mike dedicates his time to Sportsman Education events as well as Region 9 youth archery and Sportsman Camps. Since the early 2000s, he has been actively engaged in organizing and volunteering for events at his club.

**Jerome H. Gorski, Erie County** - A master archery and master hunter safety instructor, and archery instructor in New York for over 20 years, Jerry has actively participated in the WNY 3D Winter Archery League for more than two decades and has held the position of treasurer since 2017. Throughout this time, he has consistently promoted youth participation in 3D shoots and events. His leadership also encompassed the Region 9 Youth Archery & Sportsmen Camp, where he has served as Vice President and volunteered as an instructor for the last 15 years, playing a crucial role in planning, coordination, and teaching. Additionally, Jerry has been a member of the Evans Rod & Gun Club for 24 years, during which he has served on the Board of Directors and has chaired the Archery Program since 2009.

**Jeff Green, Saratoga County** - Starting in 2005, Jeff Green contributed to the teaching of the New York State Hunter Education Courses located in Auburn, NY. His efforts facilitated the introduction of approximately 300 new and young hunters to the outdoor experience in Cayuga County. From 1998, Jeff Green served as the Scout Master for Troop 1, where he was responsible for guiding Scouts towards achieving their Eagle Scout rank, with a particular focus on fishing and wilderness survival. While residing in Auburn and employed as a Parole Officer from 1993 to 2022, Jeff Green took numerous Veterans and other adults on hunting and fishing excursions in the natural landscapes of Auburn and Cayuga County.

**Tracy Knott, Columbia County** - For over two decades, Tracy has been an educator for the DEC Hunter Education Program and has achieved the status of DEC Master Hunter Education Instructor. She has also taken on roles such as

treasurer and Co-chair of the Columbia-Greene Friends of the NRA, Co-Chair for the Women's Day Event at the Tri-Village Rod & Gun Club, Chair for the Youth Day at the Tri-Village RGC, and Chair for the Fishing Derby at the Tri-Village RGC. In addition, she has represented the Tri-Village Rod & Gun Club in the Rensselaer County Conservation, contributed to the DEC trout stocking program, and volunteered at the Kinderhook Veterans Trap Shoot. Tracy is first female president of the Tri-Village Rod & Gun Club, a position that she has held for the last 15 consecutive years.

**Dan Ladd, Washington County** - acts as a mentor for aspiring hunters participating in deer and turkey hunts organized by the Warren County Conservation Council and the Chuck Laws' Youth Turkey Hunts. For several years, he held the position of Archery Chairman for the Dunham Bay Fish and Game and continues to oversee their website and Facebook page. He has also been a speaker at various seminars on hunting in the Adirondacks during the Wells Sportsman's dinners for the last 15 years, in addition to conducting seminars for youth organizations.

**Joe McAdams, Erie County** - has dedicated countless hours, totaling thousands, over a span of more than 20 years to conservation and educational initiatives with our Federation, his local clubs, and numerous other organizations affiliated with our Federation and the DEC. Throughout this period, he has held various positions including president, Board member, and has chaired and participated in several committees. Joe has volunteered at events for "National Hunting and Fishing Day" and served as the chairman of the Teach-Me-To-Fish Program in Erie County. Additionally, he has created websites for many of our member clubs, all at no cost. For many years, he was a member of the Board of Directors for both the Alden Rod and Gun Club and SCOPE. He has also played a significant role in organizing or chairing Alden's banquets, trap league, children's fishing derby, archery league, and women's "Fun Shoot." Furthermore, he has personally sponsored children to attend the Rushford DEC Camp.

**Jennifer Schmitt, Chautauqua County** - since 2006, Jennifer has held the position of Junior Programs Director for the New York State Rifle and Pistol Association and has been a member of the board of directors. She has exhibited outstanding leadership and a steadfast dedication to the advancement of shooting sports in New York State. Jen has played a crucial role in the recruitment, training, and coaching of young shooters throughout the state, while also advocating for firearm safety, education, and responsible involvement in competitive shooting sports. Since 2014 Jennifer served as secretary and webmaster of the Jamestown Junior Rifle Club.

**Richard Wells, Erie County** - has devoted more than 50 years to wildlife conservation activities that have lasting value for future generations. As a Master Bird Bander licensed through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and U.S. Geological Survey, and as a longstanding holder of a New York State Scientific Collectors Permit (since 1987), Rich Wells has been a founding member and lifelong leader in efforts to restore the American Chestnut tree – once a keystone species of eastern forests. Presented over 100 educational programs on bluebirds, cavity nesters, beekeeping, kestrels, and conservation to: Schools and youth groups, Libraries and garden clubs, Conservation organizations and senior groups and community audiences.

**Pioneer Award - Nate Bush**, dedicated countless hours mentoring youth in hunting and fishing. Whether it was taking a kid on their first fishing trip, teaching safe hunting practices, or simply encouraging young people to put down their phones and enjoy the fresh air, Nate gave back more than he ever took. His generosity of time and spirit created lifelong memories for the kids he mentored and instilled in them the same respect for nature and conservation that he carried in his heart.

**Pioneer Award - Hamer Fayette <Fay> Welch**, served on the Association for the Protection of the Adirondacks. \* He was consistently willing to address groups and compose letters advocating for the recreation and conservation of the region. He served on the Board of Directors of the National Audubon Society. He was a member of the Council of Nature Activities for the American Museum of Natural History during the early twentieth century. He represented Madison County on the NYS Conservation Council and was honored as the Council's 1971 Outdoor Recreationist of the Year. He acted as a Consultant to the National Parks Service regarding Camping. He served as a Consultant to the Girl Scouts of America. He was a member of the National Clean Water Committee and the Izaak Walton League.

#### **Roy Smith - David Pierce Memorial Award**

In 1994, Roy was inducted into the NYS Outdoorsmen Hall of Fame and remains an exemplary Outdoorsman, Conservationist, Ethical Hunter, Positive Role Model, and Outdoor Educator for individuals of all ages, particularly for the younger generation, who represent the future of our cherished heritage. He continues to deliver presentations on the Wild Turkey at conservation events as well as at local elementary and high schools, impacting thousands of students.

#### **Heather Scalisi - Extra Mile Award**

Heather Scalisi, a police officer with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, consistently exceeds expectations in her volunteer activities for the Onondaga County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs Women in Nature workshops. She took the initiative to organize committee meetings, meticulously kept minutes, and ensured that the committee remained focused on preparing for the event. Furthermore, Heather volunteered to chair the committee. In addition to her role in WIN, Heather Scalisi is involved in numerous community outreach events.

## **2026 Induction Banquet – Make Your Reservation and Pre-Pay Early**

Every year the NYSOHOF holds an induction banquet to formally announce and celebrate new inductees to the Hall of Fame. This year, the banquet will be held on **Sunday, May 17, 2026 at Theodore's Restaurant**, 3231 Seneca Turnpike (Rt. 5) in Canastota. Inductees will be presented with an induction plaque. The dinner is open to the public, family, friends and members of the NYSOHOF are invited to join in this evening of celebration.

Ticket pick-up will begin at 3:00 pm, with dinner at 4:00 pm, followed by the presentations.

This year we are asking everyone to register and pre-pay for dinner. In prior years there were quite a few no shows and we had to pay for the unused dinners.

If you are planning to attend the banquet, please mail a check to our mailing address. Pre-addressed envelopes are included with this newsletter and can be used to send in your reservation and check.

The following info needs to be included with the reservation:

- A check for \$35 for each person attending (ages 5-12 are \$12, under 5 are free), made out to the NYS Outdoorsmen Hall of Fame
- The person you are coming to see being inducted or if you are just coming to the banquet.
- The name of each person attending to place on the reservation ticket(s).
- An email or phone number that we can confirm your reservation and assign a ticket number

NYS Outdoorsmen Hall of Fame  
P.O. Box 29  
Vernon Center NY 13477

All reservations need to be received by May 8, 2026.  
There will be no reservations accepted at the door.  
Any questions please call 315-225-0192 or 315-829-3588

## **2026 Dues**

Membership dues are essential to the continuation of the Hall of Fame. A copy of the membership dues form, along with a preaddressed envelope are included in this mailing. Donation for membership dues is only \$20 annually.

## **Annual Raffle**

Just a reminder, if you have not turned in your donation for our annual raffle, feel free to send your check along with your membership dues in the enclosed envelope.

The value of this year's raffle prizes are well over \$5000.

With your support, we can continue to promote those who have "given back more than they have taken" in preserving our outdoor sports and conserving our environment for future generations. Proceeds from this raffle also help reduce the price of the dinner at the annual induction banquet.

This year the winning tickets will be drawn at the annual banquet on May 17, 2026.

Your support is appreciated. Please contact us if you need more tickets.

## **Social Media Director for the NYSOHOF**

Ricky Mills, a new member of the NYSOHOF Board of Directors, has taken on an ad hoc role as our Social Media Director.

Ricky quickly recognized that the NYSOHOF was not aligned with contemporary communication methods via Social Media. At that time, the organization relied solely on a website and email for communication with its internal members.

Membership figures were low, and only a small fraction of New York residents were aware of the organization. He took the initiative to establish the NYSOHOF Facebook and Instagram accounts, in addition to a YouTube channel.

Our Current Social Media status:

NYSOHOF Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/nysohof>  
NYSOHOF Instagram page: <https://www.instagram.com/nysohof/>  
NYSOHOF YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@NYSOHOF>  
NYSOHOF Website: <https://nysohof.org/>

Ricky states: "Social media is a train - It departs from that station at a slow pace. However, once it gains momentum down the track, it becomes unstoppable! "

## Note from the President – Stephen Wowelko



Members of the Board and volunteers dedicated their time this year to represent the Hall of Fame at various outdoor sports exhibitions. We successfully provided information about our organization and contributed to fundraising efforts by selling our Annual Raffle Tickets. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who assisted.

We are proud to announce a highly qualified induction class for 2026. I sincerely hope you will join us at the Banquet scheduled for May 17, 2026. Please remember to submit your reservation along with a check for the dinner in advance.

Stephen Wowelko, President  
NYSOHOF



## Help cast a legacy for tomorrow's hunters and anglers

The outdoors community faces a critical challenge. As demographics shift, fewer people are buying hunting and fishing licenses. This decline threatens the funding vital for managing our natural resources and preserving wildlife habitats. But, there's hope. The Outdoor News Foundation is taking action.

**Our mission?** To cultivate the next generation of outdoor enthusiasts and conservation leaders. Your generous donations power our impact, directly benefiting young people through essential education and resources at environmental learning camps, environmental scholarships for future outdoors journalists, fish and wildlife biologists, and other stewards of our natural world, and free access to Outdoor News.

Join us in turning the tide. A single donation of \$25 helps fund a child for a year, and ensures a vibrant future for our sporting heritage. Together, we can share the wonder of the wild with the next generation of sportsmen and women.

**Make your mark.** Donate now and help us forge a lasting legacy for the outdoors community.

**INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE?**

Visit us online at [OutdoorNews.com/Foundation-Home](https://OutdoorNews.com/Foundation-Home) or snap the QR code!



SHOP EVERYTHING FOR THE OUTDOORSMAN IN ONE PLACE



## Outdoor Outpost Supports NYSOWA

*Bill Brod, of Outdoor Media Specialties, has added NYSOWA to the list of organization's that shoppers to his website, The Outdoor Outpost can support with their purchases. The Outdoor Outpost will give 10% of everything bought to the organization whose discount code is used, including NYSOWA. Check it out at: <https://theoutdooroutpost.com/pages/giving-back>*

*Be sure to visit the Outdoor Outpost soon at: <https://theoutdooroutpost.com>*

*Also, check out these publications from Outdoor Media Specialties:*

[-www.nadeerhunter.com](http://www.nadeerhunter.com)

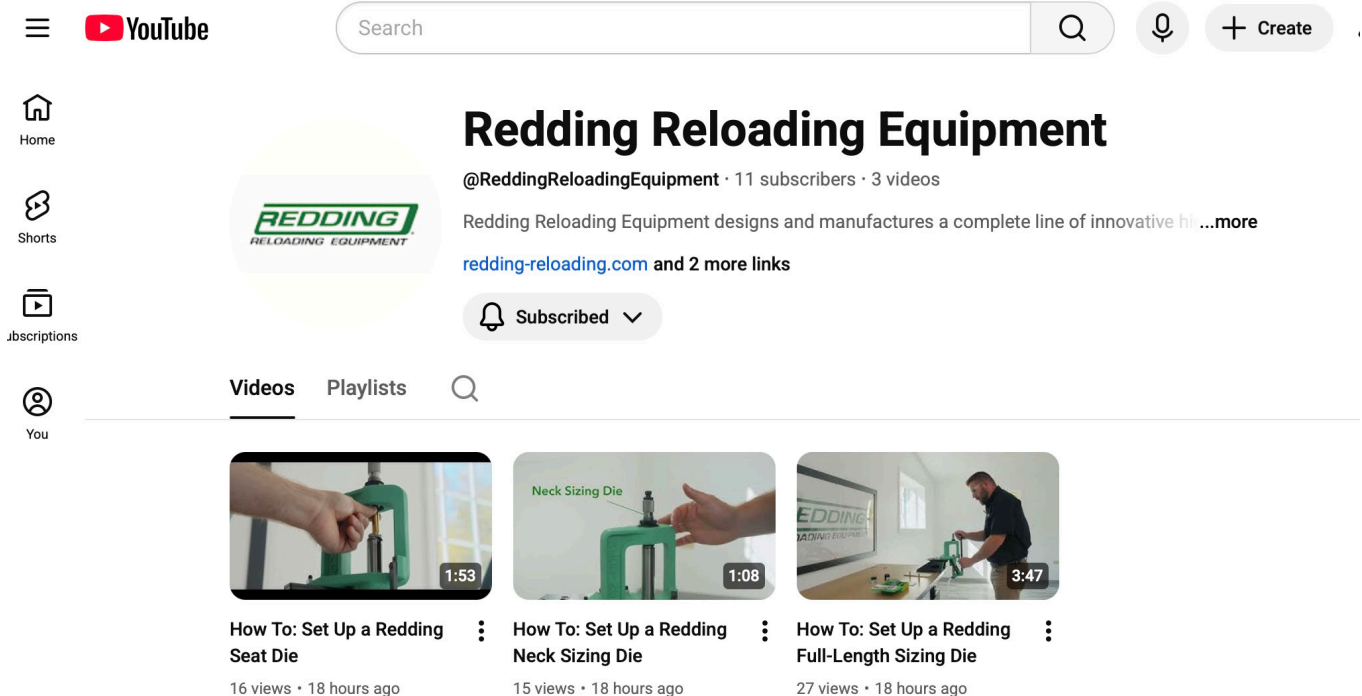
[-www.nabowhunter.com](http://www.nabowhunter.com)

[-www.crossbowmagazine.com](http://www.crossbowmagazine.com)

[-www.northamerican-outdoorsman.com](http://www.northamerican-outdoorsman.com)

**Thank You, Bill!**

# Check out Redding Reloading's new YouTube Channel!!!!



YouTube

Search

Home

Shorts

Subscriptions

You

## Redding Reloading Equipment

@ReddingReloadingEquipment · 11 subscribers · 3 videos

Redding Reloading Equipment designs and manufactures a complete line of innovative hi...more

[redding-reloading.com](http://redding-reloading.com) and 2 more links

Subscribed

Videos Playlists

How To: Set Up a Redding Seat Die 1:53 16 views · 18 hours ago

How To: Set Up a Redding Neck Sizing Die 1:08 15 views · 18 hours ago

How To: Set Up a Redding Full-Length Sizing Die 3:47 27 views · 18 hours ago

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCM9HEU61r4qmq6SVTBNQ3Vw>

## Redding Displays at NRA Annual Meetings

Redding Reloading Equipment was displayed at the NRA Annual Meetings & Exhibits in Houston, TX from April 17-19, 2026, at booth #3113. Redding designs and manufactures a complete line of innovative high quality Ammunition Reloading products. Operating at the same upstate New York facility for 80 years, Redding is proud to build to a quality standard that is the envy of the world.

The Redding Team showcased current offerings such as presses, dies, die sets, case preparation equipment and more. Our technical folks will be available to discuss product features, and connect with reloader and enthusiast throughout the show. Ultimately, at Redding, we are shooters that not only use and depend on the products that we make, but also understand the need to trust in our products for those "Once in a Lifetime" moments. Our customers deserve nothing less than Redding's total commitment to our never-ending "Pursuit of Perfection."

# NSSF Petitions U.s. Supreme Court In NSSF V. James

WASHINGTON, D.C. — NSSF®, The Firearm Industry Trade Association, petitioned the U.S. Supreme Court for a writ of certiorari in *NSSF v. James*, a challenge to New York’s public nuisance law that attempts to circumvent the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act (PLCAA). The petition comes after a U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit ruling last year that allowed New York’s law to stand.



New York’s public nuisance law attempts to evade the will of Congress when it passed the bipartisan PLCAA in 2005 and was signed by President George W. Bush. New York’s law creates a new civil action under which “gun industry members” may be forced to redress criminals’ misdeeds, on the theory that they “unreasonably” made, sold or marketed a firearm that is later misused in New York. New York enacted a law to — in the then-Governor Andrew Cuomo’s own words — “reinstate the public nuisance liability for gun manufacturers” that Congress prohibited in the PLCAA, in an avowed effort to “right the wrong” that New York believes Congress committed when it enacted that federal law.

“We earnestly believe that New York’s punitive public nuisance law is exactly what Congress had in mind when it passed the PLCAA with a bipartisan majority. The PLCAA is designed to prohibit frivolous lawsuits against members of the firearm industry based on the criminal actions of remote third parties, and we continue to believe the New York statute is intended to evade the will of Congress,” said Lawrence G. Keane, NSSF Senior Vice President and General Counsel. “The PLCAA is codification of bedrock tort law. It codifies common law and common-sense principles to prevent baseless litigation from bankrupting an entire industry, especially one that provides the necessary means for the lawful exercise of the Second Amendment.”

NSSF argues that New York’s public nuisance law is preempted by PLCAA, and — contrary to the Second Circuit’s holding — does not fit within the predicate exception of the statute, which permits a narrow subset of lawsuits based on knowing violations of certain state or federal laws. Indeed, the Supreme Court has already spoken on the PLCAA’s predicate exception and concluded that it does not allow states to resurrect the very claims the PLCAA prohibits. Applying the logic of the Court’s decision in *Smith & Wesson Brands, Inc., et al v. Estados Unidos Mexicanos*, if laws like New York’s public nuisance statute fall within the predicate exception, then that exception “would swallow most of the rule.” In that case, the Court expressed “doubt Congress intended to draft such a capacious way out of PLCAA” and explained that “in fact it did not.”

This commonsense reading of the predicate exception has already been adopted by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and the D.C. Court of Appeals, which creates a circuit split necessitating the Supreme Court’s intervention. NSSF argues that the Court should also take the case because attempts to circumvent the PLCAA are proliferating; 10 states have passed anti-PLCAA laws and more are expected.

## BoatUS Celebrates 60 Years of Boating Safety, Advocacy and On-Water Assistance With Grady-White Boat Giveaway

SPRINGFIELD, Va. – April 15, 2026 – This year marks the 60th anniversary of the largest and only boat owner’s association, BoatUS. Founded in 1966 by Richard Schwartz, BoatUS was created to



represent recreational boaters and advocate for their interests, especially in the areas of boater rights and boat manufacturing safety standards. Today, BoatUS remains committed to protecting boaters and their rights, as well as paving the way to help make boating safer, more affordable and accessible.

To commemorate its diamond anniversary, BoatUS’s grand prize for one lucky recipient will be to win a Grady-White 21-foot Freedom 215 dual console boat, which is sponsored by GEICO. Designed for versatility and luxury, the 21-foot Freedom 215 delivers big-boat comfort in a compact, family-friendly package. The boat includes plush seating, a lockable head compartment, and aft jump seats with swim access making it the perfect boat for fishing, cruising, and watersports.

“I’m honored to be a part of this exceptional organization as it celebrates 60 years of helping recreational boaters be safe, whether that’s through GEICO’s boat insurance coverage or having the largest on-water towing fleet in the nation. BoatUS will always remain a voice for boaters and continue to help make boating affordable, accessible, and fun for all,” said Heather Loughheed, Vice President of BoatUS Association.

BoatUS will also be giving away a \$3000 West Marine Gift Card, a BoatUS Towing Membership valid for five years, two ACR ResQLink 400 Base PLB Survival Kits, and a Star Clippers Cruise.

“We’re delighted to celebrate BoatUS’s 60th anniversary alongside our longtime partner by offering this exciting opportunity for one lucky boater to win a brand-new Grady-White boat! For more than six decades, Grady-White and BoatUS have shared a passion for helping people enjoy exceptional experiences on the water. Our Freedom 215 perfectly reflects that commitment—thoughtfully designed to inspire confidence, deliver comfort, and create unforgettable moments every time you head out,” said Kris Carroll, President of Grady-White Boats.

The giveaway opens on April 15 and closes on June 15. To enter the giveaway and for a chance to win the Freedom 215 Grady-White boat, visit [boatus.com/60th](https://boatus.com/60th). No purchase is necessary to enter. The sweepstakes is open to U.S. residents only and you do not have to be a BoatUS member to enter. Winners will be contacted by telephone or email if selected.

Over the past 60 years, BoatUS has accomplished several key milestones:

BoatUS was the first and only voice on Capitol Hill for recreational boaters. Through advocacy, BoatUS Government Affairs saw enactment of the Safe Boating Act, preventing EPA from imposing a nationwide permit on boaters and protected crucial navigation systems such as GPS.

BoatUS boasts the largest on-water towing fleet, TowBoatUS, with more than 330 locations across the nation ready to assist boaters on the water 24/7 with engine breakdowns, dead batteries, running out of fuel, and soft groundings.

BoatUS Magazine, the largest boating magazine in the country with a circulation of over half a million, brings boaters the latest news; new boats, gear, and technology; step-by-step maintenance and projects; and boat handling techniques and safety tips.

For more information on BoatUS, visit <https://boatus.com/> and to enter the giveaway for the chance to win a Grady-White Freedom 215 Boat, visit [www.boatus.com/60th](https://www.boatus.com/60th).

## MINUTES OF THE NYSOWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING 2/9/26

Present: Deb Brosen, President; Dave Figura and Dan Ladd, Vice Presidents; Stephen George, Treasurer; Glenn Sapir, Recording Secretary; Chris Paparo, Immediate Past President; Charles Witek, Membership Secretary; Directors Bill Hilts, Jr., Mike Joyner, Leo Maloney, Steve Piatt, and Jerrod Vila.

Absent: VP Tom Schlichter and Director Steve Zahurak

Deb Brosen called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. via Zoom.

It was moved and passed unanimously to accept the agenda President Deb Brosen had put forth for this meeting.

After much discussion it was moved and passed that the amendment Mike Joyner put forth regarding AI technology be endorsed by the Board when presented at the Annual Meeting for discussion at that time. Mike was recognized for his work in preparing this amendment. Deb said she would send out the wording of this proposed amendment to the entire individual membership at least 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting to comply with our Bylaws regarding Bylaws amendments.

Dan Ladd began discussion on increasing dues. The Board endorsed an increase from \$50 to \$65 for individual (active) members because of increased operating expenses. The cost of dues for supporting members will remain at \$60. The Board simply endorsed this proposal, wishing to have it discussed by the membership at the Annual Meeting.

After discussion on a proposal put forth by Dan for a one-year complimentary membership to individuals, businesses and organizations that help NYSOWA, Bill Hilts, Jr. moved to create a supporting membership incentive program giving one-year supporting membership to such people and entities that support us with support valued at a minimum of \$200. The motion was passed unanimously.

After discussion it was agreed to continue the policy in place that an individual eligible for membership gets a free one-year membership after attending their first conference.

Dan reported that the package for which we were currently enrolled in Jointit is being eliminated from Jointit's menu of plans. He proposed an upgrade—the Total Package--that would ultimately cost \$200 to \$300 more in net cost to NYSOWA and offer more benefits. It was moved and unanimously approved to purchase the upgrade.

Dave Figura put forth a proposal he had earlier volunteered to prepare in which the regions and duties of NYSOWA vice presidents would be expanded. Dave's suggestions had merit, but adopting his proposal would require bylaws changes and perhaps a disruption to Board business by trying to fill two new VP positions. It was instead suggested that each regional VP try to designate a person or persons to compile news and info on issues within their region. The Southeast and Central-Western VPs could designate two such "correspondents," if they wish, to cover their large regions. This concept was endorsed by the Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Glenn Sapir, Recording Secretary

# APPLICATION FOR NYSOWA MEMBERSHIP



Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_  
 State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Website: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Do you receive payment for your services? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other Writer Affiliations: \_\_\_\_\_

**CATEGORIES (Note: fillers are not considered to be articles in applying for Writer status)**  
**A: Newspaper** \_\_\_\_\_ Attach 12 tear sheets  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Circulation: \_\_\_\_\_ Column Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Published: \_\_\_ Daily \_\_\_ Weekly \_\_\_ Monthly \_\_\_ Periodics

**B. Magazine** \_\_\_\_\_  
 Staff position: \_\_\_\_\_ Freelance: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_ National: Attach two tear sheets. \_\_\_ Regional: Attach four tear sheets.

**C. Lecturer** – Attach copies of a published schedule or six paid presentations.  
 Staff position: \_\_\_\_\_ Freelance: \_\_\_\_\_

**D. Photographer / Illustrator / Artist** - Attach proof of publications of film/video, 8 stills, or prints.  
 Staff position: \_\_\_\_\_ Freelance: \_\_\_\_\_

**E. Book Author** – attach a copy of the Publishing House Catalog listing the book.  
 Name of Book: \_\_\_\_\_ Publisher: \_\_\_\_\_

**F: Editor/Publisher** – Attach a copy of a current issue of magazine/newspaper.  
 Name of Publication: \_\_\_\_\_

**G: Radio/Television** – Attach audio/video tape documenting (4) 30 minute or (8) 15 minute programs. Station:  
 \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

**H. Public Relations Agency** - Attach copies of (6) news releases.  
 Staff position or occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

**I. Electronic Publishing** – Attach 8 published outdoor columns or articles in last 12 mos. Electronic  
 Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ web address: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Active

**Specialties**

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> a. Hunting            | <input type="checkbox"/> b. Firearms/Shooting     | <input type="checkbox"/> c. Archery/Bowhunting  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> d. Freshwater fishing | <input type="checkbox"/> e. Saltwater Fishing     | <input type="checkbox"/> f. Flyfishing          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> g. Boating            | <input type="checkbox"/> h. Camping/Backpacking   | <input type="checkbox"/> i. Wilderness Survival |
| <input type="checkbox"/> j. Trapping           | <input type="checkbox"/> k. Outdoor Travel        | <input type="checkbox"/> l. Outdoor Politics    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> m. Nature             | <input type="checkbox"/> n. Environmental Affairs | <input type="checkbox"/> o. Natural Resources   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> p. Water Sports       | <input type="checkbox"/> q. Cooking               | <input type="checkbox"/> r. Nature              |

**Areas of Expertise**

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> A. Book Author        | <input type="checkbox"/> B. Magazine Editor     | <input type="checkbox"/> C. Newspaper Editor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> D. Public Relations   | <input type="checkbox"/> E. Television          | <input type="checkbox"/> F. Electronic Media |
| <input type="checkbox"/> G. Magazine Columnist | <input type="checkbox"/> H. Newspaper Columnist | <input type="checkbox"/> I. Freelance        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> J. Radio              | <input type="checkbox"/> K. Illustrator         | <input type="checkbox"/> L. Lecturer         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> M. Photographer       |   |  |

Sponsor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Active Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose a check, made payable to NYSOWA, with this application and mail to:  
**Charles Wittek III, 1075 Tooker Ave., West Babylon, N.Y. 11704**  
 631-827-8664 - [charleswittek@gmail.com](mailto:charleswittek@gmail.com)

Join online at <https://app.joinit.com/o/nysowa/members>



## APPLICATION FOR NEW YORK STATE OUTDOOR WRITERS ASSN. SUPPORTING MEMBERSHIP

Supporting Membership Does: \$60.00 per year.

Our company or organization, wishing to support the New York State Outdoor Writers Association (NYSOWA) in its program to further the causes of conservation and wise use of our natural resources, and to promote outdoor recreation activities, hereby applies for Supporting Membership.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Position: \_\_\_\_\_  
Company: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_  
State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
Website: \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Please outline your organization's interests and activities in the outdoor field:

Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Active Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose a check, made payable to NYSOWA, with this application and mail to:

Charles Witek III, 1075 Tooker Ave., West Babylon, N.Y. 11704  
631-827-8664 • [charleswitek@gmail.com](mailto:charleswitek@gmail.com)

Join online at <https://app.joinit.com/o/nysowa/members>