

Outside Insight

By Fred David
Outdoor Editor

Is the annual meeting of the Conservation Department and State Conservation Council waterfowl committee really necessary? Does the committee really have the entire state population of hunters in mind when they bid for a duck and goose season?

Last weekend (Sunday) the two groups met here in Syracuse to select a waterfowl season for Upstate New York. The meeting was the usual Department reports on the nesting season, outlook on duck population and recommendations from the Atlantic Flyway Committee on what New York State should get for a season.

Then, the committee (made up of representatives of each region in the Council) makes its bid for their particular sector to give their area hunters the most and best duck and goose hunting for the price of a duck stamp.

This tradition is ridiculous. Why should a committee — Sunday's you could almost count on one hand — select a season for Upstate New York? Shouldn't the stamp buyers have a say.

Granted, we can't do away with letting the Conservation Department select the season. If we are given a choice, and the department is flexible, we should exercise that right. Evidence of this was demonstrated Sunday when the Department wanted a straight season beginning Oct. 2. A poll of sportsmen and the committee found the stamp buyers would be happier with a split season to cover most of the areas. Without representation of the sportsmen an unfortunate season would have been passed this fall. But why should the Conservation Council delegates select?

It is evident the committee isn't as flexible as the CD. After polling the sportsmen and finding a split was more favorable, the biologists recommended a 45-15 day split giving the Ontario and Niagara hunters a longer late season.

The committee, chaired by W. Kendall Jenkins, argued the point that the sportsmen ever said a "long" second portion. The committee didn't have to argue. All they had to say is we want a 50-50 split and that would have covered it. After the arguing that's what prevailed.

The hunter needs better representation than that. The winter hunter is probably the most dedicated. They spend countless hours preparing decoys and braving snow, ice to shoot a few ducks. They're also the better bird identifiers and know a majority of what they are shooting at.

Perhaps the committee was honoring the DC's decision to let the hunters out of the water for the canoe and the redhead migration. If the committee was so worried about duck identification why didn't they do something about it years ago when Chairman Jenkin said he thought of it.

The committee now knows duck identification is going to be important to hunters in the most dedicated. They spend countless hours preparing decoys and braving snow, ice to shoot a few ducks. They're also the better bird identifiers and know a majority of what they are shooting at.

Unless the committee can come up with more representative like Skaneateles' Eric Piman, who proposed the most all-around season of 9 months, 25 days, a second portion of Dec. 21 to Jan. 4, they don't seem to be much help to the sportsmen. Even choosing this year they tipped the hunter out of a New Year's hunt by stopping it a day short.

BETWEEN SEASON — The New York State Conservation Department announced recently it was raising the fee at State-operated ski centers for the upcoming winter season . . .

MAPLE BAY ROD AND GUN CLUB will sponsor its first annual clam bake at the Briarport Rod and Gun Club facilities, Sept. 23. It is open only to members . . .

AN AMERICAN POWER BEAR has been booked for Hiawatha Point on Labor Day; the advance release explained it will be the biggest boat race ever seen on Onondaga Lake when the gun sounds at noon . . .

VERMONT'S WATERFOWL HUNTING SEASON will be a split 50-day season beginning Oct. 7 until Oct. 15 with a split and opening again Oct. 28 and ending Dec. 7. Its goose season runs a full 10 days — opening Oct. 7 . . .

CLAYBIRD CHATTER — Milne Skeet and Trap Club has a registered trap shoot today beginning at 9 a.m. with the 100-18yd. shoot; they'll shoot 100-handicap, 25 pair doubles also . . .

THREE RIVERS TRAP CLUB (Central New York Rod and Gun Club) will have its trap 150s open every Friday night 7 to 10 p.m. (lighted fields) until hunting season; the field is located at Swamp and Sutton roads, Pennellville . . .

TODD HARBOR ROD AND GUN CLUB will open its trap fields for a Ham and Turkey Shoot Sept. 29 beginning at 10:30 a.m. and a chicken barbecue with first serving at 1 p.m.; all welcome . . .

Snowmobile forum, festival Sept. 9-10

The snowmobiling season is fast coming and the Central New York Snowmobile Association wants to prepare all owners and prospective snow vehicle owners for that cold spell.

The most important segment of the festival, sponsored by the snowmobile group, will be the Saturday forum explaining all the latest new rules and regulations, use of trails on both public and private lands, the snowmobile club role in improving the sport, law enforcement, etc.

Assemblyman Glenn H. Harris, responsible for many of the important snowmobile laws now in effect; James Flowers, Chief of Law Enforcement of State Parks and Recreation Department; which snowmobiles fall under and several heads of various snowmobile manufacturing companies will represent a panel for the day-long session.

Forum attendance must be limited and early reservations must be made to insure a seat. Registration is \$2 per person. The forum begins at 10 a.m. and will end about 4 p.m.

For information or registration contact CNY Snowmobile Association, Cleveland, N.Y., 13042.

The Outdoor World

Hunter safety classes

The following is a list of where first time hunters and those that have lost all previous records of owning a hunting license in New York State can obtain hunter safety instruction in Central New York.

SEPT. 2 — North Harbor Rod and Gun Club, Smith Road, Town of Hastings; noon until 4 p.m.

SEPT. 5 — Carrier Recreation Center, Rte. 298 and Thruway, 7:30 p.m.; Bill Kilpatrick, instructor.

SEPT. 6 — North Recreation Center (Old North High School), Park and Mary Streets, Syracuse, 7 p.m.; Ramblers Club Teaching.

SEPT. 7 — Burnet Park Field House, 7 p.m.; Jim Swanson, instr.

SEPT. 7 — Onondaga Lake Rod and Gun Club, Rte. 174, one mile north of Marietta, 7:30 p.m. (first half). Second portion Sept. 8 at the clubhouse 8:30 a.m.

SEPT. 8 — Clay Town Hall, Rte. 30, Clay, 7 p.m.; Joe A. Nicolotti, Clay Sportsmen instr.

SEPT. 12-13 — Rte. 91 and Bryan Road, Fabius, 7 p.m. each night; Tom Mattoon (68-5389).

SEPT. 12 — Carrier Recreation Center, Rte. 298 and Thruway, 7:30 p.m.; Bill Kilpatrick, instr.

SEPT. 13 — 7 to 9 p.m. First part; Sept. 20 7:49 p.m. second part. Fayetteville, Manlius Rod and Gun Club, Whetstone Road, Manlius, R. F. Albert, R. Eberhart, W. Shaw, J. Stanczyk, instr.

SEPT. 13 — North Recreation Center, Park and Mary Sts., Syracuse, 7 p.m.; Ramblers Club instr.

SEPT. 13 — Burnet Park Field House, Jim Swanson, instr. 7 p.m.



PREPARE COURSE: Central New York Wildfowl Festival, Stan Hanlin, left, reviews the upcoming waterfowl identification course program to begin Sept. 8 at the College of Forestry, right. All junior waterfowl hunters and experienced hunters are invited to attend the sessions.

BOATING RESCUE
The biggest problem faced by the men who must search for a missing boat is that very often they don't know where to start.

Fish derby winners
The Maple Bay Rod and Gun Club of Onondaga Lake bucked the odds last Sunday and held a very successful kids-adult fishing derby that saw 172 anglers vie for prizes in the first annual derby.

Area archers score at Watkins
A pair of Central New York archers continue to make headlines taking high positions in their third consecutive meet last weekend.

Duck stamp art contest begins
The Interior Department's Fish and Wildlife Service announced today that artists have until Nov. 15 to submit drawings or paintings for its annual duck stamp contest.

Field trials
The Three Rivers Game management field trial are open next weekend to the Central New York German Shortkirk Pointer Club's fall competition.

Pre-labor day sale
All tents on sale. 4 full sleeping bags \$88. Many unadvertised bargains.

CNY trap

Skaneateles TT nips Pathfinder

Skaneateles Trap Team shipped Northern Division leaders, Pathfinder TT, Sunday by two broken birds to gain possession of the overall team championship of the Central New York Trap League. The shoot-off to decide team and other titles was conducted at the Glen Meadows Trap Club, Hastings.

G. Thorpe memorial trapshoot
Trapshooters will honor the late Glenn Thorpe next day weekend with the second annual Glenn Thorpe Memorial Shoot at Briarport Rod and Gun Club.

SOLUNAR TABLES
The schedule of Solunar Tables, which are published by the National Weather Service, will be available for the first time in book form.

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Inventory Clearance Sale
15-30% OFF on sleeping bags, tents, boots, stoves, packs, and trail clothes.

GIANT ALPINE TENT
Lightweight, 4 man backpacking tent. \$69.95.

ALPINE RECREATION
3214 ERIE BLVD. EAST SYRACUSE (DEWITT) N.Y.

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NEWSPAPER ARCHIVE
Syracuse Post Standard, August 27, 1972, Pg. 76, Syracuse, New York, US
https://newspaperarchive.com/syracuse-post-standard-aug-27-1972-p-76/