

**Genesee County
Fish & Game Protective Association**
(Incorporated)
P.O. Box 217
Batavia, New York 14021
585-343-8390



"We Preserve and Protect Wild Life"

1909 – 2009 100 Years of Excellence

Dear Fellow Members,

Spring 2010

We are pleased to be sending you our 33rd newsletter. This, and our website, www.godfreyspond.org, are great assets in keeping you updated with the information that you need, and for prospective new members to discover the secrets that the rest of us, already in the club, have known for a long time. Be sure to check out the video featuring Mike Rickard that is on the website. Any suggestions that you might have to make our website even better would be appreciated. "Godfreys Pond" is the areas "best kept secret".

We encourage you to attend our monthly membership meetings held on the second Friday of each month in the clubhouse meeting room at 8 pm. You will hear membership, financial, and committee reports given and be able to participate in any business conducted. Our success, over the years, has come from listening to our membership; a policy that has always served us well. Without member participation, our club would not have lasted for 100 years or improved to become the outstanding facility that it has.



2009 was a very special year for us. We observed the 100th anniversary of our incorporation in 1909. We celebrated the occasion during our Open House on June 14th. We were honored to have our NYS Assemblyman, Steve Hawley, as a guest speaker, and to receive from him a commendation from the Assembly honoring us and recognizing our accomplishments. You can feel proud to belong to a club that has twice won the prestigious "Outstanding Conservation Club in New York State" award and has grown to a point that it provides it's members, and the surrounding community, with outstanding outdoor recreational facilities not to be found anywhere else in the area. This has been accomplished only with excellent leadership and member participation over that time. Let's keep the ball rolling and begin the next 100 years as strongly as we finished this one.

The "Vukman", "Ruckle", and "Pratt Memorial" shelters are all able to be reserved. If you wish to reserve one of these shelters, or reserve the clubhouse, you must submit your request in writing. The request must contain your name, address, telephone number, the approximate number of people in your party, the date requested, alternate dates if possible, an alternate shelter choice if possible, the nature of your event, and, in the case of the clubhouse, the approximate time in and time out. The **Ruckle and Vukman shelters** have a minimum party size of **15**, and the **Pratt shelter** has a minimum party size of **30**. The clubhouse cannot be reserved from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Requests are honored on a first come first served basis by the post-marked date on the envelope. Any requests brought to a meeting will go to the bottom of the pile. If you fail to show for your reservation you will be sent a bill for \$25.00 by the club unless you cancel your reservation at least seven days prior to your reservation date. This affords another member the opportunity to utilize the shelter. Requests are acted upon only at the regular (second Friday) and Executive Board (third Wednesday) meetings. Each year, some of you lose out by failing to request early enough to be acted upon prior to your desired event date. Be sure to check our website for availability prior to submitting your request so that you don't request a date that is already taken. Remember to submit your request early. Sending a request in after the monthly meetings and asking a date before the next meeting will not get approved in time.

2010 Calendar of Events

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| March 27 th | Trout fishing seminar on Saturday, beginning at 9 a.m. Learn about trout rearing, fishing, equipment, and handling techniques from Ron Wickings and Jim Southall. Open to the public, as always. |
| May 15 th | Trailer and tent camping area opens at 9:00 a.m. |
| May 16 th | "Open House" & membership drive at the club, 1:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. |
| June 13 th | Second opportunity "Open House" & membership drive at the club, 1:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. |
| Aug. 1 st | Family day. Kids fishing contest 9:00 a.m. – 11:30, casting contests and waterfront activities in the afternoon. |
| Sept. 18 th | Shooting preserve work day, 8:00 a.m. Meet at the clubhouse. |
| Sept. 25 th & 26 th | Annual National Hunting & Fishing day at DEC headquarters in Avon. We exhibit at this event. |
| Sept. 25 th | Pheasant shooting preserve opens. Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays for 5 months. |
| Oct. 16 th | Tent and trailer area closes for the season. |
| Jan. 14 th , 2011 | Annual meeting of the organization, 8:00 p.m. in the clubhouse. Yearly reports are read and the election of officers & directors is held. |

Life Membership Granted

It was with great pleasure that I announced the granting of a Life Membership to our Treasurer, David King in 2009. Dave has served the club on the Executive Board of Directors for 15 years and has been actively involved in many projects and important committees over the years. He now fulfills the very difficult position of our Treasurer and does an excellent job. Our congratulations and heartfelt thanks go to Dave for his contributions and efforts over the years. Dave truly has the good of the club at heart.

25 & 50 Year Senior Members

It's a pleasure, once again, to announce the names of the members advancing into either the 25 or 50 year files. We are pleased to grant these membership changes in return for their many years of membership and participation. Our congratulations to Earl Horn Jr., Charles Inglis, Richard Oderkirk, and William J. Smith for their entry into the 50 year Gold Star file. They will receive their memberships free of charge from this time on. Congratulations also to Steven Bartz, Mark Cotton, Douglas Diegelman, Leonard Dugan, Joseph Falcone Jr., James Gottmann Jr., Christopher Hilbert, Sandra Hofert, Michael Love, Chris Rivoli, Michael Sanfilippo, Paul Smith, Timothy Smith, David Tompkins, Thomas Weiser, Ralph Williams, Eric Wood, and Scott Yantz for having been club members for 25 years. They will now be receiving their dues at a 50% reduction.

Tent & Trailer Camping



We offer tent and trailer camping facilities for our members at very nominal pricing. We have 50 trailer sites with electric and water hookups, and 35 tent sites, all in close proximity to bathrooms and shower facilities. Grills, garbage cans, and picnic tables are available on, or in close proximity to each site for your use.

Major improvements were made in camp area B with the completion of the 9 new trailer sites and all new wiring in the area. The new transformer and power distribution lines that were installed should ease the electrical problems that have existed in this camp area for several years. These sites were filled to capacity last season and well used. If you wish to camp, check in with the caretaker upon arrival and you will be assigned a site. You may have overnight guests at your site, however, guests are not entitled to rent their own site. A new rule put in place in 2006 requires that you also must sign out with the caretaker upon departure. If you leave without signing out, you will be billed at the daily rate until you do.

Camping options and fees for 2010

Payments go to the caretaker. Do not include your camping fee with your dues payment on one check.

1. Any member that camped on a site for three consecutive months of the 2009 season will be able to reserve that same site for the 2010 season. To qualify, the fee for the entire season must be paid to the caretaker in advance, in full, by April 15th.
2. Beginning on April 16th and ending on May 1st, any other member not qualifying under the conditions of item # 1 will be allowed to select any unreserved site for the season. The full season fee must also be paid to the caretaker in advance, in full, by May 1st.
3. Campers desiring a site that do not take advantage of either items #1 or #2 must line up no earlier than 8 AM on Saturday, May 15th. Any camper arriving prior to 8 AM will be asked to leave the property and return after 8 AM. At 9 AM, the campers will be allowed to select their sites from any remaining open sites on a first come basis.
4. Seasonal Fees: Tenting shall be \$775.00. Trailers shall be \$1000.00. Trailers with air conditioning shall be \$1200.00.
5. Monthly Fees: Tenting shall be \$160.00. Trailers shall be \$190.00. (Trailers with air conditioning shall be \$240.00 from June 1 to September 1).
6. Daily Fees: Tenting shall be \$7.00. Trailers shall be \$12.00. (Trailers with air conditioning shall be \$15.00 from June 1 to September 1).
6. Second refrigerators shall be charged at the rates of \$100.00 per season, \$20.00 per month, or \$1.00 per day.

We hope that all of you who enjoy camping, whether it be "roughing It" in a tent or enjoying all the luxuries of home in a modern trailer, will come down and enjoy the facilities with us this season. The campgrounds are here for you and your family to enjoy. If you have any questions, please contact our President and Camp Chairman, Dave Knapp, or the caretaker.

Dues Renewals and the State of the Membership

Your 2010 dues bill is attached to this newsletter. Please submit your dues payment before the **April 1st deadline.** You will have a 20 day grace period until April 20th to pay without penalty. After that time, **a final bill is sent to all unpaid members granting a final ten days and including a late fee of \$10.00.** Renew early and save us the expense of the second mailing. You may pay by mail, in person to the caretaker, or to me at my home, whichever is most convenient for you. If you pay by check and it bounces, you will be sent a letter and will owe the original amount plus a \$20.00 penalty and your membership will be suspended until it is made good.

At the close of 2009, our regular senior membership file stood at 1058. Due to the strong efforts of Mike Rickard, there has been a steady increase for the past five years which provides us with a small cash reserve and lets us go forward with various projects at the club. We will be looking for at least 150 new members once again in the year 2010 due to the fact that we lose that many members each year for various reasons. Remember, \$.86 of every dues dollar goes out to pay for labor, insurance, utilities, property taxes and routine operating expenses. In order to keep up with escalating taxes, insurances, labor costs, etc. we are raising the initiation fee from \$150.00 to \$200.00, the senior dues from \$125.00 to \$135.00 and the 25 Year Senior dues from \$60.00 to \$65.00. It's been five years since the last dues increase, and ten years since the last initiation increase.

We hope to gain interest in the club from our website, Mikes' advertising campaign, our annual "Open Houses", and the National Hunting and Fishing Day observance in Avon that we exhibit at each fall. By actively promoting the club to the public, we are able to sustain our membership at a financially responsible level. **We need your help to accomplish this goal.** We will hold our annual membership drive **"Open House" on Sunday, May 16th from 1:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m and another on June 13th.** As always, the facilities are open to the public at those times and we encourage you to pass the word among your friends to attend. There will be interesting exhibits around the grounds, Ken Rumble and his crew of volunteers will have hot food available, and club members will be on hand to answer questions and act as tour guides if desired. **We need your help in order to conduct an effective campaign.**

The policy of granting a complimentary membership to any club member who sponsors five new senior members throughout the fiscal year of January 1st to December 31st will continue. This is a great opportunity to help make your club financially stronger and receive your 2011 dues free of charge. Our congratulations and thanks go out to Paul Hogle and Dave Rice for sponsoring five new members in 2009. A membership application blank is included with this newsletter. Please put it in the hands of someone that you feel would be a good club member and who would enjoy the type of facilities that we provide. Additional application blanks can be obtained from any club officer or director, at the caretaker's or I can send them to you in the mail if you so request. We much prefer to responsibly manage the financial affairs of our club by sustaining our membership base at a 1000 +/- level than to have large increases in the dues and fees that we are forced to charge in order to fund the mandatory taxes, labor, and insurances that we must provide for in addition to the optional activities and programs at the club that make us what we are.

Remember that we conduct a "Christmas" membership special for those of you who wish to make a wonderful gift of a membership in our club to someone. If we receive the application, accompanied by the initiation fee in December, the application will be voted upon and take affect on January 1st, 2011 and will be good for 15 full months instead of the usual 12 month renewal cycle. This makes a great gift for someone who enjoys the great outdoors and all that we have to offer here. If requested of me, you will receive a notification letter on club letterhead that you may give to the fortunate recipient announcing the gift.

Donations & Volunteering

For several years now we have requested and received donations from many of you able and willing to help us. This money is set aside to continue work on the pheasant, waterfowl, and trout facility renovations. Due to budget constraints, we are unable to do work of this magnitude out of regular dues funds alone. Last year, through your generosity, we added \$5,250 to this fund. We were able to purchase several species of pheasants and waterfowl to complete our collection and plan to add even more this coming year. These funds also assist us in our efforts to rear and stock our own trout in our new trout pond. The major expense there is feed. These donations also play a huge role in the expansion and renovation of the Fish & Fowl project physical facilities. Stop in and see our new brooder house when you are down. It's a state of the art facility and one to be justly proud of.

As in the past, your dues bill contains a line for contributions. If you wish to support this project, add in your contribution to your dues bill on the line provided and it will be held in reserve for this program. Expenses for major projects such as this are not cheap since we are dealing with heavy equipment usage, concrete, lumber, wiring, pipe, etc. A great deal of the work is being done by club volunteers but we sometimes contract out portions of the work that are beyond our means to accomplish. We wish to sincerely thank those of you who have assisted us in the past and to let you know that your money will be put to the good use that you intended.

Some of you might like to consider supporting this or other projects with a memorial or endowment. This is commonly done here at the club and goes a long way in furthering our goals. A memorial or endowment is a meaningful way to remember a loved one and assist the club with its programs at the same time. If you wish to consider this, feel free to contact me for details.

The New Caretakers – A Changing of the Guard

In the Fall of 2009, Tony and Sarah Christopher decided to pursue other career opportunities after two years with us. We thank them for their efforts and wish them well in their new ventures. We reformed the search committee and began looking for new caretakers last Fall. The applications received were reviewed by the committee and narrowed down to the best six. These couples were then brought in for interviews with the committee and a final decision was made based on their resumes and the interviews. We are most happy to announce the hiring of Gary and Linda Heale as our new caretakers. They will begin their duties on Feb. 1st. Gary and Linda owned and operated their own landscaping business for over ten years with a staff of 13 and have the training and experience in many job related areas that we sought. We welcome them and their children to the club and are sure that they will have the full cooperation of all of you in their first season with us.

Pheasant & Waterfowl Project, the New Brooder House



The major accomplishment in 2009 was the completion of the brooder house building and the outside runs and quail pens on one side of it. Don Hilbert, Tom Boss, and I spent nearly every day throughout the year working at it. The building was finished by early spring inside and out and we then began work on the outside pens. This required setting 32 4 x 4 or 6 x 6 posts in concrete and adding the framing, wire, sand, stone, top netting, building doors, and finishing touches. All lumber used in outside construction was pressure treated to ensure that it lasts a long time and vinyl coated welded wire was used for the fencing.

Thousands of hours went into getting the project this far. The outside runs on the other side of the building will be completed in 2010.

The incubators were all cleaned and repaired and all nesting boxes and pens were cleaned and made ready. We were able to set and hatch numerous eggs from both pheasant and waterfowl species. The incubator and brooder room in the new brooder house proved to be a huge asset, allowing us to hatch and begin to rear many young birds. These were then transferred to the pens inside the brooder house to be reared for eventual sale or release. We took some of our excess young birds to the annual auction of the Western New York Pheasant and Waterfowl Association at the Batavia Fairgrounds in October and came away with a \$318.10 profit. We were also able to purchase a few quail, pheasants, and waterfowl to fill out our collection. Our thanks to Don Hilbert for his generous \$400.00 donation to purchase two new brooders. These are used in the brooder house to place newly hatch chicks into.

The trout program continued with the stocking of about 500 rainbow and 200 goldens in March. We lost the fish in the display pool to disease and took advantage of this setback by making long needed alterations to the pool. Six yards of concrete were added to taper the raceways in order to allow water to drain off completely and the center section of the large pool was raised so that we might also drain it completely when cleaning. A deflector wall was also added to improve circulation. We will purchase more trout in the spring and stock the trout fishing pond and establish a brood stock in the display pool once more.

*We received generous donations from our membership to aid us in providing this facility, renovating and expanding it. We received \$5,250 in donations from members and would like to thank Emerson Campbell \$300, Chris Hilbert \$200, Ron Sloat \$145, Dave Cole, Don Reese, \$125, Jerry Vukman, \$115, Keith Truax, Mary Shaw, Larry Belluscio, Jeff Chase, Tony Morabito, Brad Nickerson, and Martin Hall \$100, and every one of the other 96 members who donated money to support our efforts. Including these generous donations, the sale of birds, and trout feeder receipts, we were able to help offset construction and feed expenses by \$5,978.67. A big **“THANK YOU”** to you all. We couldn't have done it without you.*

Ron Wickings and I held our yearly Trout Fishing and Equipment seminar in the clubhouse last Spring just before the trout season opener and plan do to so again. Check the calendar in this newsletter for the date and time. All are welcome to attend and this is open to the public. Come and learn all about the trout, their habits, how we rear them, equipment to use, and how to catch them.

2010 will see the completion of the brooder house and the outside pens that will house our young birds and some of the adults. We also need to replace the shingles on the wagon wheel pheasant pen. There is a great deal of work yet and any and all help, either financially or through labor would be greatly appreciated. If you want to help with this project, let me know and I will be sure to be in touch with you when the work begins in the Spring.

From time to time, we must remind ourselves of the reason for the club's existence. We are incorporated as a conservation club and, even though we provide many other forms of family recreation, conservation remains the reason for our existence. We will continue to promote good conservation practices and improve our environment and habitat for the wild creatures we share this very special place with. We must ensure that, in our zeal to provide ourselves with the social activities that we all desire, we do not destroy that which we are pledged to preserve and protect. While we attempt to provide outdoor recreational opportunities for all, we do so with the constant knowledge that a change, once made, tends to be forever, whether it be good or bad, and we must make our choices wisely. We owe it to our founding fathers, to ourselves, and to our children, grandchildren and future generations to do no less.

We would like to thank all those who so generously gave of their time or finances during the past year. We could not be where we are today without your assistance.

2009 Fishing Contest Results

Every year, we conduct fishing contests for our members and guests. The kids contest is sponsored through a yearly donation from Richard Dick in the memory of his late father and long time club member, Alan Dick. We thank Richard for his continuing sponsorship of this contest through the years. Winners of the 2009 contests will be posted in the kiosk. If you catch a nice bass, northern pike, or trout **in our waters**, you can enter the contest by taking the fish to the caretaker, the day that it was caught, and having it weighed. If your fish is the largest weighed in at the end of the year, you will receive a check for \$25.00. **You must have a New York State fishing license and observe season, bag, and size limits when fishing on our waters. We encourage catch and release of the larger breeder size fish. Have it weighed and return it to the water. It's a wise conservation practice.**

During Family Day, Paul Wood runs a kids fishing contest for members sons and daughters. Attendance was off this year due to inclement weather with only 7 youngsters participating. There are also casting contests and waterfront events that day. Over the years, hundreds of kids have caught thousands of fish and had a lot of fun doing it. Every child that enters receives a prize for their participation. Bring your kids down that day and let them join in the activities. Let's hope the weather is much better this year.

New Fishing Regulations – Important, please take note

In an effort to improve fishing and to comply with state law, the following regulations shall be in affect until further notice. Violations of any of these new regulations may result in the suspension of your membership. - Please be sure to inform your children of these.
Largemouth Bass – There is now a total “catch and release” rule. **All bass must be returned to the waters unharmed as quickly as possible.** This step was taken in order to protect the breeder stock of larger fish that are necessary to continue natural propagation.
Crappie – There is an **8 fish per day** limit and a slot limit of **12”**. All fish 12” and above must be returned to the water immediately.
Minnows – To comply with state regulation, any minnow used as bait in our pond must be purchased from **a licensed dealer and the user must have the appropriate permit in their possession. You may no longer take minnows from our stream or any other body of water and use them as bait .**

Promoting Our Club

Once again, Mike Rickard did an outstanding job promoting our club and spearheading our membership drive, in 2009. He works tirelessly to maintain our membership at the 1,000+ level. Once people see our facility, they want to become part of it. As he often states, **“Godfrey’s Pond is the areas best kept secret”**. We have hats, sweatshirts, t-shirts, and jackets for sale to promote the club and to help with the advertising campaign and playground funds. See Mike Rickard or Ken Rumble if you would like to make a purchase of any of these items. Care to help or have a question? You can send mail to Mike at the club address or contact him directly. His phone number is 716-983-0354 and his email address is mikebknyv@yahoo.com. Your help and ideas are always welcomed. Help Mike achieve his membership drive goal in 2010 by sponsoring new members.

50/50 Raffle winners

We conducted 5 drawings for the 50/50 drawings last year and each winner was sent a check for \$250.00. Our congratulations and thanks to all the lucky winners. Tickets for 2010 drawings will be mailed out to you with your membership card. There are only 50 tickets in each drawing so if you purchase a book of five your chances of winning are one in ten which is pretty favorable odds. Your participation is appreciated but is strictly voluntary with no expectations on our part. The raffles contribute financially to the club and help us to provide facilities above and beyond that which our dues base alone would allow.

Boat & Canoe Owners Take Notice!!!

If you have a boat or canoe stored at our club or have a boat dock or canoe rack, take notice. Our rules call for the owners’ name to be on the boat dock or canoe rack, and on any boat or canoe that they have on our grounds. We have several privately owned boats and canoes that have no name on them. If you have a boat or canoe here **you have until June 1st** to put your name on it. Additionally, all privately owned boats, canoes, docks, and racks are to be kept in a safe and presentable condition at all times. If you have any questions concerning the boat rules please contact the caretaker. You may feel free to bring your own rowboat, kayak, or canoe down for the day. Motors of any kind are not allowed.

Notice of New Ruling on Dogs in 2009

All dogs are to be kept on leashes when in the **beach or dock**, areas during the summer season of **Memorial Day thru Labor Day** and in the **campground areas** during the entire camping season. Dogs will be allowed off leash at all other times but only when under the direct control of a responsible accompanying adult. Dogs will be allowed off leash **in all other places on association property throughout the entire year** but only when under the direct control of a responsible accompanying adult, but should be on a leash when around groups of people. Dogs off leash must be sufficiently trained to obey the commands of the responsible adult controlling them or they must be kept on leash. All dogs on association property must have a valid license and current rabies vaccinations.

Around the Grounds

There were several major projects completed in 2009. The Grounds Committee Chairman, Gus Warren, the former caretakers, Tony and Sarah Christopher, and the grounds crew are to be commended for an excellent job. Some of the major projects undertaken were the expansion of campground "B" with 9 new trailer sites, the acquisition of a new ¾ ton pickup truck, the concrete walk entering the clubhouse meeting room was replaced, new boat docks were built and installed, truck tractor and mower repairs and maintenance were completed as necessary, and numerous day to day projects that come up during the season were accomplished.

Reminders

1. The club operates a 1500 acre licensed pheasant hunting preserve that runs for five months beginning in September. Shooting days are Monday, Wednesday, Saturday, Sunday, and holidays. Contact the caretaker, Gary Heale, or the committee chairman, Ron Wickings, for more information. Back tags, bird tags, rules, and preserve maps are available from the caretaker.
2. You are responsible for registering any guest that you bring onto the grounds upon their arrival. **Sons and daughters of members are not allowed to bring guests without their parents being present.** As the sponsoring member, you are responsible for your guests' behavior. Any non-member found on the grounds, regardless of circumstance, is potentially subject to arrest for trespass if they aren't registered in with the caretaker as a guest for the day. Every member receives a strip of 6 free guest tickets for their use with their membership card when they pay their dues. The guest ticket fees are very reasonable and help to offset some of the insurance costs that we are required to carry because we allow non-members to use the facilities.
3. There are still a number of people who take out a boat and fail to pay. The most common offenders are young children and teenagers. It is your responsibility to inform your children that the boats must be paid for upon return. The box is on the clubhouse wall. As an interested member, you can also "remind" anyone you see abusing the privilege. We would also ask you to treat the boats as if they were your own. **Boats must be signed out on the sheet on the clubhouse and back in again upon your return. No exceptions. If you get mud or seaweed in the boat, you will be asked to clean it out. Also, please remove your trash when finished.**
4. We ask that you strictly observe the speed limit signs both on your way in and out. We have many young children that are on our roads during the summer season and we don't want to face the tragedy of a needless accident. Slowing down while you are on our roads will only take a moment but may save a life and we treat offenders harshly.
5. Contact the caretaker, Gary Heale, if you are, or know of, a Red Cross certified lifeguard looking for work. We will need grounds / lifeguard staff for the coming year.
6. If you have any questions regarding your membership or any club activities, please feel free to contact the appropriate committee chairman, any club officer or director, or the caretakers. **Our club telephone number is 585-343-8390.** Remember that you may also check our website for information at **www.godfreyspond.org or www.godfreyspond.com**
7. College student step-up membership deferrals are granted to sons and daughters while enrolled in college as full time students. The normal step-up membership process at age 18 is delayed until their schooling is completed or until they drop out. If you have a son or daughter entering college, contact me and they will be put into the college file, which allows them to take their step-up at a later date when they are more financially able to do so. If your son or daughter doesn't attend college, or enter the armed forces, and they reach their 18th birthday, they are no longer covered under your membership and must be registered as guests when on the grounds. They have one year after their 18th birthday to take their own "step-up" membership without having to pay the initiation fee.
8. We have reprinted the Constitution and By-Laws booklets. If you would like a copy, you may pick one up from the caretaker, at the stand, or at any regular club meeting held on the second Friday of each month.
9. For your information, the year that you joined as a senior member is printed to the right of your name on your dues bill and to clear up some confusion, guest tickets are mailed **with your membership card AFTER** you pay your annual dues.
10. If you have a son or daughter ages 12-14 that would like to attend the DEC Conservation Camp at Rushford in 2011, get in touch with Ken Alfes or Paul Wood for more information. The club sponsors two people every year at a cost to us of \$655.00.

We hope that you have enjoyed this newsletter and found it informative. Remember to renew early and make a special effort to sponsor at least one new member this year. Donate or help out if you can but, most of all, come down and enjoy your membership with your family and friends. We believe that we have a fine organization and offer excellent outdoor recreational activities. Come on down and enjoy your membership with us. You deserve nothing but the best and that's exactly what we are.

Jim Southall, Financial Secretary