

Meeting held at Bertel's, called to order by President Mark Anderson at 7:15 p.m. 9 people in attendance.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FRANK

- 1. Recapped Wildlife Survey completed by Mark, Patrick, Mike, Dave and Darren. The Airport is now open again. The Okotoks Airport will be donating \$250 to the club for our efforts.
- 2. Recapped Zone 2 meeting

Whirling Disease is here to stay. It was discovered in Johnson Lake and has been confirmed in both the Bow River and the Oldman River system. There is no known cure and it is up to both Rainbow and Cutthroat Trout to develop a resistant strain. It can also be found in Rocky Mountain Whitefish. Lake Trout, Walleye and Pike are immune to the disease, while brown trout are resistant. Remember to DRAIN your boat dry. There is some good information on the Global News website about invasive species. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B4XVbkveWww

- 3. ACA will be completing 3 Antelope fencing projects this year in southern Alberta. Please consider volunteering.
- 4. AFGA is seeking feedback on what we consider to be the main areas they should focus on. Our club will put forward a) Access to public lands b) Habitat Enhancement not Habitat Protection or Management which could restrict access.
 C) Developing a Public Commission to oversea Fishing and Hunting as sports rather than the government. Enforcement should remain a government responsibility. And d) to Promote hunting and Fishing as sports to all Albertans.
- 5. The Town of Okotoks is willing to work with our club in promoting conservation efforts within the Town. Ideas such as bird houses, bat houses, and duck nesting boxes are topics we will explore. The Town wants to discourage deer and Canada goose populations.

6. Events:

- Garage Sale is Saturday May 20 at Franks house 49 Downey Road Okotoks from 8 am to 4pm. Volunteers will be Frank, Giesla, Glen, Anna, Patrick, Mark and Mike. Your help would also be welcome. Articles will be organized and priced on Thursday night. Matt will be there to help.
- The Summer BBQ will be held at Siegfried's and Gerta's house on August 27th in the afternoon. Please coordinate potluck dishes with Gerta.
- We will consider holding a Family Day Ice Fishing Event in February 2018. It will be easier to coordinate and organize.
- 7. We will be advertising through the Welcome Wagon by developing a postcard containing information about our club. This brought about a discussion on how large we want to grow and where we could hold meetings.
- 8. Our club will approach Alberta Outdoorsman to start a "sticky" advertising AFGA clubs with contact information. Patrick will make contact.
- Mark and Patrick will continue to explore and examine merchandising opportunities. Ideas put forward were lures and flys with our club logo on them. Jackets and Hoodies will also be priced out
- 10. Siegfried made a motion and Patrick seconded that Mark Anderson be made our Club President rather than acting in the position. Motion carried unanimously.
- 11. Please be aware that DOT approved helmets must be worn on public lands when riding a quad or other off road vehicle without a roll cage as of May 15, 2017.
- 12. Our next meeting will be held June 20th at Pine Coulee Reservoir at 6pm. Please bring your favourite walleye fishing gear rods, jigs and minnows. Please RSVP to <u>ODFGA@okotoksfishandgame.com</u>. Bring a boat if you have one or we will attempt to find a seat for you. Time whenever you arrive. Lets us know so we can coordinate seating.
- 13. The next meeting will be July 18th at Jim Graham Park. We hope to be able to complete some more fencing. Please RSVP to let us know numbers. Bring hammers, fencing pliers and gloves. Rubber boots would also be a good idea for some
- 14. August 27 BBQ will be our 3rd meeting
- 15. Remember Hunting Draws are due in June.
- 16. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 See you on the water !!!