

Wheatland Membership

I am sending this message out early this month. Due to work commitments I will be away for our March 14th meeting. Larry Olson our Vice president will conduct the meeting in my absence.

February has been a very busy month for the club. We sent 4 delegates to the annual AFAG conference in Red Deer, I will follow up with a report at our April meeting. Also our hunting chair along with delegates from other clubs located in southern Alberta attended an annual meeting with biologists to review wildlife populations in the southern part of the province. There was some discussion on proposed changes to the hunting regulations around the length of the trophy sheep season. The report we got was that most of the Elk, Deer and Moose populations were stable with Antelope numbers still low.

Annual Supper

I would like to thank all of the volunteers who helped out for our annual wild game supper. The people who showed up the Friday night to set up made the job pretty easy. Also a special thanks to all the volunteers who gave up some of their time on Saturday night to help out with, draws, silent auction, bar, and clean up.

The event went quite well with a lot of positive feedback. This is the first time in 19 years of putting on the supper that the club volunteers have not cooked the supper. The club contracted Hansel & Gretel Catering to cook the donated meat. The catering company used the meat & recipes donated by club members for the meal. Although most of the meal was prepared by the cater some of the main meat dishes and desserts were prepared by club members that either baked or purchased them for the event. The Cheadle 4H club did another fine job of serving and cleaning up the kitchen and dishes.

The silent auction did well with a good variety of items donated by local businesses and club members. I would like to congratulate all the raffle winners on their good luck. I would also like to wish our Grand Prize winner Cheryl Koltusky the best of luck and tight lines while fishing at Dolphins Resort.

To put on an event like this takes a lot of effort and for the most part it is all done with volunteers I would like to thank everyone who made this year's annual dinner and auction a success.

The rest of March and April are going to be pretty uneventful with just a couple of things to take care of the first of is the cleaning of the duck tunnels around the county. We put out 13 duck tunnels (Nests) a couple of years ago and just need to complete some maintenance on them before the ice goes off the ponds. If you are interested in helping with this it should only take a couple of hours to complete please contact Larry Olson for more details.

The 2nd item is to secure the purchase of hen Pheasants from the Canadian Peasant Company in Brooks and release them in Wheatland County. This should be done in April and will require travel to Brooks with a trailer large enough to carry crates of birds back to the county. We release the birds in groups of 25 throughout the county in areas that provide good habitat. If you have a trailer and some time to

donate please contact me to coordinate a pick up time. The Club will cover all fuel expenses incurred for the pickup and delivery of the birds. Last year we release around 400 hen pheasants, this year we hope to release around 1200 hens to help with the pheasant population in Wheatland County.

Clint LaRiviere
President
Wheatland Conservation
And Wildlife Assoc.