

# Medway River Salmon Association

*www.medwayriversalmonassociation.org*

**Time of Meeting:** 7:00pm

**Date of Meeting:** 31 May 2016  
**Location of Meeting:** Charleston Fire Hall

**Representing:** Medway River and Environs

**Quorum Requirements:** 15

**Attendance:** 15

**Exec:** Michael Fralic, President  
 Mitchell Alexander, Vice President  
 Reg Rafuse, Treasurer  
 Jo-Ann Holden, Secretary

**Guest:** **Regrets:**  
 Brian Dulude  
 Cindy Nauss  
 Horace Macpherson

Items Recorded	(I)nformation (A)ction (D)ecision (C)omplete	Person or Group Responsible and Date
<b>CALL TO ORDER</b>		
<p>1. The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm by Michael Fralic.</p> <p>2. Minutes from 26 January '16 were reviewed and approved.</p>		
<b>3. OLD BUSINESS</b>		
dd/mm/yy-item #		
27.05.14-15	<p>Michael F. will head a membership drive for the association and he will resurrect the Newsletter (or a facsimile) of the newsletter Darrell had edited and forwarded to members.</p> <p><b>Update 18 Nov.'14:</b> Bring forward January 2015</p> <p><b>Update 20 Jan. '15:</b> When time is available to Michael he will pursue this project.</p> <p><b>Update 26 May 15:</b> Work in progress</p> <p><b>Update 3 November 15:</b> Work in progress</p> <p><b>Update 26 January 16:</b> Michael will follow up with Bob Shortt regarding the Margaree newsletter/website.</p> <p><b>Update 31 May 16:</b> Work in progress. Dell and Ronnie will provide Michael with pictures for a newsletter when up and going.</p>	A
		Michael

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<p>18.11.14-15</p> <p><b>Donation of Peter Gough print:</b>  Horace will check with NSSA to ascertain if MRSA can have the print presented for auction at the NSSA fundraiser for a split in funds raised, ie 80/2- or 70/30 with the higher percent for MRSA. Horace will forward a letter of thank you to Peter.</p> <p><b>Update 20 Jan.'15:</b> Horace was speaking with Peter; therefore, a letter was not sent. Use as a fundraiser is yet to be determined.</p> <p><b>Update 26 May 15:</b> The print will be 2<sup>nd</sup> prize on a raffle. 1<sup>st</sup> prize will be the canoe that Billy has been working on. 3<sup>rd</sup> prize will be one day fishing for two people. MRSA has an eye on a fall raffle but this will be contingent on the completion of the canoe. When tickets are ready for raffling advertising will be through facebook and the website as well as the normal – word of mouth.</p> <p><b>Update 3 November 15:</b> Canoe remake still ongoing.</p> <p><b>Update 26 January 16:</b> Canoe has been completed! Billy distributed pic's of the canoe. <i>Beautiful work. Many Thanks!</i> Jo-Ann will request that Bernie post a pic or two to the website, along with information regarding ticket sales. See Fundraising in New Business regarding a raffle.</p> <p><b>Update 31 May 16:</b> Billy provided Jo-Ann with background info on the canoe. Discussed and decided was to offer the canoe for sale to anybody interested in purchasing at \$2,000.00.</p>	A	Jo-Ann

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03.11.15-07	<p><b>RFAC meeting 2 November 15.</b></p> <p><b>Meeting with Inland Fisheries 3 November 15 – Andrew Lowles and Alan McNeill</b></p> <p>Horace met with Andrew and Alan. The following is a summary of the exchange among the group.</p> <p>Questions: How can we enhance the trout fishing in NS; why is the Medway closed for such a long period during the summer and what can the MRSA do to change this?</p> <p>Replies: The river is closed from June 15 to August 15 due to the endangered Atlantic Salmon entering our river. Over the past several years people have been targeting salmon plus the river has had low water and high temps at this time of the year. If the water levels remain high we would like to extend the trout season until the end of June. The river will never be open 12 months of the year due to low water and high temperatures. Consideration of an extended season – until the end of June – will be placed on the agenda for a future meeting at Inland Fisheries.</p> <p>In other rivers within the Southern Uplands only ‘pools’ are closed. Andrew and Alan proposed that MRSA compile a list of the 22 spillways/falls on the Medway and salmon holes. The list is to include the GPS (coordinates) of the spillway/falls This list is for submission to Inland Fisheries.</p> <p>‘Personal fishing logs’ were given to Horace for distribution. Once fisherpersons complete the log of their catch the logs are to be returned to MRSA (Horace) who will then send the logs to NS Dept. Of Fisheries and Aquaculture, Inland Division by 31 October 2016. Logs will be distributed at the start of 2016 fishing season.</p> <p><b>‘Species in the River’</b></p> <p>Also proposed: to have observers at two sites where persons are dipping kayak. Sites chosen for observation are Glode Falls and Bear Falls. The observers are to record species that are dipped, ie. smolt, eels, kayaks, trout, etc. A record of the ‘net’ contents will be recorded, along with quantity of species. This information will be factored to indicate a reasonable estimate as to the inhabitants of the Medway. This information is pertinent when approaching Adopt A Stream and Inland Fisheries for further funding.</p> <p><b>Update 26 January 16:</b> Brian D has submitted an application to Adopt a Stream, Amy Weston for funding in support of hiring 2 persons that would be involved in observing/recording catch by ‘kayak dippers’ at Glode Falls and Bear Falls.</p> <p>An email from Greg Stevens, DFO, in response to MRSA’s expression of interest in conducting a study on the Medway River (see above) was read – although negative in content MRSA will consider further action if funding is forthcoming. See letter attached.</p> <p>POI - At one time there was a count fence at 15m Brook.</p> <p><b>Update 31 May 16:</b> No Funding received from Adopt a Stream.</p>	C	
03.11.15-09	<p><b>Learn to Fish:</b></p> <p>NS Fisheries and Aquaculture is interested in the ‘learn to fish’ program. Horace will coordinate a ‘one-day event’ working with the Jr. High School students. Andrew Lowles and Alan McNeill will be kept in the loop.</p> <p><b>Update 26 January 2016:</b> Horace will be in touch with Andrew Lowles and Alan McNeill.</p> <p><b>Update 31 May 16:</b> Horace unavailable for meeting; therefore, no update.</p>	A	Horace

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03.11.15-10	<p><b>New Government, New Attempt....</b>  Michael and Horace will attempt to coordinate with the Lahave River Assoc. and Gold River Assoc. to craft a letter to Bernadette Jordan, MP South Shore, to introduce the three associations with vested interest in the three salmon rivers in her riding. Once completed a copy will be sent to membership to use as guidance in submitting personal letters to Bernadette.</p> <p><b>Update 26 January 2016:</b> A letter was sent to Bernadette Jordan, MP, at her Ottawa address. MRSA has not received a response. Michael will follow up.</p> <p><b>Update 31 May 16:</b> Michael met with Bernadette in March. Bernadette is on the DFO Advisory Committee. An agenda has been established for the committee. The committee will begin in Western Canada. Atlantic Salmon is on the agenda slated for review this fall. Michael indicates that Bernadette is willing to push for the Atlantic Salmon. Michael will follow up, with Bernadette, during the summer. Queens County Fish &amp; Game are preparing a letter to forward to Bernadette in support of the Atlantic Salmon.</p>	A	Michael
03.11.15-11	<p><b>Rainbow Trout</b>  Indications are that Rainbow Trout are not thriving in the Jordan River because of the chain pickerel. A letter will be sent out to Inland Fisheries requesting that these rainbow trout be put in the lower part of the Medway River.</p> <p>Transportation of the Rainbow would fall under the Provincial 'blanket' permit.</p> <p>Moved, Seconded and Motion carried to:  Acquire 300/400 Rainbow Trout for NS Fisheries and Aquaculture, Inland Fisheries, for distribution throughout the lower Medway, starting from Hwy 103, south to Port Medway.</p> <p><b>Update 26 January 2016:</b> Horace will continue to address this issue.  POI – The Fraser Mill Hatchery (NS Inland Fisheries) grows rainbow and speckled trout.</p> <p><b>Update 31 May 16:</b> Horace unavailable for meeting; therefore, no update.  Although not mentioned at the meeting, it was interesting to observe the numbers of fisherpersons in Shelburne Harbour trying their luck at catching a rainbow trout once it became public knowledge that the harbour was abound with fish...<i>'if you build it they will come'</i></p>	A	Horace
26.01.16-03	<p><b>Fundraising Committee Report</b> – Plans are underway for the Annual Turkey Dinner – 1 May, Charleston Fire Hall. The bottle drive is ongoing. If you have bottles you would like to donate get in touch with Cindy or Raymond. <b>Horace will make application for the Lottery Permit:</b> 1<sup>st</sup> prize the canoe, 2<sup>nd</sup> prize the Peter Gough print.</p> <p><b>Update 31 May 16:</b> Lottery has been put on hold for now. MRSA is prepared to sell canoe outright. See item 18.11.14-15.</p> <p>Due to a conflict with the Charleston Fire Hall MRSA was unable to move forward with the Annual Dinner. The dinner has been rescheduled, tentatively, for 25 September. Look for an email in the future regarding the dinner.</p>	A	Jo-Ann/Cindy

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26.01.16-07	<p><b>NS Guide Association</b> is hosting a booth during the upcoming 'Sports and Recreation' show March 11-13 at Exhibition Park. Vinel will inquire as to whether NS Guide Assoc. would be able and willing to sell MRSA raffle tickets during the show. Vinel will get back to Horace with a response.</p> <p><b>Update 31 May 16:</b> Vinel contacted Wayne Sherman (1-902-679-7177 ext.105) regarding tickets sales at the Sports and Rec. show in March. Wayne said that NS Guides would not be able to sell tickets for a MRSA fundraiser. Wayne mentioned to Vinel that the booth next to NS Guides was still open and available for a weekend fee of \$400.00 Jo-Ann contacted Michael with this information. It was decided because of the short notice MRSA would forego this opportunity and focus on something local, ie. Privateer Days. See item 18.11.14-15 and item 26.01.16-03</p>	C	
26.01.16-09	<p><b>Social Committee:</b></p> <p>Moved and seconded 'The Association devise more social gatherings to celebrate the work and commitment of MRSA members'</p> <p>Brian Dulude is the head of the newly created Social Committee. He will keep us posted on a proposed social to be hosted after the River Road clean up 5 June 2016.</p> <p><b>Update 31 May 16:</b> MRSA will host a bbq after the 5 June 2016 Adopt-a-highway cleanup. Location Horace's lodge. See item 26.01.16-11</p>	C	
26.01.16-11	<p><b>Road Clean up: 5 June 2016</b></p> <p>MRSA will again this year clean up the River Road from Charleston to Bangs Falls, approx. 16 km's. Horace will contact Adopt-A-Highway. Horace will approach TIR, Liverpool, to request 'Do Not Litter Signs' with the fine posted on the sign. A signup sheet will be available at the May 31 meeting. Date set for the cleanup is <b>5 June 2016 @ 10:00am.</b></p> <p><b>Update 31 May 16:</b> Horace unavailable for meeting; therefore, no update regarding 'Do Not Litter Signs'. Signup sheet went around the room. Horace will collect required vests and garbage bags from TIR for the cleanup. Jo-Ann sent letters to Mill Village and Charleston Fire depts. to request assistance with traffic control on the 5 June.</p>	I	
26.01.16-12	<p><b>McGowan Fish Hatchery</b> needs to be expanded. Moved and seconded, 'A letter is to be written to NS Dept. Of Fisheries, Inland Division, to express the need for more containment for hatching and growing trout at McGowan's.' Michael and Horace will put points to paper and forward to the Minister.</p> <p><b>Update 31 May 16:</b> Michael has drafted a letter to NS Inland Fisheries in support of an expansion to McGowan Fish Hatchery.</p>	A	Horace Michael

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26.01.16-15	<p>As per MRSA By-Laws <b>Election of Officers</b> occurs during the Annual General Meeting – Bi-Annually. 2016 is an election year. The executive retired from office. At which time Dough Lohnes, Election Officer, chaired the ‘election of officers.’ Nominations were held for the four offices. For two offices the incumbents were unchallenged, therefore, retaining their offices by acclamation. There were no nominations for one office, therefore, that position remains open. And, one office received one nomination for which he agree to stand.</p> <p>Executive for 2016/2017 is:  President: Michael Fralic  Vice President: Open  Treasurer: Reg Rafuse  Secretary: Jo-Ann Holden</p> <p><b>Update 31 May 16:</b> Mitchell Alexander joined MRSA as a new member. By acclamation Mitchell will be the Vice President for this term January 2016 – January 2018.</p>	C	
<b>4. NEW BUSINESS</b>			
dd/mm/yy-item#			
31.05.16-01	<b>Treasurers Report</b> – As at 26 January 2016 - A donation made in memory of Dr. Oliver Millard was received. Balance as at 31 May 2016 = \$14,679.54.	I	
31.05.16-02	<p><b>Environmental Committee Report</b> – Fish were released from the Charleston hatchery into Wentworth and Salters Brooks. Some trout were able to free themselves from the incubation boxes and found a home in the waterway around the hatchery; otherwise, minimal loss was sustained. Fish have been released from 3 schools involved in the Fish Friend program. The Jr. High is the only remaining school to release the fish. Ronnie received a card from Greenfield School thanking him, Dell and the Association for the program. The Fish Friend program will continue next year. Eggs will be ordered again this fall for the hatchery. There is enough room to increase the number of eggs at the hatchery by installing 3 more incubators, each having 3 layers within the incubator.</p> <p>DFO have slated a meeting for 7 June in Truro. Ronnie was invited to speak on the Fish Friend program. He has indicated that there is a small chance he may attend but it is very unlikely.</p> <p>Ronnie will coordinate a meeting with the Environmental Committee. One agenda item will be the erection of signage/posters along Medway to identify fishing locations by names.</p>	A	Ronnie
31.05.16-03	<b>Fundraising Committee Report</b> – Cindy was unavailable for the meeting. Jo-Ann will discuss the proposed dinner with Cindy and will keep membership apprised.	A	Jo-Ann
31.05.16-04	<b>Social Committee Report</b> – See item 26.01.16-09 bbq 5 June after Litter cleanup.	I	

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31.05.16-05	<b>President's Report</b> – Issues as indicated in minutes.	I	
31.05.16-06	<p><b>Web Site</b> – <a href="http://www.medwayriversalmonassociation.org">www.medwayriversalmonassociation.org</a> has been added directly under the first line on the 'title' page of the minutes. Members requested that the web address be included in correspondence.</p> <p>Bernie, through email, questioned the viability of the web site as it does not generate much action. He questioned as to whether "MRSA still wants to continue with it." After discussion all agreed that a web site should be maintained. Jo-Ann will check with Bernie regarding the possibility of obtaining a link from NSSA and ASF to MRSA.</p> <p><b>Action taken on 13 June 2016: I went on NS Salmon Association web site, clicked on their links (top right) and noted MRSA is there under Affiliates (NS). When I clicked on MRSA it immediately opened to our web site. Directly under their logo is Affiliates, click there and MRSA is the last affiliate listed, but this is only a list, you have to go to link to get to our site.</b></p> <p><b>Checking out the Atlantic Salmon Federation one needs to click on 'useful links' then 'Regional Salmon Councils of ASF' then click NSSA where one can then select links and MRSA. I didn't notice any salmon association from NS listed except NSSA.</b></p>	C	
31.05.16-07	<b>Plans for pH/temperature logging equipment</b> – Brian Dulude queried as to the equipment now in ownership of MRSA. Brian has physical ownership. Brian questioned if MRSA is considering donating the equipment to BCAP, Tobeatic or Adopt-A-Stream. Membership decided to maintain ownership and for Brian's convenience it will be relocated to Michael Fralic's storage area.	A	Michael
31.05.16-08	<b>Live Bait</b> – Michael will write a letter to NS Dept. of Fisheries, Inland Division, regarding the use of live bait. It is the contention of MRSA that live bait <i>no longer</i> be used within the Medway watershed.	A	Michael
31.05.16-09	Membership has expressed concern over the lack of publicity MRSA has been receiving over the past while, ie newspaper coverage. Attempts will be made to correct this situation. Jo-Ann will again submit a small article to the Advance regarding the clean up as well as provide a picture to Adopt-A-Highway for their newsletter.	A	Jo-Ann

31.05.16-10	<p>MRSA received a letter regarding a Private Members Bill from Ted Falk, MP <i>'The Fairness in Charitable Gifts Act.'</i> This bill 'will level the playing field between donation to political parties and donations to registered charitable organizations.'</p> <p>MRSA has agreed to support option #1 <i>"MRSA in contacting you today to let you know that we are supportive of MP Ted Falk's Private Members Bill – The Fairness in Charitable Gifts Act. (C-239). This initiative will encourage more Canadians to make charitable donations to worthwhile causes. We believe that donors to charitable organizations should receive the same tax breaks as donors to political parties. As our Member of Parliament we would encourage you to also lend your support to the Fairness in Charitable Gifts Act."</i></p> <p>Jo-Ann will email our MP, Bernadette Jordan expressing our support.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> in preparation of sending an email (13 June) I checked the Parliament of Canada, Parliamentary Business, Private Members status (and there are a lot of them!) the bill (C-239) was defeated at Second Reading 8 June 2016.</p>	C	
31.05.16-11	Members expressed concern with Morgan Fall being used as a benchmark for recording Atlantic Salmon. It was suggested that this location was used due to the smaller volume of water in the Lahave River.	I	
31.05.16-12	Reg will check with Charleston Fire Dept. to confirm availability of the hall before confirming the date of next meeting. Either 27 Sept. (first choice) or 20 Sept. Jo-Ann will keep you posted	A	Jo-Ann
31.05.16-03	Rene, Aucoin, NSSA and Lewis Hinks, ASF will be added to the distribution list of those receiving MRSA minutes.	A	Jo-Ann
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	<b><i>PROJECTS OF INTEREST TO MRSA</i></b>		
	<b>Southern Upland Collaborative Project:</b>		Bev Davison
	<b>Community Liaison Committee (CLC), Aquaculture, Liverpool Area.</b>		Michael Fralic
	<b>Clean Water Symposium:</b>		Bev Davison
	<b>Wild Salmon Unlimited:</b>		Michael Fralic
	<b>Mersey Woodlands Advisory Committee:</b>		George Morrison
5.	<b>The next meeting to be at 7:00 pm September 2016</b>		
6.	On a motion the meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm		



Jo-Ann Holden

MRSA Members

Lewis Hinks, ASF

Rene Aucoin, NSSA