

POW WOW

Newsletter of the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association

Winter 2012

Plan on Pottsville

POWA conference set for historic Schuylkill County

By Doyle Dietz

It really is a toss up when it comes to Schuylkill County – which celebrated its bicentennial last year – being one of Pennsylvania’s best tourism destinations or an outdoorsman’s paradise.

Within its boundaries are the sites of three forts from the French and Indian War when it was part of Berks County; its county seat of Pottsville is the home of the Yuengling Brewery – the oldest in North America and established in



Doyle Dietz Photo

Allen Chubb, president and founder of Chubb International Shooting Sports, inspects the bank of underground target launchers at Keystone Shooting Park.

1829; its geography runs the gamut from coal mines, which spawned the Molly McGuires, to lush mountain forests to

fertile farmland. Those mountains are home to several state game lands and state forests, providing hunting opportu-

nities for bear, deer, grouse and wild turkey; many of the farms are enrolled in the Pennsylvania Game Commission co-op program and are open for public hunting; and the numerous waterways – including the Schuylkill and Little Schuylkill rivers – and lakes contain both coldwater and warmwater fish species.

Pottsville, whose native son John O’Hara renamed “Gibbsville” in his prize-winning novels, will serve as the home base of this year’s Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association Spring Conference and Awards Banquet.

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Chris O’Hara, show manager for the Eastern Sports & Outdoor Show, presents a \$1,000 check from Reed Exhibitions, to Kermit Henning to kick off the 29th Annual Sportsmen’s Auction.

Thanks to many very generous donors, POWA raised \$10,783 at this year’s auction. A special thanks to Smith & Wesson for donating a Model 500 .50 caliber revolver, Gogal Publishing Company for a Garmin GPS with software which includes all PA state game lands, all PA fishing spots and all New Jersey waters as well; and to Gerald Putt who painted three original acrylics during the run of the show to be sold at the auction. (Contributed photo)

Craft Improvement

Don't temp fate, back up your data now

By Bob Steiner
Craft Improvement

As we entered the woods the first Saturday of deer season, we found the frosted leaves too noisy for still-hunting. So we took stands leaning against trees and waited for the deer to be moved to us. An hour later I heard Linda shoot. I waited anxiously for her radio call.

"One easy," my favorite female voice said. That is our traditional "I got a deer" signal.

"I'll get the car and come around to you and load it," I replied.

After a short drag of a big doe, we were on our way to the processor's. The lower your number, the quicker you get your kielbasa back.

That's when Linda explained that something had gone wrong with her gun. She had tried to fire her Remington 700 four or five times, with no luck. Supposing it was frozen, she recocked after each try. Finally, with the half dozen deer in no hurry to leave, the gun fired and a doe fell. The rifle is currently at the factory being fixed. Repair will cost about \$40 out of our pocket.

After loading the deer, I backed into one of those new-fangled round ditches the rural townships are making. After a hundred yards of careful driving in reverse, I got the car back on the road, only a little muddier than before.

That was just the start to a streak of luck like you won't believe that will eventually get to the reason why this is a craft improvement article.

As we headed to the butcher shop, a wide-racked seven-point sailed into my peripheral vision off a high bank to my left. It landed in front of the car and went into a head-down slide. All four wheels slid over him as I applied the brakes.

We loaded the deer on the rack, called

the Game Commission and got a permit number to possess it for the venison. After pushing some plastic back into place on the vehicle, say \$1,000-worth, we continued our journey.

On our way back to the woods, we stopped to refuel the car. The gas pump was taking forever. I walked in and asked the clerk what was up. She went outside and got it working better. Back inside, she read the dollar amount through the window. I paid, jumped in the car and pulled away. Clunk-clank! I was still attached to the pump. By using secondhand parts, the station owner kept my repair bill down to \$360. It wasn't even lunchtime yet.

We returned to our hunting spot parking place and I dragged the buck a short ways into the woods to field dress it. It didn't matter whether I cut the stomach, anus, throat, ham or shoulder; what came out was a slurry that resembled cold, three-day-old vegetable soup. That night when I took the unusable deer to the PGC office, they said they didn't know anyone who would want green bologna and excused me from ownership.

I thought our bad luck was over. After all, that's at least three, isn't it?

The next day, I was downloading our week's hunting "hero" photos into my external hard drive, when it started clicking, shutting down, restarting and then fading again. Linda, my live-in techno guru, had no better luck.

Monday morning we headed for the computer shop in our other car. On the way up the hill, we heard a thump-thump noise. Figuring a flat, I pulled into the mall parking lot for a safe tire change. No flat. I pulled away and after a few seconds the noise quit.

They're really fast at our computer shop. In less than a half hour, they were

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PowWow

Winter 2012

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www.paoutdoorwriters.com

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President's Message

by Freddie McKnight



It is the height of the sports show season as I pen this installment. It is a busy time of the year for many active and supporting members of POWA and it's a great time to communicate face to face instead of through emails and phone calls.

However, what I am hearing is not great news.

Supposedly the economy is making a turnaround – somewhere. For POWA, things are still on the downside. Active membership in the organization has dropped 30 percent from this time last year.

Board members are making contact with those who have not renewed at this point in order to gain their membership for the new year. The list of those we have not heard from includes a mix of

new and longtime members, including some former officers.

On several occasions, Bob Lollo has shared with me his concern about this continuing trend of diminishing membership.

Talking with numerous supporting members at the shows, I have learned that several of those companies do not plan to renew as supporting members.

Finances, changing ways in advertising and the loss of POWA membership were all cited as reasons. It seems that POWA does not carry the clout that it once did.

So what does the future hold? I wish I knew the answer, but I know from where I sit it does not bode well for the longevity of the organization based on its current format.

We simply cannot sustain these types of losses every year and expect to survive. Maybe things will turn around for the better, or perhaps we should be looking at ways to mend our wounds.

I have been told repeatedly that POWA has been in some tight spots before and survived. I know that, but back then the membership was nearly double of what we have today.

Look at how many officers, board members and committee members it takes to run this organization.

Presently it takes over one-third of our active membership just to fill these positions. Not everyone wants to participate, and it is a member's right to decline these positions. Even the election committee had trouble filling a full list of candidates for the upcoming terms.

The bottom line is we need to change. As I see it, we either fix what is broken or POWA will not continue to exist at some point in the near future.

I have heard from many members, both active and supporting, that they are open to the idea of forming a regional writers organization. Is this something that should be considered? It appears to me that many, many people have already formed their opinions on what we should do, but have not broadcast their feelings at this point.

Will POWA survive another decade? I would hope we could in some manner. Let's throw out some ideas and have a good discussion at this year's conference to get a plan in place. Send me your ideas and please plan to attend the conference.

We need all the support we can get.



Contributed Photo

POWA President Freddie McKnight with his daily limit of geese.



Surf the Web for story ideas and broader readership

By Ben Moyer
Craft Improvement

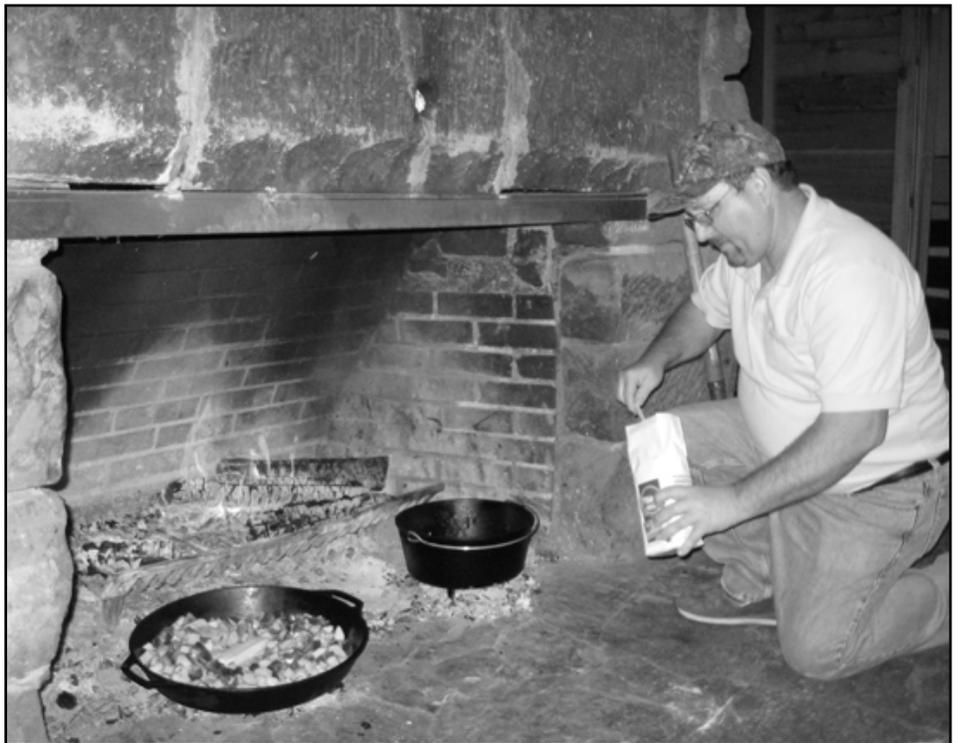
POWA members who must produce columns on a weekly, bi-weekly or even a monthly schedule know the challenge of finding things to write about. As writers, we want to address subjects that sustain our connection with regular readers but we also want to present stories that may attract new followers to our column or page.

Fortunately, it's become easier than ever to learn about events and activities with an outdoor connection. Imaginative use of the Internet can open up story leads for the writer who needs to nail down a deadline or is looking for ways to reach new readers.

I'm one of the graying writers at the tail-end of the technological "learning curve" but I've developed a helpful habit of searching the 'net for story ideas that fit my needs. I started doing this because a newspaper that has published my work for a long time began producing a supplement to the traditional outdoor page that, while outdoor oriented, is aimed at a broader audience.

I wanted to take advantage of the opportunity to write for the supplement so I began "surfing sites" for material. If a long lineup of deadlines faces you in the months ahead, it will be comforting for you to visit some of these sites and learn how much interesting potential they hold for those of us who write about the outdoors in Pennsylvania.

My first stop on the 'net is DCNR's state park site (www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks). It's helpful to writers who submit work to local or regional publications because it organizes state park activities into geographic regions. You can visually select a region from a



Ben Moyer Photo

A Dutch oven cooking demonstration at Raccoon Creek State Park provided story material for a feature in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette.

state map, then summon up a calendar of events to find out what's going on at parks that your readers might like to know about.

The calendar allows you to select a range of dates and "filter" for various activities by checking boxes. On the state parks site I generally select Environmental Education, Interpretive Programs, Recreation and the like. Set your criteria, hit "Search" and a listing of all the events and programs that fit your parameters appears on the screen.

By learning about events on the state parks' site, I've attended and written about diverse topics like Dutch oven cooking, wild edible fungus, maple sugaring, overnight canoe trips and an "Eagle Watch Weekend," all within easy reach of my readers. While these topics may not always fit squarely into "traditional" outdoor subject matter, they do celebrate accessible outdoor opportunity and inspire participation among the public. Outdoor foods or cooking events, especially, attract people of all outdoor tastes, including hunters, anglers, hikers, campers and paddlers, and I enjoy writing about their various perspectives.

I'm able to produce the best stories when I actually attend the program. This is reporting "after the fact," but it encourages readers to follow your columns for the next outdoor event they might like to attend. Being there enables you to communicate the fuller experience. You can also get direct quotes from participants. Nothing cements a reader to your outdoor page like seeing their published photo or words.

State parks aren't the only source of this kind of story tinder. Less well known are the state's 12 officially designated "Heritage Areas." These are somewhat loosely defined regions that promote outdoor recreation, historical interpretation and education in various historically significant regions of the state. Heritage areas are locally directed but are administratively linked to DCNR.

Most POWA members' coverage areas will likely overlap several heritage areas and these organizations often schedule outdoor-related events and promotions. Two upcoming examples I found through a quick search are a River Sojourn on the North Branch Susquehanna sponsored by the Endless Mountains Heritage Area

See SURF, next page

Data

from page 2

able to tell us we had big trouble and they couldn't fix it. We'd have to send the drive away for more specialized help. We packed it up and stopped at UPS to ship it to California.

Did I mention yet that I had only one copy of nearly 60,000 photographic images and they were all stored, without backup anywhere, on this external hard drive?

Later in the week, the car mechanic said the brake pad had come off the gizmo and the armature had eaten the rotor and a few other things that only money could fix. He would need over \$300 worth.

Then, talk about a coincidence, a few hours later (remember, they are on Pacific Time in California), the computer shop called and the guy there began to explain what had happened to my hard drive.

"Imagine, if you will, a brake shoe coming off while the car's moving and the armature stabbing and gouging your rotor," he said.

I told him I had a feel for what he meant. Then he quoted us about \$2,300 for data recovery.

It was decision time. I panicked and hollered to Linda. Using the skills she had used to negotiate free lunches for

POWA conferences, she convinced the surfer dudes that we only wanted the .jpegs and not to worry about anything else on the drive. In the end we got back about 70 percent of our photos and the costs were more reasonable, around \$900, including the new hard drive they returned the pictures on.

Now, don't think it was over that easily. When I began to review the new external hard drive's contents, I noticed that while many of my meticulously filed images were in the folders where they were supposed to be, others were in there, too. A moose was browsing in the flowers. A bird sat with the "Bridges," etc.

We added to that only two other, tiny disappointments. All files recovered had been given a numerical, sequential name that corresponded with nothing that was originally there, so had to be renamed for our use. The other disappointment came when I opened one folder and found several thousand random images that I had to sort and refile wherever they had come from.

After a week of our working overtime hours, we finally have things back to usable and only a few days away from normal. And we now have our images on not one, but two external hard drives.

So if you have digital files on just one place, **BACK THEM UP, NOW!**

To all this I will add a final instance that changes the whole outcome of this story.

The last day of deer season, I moved the car to pick up an old buddy who was coming out a trail. I pulled in, a high bank to my right shielding all of my car from view, except for the windshield and gray roof. As I turned off the motor and set the brake, a shot rang out, close. I looked up and two does were barreling out the trail, right at the car. A hunter stood a hundred yards back, rifle up and pointing toward them ... and me.

My mind flashed, "If he shoots, the bullet is coming through the windshield!"

And then it was over. I heard the gun's report, saw dirt fly at one deer's feet and then they veered. My buddy had never seen my gray car in the line of fire. He was shaking when he reached me.

Calmly I said, "No blood. No foul. Just like street ball."

He mustered a weak smile. He told me that as he squeezed the second shot, his front foot slipped and the bullet went low. It caught the bank directly in line with the car and me; I had seen the dirt spray.

The moral to all this is: If I was only going to win one in that week-and-a-half, I won the one I wanted to win. The rest is only money. I'd spend more if I could find a fluorescent orange roof for my car.

One more time for craft improvement's sake: **BACK THEM UP, NOW!**

Surf

from previous page

in Towanda, and a Cherry Pie Hike to commemorate George Washington's birthday, offered by the Rivers of Steel Heritage Area near Pittsburgh. This hike follows the North Country Trail along part of Washington's 1753 route to demand French withdrawal from western Pennsylvania. Evidently, the cherry pie is an enticement and a relevant reward after the walk. You can find links to all 12 heritage areas at www.dcnr.state.pa/brc/heritageareas.

Similarly, websites of tourist promotion agencies around the state can supply links to outdoor events sponsored by

local communities or businesses. I found out about a chainsaw carving festival in Somerset County on the Laurel Highlands Visitors Bureau site. I attended, had fun and wrote a feature about the event (I failed to break even, however, as I wrote a bigger check for a black bear carving than I got back for the story). Other examples of tourist promotion entities are The Pennsylvania Wilds and The Dutch Country Welcome Center. You can find these on the 'net by typing them into a search engine.

Look around the Web sometime and learn how checking a few recreation and tourism-related sites can provide story material when you need it, and broaden your reach as an outdoor writer.

**Send newsletter
submissions to
[powwow@
zoominternet.net](mailto:powwow@zoominternet.net)**

**Next deadline:
May. 19, 2012**

Market News

Whitetails Unlimited publishes a wide range of hunting, environmental, educational, wildlife management and how-to articles. Most features include wildlife topics, especially whitetail deer. Hunting articles of most interest would include unique or unusual situations your better than average hunt. This does not necessitate the taking of trophy animals or the taking of any animals at all. The events surrounding the experience should not be overlooked. It is best to query. The magazine is willing to work with new writers and photographers. Initial contact should be by mail, addressed to Editor, Whitetails Unlimited National Headquarters, P.O. Box 720, 2100 Michigan St., Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin 54235.

Bear Hunting Magazine is a full color publication dedicated to the sport of bear hunting. Articles should be between 1,000 and 2,200 words and be submitted along with color photos. If photos are not included with the article it will not be accepted as photos make up a large part of the decision in the submission process. Articles must be sent on CD. Microsoft Word is preferred. Articles and photos sent via email are not accepted. Article content needs to focus on bears or bear hunting. Any legal hunting method or weapon is acceptable. Articles should be both exciting and informational. Readers should get something out of it for their future use while hunting. Send article submissions (with photos) to the main magazine office address: Submissions Department, PO Box 457 Becker, MN 55308.

FUR-FISH-GAME needs hunting and fishing stories, especially feature length stories of 1,800 words or more. Its editors are especially looking for small game or predator hunting stories that might interest more experienced outdoorsman. Contact Mitch Cox at mitchcox@furfishgame.com.

WildBird pays \$250 to \$400 for features, more for a story-photo package.

Rates are negotiable. Payment for articles accepted and published in *WildBird* occurs during the first month of the issue date. Pay rates vary if the author's photos appear in the article. Writers with magazine-quality photos should indicate that in their queries. Please send queries to wildbird@bowtieinc.com.

Outdoors Magazine is happy to receive editorial queries. It is preferred that these be sent in Word format to kyle@elkpublishing.com. All regular columns should be from 600-800 words. Features should be from 1,500-2,000 words. Cover stories should run from 2,000-2,250 words. *Outdoors Magazine* is happy to receive photography queries. It is preferred that these be sent in low resolution format or as a portfolio link to amanda@elkpublishing.com.

Knives Illustrated is geared towards custom and handmade knife enthusiasts, vintage knife collectors and knife users. Articles average 1,000-2,000 words with seven to 20 photos. Pay is typically \$300 per article. Contact Bruce Voyles, editor, P.O. Box 23671, Chattanooga, TN 37442.

Pennsylvania Game News is the official voice of the Pennsylvania Game Commission. It is designed to promote hunting and other wildlife-related recreation in the state, and what the agency is doing to manage and enhance these opportunities. They consider nearly any outdoor subject except fishing and boating. Their primary feature subject is hunting, but they also run wildlife natural history accounts and conservation related articles. All material must have a Pennsylvania locale or be of such a nature that location is not relevant. Freelance material is rarely used on technical subjects about guns and archery, as these are covered by columnists. Likewise, most wildlife management issues and problems are covered by agency specialists.

One of the magazine's goals is to teach and encourage young hunters to hunt in a safe and ethical manner. Sto-

ries must never show a person acting in an unsportsmanlike manner. "How-to" or other informational articles should be factual, to the point and basically educational. Text should be cut to a minimum here, so long as nothing is left out. Features typically run from 1,500 to 2,500 words. Good photos are a big help with all articles. Decisions on material are usually reached within six to eight weeks. With a few exceptions, first North American serial rights are purchased. Manuscripts should be typewritten, double-spaced, on one side of the paper only and have your name and address on page 1. We welcome submissions on PC-formatted disks, preferably in Word format; be sure to include a hard copy, too. Material is scheduled up to a year in advance; seasonal or timely subjects, such as spring gobbler hunting, should be submitted at least six months prior to appropriate season. Questions or comments, contact: Bob Mitchell, Editor, Pennsylvania Game News, Editorial/Administration Office, 717-787-4250, ext. 3312 or robmitchel@pa.gov.

Outside is a monthly national magazine dedicated to covering the people, sports and activities, politics, art, literature, and hardware of the outdoors. Although our features are usually assigned to a regular stable of experienced and proven writers, we're always interested in new authors and their ideas. In particular, we look for articles on outdoor events, regions, and activities; informative seasonal service pieces; sports and adventure travel pieces; profiles of engaging outdoor characters; and investigative stories on environmental issues. Contact: *Outside Magazine*, 400 Market St., Santa Fe, New Mexico, 87501.

Bugle publishes an array of conservation articles and essays from a diverse pool of writers – from wildlife professionals who write well, and professional writers knowledgeable about wildlife and conservation. Articles generally range from 1,500-4,500 words. Pay is usually 20 cents per word. Contact: Paul Queneau, *Bugle Conservation Editor*, 406-523-4570. E-mail: pqueneau@rmef.org.

Executive Director's Report

by Bob Lollo,
Executive Director



The spring conference for 2012 will be hosted by Betty and Doyle Dietz in Pottsville. Events will be held May 3-6 and the membership meeting on Saturday, May 5.

The spring conference in 2013 will be in the capable hands of Marilyn Black and be held in the northwestern portion of the state.

There will be no get-together in the fall of 2012. There may be a board meeting in the fall.

During September 2013 we will have a repeat of the elk watch we experienced in 2011. I have had so many favorable comments from the last trip that I want to let other members join in the experience.

To show that sending tear sheets to supporting members is important: Hershey-Harrisburg Visitors Bureau quit as a supporting member last year because they asked some of the other visitors bureaus and found out no POWA members sent tear sheets to them. Tioga County Visitors Bureau received no tear sheets from our meeting held in Wellsboro. The director pointed out the lack of tear sheets to Connie Yingling, our supporting member representative. It is hard to believe no one wrote about Wellsboro. Bev Gruber just sent a note with the renewal for the Pennsylvania Campground Owners Association mentioning that it would be nice to see some coverage of camping. If you write about a supporting member, please be sure to send them tear sheets.

Our scholarship fund has been enriched by Will Elliot, Frank Felbaum, Tim Flanigan, Don Heckman, Bob Lollo, David Hess of Pennsylvania Environment Digest, Jim Fitser, John Mahn and Marcus Schneck.

MEMBERSHIP

We have 172 members, composed of 154 active members, nine life mem-

bers, eight apprentice members and one honorary member. Of this amount, only 149 members have renewed. Joe Kosack has terminated membership. Supporting membership is 98 including one applicant. We are no longer the largest state organization. California has over two hundred active members.

NEW SUPPORTING MEMBERS

Keystone Elk Country Alliance

P.O. Box 315
Benezette, PA 15821
Phone: 814-787-5174
Fax: 814-787-5171
Web: www.experienceelkcountry.com
Email: rcogan@windstreak.net
Services: 501(c)(3) Wildlife conservation organization – Operates Elk Country Visitors Center.
Contact: Rawley Cogan
Sponsor: John Plowman

Kodabow Crossbows

1045 Andrew Drive C-2
West Chester, PA 19380
Phone: 610-620-4352
Web: www.kodabow.com
Email: Kodabow@gmail.com
Services: Crossbows and Accessories.
Contact: Chuck Matastic
Sponsor: Bud Cole

National Wild Turkey Federation

P.O. BOX 530
Edgefield, SC 29824
Phone: 803-637-7643
Fax: 803-637-0034
Web: www.nwtf.org
Email: srikard@nwtf.net
Services: To establish, maintain and promote interest in the American wild turkey. Promotes ethical hunting, hunter education and safety programs.
Contact: Shannon Rikard

Sponsor: Bob Lollo

Walker's Sportsmen's Outdoor Strategies (s.o.s.)

P.O. Box 69
Forksville, PA 18616
Phone: 800-441-0385
Fax: 570-924-4161
Web: www.walkerssos.com
Email: Karen@walkerssos.com
Services: Hunting equipment – crossbows, blinds, gun rack.
Contact: Karen Walker
Sponsor: Bob Lollo

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy

800 Waterfront Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
Phone: 412-586-2358
Fax: 412-231-1414
Web: www.waterlandlife.org
Email: esloss@paconserve.org
Services: The Western Pennsylvania Conservancy protects and restores exceptional places to provide our region with clean waters and healthy forests, wildlife and natural areas for the benefit of present and future generations. The Conservancy creates green spaces and gardens, contribution to the vitality of our cities and towns, and preserves Fallingwater, a symbol of people living in harmony with nature.
Contact: Eric Sloss
Sponsor: Bob Lollo
(This is a renewal with a gap in membership.)



Pottsville

from page 1

Attendees may begin arriving Thursday, May 3, at the Pottsville Ramada Inn, and activities begin that evening with a tour of the Yuengling Brewery. Following that is an opportunity to experience the area's various ethnic foods at the "Taste of Schuylkill County" buffet at Maroon's Sports Bar and Grill – providing members with outlets for travel and/or food features an excellent opportunity for material.

Maroon's is named for the city's one-time entry in the National Football League, the Pottsville Maroons, who were the forerunners of today's Washington Redskins. Today, supporters of the team are still battling with the NFL to restore the team's 1925 championship, which was stripped because it played an exhibition game against the famed Four Horsemen of Notre Dame in the home territory of the Frankford (Philadelphia) Yellowjackets.

Friday's activities are designed to provide members of both the print and electronic media opportunities for outdoors and travel features with the keystone events being the choice of touring Hawk Mountain Sanctuary or Keystone Shooting Park, the world's newest Olympic shotgun training facility. Guides have been secured for both spring gobbler hunting, including several who manufacture game calls, and angling – with the option of fishing area streams or the lakes at Tuscarora and Locust Lake State Parks or Sweet Arrow Lake County Park.

Spouses have the option of attending the tour at Hawk Mountain or their "official" activity of a walking/driving tour of historic Pottsville, including the Yuengling Mansion and Schuylkill County Historical Society. Pat Murphy, owner of Murphy Jewelers, is providing attendees with a special shopping card that can be used at his stores in Pottsville and Hamburg – located near Cabela's – the entire weekend.

Harold Luther, events coordinator at



Doyle Dietz Photos

Schuylkill County's streams may be among the least-publicized areas for trout fishing in Pennsylvania, but trophies such as this are waiting for those attending the POWA Spring Conference. Members who elect to pursue spring gobblers can try to better this 22-pound bird Betty Dietz took in Schuylkill County two years ago, pictured below.

Cabela's, has arranged for an on-site buffet Friday night and is providing attendees with a special shopping card. These cards will be valid the entire weekend for those who choose to do some shopping before returning home Sunday.

There is a full day planned for members Saturday at Friedensburg Fish and Game, including three outstanding seminars. The morning program is a seminar on field training with live birds by nationally known dog trainer Joe DeMarkis of Pottsville. That is followed with a PowerPoint presentation by Wayne Lehman of the Schuylkill Conservation District on how polluted mine runoffs have been turned into trout water. A craft improvement seminar concludes the morning's events with POWA member Bob Ballantyne presenting his PowerPoint program "Fisheries Biology and Fish Species Preservation in Yellowstone National Park." He will give examples of how outdoors experiences, some science and PowerPoint programming features can be combined to produce material of educational benefit to sportsmen and create some earnings for the outdoors communicator.

Lunch is a pig roast prepared and served by the club, and it will be followed by a breakout session that has the



potential to be one of the best in recent years for supporting members looking to demonstrate and allow field testing of their products. Archery, shotgun and rifle ranges are located on the club's grounds and there are ponds for testing fishing tackle and water craft.

Spouses will be able to tour award winning Benigna Creek Vineyard and

See POTTSVILLE, page 9

Spring Conference Itinerary

May 3-6 / Pottsville, PA

Thursday, May 3

1 p.m. – POWA registration begins at Ramada Inn, 101 South Progress Ave., Pottsville.

5:30 p.m. – Tour of Yuengling Brewery, America's oldest brewery, founded in 1829.

7:30 p.m. – "Taste of Schuylkill County Buffet" at Maroon's Sports Bar and Grill.

Friday, May 4

Members

Spring gobbler hunting
Stream fishing
Lake fishing
Hawk Mountain Sanctuary
Keystone Shooting Park Olympic Training Facility

Spouses

Walking/driving tour of historic Pottsville

All

5 p.m. – Depart for Cabela's, where events coordinator Harold Luther is providing discount cards good through Sunday and hosting a buffet.

Saturday, May 5

Members

Seminars at Friedensburg Fish and Game.

9 a.m. – Field training with live birds by nationally known dog trainer Joe DeMarkis of Pottsville.

10 a.m. – Wayne Lehman of Schuylkill Conservation District will present a slide and PowerPoint program on how polluted mine runoffs have been turned into trout water.

11 a.m. – POWA member Bob Ballantyne will present a PowerPoint program "Fisheries Biology and Fish Species Preservation in Yellowstone National Park" as an example of how outdoors experiences, some science and PowerPoint programming features can be combined to produce material of educational benefit to sportsmen and create some earnings for the outdoors communicator.

Noon – Pig roast at club.

1-3 p.m. – Breakout with supporting members showing their products. Club has shooting areas for rifle, shotgun and archery and ponds for test fishing tackle and water craft.

3-4 p.m. – Membership meeting.

Spouses

Tour of award winning Benigna Creek Vineyard and Winery and the famous Kowalonek's Kielbasy Shop in Shenandoah.

All

6 p.m. – Banquet at the Ramada Inn.

Sunday, May 6

9 a.m. – Presentation by Joe Neville, Pennsylvania Game Commission information specialist, on-site after breakfast.

TBA – POWA member Cindy Ross is planning a nature hike at a location of her choice if there is interest.

Pottsville

from page 8

Winery Saturday morning and the famous Kowalonek's Kielbasy Shop in Shenandoah in the afternoon. There is also the option of on-their-own shopping trips.

This year's awards banquet will be held at the Ramada and is being served by the award-winning Hess's Catering of Schuylkill Haven, but that will not mark the end of the weekend's activities. Following breakfast Sunday, Joe Neville, Pennsylvania Game Commission information specialist, will present his program "Using Computer Analytic Data to Plan Programs, Events and Informational Offerings."

For those wishing to extend their stay, POWA member Cindy Ross is planning a nature hike at a location of her choice if there is interest. And, of course, there is the opportunity to use those shopping cards at Murphy's or Cabela's one final time.



Doyle Dietz Photo

Friedensburg Fish and Game, which is the site of the annual Schuylkill County Youth Field Day, has three ponds on site for support members to demonstrate their water-related products at the 2012 POWA Spring Conference.

Hawk Mountain Sanctuary: Birds are just the beginning

Founded in 1934, the 2,500-acre Hawk Mountain Sanctuary is the world's first refuge for birds of prey, a premier outdoor destination for birders and wildlife enthusiasts, and an international center for raptor conservation. The Sanctuary's ability to flourish and survive makes it one of the single greatest conservation success stories of our time.

As far back as 1915, locals had come to realize that every September, October and November, thousands of soaring hawks would pass at predictable times and in specific weather over the ridge called Hawk Mountain. As was the norm for the times, on breezy Saturdays and Sundays, farmers, hunters and families would gather here to socialize and shoot at these large, soaring targets.

It was not until 1934 that New York conservationist Rosalie Edge heard of the shooting and took action. She visited the area, leased the land, installed a warden, and created the world's first refuge for birds of prey. She incorporated the Sanctuary as a non-profit in 1938 and charged a modest fee for membership or admission. Together with her growing number of Hawk Mountain members, she led the fight to protect all migratory raptors, and directed first curator Maurice Broun to keep a daily record of the number and type of species that passed by. She also encouraged people of all ages and from all socio-economic backgrounds to visit Hawk Mountain, which she considered "...not just a sanctuary for the birds, but also for the soul."

Today an annual 70,000 people visit Hawk Mountain for autumn hawk watching or year round hiking and wildlife watching. The income from visitors supports the organization's raptor conservation research and education programs focused on birds of prey and the Appalachian ecosystem, and eco-tourism to the Sanctuary pumps upwards of \$8 million into the local economy. With 9,500 members, Hawk Mountain is the largest and oldest member-supported raptor conservation organization in the world, and is the largest private outdoor attraction in Schuylkill County.

Hawk Mountain is famous for its annual autumn hawk count, the longest and most complete record of raptor migration in existence. By the 1960s, this long-term data was used by conservationists including Rachel Carson to document pesticide-era declines of Bald Eagles and other raptors. The annual hawk count also has expanded its view beyond the Sanctuary lookouts; Today Hawk Mountain works systematically with more than 200 hawkwatch sites across the continent to pool data into a common database.

In the 1980s and '90s, Hawk Mountain strengthened its role in science, and in 2001, opened the Acopian Center for Conservation Learning, a state-of-the-art residential field station and training facility named after its benefactor Mr. Sarkis Acopian. Here, dozens of students and scientists visit Hawk Mountain



Doyle Dietz Photo

Hawk Mountain Sanctuary will provide POWA members attending the spring conference breathtaking photo opportunities and plenty of feature material.

to study the migration, learn new techniques, share ideas or develop better ways to protect raptors. With the opening of the Acopian Center, Hawk Mountain's Conservation Internship Program expanded, and today Hawk Mountain trainees number more than 360 from 63 countries on six continents. This year the Sanctuary celebrates the 10th anniversary of this impressive facility.

While all of this science, statistical analysis and training take place, the Sanctuary continues to operate day after day, encouraging people to get outdoors and enjoy nature. The mountaintop views and annual migration attract people of all ages, while the staff conducts scientific monitoring and educates the public. Visitors pay a modest trail fee or purchase an annual membership. The dues and admission fees in turn sustain Hawk Mountain education and research programs. The best part is that it works: for 78 years and counting.

During the POWA spring conference, members attending a trip to Hawk Mountain will:

- Begin with a tour of the Acopian Center for Conservation Learning, the Sanctuary's biological field station and training facility. Get great stories ideas on far-reaching research programs and the Sanctuary's acclaimed international internship program.
- Head to the Hawk Mountain Visitor Center for a live raptor program and introduction on Hawk Mountain history.
- Depart for a guided walk to the nearby South Lookout to take in the incredible vista and scan the sky for returning migrant birds and raptors.
- Bag lunch at the South Lookout, then continue on your own to hike or depart. Each participant receives two free return passes and complete press kit jammed with story ideas and resources.

Supporting Member News

by Supporting Member Representative
CONNIE YINGLING, PR Coordinator,
Maryland Office of Tourism Development



What a difference in perspective a trip into the field makes. This past week I travelled through Maryland's Upper Eastern Shore with a journalist on assignment. We visited a creamery that makes wine ice cream in addition to simple classics such as chocolate, strawberry and vanilla. Customers need to know to ask for this flavor as it is generally kept behind the counter – sort of a “bootleg” offering.

We ate dinner at a restaurant housed in a circa 1764 stone building. The chef-owners grow their own or buy raw products from local farmers then make everything from scratch. They cure their own fennel salumi, serve honey harvested from hives tended by staffers, and churn their own sweet butter for crusty yeast bread

baked daily.

One evening we slept under fluffy down comforters in a farmhouse decorated with family heirlooms dating back three generations, and in the morning, dined on green eggs laid by the resident chickens. This trip re-opened my eyes to the pure enthusiasm, creativity and commitment that small business owners in the tourism industry bring to their jobs every day.

That same back-to-basics energy and optimism is exuded at a POWA annual conference. Manufacturers introduce

innovative new products, conservation organizations share important messages, and regional destinations highlight places in which to recreate outdoors. As a result, journalists walk away with multiple story ideas to share with their readers and viewers back home.

You'll find the registration form for this year's annual POWA conference in another section of this newsletter. Previous newsletters have given you a hint of the activities, seminars and networking events planned by conference coordinator Doyle Dietz. Additionally, if your company has an interest in sponsoring any of the meals, please contact Doyle at your earliest convenience.

The Board of Directors strongly urges you to attend the May conference. You'll walk away from the weekend with a renewed sense of purpose.

Treasurer's Report

By John Allen, POWA Treasurer / Expenditures as of January 31, 2012

Income Accounts	Budget 11-12	Actual	% of Budget
Active Members	9,800	6,420	66
Supporting Members	9,500	500	5
Merchandise Sales	25	6	24
Contributions	0	155	0
Awards Income	1,800	150	8
Craft Award Entry Fees	700	0	0
Miscellaneous Income	0	0	0
Spring Conference Income	3,750	(112)	(3)
Fall Conference	0	(94)	0
TOTAL INCOME	\$25,575	\$7,025	27%
Expense Accounts	Budget 11-12	Actual	% of Budget
Member Awards	2,550	0	0
Executive Dir. Stipend	9,404	3,135	33
Plaque Expenses	1,000	549	55
Pow Wow (Print/Edit)	5,800	1,189	21
Website Expenses	350	44	13
Membership Directory	1,600	0	0
Postage, General	1,000	267	37
Office Expenses	2,600	821	32
Insurance	525	0	0
Credit Card Fees	550	190	35
Travel	150	0	0
Miscellaneous	46	25	54
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$25,575	\$6,220	24%
Net Income	0	\$805	

Cash Accounts as of Jan. 31, 2012: General Fund, \$7,398; Youth Education Fund, \$2,546; Scholarship Fund, \$51,519; WT Johns Scholarship Fund, \$4,775; Jacquelin Knight CD, \$13,803; Emergency Fund, \$9,156; Northwest CD, \$20,000; U.S. Treasury Note, \$10,000. Total Cash Accounts: \$119,195.

SPONSOR THREE NEW POWA MEMBERS IN ONE YEAR & YOUR NEXT YEAR'S DUES ARE FREE!

What a deal! Help your professional outdoor media organization to grow; help someone else to benefit from membership in POWA; and help yourself to a free year of membership ... on us.

This special "1 GET 3; YOURS IS FREE" membership offer applies to all POWA membership types – active, apprentice and supporting. You may sponsor three in one membership category or mix categories.

Who can sponsor a new member? POWA active members and supporting members (the latter with an active member co-signer).

Where to get applications? POWA individual and supporting member applications can be printed from the POWA Web site, www.paoutdoorwriters.com. Information on the value and benefits of membership is on the Web site, too. For more information, contact Executive Director Bob Lollo.

Supporting Member Spotlight

Field school provides a change in perspective

By Megan Ireland
Special to PowWow

This past summer I attended a field school for high school students that really changed the way I look at white tailed deer. I have seen white tailed deer my whole life, but I didn't know much about them until last summer.

Attending Wildlife Leadership Academy taught me more in five days than a whole course in environmental science. Learning about deer and plants for a week was the most intensive experience of my life. When I come across a plant I find myself trying to identify it, and when I see a deer I try to figure out its age.

Attending the camp made me notice things I might not have been interested in prior to the Academy.

One of the biggest things I took away from the field school was being able to identify whether or not a habitat is healthy or unhealthy. Before the Academy, the forests were just trees and bushes, but now when I notice a forest I look for the amount of undergrowth, a browse line, or any plants I learned about.

My grandparents have woods in their backyard, and deer frequent their



Contributed Photo

Megan Ireland, center, and fellow classmates participate in the Wildlife Leadership Academy's Pennsylvania Bucktails field school.

property. I used to think their land was healthy, but when I visited after attending the field school, I realized the habitat is unhealthy. While there are old and healthy trees, there is not much undergrowth. I noticed a lot of ferns growing in the woods, which may seem healthy, but ferns are not a good food source for deer. After my training, I can make suggestions to help my grandparent's forest become healthier.

The Academy not only taught me a lot about white tailed deer and their environment, it changed the way I look at the world.

Even if I grow up and start a career that has nothing to do with white tailed deer, I will always have the knowledge I

learned in five days of intensive learning. Wildlife Leadership Academy helped me prove to myself that I could handle tough challenges, and that is something I will carry with me for the rest of my life.

The 2012 Wildlife Leadership Academy

.....
*will begin with the **Pennsylvania Bucktails** field school on June 19-23 at Stone Valley Recreation Area in Huntingdon County. Applications are being taken now for youth and adult leaders. Please find more information at www.PICEweb.org, youth programs link or contact Academy Director Michele Kittell, mkittell@picweb.org.*

PGC offers ways to connect online

The Pennsylvania Game Commission is now offering four different ways to "Connect with Wildlife" in Pennsylvania:

1. Subscribe to the Pennsylvania Game Commission's YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/pagamecommission for educational and entertaining videos.

2. Follow the Pennsylvania Game Commission at www.twitter.com/

[PAGameComm](http://www.PAGameComm.com). The PGC recently tweeted away prizes three times a day from its booth at the Eastern Sports & Outdoor Show. (Let us know if you've got Twitter handles we should be following.)

3. Be a Fan of PA Wildlife at www.facebook.com/PennsylvaniaGameCommission for all the latest grunts, growls & gobbles about PA wildlife.

4. And pull up a cozy chair at www.facebook.com/PGCFiresideTails to share all your latest hunting and trapping stories, photos and videos.

In an effort to better showcase POWA's supporting members, select product reviews will be published in future PowWow newsletters.

If you are a POWA member who is interested in highlighting one of the organization's valued supporters, please submit your article to powwow@zoominternet.net. Every effort will be made to run articles in their entirety, but they may be edited for space considerations.

RAK'd UP adds 3 new products to assist with hunt videography

RAK'd UP Technologies, LLC adds three new products to support their already impressive lineup that enables hunters to video all their hunts in high definition.

The RAK'd UP DEAD'EYE camcorder:

- Small and light weight (4"x2"x1.4" - 5.1 oz.)
- Mossy Oak Break-Up Infinity®
- Hands-free operation
- 170 degree wide angle lens
- IPX7 waterproof rating
- Memory capacity up to 32GB
- Internal microphone

The RAK'd UP Universal Gun & Bow

Camera Mount:

- Accepts many lightweight camcorders
- For best results, we recommend using the RAK'd UP DEAD'EYE or Canon HFM40 camcorders
- Made of high-impact plastic with patented shock-absorbing system
- Can attach to virtually any weapon including shotguns, rifles, bows, crossbows

The new RAK'd UP Mossy Oak Crossbow Riser is used in conjunction with the RAK'd UP Universal Gun & Bow Camera Mount. The Riser enables our Universal Camera Mount to be easily attached to a crossbow.

With a RAK'd UP Technologies camcorder and Universal Gun & Bow Camera Mount, you can be out in the field videoing all your great hunting moments



Contributed Photo

RAK'd UP's Universal Gun & Bow Camera Mount pictured with a Canon camcorder.

and sharing them with family and friends. Our products are very easy to setup and use and we offer full technical support.

RAK'd UP Technologies, LLC is a company owned by hunters dedicated to serving hunters, video enthusiasts and videographers everywhere. For more information, log on to www.rakdup.com or call 800-228-8115.

OWAA workshop a 'must' for outdoor communicators

Improve your writing and photography skills July 22-28 at the 2012 Goldenrod Writing Workshop. Open to both novice communicators and published professionals, it caters to communicators interested in topics such as travel, nature, environment and more.

The annual workshop is hosted by the Outdoor Writers Association of America at the scenic University of Montana in Missoula, Mont.

This year's workshop offers a casual setting with hands-on learning from peer groups and veteran instructors. The curriculum includes assignments, discussions, readings and shared critiques along with time to explore the beautiful Montana outdoor wilderness and socialize with others who share a passion for writing and photography.

Deadline for application is June 1, 2012. Enrollment is limited to 30 students, and it's on a first come, first served basis. The \$995 fee includes tuition and room and board in University of Montana campus housing. The application also re-

quires a \$250 non-refundable deposit; in the rare event the workshop is canceled, a full refund will be issued.

The workshop will highlight the contributions of four resident faculty members: Lisa Densmore, a book author, photographer, TV producer and Emmy-award winner from Montana; book author and award-winning backpage columnist and humor writer Alan Liere from Spokane, Wash.; freelance travel and adventure writer Jeff Hull, of Montana; and environmental writer and University of Wyoming professor Jeff Lockwood.

The writing workshop will also include afternoon visiting faculty sessions with Jack Ballard, Joel Vance and Gail Jokerst; off-site activities on Wednesday afternoon; an opportunity for student readings at the end of the week; and a celebratory farewell BBQ hosted at a local park on Friday night.

This workshop aims to promote both expansion of creativity and craft improvement in the outdoor communication field as well as excitement and passion for writing.

For more information and to apply, visit www.owaa.org/goldenrod-writing-workshop.

Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp apps being accepted

Applications are now being accepted for the 18th annual Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp being held June 17-22, 2012 at the Allenberry Resort in Boiling Springs, Cumberland County.

Students are instructed in ecology, aquatic biology, geology, hydrogeology, erosion and sedimentation control, ichthyology, riparian corridor protection, watershed management, entomology and much more. Students also participate in a hands-on stream habitat improvement project. Nationally known instructors teach the students fly casting, fly tying, stream etiquette, how to "read" the water, and of course there is fishing.

The camp is limited to 32 qualified students ages 14 to 17. **The applicants must have been born between June 22, 1994 and June 17, 1998.** Applications must be postmarked not later than March 31, 2012. The camp costs each student \$350 for the entire week. All meals and accommodations are included.

For information or an application brochure visit www.riverscamp.com.

Correspondence

WLA director appreciates support, makes invite

I would like to sincerely thank the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association for their continued support of the Wildlife Leadership Academy. The POWA Youth Education Grants, newsletter articles and the support of individual members who have written articles featuring Academy students have all contributed to providing a rewarding and unique experience for youth leaders in conservation across the state.

The Pennsylvania Institute of Conservation Education, the administrator and facilitator of the Academy and POWA member, would like to extend

an invitation for POWA members to visit the Academy field school this summer if you would like to experience the program first-hand and meet some of the exceptional youths who participate. Please contact me directly by May 21 to arrange for your visit. We can only accommodate a limited number of people per day and will schedule visits on a first-come, first-served basis. Hope to see you there!

Sincerely,
Michele Kittell

Wildlife Leadership Academy Director
Pennsylvania Institute for Conservation Education
www.picoweb.org
mkittell@picoweb.org, 570-245-8518

Point Park students capture beauty of PA outdoors in nature photography course

Learning how to capture moving water and to shoot in snow are just a few of the many mysteries students are unlocking in Christopher Rolinson's nature photography class. And they are learning in some of western Pennsylvania's most scenic locations.

Photography and photojournalism students enrolled in the specialty course this semester are practicing their craft in eight parks and nature sites in the region. The class meets on campus on Tuesdays and travels on select Saturdays. Students

then post favorite photos and comments about skills being mastered.

On March 17, students will visit Ohio-pyle State Park. On April 14, they will travel to Forbes State Park in Somerset County, a trip that will include a climb an observation tower on Mt. Davis to shoot from Pennsylvania's highest point. The Saturday excursions wrap up on April 21 with a trip to an abandoned stretch of the Pennsylvania Turnpike near Breezewood. A trip to the Pittsburgh Zoo is to be determined.

POWA members who would like to attend one of the remaining sessions should contact Colleen C. Derda, Point Park University, 412-480-3640, cderda@pointpark.edu.

New life member offers gratitude, sincere thanks

My father used to say in his later years, "The older I get, the faster I get older." I used to think that was odd, until I reached my current stage of life. Many things seem to take longer for me lately. But I won't use that as an excuse for the too long delay in relaying my gratitude to the members of POWA for bestowing upon me the honor of Life Member. I apologize for taking so long to express my heartfelt THANK YOU.

I would be remiss if I did not also thank those who went before me, and deeply ingrained in me an abiding respect and appreciation for this organization. I became a member when many of the original founders were still afoot and active.

I was blessed as a "rookie" to sit at the feet of such giants in the outdoor media as Roger Latham, Tom Forbes, Harry Allaman, "Shorty" Manning, Seth Myers, Bob Parlamen and so many others. I owe much to special mentors like Will Johns, Mark Passaro, Don Lewis, Bob Bell, Keith Schuyler and others who guided my early efforts to become a contributing member. I will always appreciate their guidance, but moreso, the friendship they so freely offered to me.

And therein lies the true meaning of membership in POWA – friendships forged over the years, and for the years. These friendships must be cherished, for as I looked around last year at the VIP Dinner before the Harrisburg Sports Show I commented to a good POWA friend, "Too many of us aren't here anymore."

POWA has entered a period of "stress" in the past couple years, financially. Fear not, for there were other "down" times in our past. As I used to tell my students, "Like gas, this too shall pass." So long as the members work together for the good of the organization, it will survive and prosper again.

With fond memories and a most sincere thank you.

Sincerely,
Jim Fitser

POWA on the Web

Find the
Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association
on the Internet at

www.paoutdoorwriters.com

on Twitter at **twitter.com/P_O_W_A**
and on Facebook through the **POWA homepage.**

Changes & Corrections

Active Members

Ken Margolis has phone changes – work: 410-294-4505 and fax: 410-377-2363.

Marilyn Black has a new email address: marilynblack@windstream.net.

Len Lichvar has a new address: 213 Atlantic Street, Boswell, PA 15531 and phone: 814-659-7057.

Bob D'angelo has a new email address: rdangelo@pa.gov.

Bob Mitchell has a new email address: robmitchel@pa.gov.

Bill Halbfoerster has a correction on his fax number: 610-837-1264.

J.B. Kasper has removed his fax

number.

Ron Koch has a new email address: rbvideo54@comcast.net.

Tim Herd has a new email address: herd.tim@gmail.com.

N. Shoe Schuler has a name change to: N. Schuler-Olney and phone correction to: day – 814-723-5799 and evening – 814-723-2808, husband's name is Marshall.

Correction on Ken Maurer's address: 182 Lahr's Road.

Jerry Bush has a land line that is: 724-977-5790.

Greg Rinkus has a new work phone: 570-439-2641 and email address: grinkus@penn-er.com.

Lonny Weaver has some changes: 2841 Carlisle Drive #3, New Windsor MD 21776 and phone: 410-635-2972.

CD Denmon has a new email address: cddeers72@frontier.com.

Supporting Members

Nancy Anthon, president, is the new contact at Gatco Sharpeners.

Frabill has a new contact: Brooke Drose with a new email address: bdrose@frabill.com.

Pa. Wildlife Habitat Unlimited has a new contact: William MacKereth, president.

Jacobsburg Historical Society has a contact name change: Lyndsey Frigm.

Oil Region Alliance of Business, Industry & Tourism has a new contact: John R. Phillips, president; email: jphippips@oilregion.org.

The Foundation of North American Wild Sheep has a name change: Eastern Chapter of the Wild Sheep Foundation.

ASA/Eastern Fishing & Outdoor Expo has a new contact: Paul Fuller and email: paul@shorpshows.com.

Meeting Minutes

Board

Meeting Minutes

Sept. 10, 2011 / Benezette, PA

The meeting was called to order at 12:59 p.m. by President Freddie McKnight. Present: President Freddie McKnight, 1st VP Rich Faler, 2nd VP Harvey Bauer, Secretary Brad Isles, Treasurer John Allen; Directors: Steve Sorensen, Don Knaus and Mary Hosmer. Also in attendance were Executive Director Bob Lollo and Ralph Scherder.

Correspondence – Lollo: None

OFFICERS REPORTS

No Reports.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

No Reports.

CONFERENCES

Fall – Lollo said he wasn't sure it's worth keeping fall gatherings due to low attendance. Sorensen said it's worth

continuing, but the gatherings appeal to people on a regional basis. Isles stated that poor weather and flooding in the eastern part of the state contributed to the lower attendance.

Spring 2012 – Conference will be held in Pottsville. Doyle Dietz is serving as chair. Conference headquarters will be the Ramada Inn. Activities include a tour of the Yeungling factory and Cabela's.

OLD BUSINESS

None to report.

NEW BUSINESS

Complimentary membership to supporting members – Lollo said that in the past, several supporting members have donated goods or sponsored meals at the banquet and he feels they should receive complimentary memberships as a token of POWA's gratitude. This year, Remington (goods), the NSSF (banquet dinner sponsor) and Reed Exposition (lunch sponsor, donation to Sportsman's Auction) should be recipients.

**Motion* to award a complimentary membership to a long-time supporting member or members at the discretion of the board of directors on a case by case basis as submitted by the executive

director. Bauer/Knaus. Approved.

Supporting member application

– Keystone Elk Country Alliance submitted a supporting member application during the fall gathering. Screening committee of Knaus and Sorensen.

* *Motion* to approve the application. Sorensen/Knaus. Approved.

New printer for the directory – Faler would like to bring the directory printing in-house. His company can do it for about the same price currently, and perhaps lower. It was agreed to let Faler print the directory.

* No action necessary.

Duties Manual – A large number of edits were made to the duties manual to bring the manual in-line with POWA bylaws. A detailed copy of the edits and subsequent motions to approve those changes will be kept on file by the Executive Director if review is necessary.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

* *Motion* to adjourn at 3:15 p.m. Knaus, Bauer. Approved.

– *Respectfully submitted*
by Brad Isles, secretary

Wildlife for Everyone recognized for support of PGC initiatives

The 2012 Eastern Sports and Outdoor Show recently presented its Youth Mentor Award to the Wildlife For Everyone Foundation for its financial support of the Pennsylvania Game Commission's Seedlings in the Schools and "Richard Guadagno Internship Program" in the agency's Southwest Region Office.

The Wildlife For Everyone Foundation, created by the Board of Game Commissioners in 2005, is an independent, non-profit organization that works with state agencies to preserve and enhance wildlife habitat, wildlife scientific research, wildlife education, land preservation, youth programs and to construct a wildlife education and research center.

As part of its education and youth missions, the Foundation has developed major funding support for the Game Commission's Seedling in the Schools program, which supplies seedlings

from the agency's Howard Nursery in Centre County to more than a thousand schools across the state. The Seedlings in the Schools program provides students with a variety of tree seedlings to plant at home, on school grounds or in their communities, and provides teaching tools for educators to help students learn more about the importance of trees in the environment and to wildlife and communities.

"Seedlings in the Schools has been a great outreach effort for the Game Commission, and is made possible by the hard-work of Theresa Alberici, Wildlife Conservation Education Specialist, and all of our Howard Nursery employees," said Carl G. Roe, Game Commission executive director. "However, we would not be able to fully deliver this program if it were not for the financial assistance of the Wildlife For Everyone Foundation, and very much appreciate their annual contributions."

The Foundation also helped the Game Commission's Southwest Region office expand an innovative college internship

program that gives college students hands-on experience in skills needed for careers in wildlife management. The program is overseen by Joseph Stefko, Southwest Region Wildlife Education Supervisor, and originated in 1999.

With the funding from the Foundation, the Game Commission was able to restructure the program to offer stipends to students working in the eight-week internship, which now has been named the "Richard Guadagno Internship Program," in honor of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service agent who was among the passengers killed aboard Flight 93 in Somerset County on Sept. 11, 2001.

As part of the internship program, past students helped with summer bat roost and breeding bird surveys; Canada goose banding; bear trapping; wildlife habitat assessments; vegetation sampling; legal updates and deputy meetings; data entry and analysis; report writing; wildlife biometrics and tissue sampling; library research; and educational programming.

Go to www.wildlifeforeverone.org for more information.



**Pennsylvania
Outdoor Writers
Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 4423
Harrisburg, PA 17111**

www.paoutdoorwriters.com

**Friends of NRA
Kory Enck
POB 133
Lawn, PA 17041**

POWA Spring Conference 2012 / May 3 - 6 / Pottsville, PA

Name _____ Phone _____

() Member

() Supporting Member, Company Name _____

() First POWA conference?

() Spouse Name _____

() Guest Name _____

REGISTRATION

Cost X # persons = Total Fee

Cost is \$30 for each individual. (Please register by April 21).....\$30.00 x _____ = \$ _____

Supporting Member Company or Organization Breakout Fee x _____ = \$ _____ N/C _____

REGISTRATION TOTAL = \$ _____

*ALL ATTENDEES PAY REGISTRATION FEES, including spouses/guests/breakout participants
(Exception - spouses/guests attending banquet only)*

MEALS

FILL OUT NUMBER OF PERSONS..... # persons = Total Fee

THURSDAY

“Taste of Schuylkill County Buffet” at Maroon’s Sports Bar and Grill = Ind. Pay

FRIDAY

Continental breakfast at Ramada Inn or on your own N/A or Ind. Pay

Lunch on your own N/A = Ind. Pay

Dinner buffet at Cabela’s (Sponsored by Cabela’s) = N/C

SATURDAY

Continental breakfast at Ramada Inn or on your own N/A or Ind. Pay

Pig Roast at Friedensburg Fish and Game (Sponsored by Reed Expositions) = N/C

Dinner Banquet (Sponsored by the National Shooting Sports Foundation) = N/C

SUNDAY

Continental breakfast at Ramada Inn or on your own N/A or Ind. Pay

MEAL TOTAL = \$ _____

(*Children and guests (not spouses) must pay for sponsored meals -- Friday buffet \$10; Saturday Lunch \$10; Saturday dinner \$17.)

Attendees are advised that a complimentary continental breakfast will be served Friday, Saturday and Sunday mornings at the Ramada, but the hotel has neither a restaurant nor a bar. If a full breakfast is desired, there are several nearby restaurants in Pottsville.

POWA SPRING CONFERENCE 2012 HOTEL RESERVATION FORM

Make your room reservations at the Ramada Inn, 101 South Progress Ave., Pottsville, PA

Call to make your room reservations at the Ramada Inn, 570-622-4600 or 1-800-272-6232 or use the form below and send your reservations to: Ramada Inn, 101 South Progress Ave., Pottsville, PA.

NOTE: When you call, mention you’re with POWA so you can obtain the special rates. Make your reservations before the April 21 cut-off date to be sure you have a room at our group rate. Room rate is \$71.20 single/double per night plus tax.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Arrival Date: _____ Departure Date: _____

POWA Spring Conference 2012 / May 3 - 6 / Pottsville, PA

ACTIVITIES

\$20 REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT REQUIRED FOR EACH ACTIVITY (*Attend activity and your fee is returned.*)

Friday, May 4 # Attendees = (x\$20)

Times TBA, unless noted / Please choose either stream or lake fishing

- Turkey Hunting = \$ _____
- Local Stream Fishing = \$ _____
- Local Lake Fishing = \$ _____
- Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Tour = \$ _____
- Keystone Shooting Park Olympic Training Facility Tour = \$ _____
- Spouses' Tour - Walking/Driving Tour of Historic Pottsville = \$ _____

Saturday, May 5 # Attendees = (x\$20)

- Tour of award winning Benigna Creek Vineyard and Winery
and the famous Kowalonek's Kielbasy Shop in Shenandoah = \$ _____

Sunday, May 13 # Attendees = (x N/C)

- Joe Neville presentation = N/C
- Nature hike with Cindy Ross (TBD). = N/C

ACTIVITY DEPOSITS SUBTOTAL: \$ _____

GRAND TOTAL

Registration + Meals + Activity Deposits (Enclose full amount/no partial payments.).....= \$ _____

PAYMENT OPTIONS

Make check (preferred) payable to POWA

or send: MasterCard/Visa # _____ exp. date _____

Send form & check/credit card info to:

Doyle Dietz, 309 Maple Blvd., Orwigsburg, PA 17961

Phone: 570-366-1764 / E-mail: yankeegiant@verizon.net