



POWVOW

Newsletter of the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association

Spring 2015

Excellence in Craft winners recognized



Don Carey Photo

First-place winners for this year's Excellence in Craft Awards were: **Front (l-r):** Tom Tatum, Gerry Putt, Jennifer Bilott, Tyler Frantz, Wade Robertson; **Back:** Charlie Burchfield, Marshall Nych, Ben Moyer, Terry Brady, Steve Sorensen, Ralph Scherder, Ralph Martone. Not pictured: Bud Cole, Bob D'Angelo, Timothy Flanigan, Bob Frye, Ron Steffe, Karen Wolf, Alex Zidock.

Awards announced during Spring Conference banquet

The Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association presented its annual Excellence in Craft Awards during the Spring Conference banquet at Seven Springs Mountain Resort on Saturday, May 16, 2015. Awards Chair Brad Isles distributed awards to 19 individuals in 25 categories.

There were 300 total entries by more than 40 members.

Winners are:

POWA CORE AWARDS

Best Newspaper Column (*sponsored by Pennsylvania Hunters Sharing the Harvest*) – “Unique wildlife encounters a bonus for time spent outdoors” by Ralph Martone, published in the *New Castle News* on May 29, 2014.

First runner-up: “Deer hunting and the
See EXCELLENCE, page 6

Conference at Seven Springs a rousing success

By Nick Sisley
Conference Chair

Seven Springs showed why it is one of the top resorts in the east during POWA's Spring Conference in May. Attending members who had not visited resort before seemed thoroughly impressed with the facility, the setting and they loved the majestic mountains.

Guided turkey hunting was on the
See SPRINGS, page 8



Mark Nale Photo

Wilderness Voyageurs guide Ryan McCauley steadies the raft as POWA member John Hayes battles a 22-inch rainbow on the Youghiogheny River.

Craft Improvement

New committee offers member outings, chance to develop material

By Freddie McKnight
Committee Chair

A new POWA committee has recently been formed. Officially dubbed the "Outdoor Press Outings Committee," it currently consists of Mark Demko, and myself, with a little help from Doyle Dietz.

The purpose of this committee is simple, to arrange outdoor press outings centered on hook and bullet themes across Pennsylvania and nearby states. We have several possible outings lined up for the remainder of this year and possibly into 2016.

The procedure may change as needed in the future. However, at present, when a trip is announced that you are interested in attending, respond to either Mark or myself before the deadline (we hope to allow a two-week window for decisions, but that may not be possible with all trips).

Once the period has ended, we will forward the following to the host: name of each POWA member interested, status with POWA (active member, associate member, etc.), your county of residence and your contact information. This will allow the trip host to select attendees by their respective geographical area of the state rather than the media you represent. We will allow the hosts to select the attendees to keep any bias out of the choices made.

While there are no rules forcing you

Kayak fishing trip in Luzerne County July 9

Luzerne County Visitors Bureau and Susquehanna Kayak and Canoe will host a kayak fishing trip for up to 20 members of POWA on Friday, July 10.

Participants will arrive Thursday afternoon/evening July 9 and stay overnight at the Genetti Best Western in downtown Wilkes-Barre. The stay is free, but it is for double occupancy. If you are interested in participating on this trip, please email Freddie McKnight at wmoutdoors@dishmail.net by 6 p.m. on **July 1**.

ITINERARY

July 9

Check in at Best Western Genetti

to write or broadcast about a trip, it is expected that you will do so in a timely manner in accordance with your outlets. We will restrict trips to one per year per member, at least for now, so that all may have a chance to participate.

This may be altered if the host can handle an unlimited number of attendees or if there are openings after the deadline period. All notifications about trips will be handled via email.

Those who attend will be asked to provide tearsheets, a link to a website or some proof of media coverage resulting from the trip. This will not only show the trip host the resulting publicity, but also allow us to show prospective trip hosts what POWA members have to offer them.

This committee is in its infancy and is looking for a couple of other members to join. If we can get a three or four person group to handle the work, we have the potential to average a trip per month (or more).

Just to whet your appetite, the first two trips lined up are a fishing kayak trip in Luzerne County and a tuna fishing trip in Ocean City, Md. Details on the first trip are below. Watch your email for future outings.

If you have any questions or would like to become part of this committee, please contact me via the information listed in the directory.

77 East Market Street
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701
570-823-6152

5 p.m. – Tour of Riverfront Park
6 p.m. – Dinner, Downtown Wilkes-Barre

July 10

9 a.m. – Lobby of Hotel to depart for Susquehanna Kayak and Canoe
10 a.m. – On the River
12:30 p.m. – Lunch, to be determined
2 p.m. – Bartolai Winery – tour and tasting
3 p.m. – Head for home

PowWow

Spring 2015

Quarterly publication of the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association, Inc., a non-profit professional, educational organization. Items published in *PowWow* do not reflect the opinions or endorsement of POWA.

www.paoutdoorwriters.com

Dennis Scharadin

POWA Executive Director

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Supporting Member News

PANWTF, DCNR, Dover Area High students team for conservation

Two agriculture classes at Dover Area High School recently took on a project in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation and the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

Under the direction of instructor Ron Weaner, who also serves on the Pennsylvania Game Commission Board of Commissioners, the students modified plans for gates needed to limit access to portions of Michaux State Forest from adjacent private land.

Foresters and rangers on Michaux State Forest reported issues with illegal access by four-wheel drive vehicles and ATVs onto a property known as the Glatfelter Tract. That property was purchased as an addition to the forest several years ago. Wildlife habitat management practices established while the land was owned by Glatfelter Timber Company resulted in outstanding nesting and brood rearing habitat for wild turkeys.

The Bureau of Forestry utilizes an ecosystem management approach in managing the property as a timber resource and is a prime example of how to achieve outstanding wildlife habitat. Trespass issues threatened to diminish the value of the property for wildlife. Well-designed gates were needed to address the illegal access issues.

In the fall of 2014, the need for well-constructed gates was discussed at a meeting of local PANWTF chapters, Game Commission biologists and foresters working on Michaux State Forest.

Pennsylvania NWTF members pledged support for the purchase of materials for the gates and Mr. Weaner volunteered the services of his welding classes.

This agreement provided a great “hands on” conservation oriented project for the students to sink their teeth into. In addition



Contributed Photos

Students from Dover Area High School, under the instruction of instructor Ron Weaner, built gates to limit illegal access to portions of Michaux State Forest. The gate project is a group effort between the Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation and the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

to the opportunity for the students to have ownership in a conservation project that would benefit wild turkeys, construction and installation of the gates will improve conditions for wildlife on Michaux State Forest.

Over the winter, students and faculty at Dover Area High School worked with computer aided design to modify plans for the gates. Materials were purchased and delivered to the school in late January and work began in earnest.

In April, the gates were completed and a date was set for Mike Wright, a forester on the Michaux and other DCNR staff to pick up the completed gates. Agriculture class students assembled in their shop to help load the gates onto a dump body truck and trailer. Moveable hoists made the task of loading the heavy gates and the posts that will anchor them a smooth operation.

In short order, the gates were on their way to Michaux State Forest where they will be installed over the summer. NWTF Regional Director Walt Bingaman and NWTF Regional Biologist Bob Eriksen were on hand to meet the students, thank them for their fine work and take photographs. Each student received a NWTF camo ball cap.

This project is a great example of how conservation organizations and state agencies continue to work together for the



benefit of wildlife. Even better, this project provided a valuable learning experience for the students, one that they can look back on and take pride in when they visit the state forest.

The gates were a team effort. PANWTF volunteers raised the funds for the materials, Mr. Weaner and his classes were the labor force and the Bureau of Forestry will complete the installation making the Glatfelter Tree Farm section of the forest a better place for wildlife to thrive.

Bureau of Forestry staff on the Michaux continue to go above and beyond the call of duty managing wildlife habitat on the forest. The results are visible as evidenced by a growing wild turkey population and increased hunting and wildlife viewing opportunities.

President's Message

by Don Knaus



First, all who attended our spring conference at Seven Springs were “wowed.” For that, we owe thanks to Nick Sisley, the chair for our conference.

Having hosted a conference in Wellsboro, I am aware of the great deal of work involved in a successful “gathering of writers.” Nick, you did an exceptional job...above and beyond.

As I embark on my year as POWA President, I am anxious and apprehensive.

The task ahead seems daunting when attacked solo. I will need help and suggestions from the POWA membership to succeed.

I am working with the Board of Directors to “polish” the duties manual to reflect our coming into the digital age. We are working at securing a host site for our next conference.

A combined POWA, Mason Dixon OWA and Virginia OWA conference is being discussed. That’s several years down the road but such an undertaking requires that we plan in advance.

We are also looking at trimming the number of committees as several may be combined and/or eliminated. We’ll keep

you posted.

As I do my best to keep us on an even keel, I am humbled by the outdoor writing greats who preceded me as president of POWA and my heroes who became Life Members.

Among the presidents in the past Roger Latham, creator of the slate call business and Lou Stevenson who manufactured great box calls as well as “Mr. Turkey,” Bob Clark. There was Keith Schuyler, bowhunting expert for *Pennsylvania Game News*, and Tom Tatum, who also had a regular archery column in *Game News*. And there’s Harry Allaman, the outdoor television pioneer who shot shows with 16 mm film before he had a TV cameraman. His show, “Call of the Outdoors,” ran for 42 years out of WGAL in Lancaster. Harry, a founding member of POWA, was followed by past presidents Alex Zidock, Ron Tussel and Kermit Henning with their own TV shows. The radio waves carry the wisdom of Charlie Burchfield and others.

Our POWA presidency sported shooting experts like Don Lewis and Dave Ehrig; magazine editors Bob Mitchell, Lou

Hoffman, Rich Faler and Jeff Mulhollem. Award-winning artists who have held the post of president include Ken Hunter and Gerald Putt. Jim and Sylvia Bashline served as presidents and became Life Members as did Tom Fegley. His wife, Betty Lou, now an Honorary Member, also served as POWA president. Then there’s Linda Stiner who has “done it all” for POWA and is our most recent Meritorious Service Award winner. Her husband, Bob, is much feted writer and photographer. And, speaking of photographers, Tim Flanigan is an oft awarded camera genius. John and Wendy Plowman each manned the helm of POWA.

Then there are the perennial megawriters found in many magazines...guys like Past Presidents Mike Bleech, Freddie McKnight, Mark Nale, Ben Moyer and others.

I am honored to even be mentioned along with these greats in the field of outdoor communication.

And Mark Nale adds to this list. He did an excellent job as president and completed an ambitious agenda.

So, all in all, I feel like I have some pretty big shoes to fill in the coming year. I thank you for your support in choosing me as your president. Now, I really need your support in order to succeed and in order to guide POWA to even better heights.

Reach out your hand. Volunteer your assistance, service and support to POWA.



Contributed Photo

POWA President Don Knaus.

POWA on the Web

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at www.paoutdoorwriters.com

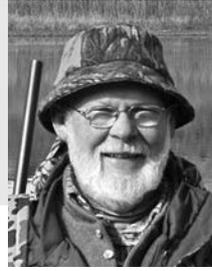
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Executive Director's Report

by Dennis Scharadin,
Executive Director



POWA had booths and auctions at the Carlisle Sports and Outdoor Show in September, the Great American Outdoor Show in Harrisburg in February, and the Lehigh Valley Outdoor Show in Allentown in March. Our auctions netted \$10,000 to be used for our education grants in 2016. While the amount of money was less than in recent years, the number of requests jumped to 16. Each of those clubs and organizations received a grant. POWA also had a booth at the Greater Philadelphia Sports and Outdoor Show.

Penn State student Paul Kemper received a Will Johns Scholarship of \$1,000. Scholarship Chairman John Swinton is quite pleased with this year's recipient. Kemper spent last summer interning for *Outdoor Life/Field & Stream* magazines.

The number of POWA's EIC and Specialty Awards also took a significant increase. This year there were 25 categories with total prize money of \$3,950.

We end the fiscal year with 163 active, associate, life and honorary members. Since the winter *PowWow*, six candidates passed the membership screening and board vote. Bob Miller, a member since 1968, decided at age 93 not to renew his membership. The board, however, decided his 47 years of membership in POWA warranted his being approved as an honorary member.

Supporting member renewals are almost completed. POWA started the year with 93 supporting members and since the spring meeting the board has approved 15 new supporting members.

NEW ACTIVE MEMBERS

Spring Gearhart

P.O. Box 6700
Harrisburg, PA 17106-7000
Email: sgearhart@pa.gov
Phone: 717-705-7844.f
Sponsor: Dennis Scharadin

Robert "BJ" Small

4577 Manor Drive
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Email: bjsmall@comcast.net
Phone: 717-590-7247
Sponsor: Dennis Scharadin

Bill Anderson

326 Hobbit Hollow Road
Altoona, PA 16601
Email: bjuniata@verizon.net
Phone: 814-684-5922
Sponsor: Mark Nale

Michael T. Hoff

5401 Yale Place
Macungie, PA 18062
Email: pahuff@gmail.com
Phone: 610-751-3404
Sponsor: Roger Mallon

Christian Shane

112 Eden Way Court
Cranberry Township, PA 16066
Email: cristianshane72@hotmail.com
Phone: 412-916-2979
Sponsor: Brad Isles

Doty McDowell

1566 S. Rt. 44, J
Jersey Shore, PA 17740
Email: domcdowell@pa.gov
Phone: 570-398-4744
Sponsor: Mark Nale

NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBER

Harold Daub

481 Mountain House Road
Halifax, PA 17032
Email: daubh@comcast.net
Phone: 717-362-8059
Sponsor: Doyle Dietz

NEW SUPPORTING MEMBERS

The Nature Conservancy

2101 N. Front Street, Bldg. #1, Suite 200
Harrisburg, PA 17110
Contact: Kelly Donaldson
Email: kelly.donaldson@tnc.org
Phone: 717-232-6001
Website: www.nature.org/pennsylvania

Sponsor: Mark Nale

Mossy Oak

Howard Communications, Inc.
289 Highway CC
Ellsberry, MO 63343
Contact: Kevin Howard
Email: khoward@howardcommunications.com
Phone: 573-898-3422
Website: www.mossyoak.com
Sponsor: Dennis Scharadin

Night Eyes, LLC

P.O. Box 520
Centre Hall, PA 16828
Contact: Joe Zafuto
Email: nighteyes@uplink.net
Phone: 814-364-9660
Website: www.nighteyeslights.com
Sponsor: Mark Nale

Whitewater Challengers

P.O. Box 8
White Haven, Pa 18661
Contact: Scott Locorini
Email: scott@whitewaterchallengers.com
Phone: 800-443-8554
Website: www.whitewaterchallengers.com
Sponsor: Dennis Scharadin

American Sportfishing Association

1001 North Fairfax St., Suite 501
Alexandria, VA 22314
Contact: Mary Jane Williamson
Email: mjwilliamson@asafishing.org
Phone: 703-519-9691, ext. 227
Website: www.asafishing.org
Sponsor: Dennis Scharadin

Chesapeake Bay Foundation

1426 North 3rd Street
Harrisburg, PA 17102
Contact: Robert "BJ" Small
Email: bsmall@cbf.org

If you know someone who is currently producing outdoor material for publication, contact them, tell them about POWA and the benefits of membership. POWA can continue to grow if everyone helps. Remember, Sign up three and your membership is FREE.

Excellence

from page 1

tin-can telephone principle” by Steve Sorensen, published in *The Forest Press* on Jan. 15, 2014.

Best Newspaper Feature (sponsored by Bob & Linda Steiner) – “Fenced-in hunts draw debate” by Bob Frye, published in the *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review* on Oct. 26, 2014.

First runner-up: “Dead of winter brings cubs to life” by William Williams, published in the *Wyoming County Press Examiner* on Dec. 31, 2014.

Best Magazine or Regional Newspaper Column (sponsored by Gogal Publishing Co.) – “Day on the water drinking from the sea of life” by Terry Brady, published in *Pennsylvania Outdoor News* on July 18, 2014.

First runner-up: “The Arthur Young buck” by Steve Sorensen, published in *Ohio Valley Outdoors*, Spring 2014.

Best Magazine or Regional Newspaper Feature (sponsored by Blackpowder Products Inc.) – “Bowhunting peripherals” by Tom Tatum, published in *Pennsylvania Game News*, January 2014.

First runner-up: “Steelhead fishing – A wild brook trout taught me how” by Linda Steiner, published in *Pennsylvania Angler & Boater*, November/December 2014.

Best Published Newspaper Photo, Color or Black & White (sponsored by POWA Past Presidents) – “Conservationists face huge hurdles” by Karen Wolf, published in *the Lebanon Daily News* on Jan. 26, 2014.

First runner-up: “Aiming for success” by Tyler Frantz, published in the *Pottsville Republican-Herald* on Sept. 21, 2014.

Best Published Magazine Photo, Color or Black & White (sponsored by POWA EIC entries) – “September grouse” by Timothy Flanigan, published in the *Ruffed Grouse Society calendar*, 2014.

First runner-up: “Raccoon in a tree” by Ralph Scherder, published in *Ohio Valley Outdoors*, Winter 2014.

Best Book Award (sponsored by POWA EIC entries) – “Growing Up with Guns” by Steve Sorensen.

First runner-up: “Ghost Brother” Harry Guyer, Jr.

Best Published Art Award, Color or Black & White (sponsored by GATCO Sharpeners/Timberline Knives) – “Catchin’ the Wind – Springer Spaniels” by Gerry Putt, cover of *Pennsylvania Game News*, November 2014.

POWA SPECIALTY AWARDS

Bass Pro Shops Pass it on Award (sponsored by Bass Pro Shops) – “Fun + Interesting = Hooked for Life” by Jennifer Bilott, published in *Pennsylvania Angler & Boater*, November/December, 2014.

First runner-up: “Turkey-taught deer skills” by Joe Byers, published in *Griffin’s Guide* on April 9, 2014.

Wildlife Conservation Partnership Award (sponsored by the Pennsylvania Game Commission) – “Owls and others find sanctuary at landfill” by Tyler Frantz, published in *the Lebanon Daily News* on Sept. 19, 2014.

First runner-up: “All about the elk – Partnerships key to growing Pennsylvania’s herd” by Mark Nale, published in the *Centre Daily Times* on Dec. 14, 2014.

Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Raptor Conservation and Eco-Tourism Award (sponsored by Hawk Mountain Sanctuary) – “Nature’s air show” by Bud Cole, published in the *Bethlehem Press* Sept. 17/18, 2014.

First runner-up: “Hawk Mountain raptors are unusual attraction near Reading” by Cindy Ross, published in *Recreation News*, October, 2014.

The Pennsylvania Elk Resource Award (sponsored by the Keystone Elk Country Alliance) – “PA elk herd: An enduring success story” by Charlie Burchfield, published in *The Courier-Express* on Sept. 18, 2014.

First runner-up: “PA’s special elk hunt” by Charlie Burchfield, broadcast on WCED Talk Radio on Sept. 8, 2014.

Best Action Hunting, Trapping or Fishing Photograph (sponsored by POWA EIC entries) – Late season; last chance for deer hunters” by Tyler Frantz, published in *the Lebanon Daily News* on Dec. 26, 2014.

First runner-up: “Evelyn Bilott uses her Barbie rod to fish on a private lake in Tidioute, Warren County” by Jennifer Bilott, published in *Pennsylvania Angler*

& Boater, November/December 2014.

Best Published Pennsylvania Fishing or Boating Related Newspaper Photo, Color or Black & White (sponsored by the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission) – “Even on hot summer days, don’t ignore fishing possibilities” by Tyler Frantz published in the *Lebanon Daily News* on Sept. 7, 2014.

First runner-up: “Winter brings reflections on warmer, brighter days” by Wade Robertson, published in the *Olean Times Herald* on Dec. 21, 2014.

Handloading Promotion Award for Broadcast Media (sponsored by Redding Reloading) – “Beginner Reloading” by Alex Zidock for *Out in the Open TV* broadcast on Sept. 25, 2014.

First runner-up: “Reloading your own ammo” by Charlie Burchfield, broadcast on WCED Talk Radio on Dec. 8, 2014.

Handloading Promotion Award for Electronic Media (sponsored by Redding Reloading) – “Why I returned to handloading” by Steve Sorensen, published at *Deer Hunters Online*, November/December 2014.

First runner-up: “Reloading and freeloading” by Marshall Nych, published at *Bucktail Outdoors*, December 2014.

Handloading Promotion Award for Print Media (sponsored by Redding Reloading) – “Handloading for ultimate performance” by Wade Robertson, published in the *Olean Times Herald* on July 6, 2014.

First runner-up: “Ways of making good guns shoot better” by Charlie Burchfield, published in *The Courier-Express* on Aug. 3, 2014.

Outdoor Blog Entry Award (sponsored by POWA EIC entries) – “A snag in the family tree” by Marshall Nych, published at *Bucktail Outdoors Online* in April, 2014.

First runner-up: “Dissecting a bowhunting buck miss: Lessons learned the hard way” by Tyler Frantz, published at *Pennsylvania Outdoor News Online* on Nov. 20, 2014.

Pennsylvania Trappers Award (sponsored by the Pennsylvania Trappers Association) – “Quest for a Red Fox” by Ralph Scherder, published in *Pennsylvania Game News*, February 2014.

Continued on next page...

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First runner-up: “Trapping is in his blood” by Doyle Dietz, published in *The Republican Herald* on Nov. 2, 2014.

Trout and the Coldwater Resource Award (*sponsored by Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited*) – “Native trout still grace our mountains” by Ben Moyer, published in *The Herald-Standard* on April 13, 2014.

First runner-up: “West Branch rebirth alive and continuing” by Mark Nale, published in *The Daily Herald* on June 17, 2014.

White-Tailed Deer Award (*sponsored by POWAEIC entries*) – “The Sacrifice” by Bob D’Angelo, published in *Pennsylvania Game News*, December 2014.

First runner-up: “Hunting is about the experience not the kill” by Tyler Frantz, published in *the Lebanon Daily News* on Sept. 28, 2014.

Wildlife Art Award (*sponsored by Ned Smith Center for Nature and Art*) – “Wintry Mix” by Gerry Putt.

Young Trees Habitat Award (*sponsored by the Allegheny Chapter of the Ruffed Grouse Society*) – “Tough times – Habitat in area dwindling for ruffed grouse” by Bob Frye, published in the *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review* on Nov. 9, 2014.

First runner-up: “The right medicine” by Mark Nale, published in the *Centre Daily Times* on April 13, 2014.

Youth Fishing Award (*sponsored by Expositions, Inc.*) – “Happiness made simple is always best” by Ron Steffe, published in *On the Water*, September 2014.

First runner-up: “Joining the ranks” by Bob Frye, published in the *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review* on May 18, 2014.

Youth and the Hunting/Shooting Sports Award (*sponsored by the National Shooting Sports Foundation*) – “BB guns can be used in teaching young shooters” by Charlie Burchfield, published in *The Courier-Express* on Nov. 26, 2014.

First runner-up: “This is more fun than golf” by Steve Sorensen, published in *The Forest Press* on Oct. 1, 2014.

Passing the gavel...



Don Carey Photo

Immediate Past President Mark Nale, left, passes the gavel to new POWA President Don Knaus during Saturday night’s banquet during the Spring Conference at Seven Springs.

Treasurer’s Report

By John Allen, POWA Treasurer / Expenditures as of April 30, 2015

<u>Income Accounts</u>	<u>Budget 14-15</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Active Members’ Dues	9,000	8,890	99
Supporting Members’ Dues	7,500	7,100	95
Merchandise Sales	100	100	100
Craft Award Income	2,000	1,970	99
General Contribution	-	140	-
Spring Conference Income (Net)	2,585	1,120	43
TOTAL INCOME	\$21,185	\$19,130	90%
<u>Expense Accounts</u>	<u>Budget 14-15</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Executive Dir. Stipend	8,000	5,333	67
Pow Wow (Print/Edit)	4,750	2,296	48
Member Awards	2,850	-	-
Membership Directory	1,500	-	-
Plaque Expenses	1,000	132	13
Office Expenses	1,000	326	33
Postage, General	750	669	89
Insurance	510	502	98
Marketing	300	487	162
Credit Card Fees	150	108	72
Travel	125	-	-
Website Expenses	100	-	-
Interim Board Meeting	100	-	-
Miscellaneous	50	-	-
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$21,185	\$9,853	47%
Net Income	0	\$9,277	

Cash Accounts as of April 30, 2015: General Fund, \$31,704; Youth Education Fund, \$12,310; Scholarship Fund, \$56,913; Jacquelin Knight CD, \$14,369; Emergency Fund, \$9,174; Northwest CD, \$20,000; U.S. Treasury Note, \$10,000. Total Cash Accounts: \$154,470.

Springs

from page 1

agenda for Friday morning. A few even hunted Thursday. Board Member Ralph Martone handled the many hunters. Freddie McKnight bagged a nice gobbler. Fishing the Youghiogheny River was also on Friday – Ben Moyer organized a spectacular 11-mile guided fishing float trip, while Len Lichvar handled the Yough fishing along the bike trail.

The official weekend began with our Friday evening banquet at the Sporting Clays Grille. Jeremy Green with the NRA was in attendance, and announced a \$1,000 Excellence in Craft Award sponsored by the NRA beginning in 2016. The NRA also sponsored that evening's meal. Breakfast Saturday morning was sponsored by the Laurel Highlands Visitors Bureau, also held at the Sporting Clays Grille. Our Craft Improvement Seminars started immediately thereafter. Mike Mohr, Seven Springs shotgun instruction/professional, gave a talk on shotgun basics. There was a lot of note taking as members were planning their columns on this subject.

Next it was Justin Spracklin, Seven Springs' head fishing guide, whose subject was "Demystifying Western Pennsylvania Fly Hatches." He also revealed four blue-ribbon local trout streams. Again there was more note taking by members. Perhaps the highlight of the seminars was Bob and Linda Steiner – where both told many of their secrets to writing and photo success. John Hayes, outdoor editor for the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* revealed how to reach more readers – especially non-hunting and non-fishing readers. Bob Ford, winner of many Outdoor Writers Association of America awards, demonstrated how blogging is making him more money.

Two seminar coffee/donut breaks were sponsored by PA Hunters Sharing the Harvest and shotgun maker Caesar Guerini. Lunch, right there in the Sporting Clays Grille, was sponsored by Elite Shotguns. Lunch was immediately followed by Breakout – which took place in the main Seven Springs complex. Supporting members attending were Trout Unlimited, the Western PA Conservancy, Maryland

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Don Carey Photo



Mark Nale Photo



Michael Klimkos Photo

At top, Chuck Matasic from Kodabow speaks with POMA Executive Director Kevin Orthman during Saturday afternoon's Breakout session at Seven Springs Mountain Resort.

Above, Mike Capps of Howard Communications demonstrates Mossy Oak product as POWA members look on.

At left, Jeff Woleslagle shows a fine brown trout caught while fishing in nearby Laurel Hill State Park.

At right, Freddie McKnight with the gobbler he scored during a morning hunt.

DCNR's acting secretary introduced at Friday event

By Terry Brady

They came like the targets at Seven Springs' nearby sporting clays range: scattered, quickly and sometimes tough. From members of the Pa. Outdoor Writers Association, the questions just kept coming:

"Why aren't more state park cabins 'pet friendly' to Northern-tier grouse hunters in the fall and winter?"

"Will there be stronger emphasis now on the Conservation Landscape concept across the state?"

"What will the future hold for Marcellus Shale drilling in our state forestlands?"

Fielding the queries from about 100 POWA members and guests was DCNR Acting Secretary Cindy Adams Dunn, who was a featured speaker at the association's annual spring conference at Seven Springs Mountain Resort in Champion, Somerset County. No stranger to the group, throughout her conservation career she had addressed its members on several occasions, discussed different topic.

Wearing a variety of career hats, she had talked to them before about the health of the Chesapeake Bay, bird life in their home state and deer in their Penn's Woods. Now, on May, 15, she was following in the heels of two of her predecessors – John Oliver and Michael DiBerardinis – accepting an invitation that said, in essence, "Tell us your vision for our state parks and state forests in the future."

It is a vision, she said, that could be blurred if the outdoors-related media does not keep chipping away at public indifference and the disconnect between the young and the outdoor world around them. One in which "many of the kids today are not allowed out of their postage-size back yards."

"If the general public does not have the commitment to our natural resources, they won't have the interest and the desire to fight for and see positive changes like you have done," she told her audience of outdoors communicators. "It's an incredible story, one that has been influenced so strongly by your organization



Brad Isles Photo

DCNR Acting Secretary Cindy Adams Dunn speaks to POWA members attending the Friday night barbecue held at The Grille at Sporting Clays during the spring conference at Seven Springs Mountain Resort.

and others."

Noting segmentation among outdoors enthusiasts often weakens overall goals and accomplishments, the acting secretary called upon the POWA to continue communicating the shared goals of all who enjoy the outdoors. "It's not a case of hunter versus biker. Or birder.

"If all of us work together, we can get a lot more accomplished," Dunn said. "And I'm looking forward to working with all of you in the years ahead.

"It's a great time to be outdoors right now, whether you are hiking, or fishing or birding. Continue to get out and enjoy it, write about it and film and photograph it."

Strong applause greeted the closing. POWA members liked what she said, how she answered their questions, but they *loved* her evening plans: while they retired to the resort's high-rise hotel, she was driving a short distance to Kooser State Park, where she would spend her night.

"She told me she *loved* it," said State Park Manager Michael Mumau. "That's the first thing she told me the next morning. She said she could hear the stream outside her cabin at night, and the next day there were warblers and other songbirds everywhere!"



Nick Sisley Photo

Continued from previous page...

Office of Tourism, Caesar Guerini, the Pennsylvania Game Commission, National Wild Turkey Federation, Browning, Birchwood Casey and Kodabow.

This was followed by our membership meeting, which preceded the annual awards dinner. The Saturday evening meal also took place at the main Seven Springs complex – this one sponsored by the National Shooting Sports Foundation – and where a brief video was shown about talking to kids re firearms safety. Each member also took home a thumb drive with

this video. Following the recognition of Excellence in Craft Award winners, Ways and Means Chairman Ralph Scherder and others brought tables full of prizes for our regular raffle drawings.

Sunday morning's wrap-up was clay target shooting at the Seven Springs Sporting Clays 5-Stand – covered and out of the weather. This shooting was not only very well attended – Mike Mohr and Paul, his Level II NSCA Instructor, showed how much there is to successful shooting – and every attendee not only learned plenty, they were soon breaking targets with alacrity.

Member News

Keystone Wounded Warriors honor Dietz

Keystone Wounded Warriors awarded Doyle Dietz its "Certificate of Appreciation Award" for his ongoing and continuous support of outdoors activities for veterans.

Retired Army Lt. Col. Tom Frendak, the Keystone Wounded Warriors liaison for Carbon and Schuylkill counties, made the surprise presentation to Dietz when a guest on his "Experience The Outdoors" weekly radio program.

Frendak presented the award on behalf of Keystone Wounded Warriors president Paul Spurgin.

In presenting the award Frendak said it was for both the publicity Dietz has generated for Keystone Wounded Warriors and Volunteer Guides for Veterans through columns and feature articles and his radio program and his volunteer work guiding for veterans.

To become involved with Keystone Wounded Warriors and Volunteer Guides for Veterans as a participant or securing the services of guides contact Frendak at tomfrendak@hotmail.com.

SPONSOR 3 NEW POWA MEMBERS IN 1 YEAR ... AND 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, associate, supporting and student. 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 website, www.powa-doorwriters.com.

Information on the value and benefits of membership is on the website, too. Contact the Executive Director for information.

Top Shot



Doyle Dietz Photo

Gerry Putt, left, is presented with the championship plaque after winning the Media Trap Shot with a score of 24 at this year's Pennsylvania State Championship Shoot at Valley Gun and Country Club, Elysburg, by Pennsylvania State Sportsman's Association public relations director and POWA member Tom Austin.

On target



Doyle Dietz Photo

Thanks to the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association for underwriting the Juniors 25-Yard Match at Blue Ridge Rifles Muzzleloader Club's Memorial Day Rendezvous and Shoot at Summit Station. Placing first through third were, from left, Mark Shearer, whose prize was accepted by Claire Moore, Matt High and Desiree High.

Market News

by Freddie McKnight



Bucktailoutdoors is always looking to introduce its readers to new PA authors. Articles should be informative and entertaining showcasing Pennsylvania outdoors. General subject matter may include hunting, fishing, hiking, ecotourism etc. Submissions should be around 1,000 words with a supporting photo or two. Compensation is \$40 per published piece. Contact: steve@bucktailoutdoors.com.

Pennsylvania Game News is looking for me-and-joe deer, spring turkey, rabbit and squirrel hunting articles for 2016 issues of the magazine. Send queries or completed articles for review on a speculation basis to Bob D'Angelo at the Game Commission at 2001 Elmerton Ave., Harrisburg, Pa. 17110. Email: rdangelo@pa.gov.

Ohio Valley Outdoors magazine writer guidelines: A general rule of thumb for story length is 600-1,500 words. Occasionally used are stories between 300-400 words (tips, how-tos, Q&As, etc.). Main topics are hunting, fishing, firearms with subtopics of camping, trapping and product reviews related to our topics. The magazine loves photo support with articles. Payment is generally \$35 for articles and \$10 for photos. A cover photo gets \$100.

American Angler is devoted exclusively to fly fishing, focusing mainly on coldwater fly fishing for trout, steelhead and salmon, but the magazine also runs articles about warmwater and saltwater fly fishing. (Sister magazine, *Saltwater Fly Fishing*, is devoted exclusively to the latter.) The magazine's mission is to supply readers with well-written, accurate articles on every aspect of the sport – angling techniques and methods, reading water, finding fish, selecting flies, tying flies, fish behavior, places to fish, casting, managing line, rigging, tackle, accessories, entomology and any other relevant topics. Each submission should present specific, useful information that will increase our readers' enjoyment of the sport and help them catch more fish. Send all queries, correspondence

and submissions to: Steve Walburn, editor, American Angler, 735 Broad St. Augusta, GA 30904. Phone: 706-828-3971. Email: steve.walburn@morris.com.

Bait Fisherman is seeking articles on practically any topic that is "bait fishing" – the fish, the bait, techniques, and locations.

Both fresh water and salt water pieces are sought. Though every article doesn't need to have a recipe (for consumptive use) or quick release info (non-consumptive use), we are very conscious of being wise stewards of our natural resources. This should show in the articles where appropriate. Basic how-to-do pieces will most likely remain our most printed articles. That being said, articles that show the science (not necessarily in scientific terms) behind the fish, the bait and the methods are also needed. We need both long feature articles and shorts. Reprints are accepted with full disclosure. Contact editor Rich Faler: bf@bait-fisherman.com.

2015/16 POWA Committees		
Committee	Chair	Liaison
Awards	Brad Isles	Brad Isles
Awards Review	Bob Mitchell	Ralph Martone
Constitution and Bylaws	Jim Fitser	Mark Nale
Craft Improvement.....	Ben Moyer	Brad Isles
Duties Manual.....	Bob Mitchell	Bud Cole
Editorial Review	Terry Brady	Mary Hosmer
Ethics.....	John Swinton	Don Knaus
Finance/Budget	John Allen	Bud Cole
Financial Auditing.....	Betty Dietz	Doyle Dietz
Historical Archives.....	Mary Linkevich	Mark Demko
Membership Audit	Tom Tatum	Doyle Dietz
Membership Development.....	Charlie Burchfield	Mark Nale
Member Screening	Dave Ehrig	Doyle Dietz
Nominating	Rich Faler	Don Knaus
Outdoor Education	Kermit Henning	Ralph Martone
Outdoor Press Outings	Freddie McKnight	Mark Demko
Past Presidents Council.....	Freddie McKnight	Mark Nale
Publicity	Dennis Scharadin	Brad Isles
Scholarship.....	John Swinton	John Allen
Sports Shows.....	Kermit Henning	Doyle Dietz
Supporting Member Recruitment	Bud Cole	Bud Cole
Supporting Member Rep.....	Connie Yingling	Connie Yingling
Supporting Member Screening	Don Knaus	Mark Demko
Technology/Website.....	Brad Isles	Brad Isles
Ways and Means	Ralph Scherder	Mark Nale

Meeting Minutes

Board of Directors Minutes

May 15, 2015

The Grille at Sporting Clays
Seven Springs Mountain Resort | Champion, PA

The meeting was called to order at 9:42 p.m. by 1st VP Don Knaus. Present:

President Mark Nale; 1st VP Don Knaus; 2nd VP Ralph Martone; Treasurer John Allen; Directors Brad Isles, Doyle Dietz, Mark Demko and Mary Hosmer; Supporting Member Representative Connie Yingling; and Parliamentarian Ralph Martone. Absent but excused were Board Chair Rich Faler, Directors Bud Cole and Ralph Scherder, and Secretary Mary Linkevich. Guests attending were Tom Tatum, Harry Guyer, Freddie McKnight and Charlie Burchfield.

**Motion* to accept minutes of the Oct. 21, 2014 board conference call. Martone/Demko. Approved.

Correspondence: None.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

Chairman's Report: No report.

Executive Director's Report: It appears the long, hard winter has finally come to an end. But, even through all the snow, ice and frigid temperatures the wheels of POWA were still turning.

POWA had booths and auctions at the Carlisle Sports and Outdoor Show in September, the Great American Outdoor Show in Harrisburg in February, and the Lehigh Valley Outdoor Show in Allentown in March. Our auctions netted \$10,000 to be used for our education grants in 2016. While the amount of money was less than in recent years, the number of requests jumped to 16. Each of those clubs and organizations received a grant. POWA also had a booth at the Greater Philadelphia and Outdoor Show in Oaks.

Penn State student Paul Kemper was chosen to receive a Will Johns Scholarship of \$1,000. Will Johns Scholarship Chairman John Swinton is quite pleased with this year's recipient. Kemper spent last summer interning for *Outdoor Life/Field & Stream* magazines.

The number of POWA's EIC and Specialty Awards also took a significant increase. This year there are 25 categories with total prize money of \$3,950.

The membership renewals for 2015 have been completed. There were 163 membership renewal notices sent. Six never returned their

renewal notices. They were Chris Gorsuch, Jim Grippo, Dave Lockard, Tom Mitchell, Micah Sargent and David Smith. Harry Boyer wrote he was not writing anymore, and Jack Harris did not meet the requirements for associate membership. In addition, life member and former president Adele Dovey passed away.

However, since our last conference, eight candidates were approved for membership and we end the fiscal year with 163 active, associate, life, and honorary members. Since the winter *PowWow*, six candidates passed the membership screening and board vote. They are: Harold Daub, associate, and active members Robert "BJ" Small, Bill Anderson, Michael T. Huff, Christian Shane and Doty McDowell. Bob Miller, a member since 1968, decided at age 93 not to renew his membership. The board, however, decided his 47 years as a member warranted his being approved as an honorary member.

Supporting member renewals are almost completed. POWA started the year with 93 supporting members and since the spring meeting the board has approved 15 new supporting members. New supporting members since the winter *PowWow* are: The Nature Conservancy, Mossy Oak, Night Eyes LLC, Whitewater Challengers, American Sportfishing Association and the Chesapeake Bay Foundation.

There is nothing to report regarding the joint fall conference with the Mason-Dixon Outdoor Writers and Virginia Outdoor Writers.

**Motion* to accept the Executive Director's Report. Dietz/Isles. Approved.

President's Report: It has been a busy two years for me as POWA president and the time went by quickly. It seems that just a few weeks ago I was a bit apprehensive – wondering if I could do a quality job – and now it was time to write this final president's message.

Since I'm a '60s music fan, I often relate life events to songs. With that in mind, if there was to be a theme song for my presidency, it would certainly be the Beatles tune from the late 1960s, "With a Little Help From My Friends."

So many people stepped forward in so many ways that much was accomplished. I detailed those accomplishments in the Winter 2015 issue of *PowWow* and I won't repeat that again here. However, I will make note of one accomplishment that will help POWA continue to move forward.

I am happy to report that we now have a new recruiting tool. If you haven't already seen it, you will receive a copy of our new supporting member brochure – designed by Paula Piatt. The Board and I thought that this was an important step to help increase our supporting membership. Use your copies to sign up new members. I have used my brochures (member and supporting member) to sign up

four new POWA members since January. You could do this, too.

It has been an honor to serve as POWA president and I was flattered when asked to serve a second term. It is now time to turn the gavel over to Don Knaus. Don has been a big help during the past two years and his input and assistance was instrumental in many ways – including, but not limited to rewriting all of the Board Directives and streamlining the new supporting member review process. I am counting on Don to keep our organization moving ahead – growing and getting stronger. I hope that the membership gives Don the same kind of support that I received.

Thanks to everyone for your support and help during the past two years.

**Motion* to accept the President's Report. Isles/Demko. Approved.

Treasurer's Report: John Allen said we are at 90 percent of budget and, as of April 30, we are in good shape. We are up in revenue on the supporting member side and active members are about the same. Allen recommends that POWA increase the Executive Director's salary by \$1,000, making it \$9,000. He said POWA is financially sound enough to go back to that level of compensation.

**Motion* to accept the Treasurer's Report. Dietz/Martone. Approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Awards: Chair Brad Isles reports the number of craft awards categories increased for the third straight year. Members were offered up to 25 total award categories, eight core awards and 17 specialty awards, which represents an increase from eight and 13 last year and eight and 10 in 2013. Total number of entries also climbed for the third consecutive year to 43 individuals who submitted 297 entries in 198 total categories as compared to 33 who submitted 250 entries in 163 total categories previously. Winners will be announced at the Spring 2015 conference. POWA and the Outdoor Writers Association of California exchanged judging duties among their respective members.

Awards Review: No action requested.

Constitution and Bylaws: No current activity.

Craft Improvement: No report.

Duties Manual: Chair Bob Mitchell reminds the board that Jim Fitser worked hard to update the manual and the board should make sure this latest version is in use. Mitchell asked that he be forwarded a copy of the most recently approved manual for his files.

Editorial Review: Chair Terry Brady and the committee applaud *PowWow* editor Brad Isles who continues to do an excellent job. Brad provides clean copy and interesting photos, and his timeliness of alerts and last-minute info to the membership always is spot on. POWA is

fortunate to have his services.

Ethics: No activity.

Finance and Budget: As posted.

Financial Auditing: No audit of the Treasurer was performed, but one is expected to happen in the near future.

Historical Archives: Chair Mary Linkevich completed her recap of the previous year's work, which will be printed in the directory. Dennis Scharadin said he has a few items that need to be added, such as grants that have been awarded.

Membership Audit: No activity.

Membership Development: No report.

Member Screening: The committee seeks board approval on the following screening activity since Dec. 16, 2014: New active members are Eric Levis, Robert "BJ" Small, Bill R. Anderson and Michael T. Huff, Christian Shane and Doty McDowell. New associate members are Grey Berrier II and Harold Daub. Dropped from membership was Jack Harris.

Nominating: Submitted a slate of candidates for this year's officer and board election.

Outdoor Education: No report.

Outdoor Press Outings: As posted under New Business.

Past Presidents Council: No activity.

Publicity: Chair Steve Sorensen encourages members to email him news updates at SteveSorensen@verizon.net for distribution to outdoor media outlets.

Scholarship: Dennis Scharadin reports that Paul Kemper from Penn State University was selected as the recipient of a Will Johns Scholarship. His background includes holding an internship at *Field & Stream* magazine in New York City. There is no selection from the University at Pittsburgh-Johnstown at this time.

Sports Shows: Dennis Scharadin said the Carlisle Sports & Outdoor Show has been canceled, which also means the loss of booth space and an auction. POWA will still have booths at the Great American Outdoor Show in Harrisburg, American Sportfishing's Greater Philadelphia Sports Show and the Lehigh Valley Sportsmen's Show in the future. The American Sportfishing's Greater Philadelphia Sports Show took place from Feb. 26 through March 1, 2015, and Tom Tatum manned the complimentary POWA booth with some help from Bud Cole. The two both presented seminars at this show as well. According to Show Director Tod Alberto, the 2015 show was the most successful to date and the plans are to expand the event next year. At the end of the show, Bud Cole took possession of the POWA emblem for display at the Allentown Outdoors Show in March. The Philadelphia show always needs member volunteers to man the booth and sell wares. The Lehigh Valley Sportsmen's Show was held March 4 to 6 in Allentown, and the POWA Auction netted \$3,469.11, or

\$900 more than last year's event. Thanks go out to promoter Dennis E. Brozey, professional auctioneer Douglas House who donated his services, and the efforts of POWA volunteers who staffed the weekend, secured donations, or donated their own works including Tom Austin, Bud Cole, Mark Demko, Betty Dietz, Doyle Dietz, Dave Ehrig, Jim Fitser, Darla Guyer, Harry Guyer, Kermit Henning, Mike Klimkos, Andy Pope, Gerry Putt, Dennis Scharadin, and Bruce Schneck. Funds will be used to support youth outdoors education and recreational events.

Supporting Member Representative: Connie Yingling will continue as chair.

Supporting Member Screening: New supporting members include: the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Mossy Oak, The Nature Conservancy, Night Eyes LLC, Whitewater Challengers and the American Sportfishing Association.

Supporting Member Recruitment: Chair Bud Cole continues to follow up on leads for new supporting members by sending each prospect a registration form, general information, and a letter explaining supporting membership benefits and several new supporting members have been added. In addition, plans are ongoing to contact the supporting members of the Outdoor Writers Association of America, the Mason-Dixon Outdoor Writers, the Professional Outdoor Media Association, and the Virginia Outdoor Media Associations. This suggestion will be passed along to other active and supporting members of POWA. A supporting membership brochure was created and is available. Cole strongly encourages volunteers to join his efforts.

Technology/Web Site: Chair Brad Isles reports that members received a high number of POWA email updates over the past six months in order to keep members abreast of important POWA news. Website updates continue to occur as needed based on submissions and relevant press releases provided by members, supporting members and the executive director. The new active and supporting member brochures are now on the site, along with a redesigned membership application. Recent photos will be accepted by members who would like to contribute. Members who have a website should check to make sure they are listed. Activity on POWA's social media channels has picked up slightly. Utilizing Facebook and Twitter as resources to connect with prospective members and followers, and publicize activities/events of our active and supporting members, is important.

Ways and Means: Ralph Scherder will continue as chair.

**Motion* to accept committee reports as posted. Yingling/Demko. Approved.

CONFERENCES

Conference Sites 2016 and 2017: Nick Sisley agreed to help organize the next conference if there is a local contact. Preferred locations would be the Williamsport, Wilkes-Barre Scranton, State College, Valley Forge or Harrisburg areas, but a local member would need to step up and volunteer to chair the conference. Tourist promotion agencies or visitor bureaus would possibly be willing to help.

Fall Gathering September or October 2015: There has been no action because of a possible joint meeting with M-DOWA and VOWA.

OLD BUSINESS

Joint Conference: Tom Tatum and Harry Guyer discussed logistics related to a possible joint conference with VOWA and M-DOWA. A recommendation was made to hold the event in Winchester, Va., preferably in the fall, but it's most practical to have it next year, in August 2016. Fall is high season in the Winchester area. Tatum suggested taking a poll to see how many POWA members would be inclined to attend a joint conference in August. Later months are typically not good for POWA members due to hunting seasons, August is not good for the other organizations. Guyer said there is a large number of member overlap between the organizations and a possibility for POWA to add new members to its ranks following a joint conference.

Supporting Member Brochure: Mark Nale worked with Paula Piatt to develop and produce supporting member brochures. Nale reported getting a great deal to have them printed at Staples. He has them available to take and distribute at the POWA booth during outdoor shows and other outreach programs. A .pdf of the brochure is also available for download on the POWA website.

Audit of the Treasurer: An audit of the Treasurer has not been done and is necessary to complete. Dennis Scharadin reported that he will connect with John Allen and complete one in June or July.

NEW BUSINESS

Outdoor Press Outings: Freddie McKnight, assisted by Mark Demko, is looking to set up press trips for POWA members throughout the year. They are looking to organize at least two trips in 2015, and expand offerings from there. Details are being worked out, but the first trip is expected to be a kayak fishing expedition. A second trip would possibly be to the Ocean City, Md. area. The hope is to use supporting members as much as possible in order to show give them support and added value to their membership in POWA. Details of how to organize participation of the trips by regular POWA members is still being worked out, but
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the expectation would be to have coverage of the trip in the form of stories, TV, radio, photography, etc., in a timely manner. Guidelines for selecting participants need to be worked out. Specifically, who selects the members to take the trips and how are the members chosen if there are more members who sign up than spots available.

**Motion* encouraging McKnight and Demko to pursue and set up these trips how they see fit, with the support of the Board. Knaus/Dietz. Approved.

Small Games of Chance: Scharadin reported that securing a Small Games of Chance license for the 2015 conference was problematic. There were issues related to the location of POWA's "office," the conference location, Articles of Incorporation, etc. A letter from the IRS stating our non-profit status was hard to locate, and later found in storage. Also, the address of our lawyer's office is not valid because the firm no longer exists. In the end, we did get the license in time and there are no other issues. There is potential to be charged for work done by the lawyer in order to secure the license.

Possible Change to Officers' Terms: Charlie Burchfield proposed using the POMA model of streamlining how terms of office work for officers in which they would fill two-year terms, moving up each time for another two-year term. It would also eliminate the Chairman of Board position. Burchfield sees it as a way to be opportunistic, make good and positive change, and limiting burnout, which would bring an incentive to have past presidents return to office. He also feels the decision should not be made lightly or quickly and would have to be looked at in regards to POWA's Constitution and Bylaws. No action taken.

Committee to Research Investments: Knaus suggested POWA explore pursuing a money market or six-month CD to replace the expired Jacquelin Knight CD.

**Motion* that the money from the expired Jacqueline Knight CD be invested as a short-term CD, at one year or less, to be reviewed as necessary by the Finance & Budget Committee. Martone/Dietz. Approved.

Honorary Member: Longtime member Bob Miller did not renew his membership at the age of 93.

**Motion* to recognize Miller as an honorary POWA member. Knaus/Martone. Approved.

Reorganizational Meeting: The meeting is usually held Sunday morning, but President-elect Knaus requested to have it immediately following the membership meeting on May 16.

**Motion* to adjourn at 11:25 p.m. by Dietz.

– Submitted by
Brad Isles, acting secretary

Meeting Minutes

Membership Meeting Minutes

May 16, 2015

Seven Springs Mountain Resort | Champion, PA

The meeting was called to order at 3:15 p.m. by President Mark Nale. Present:

President Mark Nale; 1st VP Don Knaus; 2nd VP Ralph Martone; Treasurer John Allen; Directors Brad Isles, Doyle Dietz and Mark Demko; Supporting Member Representative Connie Yingling; and Parliamentarian Ralph Martone. Absent but excused were Board Chair Rich Faler, Directors Bud Cole, Mary Hosmer and Ralph Scherder, and Secretary Mary Linkevich.

**Motion* to accept minutes of the membership meeting minutes from May 17, 2014, board reorganization meeting minutes from May 18, 2014, and board conference call minutes from Oct. 21, 2014. Bill Ferris/Gerry Putt. Approved.

Correspondence: Aside from a high amount of junk mail, Dennis Scharadin reports no other correspondence.

Executive Director's Report: As posted in Board Minutes.

President's Report: As posted in Board Minutes.

Chairman's Report: No report.

**Motion* to accept the Executive Director's and President's reports. Bob Clark/Tom Tatum. Approved.

Treasurer's Report: As posted.

**Motion* to accept the Treasurer's Report. Don Knaus/Gerry Putt. Approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Awards: Chair Brad Isles said the report is as posted and that he is looking forward to distributing the awards to excellence in craft winners during the banquet.

Awards Review: No action requested.

Constitution and Bylaws: No current activity.

Craft Improvement: Chair Ben Moyer said Brad Isles consistently reminds him to submit Craft Improvement articles for *PowWow*, and he continues to do so.

Duties Manual: As posted.

Editorial Review: Chair Terry Brady and the committee applaud *PowWow* editor Brad Isles who continues to do an excellent job.

Ethics: No activity.

Finance and Budget: As posted.

Financial Auditing: Dennis Scharadin reports that an audit of the Treasurer was not

performed as expected, but President-elect Don Knaus said one will occur in the near future.

Historical Archives: Chair Mary Linkevich will continue in the same role.

Membership Audit: No activity.

Membership Development: No report.

Member Screening: As posted.

Nominating: No report.

Outdoor Education: Chair Kermit Henning reports that 16 individual grants were distributed this year. Despite a record low for revenue generated from auctions, the proceeds were divided and everyone got something. Mark Nale praised Henning's efforts.

Outdoor Press Outings: Freddie McKnight said the reason for pursuing outdoor press outing opportunities is to show supporting members there is a real benefit to partnering with POWA and to generate camaraderie between members. How the trips will work is still a fluid situation, but the thought is to send out an email to members with information on the trip, and the members would reply if interested.

There would be a reasonable expectation that stories, photographs, radio, TV, etc. would be generated from participating. The host would be responsible for selecting who attends the trip from a pool of interested candidates. The first trip is to Luzerne County to do a kayak/canoe fishing trip on the Susquehanna River. Mark Demko said the second trip this year would be in mid-September and be to Ocean City, Md. for a two-day saltwater trip for up to four writers. McKnight asked members to contact him with information on tourist agencies or guide services who may be interested in having members participate in an outing. Kermit Henning urged caution on deciding who goes on which trips, and that metropolitan newspapers don't necessarily generate more coverage than those from a smaller, rural areas. The hosts shouldn't be able to pick who goes based on the size of the possible market. McKnight is hopeful to do one outing per month in the future so there are options for all members throughout the year. He would also start by using our current supporting members. Henning said there is also a large pool of regular members who can lead each other on trips. Paula Piatt asked if there is a way to track what media is generated from the trips and McKnight said he would ask that tear sheets and related materials be sent to him and he would pass them along to the organizer of the trip.

Past Presidents Council: No activity.

Publicity: Chair Steve Sorensen encourages members to email him news updates at SteveSorensen@verizon.net for distribution on various outdoor news wires.

Scholarship: As posted.

Sports Shows: Kermit Henning said things

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have changed with the Harrisburg Sports Show. The NRA, which took control of the show, recognizes what POWA does, and is in tune with that and is willing to support us. This year's auction was held in a different room and led to assorted problems that resulted in about half the normal revenue being generated. Next year will be our 32nd at the show and Henning is hopeful things will be better. Dennis Scharadin said the Carlisle Sports & Outdoor Show has been canceled after a two-year effort to get it going, so POWA will be losing an auction. Tom Tatum reported the American Sportfishing's Greater Philadelphia Sports Show continues to comp POWA a booth and that he and Bud Cole were the only two members to work it this year. Both did seminars and spread the word about POWA. The 2016 show will be the last weekend in February. Doyle Dietz said the Lehigh Valley Sportsmen's Show in Allentown also comped POWA booth and the auction did very well. Promoter and supporting member Dennis Brozey distributes information on the auction to each vendor so they know about it up front and will make donations. The 2016 show will be the first full weekend in March and more assistance from members is requested.

Supporting Member Representative: Connie Yingling will continue as chair.

Supporting Member Screening: As posted

Supporting Member Recruitment: As posted.

Technology/Web Site: As posted

Ways and Means: Ralph Scherder will continue as chair.

**Motion to accept committee reports as*

posted. Harry Guyer/Terry Brady. Approved.

CONFERENCES

Fall Gathering 2015: Dennis Scharadin said POWA held a successful fall gathering in Elk Country two years ago. Last year's attempt at Hawk Mountain did not occur due to lack of interest, diminishing the likelihood of holding one this year.

**Motion to put fall gatherings on hiatus and encourage Mark Demko and Freddie McKnight to pursue press outings as an alternative. Linda Steiner/Don Knaus second. Approved.*

Spring 2016: Mark Nale said there is always an attempt to hit the four corners of the state on a rotating basis when it comes to scheduling conference locations. The last four conferences have been at Seven Springs (southwest), Shipensburg (southcentral), Franklin (northwest), Pottsville (southeast) based on who volunteered to be chair. We are looking at locations not in those areas for the next conference. Ideally the next one would be in the Williamsport, Wilkes-Barre/Scranton, Valley Forge or State College areas, with Harrisburg also an option. If a member local to one of those regions would be willing to step forward and host a conference it would be appreciated. Nick Sisley, who chaired the conference at Seven Springs, offered to help as a co-chair in any region.

Joint Conference: Tom Tatum reported there is interest in holding a joint conference with Mason-Dixon Outdoor Writers Association and Virginia Outdoor Writers Association in Winchester, Va., in August 2016. It would be a collegial outing where members of the three organizations would get to know each

other, and possibly include seminars or craft improvement sessions. There is no inclination to have a joint conference in the spring due to auctions and other factors related to our respective organizations. There will be a survey sent to members to gauge interest once more details are confirmed.

OLD BUSINESS

Election: Ben Moyer and Paula Piatt were elected to the Board of Directors.

New supporting member brochures: The supporting member brochures are complete. Mark Nale received a great deal from Staples to print the brochures, which are available to take and use at shows and other times of promotion. They are also available to download from the website as a .pdf.

NEW BUSINESS

New members: Dennis Scharadin reviewed the list of member candidates who passed the screening process.

**Motion to accept new members. Bill Ferris/Ben Moyer. Approved.*

Resignation: The Board regretfully accepted the resignation of Mary Linkevich as Secretary.

Honorary Member: Longtime member Bob Miller did not renew his membership at the age of 93.

**Motion to approve Bob Miller as an Honorary Member. Charlie Burchfield/Bob Steiner. Approved.*

**Motion to adjourn the membership meeting. Nick Sisley. 4:57 p.m.*

– Submitted by

Brad Isles, acting secretary

Meeting Minutes

Reorganization Meeting Minutes

May 16, 2015

Seven Springs Mountain Resort | Champion, PA

The meeting was called to order at 5:01 p.m. by President Don Knaus. Present: 1st VP Ralph Martone; 2nd VP Brad Isles; Chairman of the Board Mark Nale; Treasurer John Allen; Directors Doyle Dietz, Mark Demko, Ben Moyer and Paula Piatt; Supporting Member Representative Connie Yingling; and Parliamentarian Ralph Martone. Absent but excused were Director Bud Cole and Secretary Mary Hosmer.

NEW BUSINESS

Board Directives, Constitution and By-

laws: President Knaus said he would see to it that all board members get copies of the Board Directives, Constitution and Bylaws.

Committees: President Knaus said he has contacted candidates for virtually every committee chair position and will email copies to the board. Contact him with questions.

Dates for Potential Board Meetings: Dennis Scharadin said POWA once held four board meetings per year and now we cannot get by with just one. With Mark Nale as President there was more than one per year and we were able to get a lot accomplished. In an effort to lower costs due to driving and staying overnight, conference calls really worked well. Don Knaus said he likes the idea of a conference call unless there is a large number of agenda items that would require meeting in person. Brad Isles urged Knaus to approach it as we will have one face-to-face meeting in the spring and at least one more meeting in the fall, whether it be by phone or in person. It's important to have at least two scheduled meetings. Mark Nale urged

the board to consider reducing the number of committees POWA currently has in an effort to streamline procedures and make the board stronger. Right now we are a membership-strong organization in which every single thing needs to be approved by the members. That was OK when we had two membership meetings per year, but now, with one, it's very cumbersome. He wonders if POWA would operate better if the board was stronger and in position to make decisions. It may also make being a board member more desirable.

Outdoor Press Outings: Ralph Martone wants the board to show support for what Freddie McKnight and Mark Demko are trying to do when it comes to setting up organized outings for members. He suggested the board establish guidelines to follow in selecting who attends the trips in advance of the next board meeting.

**Motion to adjourn at 5:33 by Doyle Dietz.*

– Submitted by

Brad Isles, acting secretary

Among the rapids...



Member Ralph Scherder (near right) photographs whitewater action during the Stonycreek Rendezvous on May 17, following the POWA Spring Conference at Seven Springs. POWAers were invited by member Dave Hurst to participate in a whitewater rafting excursion on the Stonycreek River as part of the Rendezvous, a whitewater festival that draws hundreds of canoers and kayakers to the northern Somerset County river each year. (Mark Nale photo)



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