



POWOW

Newsletter of the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association

Fall 2017



Darl Black Photo

POWA Supporting Member Dale Black of Black Knight Industries shows off a fine smallmouth bass from the Allegheny River.

Return to the Oil Region

By Marilyn Black
Oil Region Alliance

Because POWA Conferences have been hosted in the Oil Region several times during the past two decades, you may have thought you knew the wide-ranging outdoor opportunities and distinctive legacy of this section of rural northwestern Pennsylvania.

Yet, the May 3-6, 2018 conference will utilize different venues and offer additional story material for your first-hand experience!

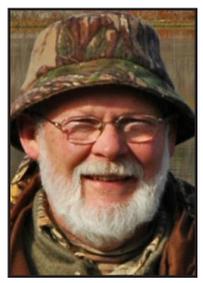
You're encouraged to arrive in time for the Thursday evening welcome reception and handy relaxed delicious dining with live musical entertainment just blocks from the hotel. This is the weekend when

See RETURN, page 3

Scharadin to retire from executive director position

POWA Executive Director Dennis Scharadin has informed the organization's Board of Directors that he will retire from his position effective Aug. 31, 2018.

"Dennis has served POWA in a number of capacities throughout his career and we appreciate the time, talent and counsel he has devoted to us in each of those roles, but especially as director," said Brad Isles, POWA president.



Scharadin

The board is now accepting resumes for Scharadin's replacement. Interviews for qualified candidates are expected to occur during the annual conference in Franklin, PA from May 3-6, 2018.

More details on the job requirements and stipend will be published at paoutdoorwriters.com and in the next issue of *PowWow*.

Isles will chair a search committee charged with finding Scharadin's replacement. If you are interested in applying for this position, email a letter of interest, resume and/or qualifications to bcisles@zoominternet.net.

Now is the time to ready Craft Award entries; due Feb. 10

Please study the category criteria and submission guidelines published in this edition of *PowWow* before submitting entries. There are 28 Craft Awards this year – eight core awards and 20 specialty awards.

There is a \$5 entry fee per category. Please fill out the "Craft Award Entry Form," add

up the total number of categories entered and multiply that number by \$5 to calculate the grand total. Submit a single check or money order with the appropriate amount made payable to "POWA" and include it with your entry. Entries not accompanied by the required fee will be disqualified.

Contest entries must be postmarked

by February 10, 2018. Winners will be announced at the annual POWA Awards Banquet in May.

Entries should be mailed to: Brad Isles, 147 Swain Hill Road, Harmony, PA 16037.

1. All Active, Associate and Life members of POWA in good standing are

See AWARDS, page 8

Craft Improvement

When it comes to making great images, the eyes have it

By Tim Flanigan
Craft Improvement

Want to shoot great wildlife photographs all the time? It can be done by strict adherence to one hard, fast rule; *"The eyes have it."* Photography is all about the eyes; especially the eyes of the subject.

Eyes are much more than the windows of the soul, so much so that the manner in which they are rendered in a photograph or painting is of the greatest importance to the quality of the work. From the moment that you read this sentence, your photography will immediately improve if you always focus your attention and your lens on the eye of the subject and nothing else.

To produce high-quality images of living things from elk to mayflies you must capture at least one of the subject's eyes in sharp focus and it must contain a catch light or highlight. These small tell tale reflections of the photo's light source, convey the impression of life. Flat dark eyes, without the enhancement of a catch light, appear dead, and the entire subject loses interest to the viewer's eye.

No matter what focusing mechanism or method you use in your photography, the camera and your eye must be constantly focused on the subject's eyes and the shutter tripped only at the moment the eye is in completely sharp focus and a catch light flashes on its surface. *Forget about the rest of the subject and shoot it in the eyes.* This rule applies always – always – always, no matter how large or small the subject or how narrow the depth of field may be. Shoot the elk or buck in the eyes and let the rest of the subject be rendered as it may. We can, of course, influence the depth of field by selecting various f-stops (lens aperture sizes), but even the narrowest band of sharp focus will produce great wildlife photos if the eye is located within the sharpest portion of the photo.

We've all heard about the deer hunter who focused on the antlers of the buck of a lifetime and missed the shot. This

same division of attention afflicts photographers and we must force ourselves to observe the scene within the viewfinder with divided vision. What is that? It is the ability to observe and monitor the overall composition of the scene while keeping the subject's eye in constant focus by our eye and the camera lens. No matter how the subject is oriented to the camera, or how long or broad the subject may be, if the eye is captured properly, you have a presentable photo.

So vital is this rule that we must also select the proper eye to focus upon. With animals such as deer, elk, moose and most birds, we often see only one eye at a time, but when shooting subjects such as owls, bears and, of course, humans, with eyes located on the same plane and observed simultaneously, it is vitally important to focus on the eye that is closest to the camera. A slight turn of the subject's head can shift one eye a few millimeters farther from your lens and slightly out of the focal plane. No problem; keep your attention and the focus sensor on the nearest eye. Focusing on the more distant eye renders the closer eye in soft focus, imparting a bleary-eyed look.

Most of us are now using auto-focus cameras and lens and although auto-focus capability is a wonderful aid, it must be applied with a precise purpose to render a living thing's eyes as sharp as possible. Nearly all modern high-end digital and film cameras feature focus sensors that can be selected at the will of the photographer. Even so, the location of the sensor in the viewfinder frame rarely falls directly on the subject's eye as you compose the overall scene. When this occurs, simply place the focus sensor on the eye and depress the shutter release until it snaps into sharp focus. Maintain that focus setting with steady pressure on the shutter release, move the lens to the desired composition and trip the shutter.

We must also remember that the eye's

Continued on next page...

PowWow

Fall 2017

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www.paoutdoorwriters.com

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Marilyn Black, Darl Black, Brad Isles, Tim Flanigan, Dennis Scharadin, John Allen, Charlie Burchfield, Doyle Dietz, Freddie McKnight, Tyler Frantz, Linda Steiner, Bob Steiner.

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the parks in downtown Franklin are filled with displays, vendors, and shoppers for the annual “May Mart.”

Hosting this annual gathering is the Oil Region Alliance of Business, Industry and Tourism, a POWA Supporting member. ORA has rented a special suite to serve as the POWA Hospitality Room throughout the conference. The team is coordinating logistical arrangements and pooling suggestions from other POWA members in the vicinity, so that guests can choose from among fishing, hiking, hunting, touring, paddling, and craft improvement activities offered on Friday morning, Friday afternoon, and the Saturday Spouse Outing.

The Quality Inn & Conference Center, 1411 Liberty Street, Franklin, PA 16323; 814-437-3031 is the headquarters for this conference. You may make your room reservations now. A guest room with one queen bed costs \$92.99, while a room with two queen beds is \$102.29; these figures include a hot breakfast in the hotel’s convenient first-floor Breakfast Room. Camping will be at the Venango County Fairgrounds along Pa. Route 62 just three miles from the Quality Inn. Three gracious B&B’s in Franklin offer lodging with differing themes, rang-

Continued from previous page...

surface it highly reflective and often produces mirror images that may include the photographer and the area behind him or her. This is especially true for close-up photography. I once saw a full-page photograph of the head of a Great-horned Owl and its overly large eyes that contained a clearly visible scene of a suburban garage and driveway containing an auto and several human onlookers. Although perfectly composed and exposed, neither the photographer nor the publication’s editor had focused on those all-important eyes.

Of course, the appearance of the eyes can be manipulated in the computer, but we must strive to obtain the best quality photograph possible in the camera. Great images require very little computer manipulation and result in images that please the eye of the beholder. The eyes have it!

ing from ‘Very Green’ to Classical Victorian. Commercial flights to and from Pittsburgh’s International Airport utilize the Venango Regional Airport along Pa. Route 8 which is two miles from the Quality Inn.

If you have specific requests for photographic arrangements or oil-history sites which you’d like to visit, please don’t hesitate to contact ORA’s Project Manager, Mrs. Toni Kresinski, tkresinski@oilregion.org; 814-677-3152, Ext. 110 now in order to provide plenty of time for the appropriate connections to be made with local experts and guides.

Assisting Toni are fellow POWA members Dale Black, Darl Black, Marilyn Black, Linda Steiner, and Bob Steiner. Conference registrations will be sent to Dennis Scharadin.



Darl Black Photo

Brad Custead and a spring gobbler.

2017/18 POWA Committees

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Chair</u>	<u>Liaison</u>
Awards	Isles/Martone	Brad Isles
Constitution & Bylaws and Duties Manual...	Jim Fitser	Paula Piatt
Craft Improvement.....	Ben Moyer	Tyler Frantz
Duties Manual.....	Don Knaus	Paula Piatt
Editorial Review	Terry Brady	Marshall Nych
Ethics.....	John Swinton	Jeff Woleslagle
Finance/Budget	John Allen	Brad Isles
Financial Auditing.....	Betty Dietz	Doyle Dietz
Historical Archives.....	Don Feigert	Wade Robertson
Media (Technology/Website/Publicity).....	Brad Isles	Tyler Frantz
Membership Audit	Tom Tatum	Paula Piatt
Membership Development.....	Charlie Burchfield	Ben Moyer
Member Screening	Dave Ehrig	Doyle Dietz
Nominating	Don Knaus	Marshall Nych
Outdoor Education	Kermit Henning	Ralph Martone
Outdoor Press Outings	Freddie McKnight	Doyle Dietz
Past Presidents Council.....	Don Knaus	Ralph Martone
Scholarship.....	John Swinton	John Allen
Sports Shows.....	Kermit Henning	Doyle Dietz
Supporting Member Recruitment	Nick Sisley	Tyler Frantz
Supporting Member Rep.....	Connie Spindler	Connie Spindler
Supporting Member Screening	Don Knaus	Vacant
Ways and Means	Ralph Scherder	Marshall Nych

Executive Director's Report

by Dennis Scharadin,
Executive Director



Kudos go to our Spring/Summer *PowWow* and its editor, Brad Isles. I have received numerous emails from members stating how much they liked it, especially the brief articles on the various conference seminars. It was a good idea to share that information with the entire membership.

Membership is the most important part of POWA. An active and growing membership provides the funding to keep POWA moving forward. Since June 2013 we have approved 37 Active and Associate members and 37 Supporting members.

However, they don't always remain a member. Seven of the new members have dropped their membership and eight of the Supporting members.

Our growth has been slowly eroding. In 2013 our membership was 159 Active members and the Supporting membership was 91. In 2014 it was 163 Active and 88 Supporting; 2015 was 159 and 87, 2016 had 157 and 79. This year, as of November, the membership was 154 and 80. Since the May conference we have had one membership applicant, Traditions LLC. We need to find some way to get our membership to find new members. The current incentives are not working.

Our Excellence in Craft Awards program is second to none of the other state organizations, and many of the regionals. However, it is so good because of our Supporting members who are the backbone of financing the awards. This year will prove interesting.

We still have 59 commemorative knives to sell. I recommend we sell them wherever we can, but we should keep a few for future sales.

We signed a contract for a free booth with the 33rd Allegheny Outdoor Sport Show in Monroeville for Feb. 16-18, 2018. Mike Gogal said he would man the booth.

Show promoter, Chris Fassnacht, has been offering us a booth for years. He also has been sponsoring an award for a longer time. We are looking forward to having a presence in a new area.

Finally, after a lot of thought, I've decided to tender my resignation as Executive Director for August 31, 2018. That date is the end of our fiscal year so the books would be audited. Also, the 2018 Directory would be completed. The new ED would start with a clean slate and jump right in to membership renewals.

If you have not returned your membership renewal for 2018, please do so as soon as possible.

Treasurer's Report

By John Allen, POWA Treasurer / Expenditures as of August 31, 2017

Income Accounts	Budget 16-17	Actual	% of Budget
Active Members' Dues	8,600	8,770	102
Supporting Members' Dues	7,100	5,700	99
Merchandise Sales	500	155	31
Craft Award Income	5,000	5,755	115
General Contribution	-	70	-
Spring Conference Income (Net)	3,300	1,078	83
TOTAL INCOME	\$24,600	\$22,928	93%
Expense Accounts	Budget 16-17	Actual	% of Budget
Executive Dir. Stipend	10,000	10,047	100
Pow Wow (Print/Edit)	4,000	3,369	84
Member Awards	5,000	4,600	92
Membership Directory	1,900	837	44
Plaque Expenses	700	1,656	237
Office Expenses	725	712	98
Postage, General	800	551	69
Insurance	525	502	96
Marketing	500	-	-
Credit Card Fees	175	132	75
Professional Fees	100	-	-
Website Expenses	100	-	-
Board Meeting Expense	75	149	199
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$24,600	\$22,555	92%
Net Income	0	\$373	

Cash Accounts as of Aug. 31, 2017: General Fund, \$18,631; Youth Education Fund, \$2,187; Scholarship Fund, \$55,313; Jacquelin Knight CD, \$14,436; Emergency Fund, \$9,194; Northwest CD, \$20,000. Total Cash Accounts: \$119,761.

POWA on the Web

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President's Message

by Brad Isles



My expectations were low when I entered the dark woods early on the opening morning of the 2017 rifle deer season. A solid streak of recent success, having dropped very fine bucks in six consecutive seasons, led me to believe my string of good luck was about to expire. And I was OK with that. Adding to the situation, my trusty old platform stand of the past 15-plus years was unusable due to the deadfall and treetops left behind from a logging operation in the area where I hunt. So I grabbed my climber from my shed and settled on a stable trunk in a scattering of white oaks just above my previous location.

Opening day was slow, but that's not unusual for me, even considering I was in a new post. I saw five deer, all does, and the woods were quiet from sun up to sun down. As usually happens, my mind wandered frequently throughout the day. I thought about a phone call I received from our 1st VP, Tyler Frantz, several weeks back. He was working on a "Sounding Board" piece for *Pennsylvania Outdoor News* and he wanted my opinion on which day I feel is the best to shoot a buck out of all of the seasons. My answer came easily: The first day of the concurrent buck and doe rifle season. It's the day that I have had the most success, by far. The piece was recently published, which is probably why it was top of mind. That Saturday I would be setting out to fill my freezer.

It started fresh and very crisp after a hard frost overnight. The woods awakened as the sun rose over my left shoulder, with coffee warming my core and senses on alert. Just over an hour into daylight I caught movement 80 yards ahead. A large doe weaved between a handful of bare oaks before stopping behind a pile of brush. I had planned on waiting until the afternoon to take a doe if the opportunity presented itself. This was just too early. I lowered my gun, only to see another patch of brown following the same path as the doe. This one was a buck and securing it the scope quickly confirmed the requisite "three-up" for my Wildlife Management Unit.

So, what is the best day to shoot a buck in Pennsylvania? I'm sticking with my previous answer.

Leadership changes are never easy, but that's what we are faced with in 2018. Dennis Scharadin, who has led this organization so well over the past five years, has announced his intention to retire effective Aug. 31. Since joining POWA in 1976, Dennis has given us so much as a member, past president and two-time executive director. Thank you, Dennis.

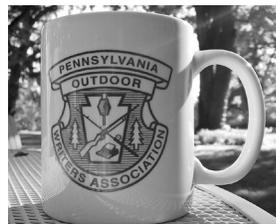
Ironically, it was during the Spring Conference in Franklin in 2012 when we appointed Dennis to replace Bob Lollo. We'll be doing the same again in May as we return to Venango County. Mark your

calendars for May 3-6, 2018. Marilyn Black, the Oil Region Alliance of Business, Industry and Tourism, and the other committee members are planning a great event.

I want to thank Charlie Burchfield for organizing the exclusive Chronic Wasting Disease seminar with the Pennsylvania Game Commission and Department of Agriculture in August. Charlie was diligent in lining up an extremely informative and valuable event that was well-received by those in attendance. I also applaud the efforts by Freddie McKnight and Mark Demko and their Press Outings Committee for the work they have done in organizing trips for our members.

It was a tough summer and fall for some of us in POWA. We lost a valued member in Bud Cole. Bud was a friend to all who met him, and his efforts to secure Supporting members was unparalleled in the organization. Other members have lost spouses, sons, brothers and good friends. Take a moment to reflect on how important those close to us truly are. How they have supported us through the good and bad, encouraged us to take a trip to some faraway place so we can write about or photograph our exploits, and made us better by knowing them.

POWA 65th Anniversary Merchandise



'Celebrating 65 Years – 1950-2015' on back!

**Cost is \$10 for 1 mug
or 3 for \$20
plus shipping**



Knives numbered 1-100 on the blade.
Ask for your favorite to see if it's available!

Knives are \$35 each plus shipping

Place your orders with
Executive Director Dennis Scharadin:
P.O. Box 221 / Summit Station, PA 17979
Phone: 570-739-2085 | Email: info@paoutdoorwriters.com

Exclusive CWD seminar educates POWA'ers

By Charlie Burchfield

POWA Parliamentarian

Chronic Wasting Disease has come to Pennsylvania, and now it has to be dealt with. POWA members learned how state agencies are planning to do so with an exclusive seminar in August.

The disease was first discovered in Colorado in 1967. Since that time it has spread to a number of states including Pennsylvania. When CWD is detected in white-tailed deer, it is always fatal.

The increased number of cases of CWD in the wild and in captive deer facilities is a concern, and a growing number of questions are now being asked.

Plans for a special CWD informational seminar began in July. The PGC is responsible for the wild deer population, and the goal was to provide POWA members with a forum providing direct access to Wayne Laroche, who is the PGC's special assistant for CWD response.

The PA Department of Agriculture regulates the captive deer population. So with the help of the Governor's Sportsmen Advisor, Robb Miller, assistance was provided to POWA with contacts at the Department of Agriculture.

The program was slated for Aug. 24 with the morning session devoted to the PGC. Commission Executive Director Bryan Burhans emphasized the importance of POWA and the role we play in communicating with our audiences the complexities of CWD.

Laroche kicked off his presentation and said, "I can show you a slide presentation or would an informal question and answer session work better?" What followed was a lively-paced question and answer session with informational slides shown as needed. The amount of information provided was impressive.

The afternoon session was hosted by the Department of Ag-



Charlie Burchfield Photo

Dr. Deepanker Tewari explains CWD testing procedures during the exclusive CWD seminar held for POWA members in August.

riculture. POWA members were provided with an overview of the department's oversight and authority regarding captive deer and high fence shooting facilities.

State Veterinarian Dr. David Wolfgang and Dr. Kevin Brightbill of the Bureau of Animal Health, and Deputy Secretary of the Department of Agriculture Greg Hostetter presented an overview of CWD. A roundtable discussion of CWD issues relating to the PA Department of Agriculture was conducted.

To complete the afternoon session, Dr. Deepanker Tewari provided details regarding CWD testing procedures. A limited tour of the PA Veterinary Laboratory was provided.

POWA says, THANK YOU, to the agencies and professionals who took part providing in depth answers to the CWD problem in Pennsylvania. Also a special thanks goes out to the POWA members who attended.

Conservation Hall of Famers...



Linda and Bob Steiner and Marilyn Black were recently inducted into the Venango County Conservation Hall of Fame. The a program is part of the Oil City Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America and the "hall" is maintained, with plaques and information, at the Venango Campus of Clarion University. The three longtime POWA members are very active in area conservation groups and were noted for that in the announcement, and also for our outdoor writing endeavors. (Photo by Darl Black)

Member News

Dietz honored for lifetime achievement and community service

Danville Area School District Alumni Association has announced its 2017 honoree for lifetime achievement and community service is Doyle Dietz, a 1964 graduate of Danville Area High School who lives in Orwigsburg.

Dietz has always been a sports enthusiast; participating in various capacities in football, baseball, basketball, and track and field. Doyle turned his passion into a career that has lasted a lifetime. He started by freelancing his journalist skills and contributing high school football articles to a local newspaper. This led to positions with the *Tamaqua Courier* and the *Pottsville Republican*.

His ultimate career move came when he assumed the role of Lower Anthracite Regional Sports Editor and Outdoor Writer for the *Reading Eagle*. In this capacity, he covered various professional, collegiate, and high school sports.

After retiring in 2005, he continues to contribute to newspapers, as well as several state and national outdoor magazines, including *Pennsylvania Game News*, *Muzzle Blasts*, *Bear Hunter*, *Pennsylvania Outdoor News*, and *Lake Ontario Outdoors*. He continues to cover many high school football teams and Bloomsburg University football. He has expanded his media talents to hosting a weekly radio program, "Experience the Outdoors."

He has been honored by both the Pottsville and Mount Carmel chapters of the Pennsylvania State Sports Hall of Fame for his coverage of high school sports. Other awards and recognitions include: A member of the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association and Mason-Dixon Outdoor Writers Association, he has received writing awards from both organizations and POWA Award for Best Outdoor Radio program in Pennsylvania, The Pioneer Lifetime Achievement



Dietz

Award from the Federation of Black Powder Shooters, The Schuylkill County Conservation District Media Award, and The Friends of Schuylkill County Trout Unlimited Award.

Before moving to Orwigsburg, he was a co-founder of the Panther Valley Babe Ruth Baseball League, and for several years was head coach of the Lansford team. He was also a head coach in the Panther Valley Elementary School Basketball League, and assistant coach in the Panther Valley Knee-High Football League. He has also done fundraising to sponsor trips to Yankee and Shea Stadiums to benefit youth.

Dietz and his wife, the former, Betty Seidel, of Danville's class of 1965, are active volunteers in their church, the Salem United Methodist Church of Orwigsburg and he is Schuylkill County co-chairman of Hunters Sharing the Harvest, a program that organizes donations of deer from hunters to contribute venison to food banks and the needy. He and his wife have participated in the annual Ride for Life sponsored by their local Harley-Davidson Club, and have been recognized for their fundraising on behalf of the Muscular Dystrophy Association. They also donate their time to present outdoor seminars at various church, fraternal and social organizations, as well as state parks.

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Courtesy of the Sunbury Daily Item.

Morgan inducted into Schuylkill County Conservation District Hall of Fame

By Doyle Dietz

POWA Board Member

Craig Morgan of Pine Grove became the just the fourth member of the Schuylkill County Conservation District Hall of Fame during an induction presentation during the organization's annual awards ceremony, Wednesday, Aug. 23, at Sweet Arrow Lake County Park, Pine Grove.



Morgan

Since retiring in 2010 after 25 years as manager of the SCD, Morgan has continued to champion projects to benefit sportsmen and enhance conservation. In 2001 he began working on the reclamation project to turn Sweet

Arrow Lake into what has become one of the region's most popular fishing, boating and hiking areas – as well as the construction of a clubhouse and pavilion area that are used for everything from picnics to weddings and educational programs.

Morgan continues to head the Schuylkill County Sportsmen's Advisory Board, which three years ago established the year-long Family Fun Fishing Event that begins the weekend before the opening of spring gobbler season, and serves on the Schuylkill County Parks and Recreation Commission. He is also active in the Mentored Youth Hunting Program and fishing programs for youth.

A member of POWA since 2016, Morgan contributes to the *Pottsville Republican Herald* and *South Schuylkill News*.



Awards

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eligible to enter.

2. A maximum of two (2) entries per award is allowed, unless otherwise noted. Edit yourself and only submit your best work. Additional entries will be disqualified.

3. Unless noted, submit three copies of each entry for each award. One entry copy must be an original or exact photocopy and include the name of publication, date of publication and author. If an original or exact photocopy is not available, a website URL must be provided with this copy. The other two copies must have all identifying marks, bylines, personal photos and references blacked out and rendered unreadable, with the exception of the TV/Radio Program category. Copies downloaded and printed from the publication's website are permissible as long as an original with identifying marks is also provided.

4. Joint bylines: Co-authored/photographed/produced entries may be entered only once. Joint bylines will be considered as an entry for each contributor. All entrants of co-authored entries must be POWA members.

5. A letter of verification from the editor/publisher must accompany materials not containing bylines, or containing pen names.

6. The published material must have been compensated for by cash, check, goods or services of value. This includes the Best Blog Entry Award.

7. Members may submit an entry in only one Core Award* category, to eliminate the possibility of a person winning multiple core awards for a single piece. For example: an item published in a newspaper may not be entered in both the newspaper column and the newspaper feature categories. In nearly every instance, such a distinction is obvious. On the other hand, a member may submit an entry for a writing award, and the accompanying photo/art for a photo/art award. A member also may submit an entry in one Core Award, and in any number of Specialty Awards for which it meets the criteria. Entries submitted for the wrong award will not be considered.

8. Entries must cover nature, wildlife,

conservation or outdoor field sports such as hunting, fishing, camping and boating. Topics such as swimming, diving, golf, hang gliding, etc., do not qualify, unless stated.

9. Entries must have been published in the prior calendar year, unless indicated otherwise in the contest description.

10. Entries must NOT be bound, matted, changed in size, altered, edited, or submitted in any form other than exactly how they were published and viewed by the public. Entries altered from their published form will be disqualified. Let the entry stand on its merits, rather than its "packaging." Photocopies are permissible.

11. Envelopes or folders containing entries must be clearly marked on the front with the name of the award for which the entry is being submitted. Do not combine entries for more than one award in a single envelope or folder.

12. Entries must be postmarked no later than February 10, 2018.

13. Contest materials will be returned by mail only if accompanied by a self-addressed envelope stamped with sufficient postage.

14. Winning entries constitutes a waiver of copyright restrictions on reprinting the entry by POWA for their website and printed publications.

15. The Awards Chairman is not responsible for determining the validity of entries. Any questions concerning the validity of an entry will be forwarded to the President, and if he or she deems it necessary, to the Board for a decision. Further, if the President has any questions, doubts or concerns about an entry, the person submitting it will be notified immediately and given the opportunity to address whatever the question or concern might be, before any other steps are taken.

POWA CORE AWARDS*

1. Best Newspaper Column (\$150 and plaque, sponsored by Bob & Linda Steiner) – Entries must have been published in a daily or weekly newspaper column. To meet the "column" requirement, the author's work must appear as a column in the same publication at least twelve times each year.

2. Best Newspaper Feature (\$150 and plaque, sponsored by Pennsylvania Hunters Sharing the Harvest) – Entries

must deal with a single topic and be either a single article or a series of not more than five articles about a single topic. The publication frequency example for the Best Newspaper Column applies here as well.

3. Best Magazine or Regional Newspaper Column (\$150 and plaque, sponsored by Gogal Publishing Co.) – A "regional newspaper" is one such as Pennsylvania Outdoor News, which publishes other than daily or weekly. The subject must be primarily of interest to Pennsylvanians or at least be applicable to Pennsylvania. For example, a column on buck hunting is appropriate even if it doesn't mention Pennsylvania, as long as it is about white-tailed deer and the reader can relate the article to a comparable experience in Pennsylvania. A similar column on mule deer, however, would not be acceptable. It need not be an outdoor publication, as long as the entry qualifies. To meet the "column" requirement, the author's work must appear in the same publication at least six times each year.

4. Best Magazine or Regional Newspaper Feature (\$150 and plaque, sponsored by Blackpowder Products Inc.) – The above definition of a regional newspaper applies here as well. The subject must be of primary interest to Pennsylvanians or at least be applicable to Pennsylvania. The entry may be a single article or a series of not more than three articles dealing with a single subject.

5. Best Published Newspaper Photo, Color or Black & White (\$150 and plaque, sponsored by POWA Past Presidents) – This photography category is for best published newspaper, regional newspaper or other pulp-type photography award. Entries must be submitted as they appeared when published. The format the photograph was taken in – black & white or color – does not matter, only the published form. The photo credit, caption or cutline must also be included with the entry, exactly as it appeared when published. The entry must include the name of the publication and the title of the story (headline) which was used, if applicable. The entry must NOT be mounted, matted or changed in any way from how the public viewed it as published. Submit one original tear sheet or an exact photocopy.

6. Best Published Magazine Photo,

Color or Black & White (\$150 and plaque, sponsored by POWA EIC entries)

– This photography category is for best published magazine or non-pulp-type photography award. Photos published in pamphlets, brochures, on postcards, calendars, etc., are eligible, as long as they were published in the award year. Entries must be submitted as they appeared when published. The format the photograph was taken in – black & white or color – does not matter, only the published form. The photo credit, caption or cutline must also be included with the entry, exactly as it appeared when published. The entry must include the name of the publication and the title of the story (headline) which was used, if applicable. In addition, an explanation of the use of the photograph to illustrate an article, column, etc., may be included, but is not mandatory. The entry must NOT be mounted, matted or changed in any way from how the public viewed it as published. Submit one original tear sheet or an exact photocopy.

7. Best Radio/TV Program Award (alternates with BEST BOOK AWARD) (\$150 and plaque, sponsored by POWA EIC entries) – These two awards alternate each year. Entries for each award, when offered, must have been published in the preceding two years. The theme in both cases must be outdoor oriented. Submit one copy of each entry.

8. *Best Published Art Award, Color or Black & White (\$150 and plaque, sponsored by National Rifle Association)

– *Published art work shall include magazines, newspapers, catalogues, brochures, or any other publication available to the public to convey the outdoor message. Published work may include limited or unlimited editions of fine art works, as long as the published form of the work is submitted for judging, the artist was compensated for the publication, the entry submitted was not self-published and the entry appeared in publication during the prior calendar year. The published art entry must be submitted as it actually appeared when published and was viewed by the public. The entry must NOT be matted, framed, bound, or altered in any way from how it appeared as published. Such entries will be disqualified. The entry must include the name of the publication and the title

of the story (headline) which was used, if applicable. In addition an explanation of the use of the art to illustrate an article, column, etc., may be included, but is not mandatory. Submit one original tear sheet or an exact photocopy.

POWA SPECIALTY AWARDS

1. NRA Best of the Best Award (\$500 and plaque, sponsored by the National Rifle Association) – This award will be chosen from the other award-winning entries (article, blog, or TV/Radio program) that promotes the hunting and the shooting sports. Winning entries from the other categories will be automatically entered based on criteria and judges' decisions.

2. POWA Pass it on Award (\$300 and plaque, sponsored by POWA EIC entries) – This award recognizes and praises a POWA Active member who has been responsible for introducing people (novice adults, children or a group, audience or readership) to the outdoors or enhancing their appreciation of the outdoors. The award shall be given for the best (1) published newspaper or magazine article, (2) broadcast radio or TV program, (3) commercially marketed video, OR (4) published black and white or color photo or art, which most effectively promotes passing on the love and appreciation of the outdoors, natural resources and pursuits such as hunting, fishing, trapping, hiking, camping, boating, bird-watching and nature appreciation.

3. Wildlife Conservation Partnership Award (\$250 and plaque, sponsored by the Pennsylvania Game Commission) – The award will go to the best entry from any and all media that recognizes difference-making partnerships among conservation organizations –including state or federal agencies. The partnership must demonstrate that together resources and talents can be leveraged to better accomplish conservation goals and initiatives. All entries must be about Pennsylvania projects and must have been published in the preceding year.

4. Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Raptor Conservation and Eco-Tourism Award (\$200 and a plaque, sponsored by Hawk Mountain Sanctuary) – This award goes to the POWA member with the best published piece in any media that promotes

the mission of Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, its programs and services, or the Sanctuary as a raptor conservation organization and outdoor eco-tourist destination. All entries must have been published or aired within the past 12 months. Articles may include: subjects featuring the science of raptor migration; features on studies of raptors in Pennsylvania or northeastern North America and using Hawk Mountain scientists as a source expert; any feature on a special programs or service offered at Hawk Mountain Sanctuary; features on the history of Hawk Mountain Sanctuary; or an outdoor travel pieces on the Sanctuary as a destination in any season. The mission of Hawk Mountain Sanctuary is to conserve birds of prey worldwide by providing leadership in raptor conservation science and education, and by maintaining Hawk Mountain Sanctuary as a model observation, research and education facility. www.hawkmountain.org.

5. The Pennsylvania Elk Resource Award (\$200 and plaque, sponsored by the Keystone Elk Country Alliance) – This award recognizes a POWA member who has best communicated to the public the principals of conservation, education, hunting, hunting heritage, and the value of habitat to the Elk Resource in Pennsylvania. Entry categories for the award are broad and include any art, article, column, or photograph published (on paper or digitally), as well as any radio or TV broadcast, blog, or any commercially marketed video. The winning entry will be the best example of promoting the elk resource in the Commonwealth. Those applying must grant the Keystone Elk Country Alliance permission to have the winning entry (blog, column, article, photo or art) reprinted in their publication Tracks & Racks.

6. Best Action Hunting, Trapping Or Fishing Photograph (\$150 and plaque, sponsored by POWA EIC entries) – This award goes to the best published color or black and white photograph that depicts action directly involving hunting or fishing. The photo must include a person, as well as a game fish, bird or mammal. Examples – a hunter shooting at a flushing grouse or an angler landing or playing a bass. Static trophy or hero shots or photos

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of a just dog pointing would NOT qualify. Submit one copy of the photograph exactly as it appeared in the publication, or an exact photocopy. Magazine, newspaper, calendar, book or digital publication is acceptable as long as the photographer received remuneration for his or her work or if the photo was donated to a non-profit organization.

7. Best Conference-Related Material Award (\$150 and plaque, sponsored by POWA EIC entries) – This award recognizes the best material that directly relates to the POWA Spring Conference. It can be an article, blog entry, photograph, artwork or TV/Radio program that is generated as a specific result of an activity during or the location of the conference.

8. Best Published Pennsylvania Fishing Or Boating Related Newspaper Photo, Color Or Black & White (Framed Ned Smith “Sting of the Hook” art print with brass plate acknowledging the winning entry, sponsored by the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission)

– This photography category is for the best published local or regional newspaper photograph (printed on newsprint paper) that features Pennsylvania fishing, sport fish, boating or fishing tackle. All entries must have been taken within the Keystone State and published during the previous calendar year. If the winning entry meets the Pennsylvania Angler & Boater photo submission guidelines, the PFBC would like the option of reprinting the winning photograph in their publication with acknowledgement of the photographer’s award. If so used, the PFBC will pay their going rate for their use of that photo. (This is not a condition for applying, just a possible added benefit.) Submit one copy of the photograph exactly as it appeared in the publication, or an exact photocopy.

9. Don Heckman - Tell the Story Award (\$150 and plaque, sponsored the Pennsylvania Chapter of the NWF) – This award recognizes the top stories on wild turkey management.

10. Handloading Promotion Award for Broadcast Media (\$150 and plaque, sponsored by Redding Reloading) – The purpose of this award is to assist in the promotion of the benefits of metallic cartridge reloading or handloading. It must

be a broadcast work on either commercial television or radio format, not webcast. It will be awarded on the basis of the best communication of the inherent benefits to shooters and hunters presented by the practice of reloading their own ammunition for any shooting sports activity using a metallic cartridge. How-to, general educational and hunting success stories where reloading is a major theme are acceptable.

11. Handloading Promotion Award for Electronic Media (\$150 and plaque, sponsored by Redding Reloading) – The purpose of this award is to assist in the promotion of the benefits of metallic cartridge reloading or handloading. It must be a published work in electronic format (blog, e-zine, etc.). It will be awarded on the basis of the best communication of the inherent benefits to shooters and hunters presented by the practice of reloading their own ammunition for any shooting sports activity using a metallic cartridge. How-to, general educational and hunting success stories where reloading is a major theme are acceptable.

12. Handloading Promotion Award for Print Media (\$150 and plaque, sponsored by Redding Reloading) – The purpose of this award is to assist in the promotion of the benefits of metallic cartridge reloading or handloading. It must be a published work in either magazine or newspaper format. It will be awarded on the basis of the best communication of the inherent benefits to shooters and hunters presented by the practice of reloading their own ammunition for any shooting sports activity using a metallic cartridge. How-to, general educational and hunting success stories where reloading is a major theme are acceptable.

13. Outdoor Blog Entry Award (\$150 and a plaque, sponsored by POWA EIC entries) – This award goes to the best blog entry about anything that falls under our umbrella of “outdoors.” This includes hunting, fishing, trapping, canoeing, camping, natural history, conservation, or environmental issues. Submit entry as a .pdf file (no photographs) with a web address that links to the original source. If public access to the original source is no longer available, the entrant should also provide two additional PDF or screen

photographs of the blog on the original web page.

14. Pennsylvania Trappers Award (\$150 and plaque, sponsored by the Pennsylvania Trappers Association) – This award will be given to the best published piece that promotes interest in or education about trapping.

15. Trout and the Coldwater Resource Award (\$150 and plaque, sponsored by Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited) – This award will be made for the published magazine or newspaper story which best shows the importance of protecting and / or promoting our cold-water resource. The article may or may not include trout and other salmonids.

16. White-Tailed Deer Award (\$150 and plaque, sponsored by POWA EIC entries) – This award goes to the best published newspaper article, column or magazine article that captures the spirit of the white-tailed deer, hunting whitetails, deer management or deer habitat in Pennsylvania. The topic could be as far-ranging as deer habitat improvement, natural history, rattling or even a nostalgic piece about a deer hunting camp.

17. Wildlife Art Award (\$150 and plaque, sponsored by Ned Smith Center for Nature and Art) – Artwork may be original and in any media (i.e. oil, watercolor, pastel, etc.) Three-dimensional work such as carvings and sculptures are also eligible. Reproductions or lithographs of an artist’s original work may be entered. No size restrictions. Entries must have been completed in the preceding two years. The subject may be any North American wildlife other than fish. Birds of prey, songbirds, non-game species and game birds, and animals are all suitable subjects. Previous winning entries in this category are not eligible. Artists may submit one entry and it must be present at the spring conference. Each artist is responsible for getting his/her work to and from the conference. Artists would be wise to have their entries insured. Arrangements will be made to collect all artwork at a common meeting spot for judging. Winners will be announced at the banquet.

18. Young Trees Habitat Award (\$150 and plaque, sponsored by the Allegheny Chapter of the Ruffed Grouse)
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Market News

by Freddie McKnight



Trapper & Predator Caller's editorial goal is to inform, educate and entertain readers with articles, photographs and illustrations that promote trapping and predator calling. Highest consideration will be given to stories focused on methods and equipment used in trapping, calling or hunting. Also accepted are historical pieces, personality profiles and unusual experience stories. Feature stories should be between 1,500 and 2,500 words. Please submit stories as Microsoft Word documents. Both manuscripts and queries are accepted. Content is scheduled six months to a year in advance, so please take that into consideration, especially for stories where the time of year is important to the relevance of the article. Email queries are preferred. Contact: Jared Blohm, managing editor, jared.blohm@fwmedia.com.

Traditional Bowhunter was founded in 1988 to provide the bowhunting world with a comprehensive magazine dedicated to preserving and advancing the rich tradition of hunting with the longbow, recurve, and selfbow. All material is accepted on speculation only, even if previously discussed with the editors. We encourage query letters prior to submission. Writers must be knowledgeable about traditional archery and bowhunting. Study back issues of the magazine to appreciate our editorial needs. Feature articles and photographic support for same, assigned columns, and other hard copy material should be submitted directly to: Don Thomas, 1898 Timberline Rd., PO Box 939 Lewistown, MT 59457. Queries and other correspondence related to editorial content should be directed to Co-Editor Don Thomas by email: thomas-

don@me.com. Other email correspondence should be sent to TJ Conrads at: tjc@tradbow.com.

Deer & Deer Hunting is a specialized magazine devoted to deer and deer hunting, with a strict emphasis on white-tailed deer. Readers include a cross-section of the deer hunting population: individuals who hunt with bow, gun or camera. The editorial content of the magazine focuses on white-tailed deer biology and behavior, management principles and practices, habitat requirements, natural history of deer, hunting techniques and hunting ethics. Also published are a wide range of "how-to" articles designed to help hunters locate and get close to deer at all times of the year. Most of the readership consists of three-season hunters (bow, centerfire/shotgun and muzzleloader) and about one-third camera hunt. Feature articles dealing with deer biology or behavior should be documented by scientific research (the author or that of others) as opposed to a limited number of personal observations. Freelance material is also accepted for one of the magazine's regular departments. "Deer Browse" contains short items reporting unusual observations of deer behavior, unique hunting experiences and newsworthy information. Contact: Editor, 700 E. State St., Iola, WI 54990.

American Angler is devoted exclusively to the sport of fly fishing. 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. The magazine's main focus is coldwater fly fishing for trout, steelhead, and salmon, but we also run feature pieces about warmwater and saltwater fly fishing and fly tying, though our sister publication, Fly Tyer, is solely devoted to the latter. Send all queries, correspondence, and submissions to: Benjamin Romans – Editor, American Angler, 735 Broad St. Augusta, GA 30904; benjaminromans@gmail.com.

Game and Fish Publications – To query information regarding writing guidelines and submissions for any of our Game & Fish magazines, please contact John Geiger, editor in chief – Game & Fish, at John.Geiger@outdoorsg.com.

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.

Pennsylvania Angler & Boater is the official fishing and boating magazine of Pennsylvania. As the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission's state agency publication, it is the voice of the Commonwealth concerning matters related to fishing and boating, and to protecting, conserving and enhancing the state's aquatic resources. Articles should be aimed at anglers and boaters with intermediate-level to advanced-level skills and be between 600 and 2,500 words. Digital submission of text (Microsoft Word) and/or images (high resolution TIFFs or JPEGs) should be sent on CD to: PA Fish & Boat Commission, Media Productions, P.O. Box 67000, Harrisburg, PA 17106-7000.

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Society) – This award will be given to the best published piece that showcases the declining wildlife species of conservation concern and how to create "young tree" habitat for these species of conservation concern. The creation of habitat for grouse will benefit more than one species.

19. Youth Fishing Award (\$150 and plaque, sponsored by Expositions, Inc.) – This award will be given for the best published piece, magazine or newspaper, devoted to encouraging readers to introduce, or to further the involvement of children in fishing.

20. Youth and the Hunting/Shooting

Sports Award (\$150 and plaque, sponsored by the National Shooting Sports Foundation) – This award is given to the best published piece that furthers the participation of young people in the shooting/hunting sports.

Meeting Minutes

POWA Board of Directors Meeting

Friday, May 19, 2017

The Holiday Inn Harrisburg-Hershey
Grantville, PA

The meeting was called to order at 7:58 p.m. by Board Chairman Don Knaus. Present: Board Chairman Don Knaus, Executive Director Dennis Scharadin, 2nd VP Tyler Frantz, Directors Ben Moyer, Doyle Dietz, Mark Demko, Paula Piatt, Treasurer John Allen, Parliamentarian Charlie Burchfield, Supporting Member Rep. Connie Spindler and Acting Secretary Steve Sorensen. Absent but excused were Mary Hosmer (secretary), 1st VP Brad Isles, Directors Jessica Welshans and Bud Cole; and President Ralph Martone.

Approval of Minutes, February 25, 2017 Board of Directors Meeting as published in the Winter 2017 *PowWow*.

**Motion* to accept minutes. Demko. Approved.

Executive Director's Report: As posted.

**Motion* to accept Executive Director's Report. Sorensen/Demko. Approved.

President's Report: No report.

Treasurer's Report: As posted.

**Motion* to accept Treasurer's Report. Moyer/Piatt. Approved.

**Motion* to accept 2017-18 Budget. Frantz/Sorensen. Approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Awards: Chair Isles said for the 2016 Excellence in Craft Awards we had 46 members submit 323 entries across 212 total categories. In comparison, we had 38 members submit 290 entries across a combined 196 categories in 2015. We brought in \$1,060 total, which has to be a record amount. Thanks to the recent addition of the Pennsylvania Forest Coalition as an award sponsor, we should have everything covered this year. New is the Don Heckman – Tell the Story Award sponsored by the Pennsylvania Chapter of the NWF. Members were offered 28 total award categories – eight core awards and 20 specialty awards, which represents an increase from eight and 19 last year. Winners will be announced at the Spring 2017 conference.

Awards Review: No report.

Constitution & Bylaws: Chair Fitser said there is no current activity; no actions requested by POWA Board of Directors.

Craft Improvement: Chair Moyer said the committee contacted member Marshall Nych and asked him to consider writing a Craft Improvement article on writing outdoor humor. Marshall responded, submitting a review of his humor methods quickly. After the committee had stopped laughing, it referred said article to the *PowWow* editor for publication.

Duties Manual: No report.

Editorial Review: Chair Brady said the committee continues to review content and appearance of POWA newsletter, *PowWow*, and commend Editor Brad Isles for both. We should solicit any suggestions for change from membership. Looking to the future, should presidential duties rule out serving as editor? That is: who would/could replace Brad?

Ethics: No report.

Finance and Budget: No report.

Financial Auditing: No report.

Historical Archives: Chair Demko said the POWA history for 2016-'17 year was compiled and submitted to Dennis Scharadin for review in early April.

Membership Audit: Chair Tatum said we have not yet reinstated membership audits, therefore, no report. Please advise if practice of auditing recommendations.

Membership Development: No report.

Member Screening: Chair Ehrig said JoAnne Zidock, Craig Morgan, Todd Puleo, Dave Barus and Braden Eisenhower were screened and approved as Active members; and Kyle Hey as Associate.

Nominating Committee: Chair Nale said the committee's duties were completed.

Outdoor Education: Chair Henning said grant checks have been mailed to recipients for 2017. We are currently seeking requests for grants for 2018. Grants are available to organizations that provide outdoor education and activity to young people. Requests are due by August 1, 2017, send requests to either Dennis Scharadin or Kermit Henning.

Outdoor Press Outings: Chair McKnight said the committee finalized plans for four members to fish with Capt. Paul Czarniecki on May 11th. Free rooms provided on the night of the 10th by Niagara Tourism through Bill Hilts Jr. I have contacted most, if not all of the supporting tourism agencies within the state and have not received a positive response (and in some cases no response at all to requests) to this date. That is forcing the committee to look outside our Supporting members and our state to provide trips for our membership. Just to update on our efforts: Tried to do a shed antler hunt with both the Keystone Elk Alliance and the Pa. Deer Farmers Association, no response. Tried a fishing trip in Huntingdon County to places other than Raystown Lake with little interest on the tourism side. Tried a late season pheasant hunt with Martz preserve, was told to check back this fall. There have been others as well. It just seems that trips within the state, especially hunting, are tough to get. For that reason Mark Demko and I are now concentrating on states that border Pennsylvania for other offers and have met with some success. If any members have connections that we may be able to use, please have them contact us. The committee is working with Ocean City, MD Tourism to host an off-shore fishing trip (white marlin, yellowfin tuna, etc.) for four writers in September.

Past Presidents' Council: No report.

Publicity: Chair Sorensen said one of the duties of the Publicity Chair is to solicit local coverage of our annual conference through newspaper, radio and television. I have done this by means of a press release to the *Patriot News* and three television stations for which I could find contact information. I was unable to find channels for press release submissions to radio stations. I'd like to recommend that the duties of the Publicity Committee be reviewed by the Association in the interest of understanding how we can better promote the organization in the changing media landscape.

Scholarship: Chair Swinton said two Penn State students received scholarships this year. Will Fitzgerald, who is majoring in English and Non-fiction writing with an emphasis in the outdoors and nature is one. He is taking a second major in Recreation

Park Management in Sustainability leadership. He will be a senior next year and has a 3.96 average. He lives in State College.

The second recipient is Audrey Tallon. Audrey is a Recreation Parks and Tourism major with an emphasis on Environmental Interpretation and Conservation, and with a minor in Studio Art specializing in Nature and Wildlife photography. She teaches nature interpretation of the outdoors in regular classes at the Shaver's Creek Wildlife Center. Her grade point is 4.0. She lives in Pleasant Gap, PA.

Sport Shows: *Harrisburg* – Chair Henning said the POWA booth at the Great American Outdoor Show was well attended by POWA members. Coloring posters were distributed to youth at the booth. Thanks to George Lavanish for creating the poster. The auction went well, raised over \$7,000 for grants. Thanks to all those members and friends who helped. Thanks also to auctioneer Clyde DeHart for volunteering his services again this year. *Philadelphia* – Chair Tatum shared that effective immediately, NMMA is closing the Greater Philadelphia Outdoor Sportshow due to a surplus of healthy sportshows in the market. Given other shows in the area, the fishing and boating industries are best served by NMMA focusing our resources in other key markets, where the shows have a strong foothold and a significant impact for the fishing, boating and outdoor industries.

Supporting Member Rep.: No report/no activity.

Supporting Member Screening: Chair Knaus said the Ruffed Grouse Society, Chautauqua County Visitors Bureau, T. Martin Sales, Camp Compass, Trout Unlimited, Pennsylvania State Shotgunning Association and Silynx Communications were screened and approved as Supporting members.

Supporting Member Recruitment: Chair Cole said the committee continues to look for new Supporting members. When a company shows an interest I send them benefit information as well as a list of present Supporting members and a membership application.

Technology/Website: Chair Isles said website updates continue occur based on submissions and relevant press releases provided by members, Supporting members and the executive director, though there have been few. 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 on the site. Activity on POWA's social media channels continued to grow. We eclipsed 450 "likes" on Facebook. Tyler Frantz was added as an administrator and did a great job promoting the Spring Conference.

Ways and Means: Chair Scherder said Supporting members have been contacted and asked to donate prizes to be raffled off at the awards banquet. If you win a prize at this year's conference, please send a personal thank you to the folks who donated that item and perhaps ask if there's any way we can be of service to them.

**Motion* to accept Committee Reports. Piatt. Approved.

CONFERENCES

2017 Conference: No report.

2018 Conference: Location is to be determined for May 3-4-5-6, 2018.

**Motion* to accept above dates for the conference. Allen/Demko. Approved.

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OLD BUSINESS

Joint conference discussion: No interest at this time to have joint conferences with other outdoor writer groups.

Audit of treasurer: Doyle and Betty Dietz and Scharadin have agreed to do the audit at the end of the fiscal year.

Small games of chance license: Scharadin said we have the license. It costs \$25 annually.

Pennsylvania sales tax exemption status: Scharadin said we are a non-profit 501(c)3 organization, but we do not yet have tax exempt status for state sales tax. The paperwork to resolve this will be completed after the conference.

Committee to research investments: Scharadin, Knaus and Allen are still pursuing where to invest our funds. Incoming 1st VP Frantz is being added to the committee.

NEW BUSINESS

PA Council of Trout Unlimited request: Scharadin said PA Council of Trout Unlimited asked POWA to give a donation of \$100 to help sponsor the bi-annual Keystone Coldwater Conference on Feb. 23-24, 2018 in State College.

**Motion* that we make a one-time donation of \$100 because of their emphasis on written word communication. Moyer/Dietz. Approved.

Membership audit: We have not had a membership audit for several years. Piatt will look up standards used by OWAA and some of the larger state outdoor writer organization, and come back with a recommendation for the standards we should use.

Directory: **Motion* by Piatt that we add the membership directory to the website and passcode it for members. Piatt/Allen seconded. Approved.

Digital PowWow: Demko suggested that we revisit the idea of making PowWow an opt-in for digital distribution.

Board secretary: Sorensen volunteered as acting secretary and is considering resigning his board position (expires 2019) and accept appointment as secretary.

Member approvals: New Supporting members approved by the screening committee: Ruffed Grouse Society, Chautauqua County Visitors Bureau, T. Martin Sales, Harrisburg/Hershey Visitors Bureau, Camp Compass, Trout Unlimited, Carlyd Enterprises, PA State Shotgunning Association, Silynx Communications. New Active member applications approved by the screening committee: JoAnne Zidock, Craig

Morgan, Dave Barus, Braden Eisenhower, Todd Puleo, Kyle Hey (Associate).

**Motion* to accept and recommend these to the membership. Piatt/Demko. Approved.

Bloomsburg "Early Bird Show": Dietz said with the closure of the Philadelphia show, he will pursue having space for a booth at the Bloomsburg "Early Bird Show."

Publicity: Sorensen recommended that we merge publicity with technology/website and include social media, and describe new duties for the committee. Frantz will look into that, as well as the possibility of combining other committees.

Ways & Means: We have plenty of commemorative knives, mugs and stickers left over. One plan is to bundle them with a ticket for a gun in the banquet raffle to help sell tickets and get rid of some of the inventory.

Committee members/liaisons: New assignments will be updated once Isles is installed as the new President.

**Motion* to adjourn at 10:30 p.m. Dietz.

– Submitted by Steve Sorensen
Acting Secretary

Meeting Minutes

POWA Membership Meeting

Saturday, May 20, 2017

Palmyra Sportsman's Club

Palmyra, PA

The meeting was called to order at 3:01 p.m. by 2nd VP Tyler Frantz. Present: Board Chairman Don Knaus, Executive Director Dennis Scharadin, 2nd VP Tyler Frantz, Directors Ben Moyer, Doyle Dietz, Mark Demko, Paula Piatt, Treasurer John Allen, Parliamentarian Charlie Burchfield and Acting Secretary Steve Sorensen. Absent but excused were Mary Hosmer (secretary), 1st VP Brad Isles, Directors Jessica Welshans and Bud Cole; Supporting Member Rep. Connie Spindler, and President Ralph Martone.

Approval of Minutes, May 14, 2016 Membership Meeting as published in the Fall 2016 PowWow.

**Motion* to accept minutes. D. Knaus/B. Balantine. Approved.

Executive Director's Report: As posted.

**Motion* to accept Executive Director's Report. A. Zidock/N. Sisley. Approved.

President's Report: No report.

Treasurer's Report: As posted.

**Motion* to accept Treasurer's Report. D. Knaus/M. Klimkos. Approved.

**Motion* to accept 2017-18 Budget. Frantz/Sorensen. Approved.

Awards: As posted.

Awards Review: No report.

Constitution & Bylaws: As posted.

Craft Improvement: As posted.

Duties Manual: No report.

Editorial Review: As posted.

Ethics: No report.

Finance and Budget: No report.

Financial Auditing: No report.

Historical Archives: As posted.

Membership Audit: As posted.

Membership Development: No report.

Member Screening: As posted.

Nominating Committee: As posted.

Outdoor Education: As posted.

Outdoor Press Outings: As posted.

Past Presidents' Council: No report.

Publicity: As posted.

Scholarship: As posted. Additionally, Nick Sisley volunteered to contact Laurie Lee Dovey to see if she can suggest someone to contact at Pitt-Johnstown to promote the scholarship there.

Sport Shows: As posted.

Supporting Member Rep.: No report/no activity.

Supporting Member Screening: As posted.

Supporting Member Recruitment: As posted.

Technology/Website: As posted.

Ways and Means: As posted.

**Motion* to accept Committee Reports. A. Zidock/B. Mitchell. Approved.

CONFERENCES

2017 Conference: Frantz thanked everyone for attending, and thanked Sisley and Scharadin for their assistance.

2018 Conference: Location is to be determined for May 3-4-5-6, 2018.

**Motion* to accept above dates for the conference. Allen/Demko. Approved.

2019 Conference: Tom Tatum will research Chester County/Southeast PA for a site and see how much support we can get from the tourism bureau. The Nych brothers expressed interest in possibly hosting a 2020 conference in Mercer or Butler counties. Wade Robertson will look into the Warren/Bradford area for future possibilities.

OLD BUSINESS

Committee to research investments: Scharadin, Knaus and Allen are still pursuing where to invest our funds. Incoming 1st VP Frantz is being added to the committee.

NEW BUSINESS

Election results: Brad Isles, president; Tyler Frantz, 1st VP; Marshall Nych, 2nd VP; John Allen, Treasurer; Jeff Wolesslagle, Bud Cole, Wade Robertson, Directors.

PA Council of Trout Unlimited request: Scharadin said PA Council of Trout Unlimited asked POWA to give a donation of \$100 to help sponsor the bi-annual Keystone Coldwater Conference on Feb. 23-24, 2018 in State College.

**Motion* that we make a one-time donation of \$100 because of their emphasis on written word communication. Moyer/Dietz. Approved.

Committee merge: Frantz will review combining the Publicity Committee with the Technology/Website Committee and re-write duties, calling it the Media Committee. It would include social media.

Bloomsburg "Early Bird Show": Dietz said with the closure of the Philadelphia show, he will pursue having space for a booth at the Bloomsburg "Early Bird Show."

Membership audit: We have not had a membership audit for several years. Piatt will look up standards used by OWAA and some of the larger state outdoor writer organization, and come back with a recommendation for the standards we should use.

Commemorative knives: We have an abundance of POWA 65th anniversary commemorative knives. During the banquet raffle, knives, mugs and stickers will be combined with a \$50 ticket for a gun. Members will also have the opportunity to purchase knives. The remainder may be offered to the general public.

**Motion* to accept board actions. N. Sisley/M. Nale. Approved.

Supporting member approvals: New Supporting members approved by the screening committee: Ruffed Grouse Society, Chautauqua County Visitors Bureau, T. Martin Sales, Harrisburg/Hershey Visitors Bureau, Camp Compass, Trout Unlimited, Carlyd Enterprises, PA State Shotgunning Association, Silynx Communications.

**Motion* to accept new Supporting members. D.

See MINUTES, page 15

Supporting Member Spotlight

Hunters Sharing the Harvest program helps hungry families in Pennsylvania

By Tyler Frantz

By the middle of the 2017 Pennsylvania archery deer season, I was blessed to fill both my buck tag, as well as my freezer. Knowing my family was restocked with lean, healthy venison for another year was a comforting realization—especially since we utilize deer meat as a primary source of protein for a variety of meals.

But with ample time remaining in the season, and knowing others might not be so fortunate, I set out with a new task: to fill one of my antlerless deer tags and obtain some venison for others who need the meat even more desperately than I do.

My goal was to donate a deer to “Hunters Sharing the Harvest” (HSH), a cooperative venison donation program that turns hunter-harvested deer into an energy-rich protein source for struggling families across the state.

As a registered 501c3 non-profit program, HSH enables hunters to share their extra venison through a statewide network

of participating butchers to food banks across Pennsylvania.

HSH-participating butchers are paid for their services through sponsor-supported donations. They help to coordinate meat deliveries to local food banks, and in turn, the food banks redistribute the venison to more than 5,000 food assistance provider organizations such as food pantries, missions, homeless shelters, hunger-relief organizations and churches that play a vital role in helping to fill the gaps for families and individuals at risk of hunger.

“It’s amazing how much of an impact HSH has made over the past 26 years, distributing more than 1.2 million pounds of donated venison since 1991,” HSH Executive Director, John Plowman, said. “Last year alone, hunters provided an all-time record of 120,000 pounds of venison.

“These numbers are a testament to the central mission of Hunters Sharing the Harvest. Our dedicated team of board members, volunteer coordinators, food banks, legislators, state and local agencies



Tyler Frantz Photo

Ground venison processed and packaged as a donation for the Hunters Sharing the Harvest program.

work in concert with a common mission to help feed those in need. That’s when great things happen. We’re so proud to have reached this milestone.”

The success of the HSH program would not be possible without the fervent support of its generous financial partners.

Sponsors range from high-end Corporate/Foundation contributions of over \$10,000 by the Pennsylvania Game Commission, Blackford Ventures, CONSOL Energy, Range Resources, Wal-Mart VAP Foundation and the Richard King Mellon

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KECA distance learning program brings elk to classrooms

By Tyler Frantz

It would take more than three hours and 160 miles one way to reach the Elk Country Visitor Center in Benezette, PA from Palmyra’s Pine Street Elementary. While the Keystone Elk Country Alliance’s first-class education and eco-tourism center is a popular destination for school field trips, it’s a bit unrealistic to bus 80 fourth graders across the state from Lebanon County to go see the elk.

As much as I love traveling to Elk Country with my family, taking photos and encouraging everyone to experience the hair-raising bugle of a rutting bull elk on a chilly September morning, I know many of the students I teach may never have the opportunity to do so. But thanks to a bright idea, modern technology, and convenient ground shipping, KECA found a creative way to bring the elk to my classroom,



Tyler Frantz Photo

An instructor from the Keystone Elk Country Alliance broadcasts into a fourth grade classroom.

even when taking the kids to the elk isn’t a feasible option.

While walking past the KECA booth at the NRA Great American Outdoor Show last winter, a unique opportunity arose. I had already known KECA as a leading non-profit wildlife conservation organization with a mission to conserve and enhance

Pennsylvania’s elk country for future generations, but what I didn’t previously realize was how that might specifically impact me as a teacher.

At the end of the booth there was a sign stating, “Attention Teachers! Share elk country in your classroom.” This obviously caught my interest, and after speaking with Conservation Education Coordinators, I learned that KECA has educated over 350,000 individuals with education programs that not only are age-specific, but also align with the PA State Education Standards.

Intriguingly, I picked up a handout explaining a distance-learning program that allows students to experience elk country remotely from their own classrooms. I thought this would be really worthwhile to share with my students, so I reached out to KECA Con. Ed. Coordinator Courtney

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Foundation to Business, Club and Individual partnerships varying from a just few dollars up to thousands in monetary support.

Every buck makes a difference, be it in the form of venison or financial gifts. These donations help to provide the equivalent of more than 500,000 meals to feed nearly 1.8 million Pennsylvanians who are considered to be food insecure.

Joe Arthur, Executive Director of Central Pennsylvania Food Bank, said HSH plays a vital role in providing roughly 10,000-15,000 pounds of lean protein, which equates to 40,000 center-of-plate meals for 10,000 families each year. The venison received from hunters is very popular, especially since it is such a healthy option.

“Meat is particularly difficult to come by from a donation standpoint, and our close partnership with HSH helps remedy

this issue,” Arthur remarked. “We are very thankful for the hunters and their willingness to give up this high quality meat.

“We have a growing demand for venison, and we’d love to see even more hunters donate, because we can certainly distribute more than we receive. It is something that folks in need are comfortable getting and like to receive.

“I would urge all successful hunters to consider donating their deer to one of the approved HSH meat processor locations. It’s very convenient and goes a long way.”

On a quiet late-October evening, two doe meandered across the ridge past my tree stand. As one of them paused in a clearing, I silently drew my bow, anchored, and released. The shot resulted in the successful harvest of a fine antlerless deer, which I proudly donated to Hunter’s Sharing the Harvest.

I was thankful for the opportunity to help

those in need, and I encourage other successful hunters to consider doing the same. One deer can go a long way in providing healthy meals for multiple families, and the donation process couldn’t be easier. It felt great to share my bounty with those who face the threat of hunger each and every day.

Hunters interested in participating in the HSH program can take their deer to one of more than a hundred participating meat processors throughout the state, and all Pennsylvanians can donate tax-deductible monetary gifts to the “Buck for the Pot” campaign, which directly supports the HSH mission.

Visit www.sharedeer.org for details.

Frantz is POWA’s 1st Vice President. A version of this article originally appeared on his blog, www.naturalpursuitoutdoors.com.

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Colley to set up a session for all three fourth grade classes at my school last spring. Happy to help, she courteously briefed me on all the details.

“KECA realizes that due to monetary or geographic constraints, not all schools are able to visit the Elk Country Visitor Center,” Colley said. “So in 2013, KECA created our distance learning program, which allows KECA to come to your classroom instead through web cam applications such as Skype or Google hangouts.

“In addition KECA sends an ‘elk trunk’ full of elk artifacts (elk skull, pelt, antlers, radio collar, etc.) to your school free of charge. Via video conferencing, a highly qualified KECA educator will go through the trunk with your students and educate them about Pennsylvania elk.”

Together, we scheduled a date for our live videoconference, and the elk trunk arrived a few days early so students and staff could familiarize themselves with materials prior to the session. When it came time to meet our KECA Educator, Colley Skyped in with our fourth graders for a 40-minute presentation on elk basics and ecology, followed by a question and answer period.

It was great to see how interested the kids – some of whom didn’t previously know we even had elk in Pennsylvania – became



Tyler Frantz Photo

Instructional materials from the Keystone Elk Country Alliance’s “elk trunk” that is delivered to classrooms.

in learning about the large cervids. They were highly engaged, naturally inquisitive, and came up with some really thoughtful questions.

Since 2013, KECA has educated over 5,800 students through the distance-learning program and has reached students as far as Florida. I would highly recommend it to any teachers wishing to introduce their students to the amazing elk that roam our state’s northern tier without a mode or means to get there in person.

Frantz is POWA’s 1st Vice President. A version of this article originally appeared on his blog, www.naturalpursuitoutdoors.com.

Minutes

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Dietz/M. Nale. Approved.

Active member approvals: New Active member applications approved by the screening committee: JoAnne Zidock, Craig Morgan, Dave Barus, Braden Eisenhouer, Todd Puleo, Kyle Hey (Associate).

**Motion* to accept and recommend these to the membership. D. Ehrig/T. Tatum. Approved.

Board Secretary: Steve Sorensen hereby resigns from the Board of Directors and is appointed as Secretary by the President. His board term (2019) needs a replacement.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Alex Zidock reviewed matters from 1993.

Tim Flanigan suggested POWA purchase a digital projector for the organization’s use. This was noted by the Board and will be pursued by John Allen.

John Annoni of Camp Compass spoke in thanks for the conference and the support of POWA.

Nick Sisley volunteered for the Supporting Member Committee.

**Motion* to adjourn. T. Brady.

– Submitted by Steve Sorensen
Secretary

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@paoutdoorwriters.com.
Every effort will be made to run articles in their entirety, but they may be edited for space considerations.

Camp Quetico cohorts...



Bob Mitchell, John Mahn and Linda Steiner, along with the photographer, Bob Steiner, take a break while on a fishing trip to western Ontario in late July. The quartet were after smallmouth bass, northern pike and walleye while staying at a cabin Camp Quetico, near Atikokan, west of Thunder Bay. The Steiners have been going to the camp for years, while Mitchell was on his second trip and Mahn his first. According to Linda, smallmouths were running mostly 15 to 20 inches and the biggest northern was Bob Steiner's 44 incher. All fish were caught and released, except the walleyes, which were released into the frying pan. (Bob Steiner photo)



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