



PowWow

Newsletter of the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association

Winter 2018

Historical Oil Region beckons

Franklin area set to host conference from May 3-6

By Marilyn Black
and Toni Kresinski
Oil Region Alliance

From May 3 to 6, you're invited to join fellow POWA members to explore diverse outdoor recreation and to gather interesting stories and improved outdoor communication skills by attending the annual POWA Spring Conference.

This year's conference will be held within the Oil Region National Heritage Area, also known as "The Valley that Changed the World" recognizing the area's legacy as the birthplace of the world's petroleum industry.

Conference headquarters is the Quality Inn in downtown Franklin. See the excellent negotiated lodging rates (which include breakfast daily) on the enclosed conference registration form. Saturday

See CONFERENCE, page 6



Contributed Photo

Miller Falls is one of two waterfalls that are stops on an escorted hike in Oil Creek State Park during the POWA conference. The photographer, Michael Henderson, will be conducting a drone photography clinic that same evening at the site of the barbecue dinner.



Mark Nale Photo

Wild Geranium has dissected leaves and beautiful pinkish-purple flowers that are irresistible to bees and butterflies.

Craft Improvement

Capturing Spring

By Timothy C. Flanigan
Craft Improvement

Cameras are time machines that stop time and capture special moments so that they can be shared with others. Sharing images is a great joy, and as spring's glory explodes, image capture opportunities abound. Some of the most compelling photo subjects are early spring wildflowers. Their appearance

is proof that winter's grip on the land has been broken.

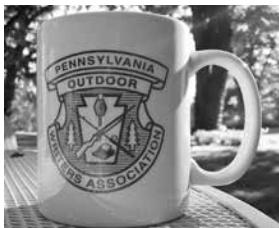
Now that winter slumber is passed, these wild beauties must get to work, producing new flowers that become seeds to foster a new generation. Pulled from the soil by the magnetism of sunlight, they delight our eyes and inspire the photographer's zeal.

Here are some tips for capturing spring

See SPRING, page 3

POWA 65th Anniversary

Merchandise



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Media (Technology/Website/Publicity)....	Brad Isles	Tyler Frantz
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Supporting Member Rep.....	Connie Spindler	Connie Spindler
Supporting Member Screening	Don Knaus	Vacant
Ways and Means	Ralph Scherder	Marshall Nych

PowWow

Winter 2018

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www.paoutdoorwriters.com

Dennis Scharadin

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IN THIS ISSUE

Spring Conference Preview.....	1, 6-8
Craft Improvement.....	1, 3
Executive Director's Report.....	4
President's Message	5
Treasurer's Report.....	6
Spring Conference Itinerary.....	8
Spring Conference Registration	9-10
Spring Conference Lodging.....	11
Market News.....	12
Meeting Minutes	13-14
Supporting Member Spotlight.....	14-16

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Spring

from page 1

wildflowers in images that display these unique plants in their most exquisite beauty.

To smell the fragrance of a wildflower, we must get down to its level. Wildflower photography demands the same. To obtain the most flattering and realistic angle of the subject, we must position the camera and lens on the same plane, or perhaps slightly below the subject. A photographer friend calls this “wet belly” photography. It is also wet knee photography, but a set of carpenter’s knee pads will protect your knees and save your blue jeans.

Pleasing wildflower images can be obtained with virtually any camera by applying the following tips for success. The best equipment for the task includes a Digital Single Lens Reflex (DSLR) camera that will record RAW format images, a MACRO lens, and most importantly, a tripod that can be positioned at ground level. A remote shutter release is also a plus.

Natural sunlight is the most flattering to wildflowers. Image capture should be accomplished early or late in the day when the sun is low in the sky, casting detail-illuminating side lighting across petals and leaves. Locate plants that are illuminated from the east or west side, not directly. Such light greatly enhances the flower’s finest detail by casting minute shadows of them. If the plant is shaded by a tree or another plant, simply wait a few minutes for the sun to move in the sky.

Adjust the tripod to an angle that places the camera lens at ground level so that the plant is displayed in its natural state and not distorted by an odd or especially unflattering downward angle. Note: a slight down angle can be used to reveal the interior of blossoms. Compose the flower’s image in the camera’s viewfinder as you wish the image to appear in print and prepare to make some critical decisions about exposure setting and the desired depth of field within the final image.

Depth-of-field, DOF, refers to the depth of sharp focus in an image. For macro photography, this can be measured in inches or fractions of inches. The primary consideration is how much of the flower you wish to be included in sharp focus. Attendant to that decision is how sharp do you want to



Mark Nale Photo

To best shoot wildflowers like this Coltsfoot, sometimes it's necessary for the photographer to get on the flower's level.

render the flower’s background. Soft-focus backgrounds flatter the main subject, and sharp-focus backgrounds compete with it.

Depth-of-field is controlled by the “aperture” setting on the lens; a large lens opening, (aperture), such as F-2.8 renders very shallow focus depth while small apertures such as F-16 or F-22 extend it. Most DSLRs offer a depth-of-field preview button, commonly located at the edge of the lens mount that enables a quick and easy preview of your selected settings without taking a photo.

Wide apertures admit more light and require fast shutter speeds and vice-versa. Modern cameras will select matching settings for you, depending on the shooting mode selected. Selecting the “Aperture Priority” mode permits the photographer to select the desired lens opening size, (F-stop) while the camera selects a matching shutter speed to render a correctly exposed image.

Choosing the “Shutter Priority” mode enables manual selection of the shutter speed while the camera automatically matches your selection with the appropriate lens aperture. You may wish to further automate your flower photography by selecting the small “Flower” icon offered on some camera models. That setting will capture respectable wildflower images, but the shutter/aperture combinations are computed and set by the camera. It is wise to avoid the full automatic camera mode for such photos.

With shooting mode decisions made, select a focus point that is partially within the desired depth-of-field and not on a portion of the flower closest to or most distant from the camera lens. Doing so can place the entire flower entirely within the sharp-focused part of the image. This can be easily checked, before releasing the shutter, by pressing the depth-of-field preview button.

The only thing left to do is release the camera’s shutter and record the image. At this ultra-critical moment, it is vitally important that the camera remain absolutely still. In macro photography, even the slightest camera movement causes blurring of the image. Here is where the secure tripod and the remote release pay dividends in sharp images.

Physically touching the camera, lens or tripod transmits minute movement from our bodies. The camera’s delayed shutter option mode offers another effective method of firing the camera in a hands-off mode. Simply select the camera’s timed shutter release option, depress the shutter release and avoid contact with the photographic equipment while the camera captures the image, untouched by human hands.

Often, in order to capture wildflowers in their dwarf glory, the camera and lens must be placed on their very personal level. Slightly up-angle images are even more flattering. Try shooting wildflowers located on inclined terrain, from somewhat below their position.

Executive Director's Report

by Dennis Scharadin,
Executive Director

Something new this year was tried with the Active member and Supporting member renewals. They were emailed to everyone several times. The results were mixed for many reasons, but emails are the wave of the future so expect to see your renewal notices emailed. It is a big money saver.

You're probably waiting to hear the results of the poll placed on the member renewal notices. For those who may have missed it, the poll was to see whether the membership would agree to go from a printed Directory to an on-line version. The reason for the poll was the Directory is one of the most expensive things we do. Could we, as some suggested, just send the Directory to each member on-line?

Now that the renewals for Active, Associate and Life members have been completed here are the results: The number of members wanting to stay with a printed Directory is 46. The number of members who didn't care one way or another, missed the question, or just don't read the bottom of the renewal form, or in some cases the entire form, who didn't vote was 70. Finally, the number of members who voted for sending the Directory on-line was 13. If you have any thoughts on how you would like to get your next Directory let the officers and Board know your feelings.

POWA had a booth at both the Great American Outdoor Show and the Allegheny Outdoor Show in February. Our main activity at both shows was handing our coloring posters to youngsters. Interest in the organization was higher, especially at the Allegheny show, than most years. A number of people at both shows expressed interest in applying for membership. Our newest Supporting member, the PA Great Outdoors Visitors Bureau, was one of those. Hopefully, more will send in their applications.

I want to thank Bob Kirschner, Karl Power, Brad Isles and Ben Moyer for helping in the booth at the three-day Allegheny Outdoors Show. We even had a visit from longtime member George Block.

The nine-day Great American Outdoor Show had a lot of holes in the schedule for manning the booth, especially in the evenings during the week and on the weekends. More help is needed. However, I would like to thank the following members for helping man the booth at the GAOS: Don and Maggie Knaus, Doyle Dietz, BJ Small, Russ and Nancy Englehart, Mike Klimkos, Jim and Linda Fulmer, Mark Nale, Kermit Henning, Jeff Woleslagle, Dave Ehrig and Charlie Burchfield.

Helping at Sunday's auction were Tyler Frantz, Jeff Woleslagle, John Allen, Betty and Doyle Dietz. The auction had a good variety of items with more than a hundred items auctioned. Top items at the auction were the Kahr PM .40 S&W, donated by our Supporting member Kahr Firearms Group, and the one week for two during August by Shannon Lake Lodge in Quebec. Shannon has donated a week trip every year since the auctions began 36 years ago and has been a Supporting member since then.

The auction grossed \$5,640.50 and grants were sent to 12 groups sponsoring programs introducing kids to various outdoor activities.

New Active Members

Reinstatement

John Hayes

101 Daggette Drive
Buena Vista, PA 15018
Email: jhayes@post-gazette.com
Phone: 412-263-1991

Sponsor: Ben Moyer

Jason Nark

801 Market St., Suite 300



Philadelphia, PA 19107
Email: narkj@phillynews.com
Phone: 215-313-3102
Sponsor: Dennis Scharadin
Associate Member

New Associate Member

Jeff Hale
845 Locker Road
Rimersburg, PA
Email: jeffhale1958@gmail.com
Phone: 814-229-2519
Sponsor: Tyler Frantz

New Supporting Member

PA Great Outdoors Visitors Bureau
2801 Maplevalle Road
Brookville, PA 15825
Phone: 1-814-849-5197
Email: Info@visitpago.com
Website: www.visitpago.com
Sponsor: Terry Brady



President's Message

by Brad Isles

I'm writing this from the Allegheny Outdoor, Sport and Travel show, sitting at the POWA table on a snowy Saturday evening. I've been talking with and engaging with many of the thousands of attendees who have walked through the doors of the Monroeville Expo Mart. Thanks to Chris Fassnacht from Expositions, Inc., we were able to take advantage of this great opportunity to get the word out about our organization over these three days in February.

It has been great to meet the public, but also to have an opportunity to connect with members who attended the show like George Block, John Hayes, Rick Levis, Bob Frye, Dale Black, John Plowman and Christian Shane, and especially those who spent some time at our table like Dennis Scharadin, Karl Power, Ben Moyer and Bob Kirschner. I'm surely leaving out others who stopped by to say hello in passing, or while I was out perusing what else the show has to offer.

The Allegheny Show is just a week after the Great American Outdoor Show in Harrisburg. Thanks again to Dennis and Kermit Henning and the other members who not only worked the table but solicited items for our auction. Through their efforts we raised nearly \$5,700 for youth scholarships. Over the past 35 years, the auction has raised a staggering \$400,000 to benefit kids across the commonwealth.

I offer a sincere and heartfelt thank you to each member who assisted in some manner at either (or both) shows this year. It takes a great sacrifice of time and effort to make these events a success, and we could not continue to be the premier state outdoor communication association in the country without you.

Now, I'm going to make a plea. And it's one that you have heard before. We need more assistance at events like these shows. If we, as an organization, are going to build upon – not to mention maintain – what we have accomplished to this point WE NEED HELP. I emphatically encourage you to volunteer just a few hours on one

day. It's not too much to ask. Truly.

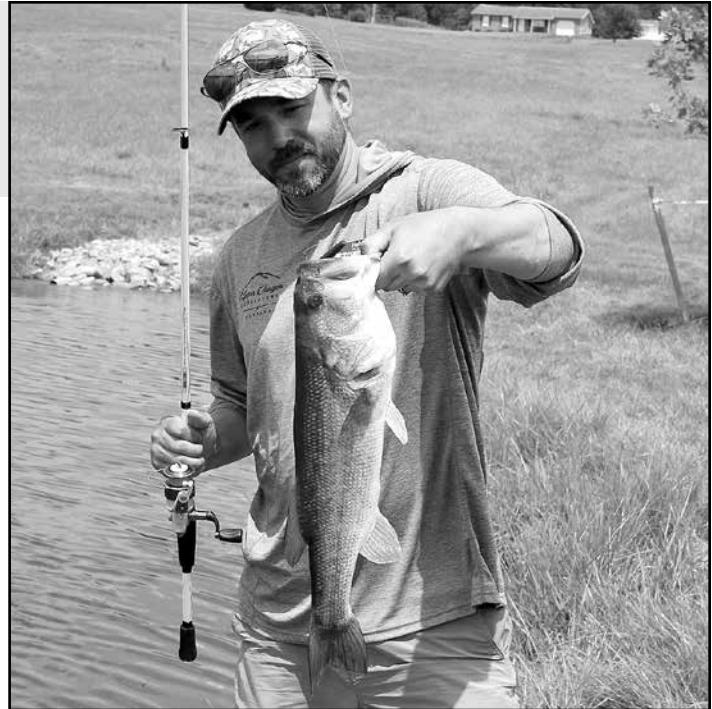
Sure, some of you are probably saying to yourself, "I've been a member for (insert number) years and I've done my share. That's enough. It's time for the younger members to do it." Well, I appreciate that sentiment. And I appreciate the foundation you've laid. But that excuse is, frankly, nonsense.

It's no secret our membership, as a whole, is on the older side. If we are going to survive, we need all hands on deck. We need help in Harrisburg, in Monroeville, on committees, on the board, chairing a conference, writing something for this newsletter, or with any other role within POWA. Our members deserve it. And so do our supporting members.

There are 8,760 hours in 2018. Surely you can allocate a handful to POWA in some capacity.

Someone who has spent a lot of time working several hours on our behalf lately is Marilyn Black, our capable chair for this year's conference in Franklin. Marilyn and her team at the Oil Region Alliance for Business and Industry are all playing a big role in helping to organize the weekend. We had a great time in Venango County a few years ago. We will again in May. I'm sure of it.

I grew up in Grove City, just a half hour away from Franklin. I frequently drive through the charming small town on my way to Camp F-Troop in southwestern Warren County, or family property just north of Tionesta in the Allegheny National Forest. Believe me when I say the activities planned for the conference will barely begin to scratch the surface of what the area has to offer when it comes to outdoor pursuits. There is plentiful access to state



game lands for turkey hunting, some of the best trout fishing anywhere – whether it be for small brookies on nearby mountain blue-lines or big browns and rainbows in Oil Creek. And, obviously, there is the mighty Allegheny River and all she offers both above and below the surface. Add to that the craft improvement workshops, breakout session and Saturday's banquet, and so much more. It's going to be phenomenal.

It's easy to take for granted the number of opportunities we have at our disposal thanks to our POWA membership. Stop for a moment and think about one or two specifically. Now, what can you do to ensure someone else – who may or may not even be a member – has that same opportunity?

POWA on the Web

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Conference

from page 1

morning's craft improvement sessions and that evening's awards dinner are being held across Liberty Street from the hotel at The Franklin. All conference venues are within five miles of the Quality Inn, with just a few of the field experiences involving a bit more driving. Camping is available nearby at the Venango County 4-H Fairgrounds, which is also the site for the Friday evening barbecue. Franklin also has several Bed & Breakfasts. If traveling with pets, please contact Marilyn Black at the Oil Region Alliance, 814-677-3152, Ext. 105; mblack@oilregion.org for guidance as to which lodging businesses welcome your pets, too!

Saturday, May 5 has a full morning line-up of six presentations, including several craft improvement sessions as well as news-makers briefing you on matters of avid interest. The Pa. Game Commission Executive Director and staff will give a report concerning chronic wasting disease. Then, the president of the International Bowhunting Organization will alert you to a major national IBO championship being held this summer at Two Mile Run County Park outside Franklin. Mrs. Judy Etzel, long-time journalist for Venango Newspapers, will provide tips on researching information and images, the Right to Know laws, and requesting public information. PFS-C's Legislative Director will conduct a briefing on current state legislation, and share an inside look on legislative affairs within the Commonwealth. The son of the late founder of WCJ Ranch in Crawford County, which serves disabled veterans who are hunters, will introduce their services. POWA member Michael Klimkos will wrap up the morning with a craft improvement session about self-publication. Meanwhile, spouses will have a choice of their own craft session making customized greeting cards, or checking out the May Mart landscaping displays and sale underway in Fountain Park downtown.

Saturday's Breakout session showcasing information and demonstrations by POWA supporting members will be held



Darl Black Photo

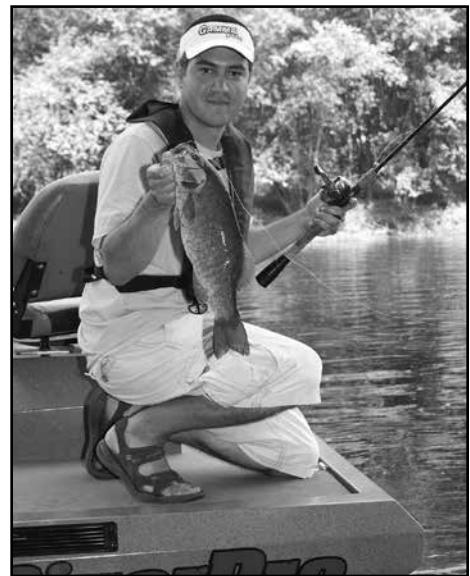
Smallmouth fishing by jetboat, turkey hunting and much more are in line for attendees at the Spring Conference.



Contributed Photo

at the Sandycreek Conservancy, whose property includes a rifle range, trap shooting, sporting clays, and streambank fishing as well as pavilion and a comfortable Clubhouse where we'll enjoy lunch and the mid-afternoon POWA member meeting.

You're encouraged to arrive at the conference on Thursday for an evening welcome reception at DeBence Antique Music World and then handy relaxed delicious dining at Benjamin's Roadhouse with live musical entertainment specially offered for POWA, which is within easy walking distance from the hotel. This is the weekend when the parks in down-



Darl Black Photo

town Franklin are filled with displays, vendors, and shoppers for the annual "May Mart."

Field experiences on Friday are open to members, spouses, and supporting members alike. Some are just morning, others just afternoon, and some full-day, but all conclude by 4 p.m. so you have time to check out the drone photography demonstration and partake of the special barbecue at the nearby fairgrounds. "Angler Al" Bell from Franklin will escort advance-reserved guests for wade fishing in French Creek, with two people in the morning, and two others in the afternoon.

Continued on next page...

Continued from previous page...

A craft improvement session on improving photos which you take on your cell phone is being presented in the morning by Kim Copley-Harris from conference sponsor Oil Region Alliance. Turkey hunters seeking gobblers will find maps prepared by Linda and Bob Steiner.

The first four guests who reserve space will go fishing for smallmouth bass on the Allegheny River, enjoying jetboats arranged by POWA supporting member Black Knight Industries. This is a full-day outing. Anytime during morning or afternoon, guests are encouraged to use other maps also provided by the Steiners for shoreline angling along your choice of a tributary to Sandy Creek on land owned by the Sandy creek Conservancy, or Franklin's public Riverfront Park at the mouth of French Creek, or any stretch of Oil Creek within Oil Creek State Park. Kayak rentals will be available via OARS Allegheny based in Franklin, with shuttle service to your choice of upstream along French Creek or on the flat water of Jus-tus Lake in Two Mile Run County Park. Please contact Marilyn Black for details on reserving kayak or canoe rentals, as weather and water conditions may require some adjustments.

Friday afternoon choices are even more numerous. Spouses will be escorted by Oil Region Alliance staff for a special tea at a newly available house museum in Franklin, followed by tours of three B&Bs in town. The Pa. Game Commission will conduct a specially-timed controlled burn on State Gameland #39, which you'll be able to observe along with adjacent sectors that will have been burned two or three weeks prior to our visit. Other guests will carpool to Oil Creek State Park's Petroleum Centre for a slide show about the park's significant role in oil history, and then you'll hike to Miller Falls and to Pioneer Falls. Or, you may go bicycling using your own gear or rentals from OARS to explore the extensive paved portions of the Erie to Pittsburgh Trail which link in the Franklin vicinity.

This conference has been planned for you by an active committee including Dale Black, Darl Black, Marilyn Black, Kim Harris, Toni Kresinski, Dennis



Brad Isles Photo

A wide range of trout fishing options abound near Franklin, including prime water such as Sugar Creek, Little Sandy Creek and Oil Creek, not to mention a number of wild trout streams just a short drive north.

Scharadin, Bob Steiner and Linda Steiner. You'll notice that your completed conference registration form should be mailed to Dennis at the address provided. If a sponsor is obtained for the Saturday lunch, you'll be refunded that \$12 meal

fee on-site.

Conference sponsors include the Oil Region Alliance, National Shooting Sports Foundation, Franklin Fine Arts Council, National Rifle Association and Black Knight Industries.

Treasurer's Report

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

Income Accounts	Budget 17-18	Actual	% of Budget
Active Members' Dues	8,600	3,760	44
Supporting Members' Dues	6,700	200	3
Merchandise Sales	200	-	-
Craft Award Income	5,000	-	-
General Contribution	-	-	-
Spring Conference Income (Net)	3,600	-	-
TOTAL INCOME	\$24,100	\$3,960	16%
Expense Accounts	Budget 17-18	Actual	% of Budget
Executive Dir. Stipend	10,200	4,250	42
Pow Wow (Print/Edit)	4,000	1,196	30
Member Awards	5,100	-	-
Membership Directory	1,850	757	41
Plaque Expenses	750	-	-
Office Expenses	550	110	20
Postage, General	700	124	18
Insurance	505	-	-
Credit Card Fees	150	27	18
Professional Fees	100	-	-
Website Expenses	50	-	-
Board Meeting Expense	145	-	-
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$24,100	\$6,464	27%
Net Income	0	\$2,504	

Cash Accounts as of Dec. 31, 2017: General Fund, \$16,127; Youth Education Fund, \$2,189; Scholarship Fund, \$55,345; Jacqueline Knight CD, \$14,436; Emergency Fund, \$9,198; Northwest CD, \$20,000. Total Cash Accounts: \$117,295.

POWA Spring Conference Agenda

May 3-6, Franklin, PA

Thursday, May 3

Arrival at The Quality Inn, Franklin.

12-5 p.m. – Registration table open at lobby of The Quality Inn.

5-6 p.m. – Welcoming Reception at DeBence Antique Music World.

6:15-8 p.m. – Dutch treat dinner at Benjamin's Restaurant followed by music on the patio arranged by Ronnie Beith of Franklin Fine Arts Council.

8-11 p.m. – Hospitality Suite open at The Quality Inn.

Friday, May 4

8 a.m.-5 p.m. – Registration table open at lobby of The Quality Inn.

6 a.m.-Noon – Turkey hunting on your own.

8 a.m.-4 p.m. – Jetboat fishing on Allegheny. *Limit of four guests in jet boats.*

8:30 a.m.-Noon – Escorted wade fishing in French Creek. *Limit of two guests.*

10 a.m.-Noon – Improving Photos Taken on Your Cell Phone at The Franklin.

Anytime – Kayaking & fishing on Justus Lake

Anytime – Shoreline fishing on your own; at Franklin's Riverfront Park; Oil Creek; or Sandycreek Conservancy

1-4 p.m. – Spouse's Activity: Escorted tour of B&Bs + tea at the Koos House.

1-4 p.m. – Observe controlled burn at State Game Land #39.

1-4 p.m. – Escorted wade fishing in French Creek. *Limit of two guests.*

1-4 p.m. – Hike to waterfalls within Oil Creek State Park, escorted.

1:15-4 p.m. – Bicycling on your own.

5 p.m. – Drone demo by Mike Henderson at the Venango County Fairgrounds.

6 p.m. – Barbecue dinner at the Venango County Fairgrounds.

8 p.m. – POWA Board Meeting at The Franklin.

8-11 p.m. – Hospitality Suite open at The Quality Inn.

Saturday, May 5

7:30 a.m.-Noon – Registration table open at lobby of The Quality Inn.

8:30 a.m.-Noon – Craft Improvement Seminars and Programs at The Franklin. Each 30-45 minutes in length.

9-11:30 a.m. – Craft: greeting cards arranged by Kim Harris at The Franklin.

12-12:30 p.m. – Drive to Polk.

12:30 p.m. – Lunch in Polk at Sandycreek Conservancy.

1:30-3 p.m. – Breakout at Sandycreek Conservancy.

3 p.m. – Membership Meeting at Sandycreek Conservancy.

5-6 p.m. – Social hour at The Franklin.

6 p.m. – Awards Dinner & Banquet The Franklin.

TBA – Hospitality Room – The Quality Inn.

Sunday, May 6

8 a.m. to Noon – 3-D Archery Shoot at Rainbow Bowman Archery Club

9 a.m. – POWA Board Reorganization Meeting, The Franklin.

*Agenda subject to change

Clip and return

POWA Spring Conference / May 3-6, 2018 / Franklin, PA

Name _____ Member First POWA conference?

Phone _____ Email _____

Supporting Member, Company Name _____

Spouse Name _____ Guest Name _____

REGISTRATION:

Cost X # persons = Total Fee

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

(Cost is \$40 for each individual *after* April 21)\$40.00 x _____ = \$ _____

Supporting Member Company or Organization Breakout Fee..... _____ = N/C _____

REGISTRATION SUBTOTAL _____ = \$ _____

ALL ATTENDEES PAY REGISTRATION FEES, including spouses/guests.

Exception: Spouses/Guests attending banquet only.

MEALS:

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

FRIDAY, May 4

Barbecue Dinner – Sponsored by the National Rifle Association _____ = N/C _____

SATURDAY, May 5

Lunch at Breakout (*sponsor is pending; if sponsored, you will receive a refund on site*) \$12.00 x _____ = \$ _____

Dinner at Awards Banquet – Sponsored by the National Shooting Sports Foundation..... _____ = N/C _____

MEAL TOTAL _____ \$ _____

Guests (not spouses) must pay for sponsored meals – Friday BBQ ; Sat. Lunch and Awards Banquet | Please note any dietary restrictions

ACTIVITIES:

\$20 REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT REQUIRED FOR EACH ACTIVITY (Fee returned after attending activity)

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

Escorted Wade Fishing on French Creek (*First 2 members; AM trip*) _____ = \$ _____

Improving Photos Taken on Cell Phone (*Unlimited; AM program*) _____ = \$ _____

Escorted Smallmouth Fishing from Jetboats on Allegheny River (*First 4 members; Full Day*)... _____ = \$ _____

Escorted Spouses Tea and Tours of B&Bs (*Unlimited; PM program*)..... _____ = \$ _____

Observe Controlled Burn at Gameland #39 (*Unlimited; PM program*)..... _____ = \$ _____

Escorted Wade Fishing on French Creek (*First 2 members; PM trip*)..... _____ = \$ _____

Escorted Hike to Waterfalls within Oil Creek State Park (*First 10 members; PM program*) _____ = \$ _____

SATURDAY, May 5

Spouses/guests Craft session making greeting cards (*AM program*) _____ = \$ _____

SUBTOTAL ACTIVITY DEPOSITS _____ = \$ _____

GRAND TOTAL (*registrations + meals +activity deposits*) Enclose full amount/no partial payment \$ _____

Make check payable to POWA, or send MasterCard/Visa #:_____ Exp. Date: _____

Security/CPC Number: _____ Card Zip Code: _____

Send Registration Form and check or credit card info to:

Dennis Scharadin, POWA, P. O. Box 221, Summit Station, PA 17979-9800

POWA SPRING CONFERENCE 2018 HOTEL INFORMATION

Call to make your room reservations now!

Quality Inn & Conference Center, 1411 Liberty Street, Franklin, PA 16323 / 814-437-3031

When you call, tell them you're with POWA so you can obtain the special conference rate. Advise them if you need a first-floor room. Make your reservations before **April 4, 2018** to be sure you get a room at our group rate.

Room rates: \$92.99/night one queen bed; \$97.64/night one king bed;

\$97.64/night queen suite; \$102.99/night with two queen beds; plus sales tax gets added to all rates.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____ Email: _____

Arrival Date: _____ Departure Date: _____

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\$92.99/night for room with one queen bed
\$97.64/night for room with one king bed
\$102.99/night two queen or one king
Reserve by April 4 & mention POWA.

*Remember to
add sales tax to
all room rates.
And please,
mention POWA
when booking.*



The Witherup House B & B

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www.thewitheruphouse.com

Rates: \$95 - \$120/night

Includes excellent breakfast.

"Green" facility - Small dogs welcome



D'Casa B & B

1501 Liberty St., Franklin, PA
814.437.7699 www.deasabb.com
Rates: \$85 - \$120

Includes excellent breakfast.



Miller Park B & B

1 Park Way Franklin, PA
814.516.0789
Rates: \$125/night
Includes excellent breakfast.



Knights Inn

847 Allegheny Blvd., Franklin, PA
814.432.2101 www.knightsinn.com
Rates: \$64 queen; \$69 king
Pets welcome, add \$10.
Restaurant located next door.



*Camping? May we suggest ~
Venango County Fairgrounds
867 Mercer Road (Route 62)
Franklin, PA 16323
814.437.7716*

Market News

by Freddie McKnight



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 sister publication, *Fly Tyer*, is solely devoted to the latter. Each submission should present specific, useful information that will increase readers' enjoyment of the sport and help them catch more fish. If you're not familiar with the publication, please review the most recent issues before submitting a query or manuscript. Contact: Benjamin Romans – Editor, American Angler, 643 Broad St., Augusta, GA 30904, 706-828-3971, benjaminromans@gmail.com.

Outdoor Photographer is a national magazine published 11 times per year for enthusiasts with a special passion for nature, travel and outdoor sports. The magazine takes a fresh look at the modern photographic world by encouraging photography as part of a lifestyle associated with outdoor recreation. Editorial is intended to demystify the use of modern equipment by emphasizing practical use of the camera in the field, highlighting the technique rather than the technical. Outdoor Photographer is written and presented to accomplish two ends: to stimulate outdoor, sporting and nature enthusiasts to enhance their recreational and travel enjoyment through photography, and to satisfy the needs of amateur and professional photographers with a special interest in the outdoors. Contact: editors@outdoorphotographer.com.

Outside is a monthly national magazine dedicated to covering the people, sports and activities, politics, art, literature, and hard-

ware of the outdoors. Although features are usually assigned to a regular stable of experienced and proven writers, the magazine is always interested in new authors and their ideas. In particular, editors look for articles on outdoor events, regions, and activities; informative seasonal service pieces; sports and adventure travel pieces; profiles of engaging outdoor characters; and investigative stories on environmental issues. Send queries (not manuscripts) and two or three relevant clips along with a self-addressed stamped envelope to: Editorial Department, Outside magazine, 400 Market St., Santa Fe, New Mexico, 87501.

The Pointing Dog Journal is published bimonthly in January, March, May, July, September and November. The Journal emphasizes the time-honored tradition of hunting with dogs and concentrates exclusively on the pointing breeds. We strive to give our readers informative features and columns, nostalgia, and humor, all written by talented and knowledgeable outdoor writers. Because The Pointing Dog Journal is targeted to experienced dog owners and hunters, those who write for us must also be experienced. Queries are welcome with SASE (e-mail queries welcome; phone queries discouraged) and should state subject, proposed length, photo type (digital preferred) and number. For full writer's guidelines, contact Jason Smith at jake.smith@vpdc.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. 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 magazine's 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 regular departments. "Deer Browse" contains short items reporting unusual observations of deer behavior, unique hunting experiences and newsworthy information. Deer & Deer Hunting is published 10 times annually. Cover dates for the eight regular issues are January, March, June, August, September, October, November and December. The remaining issues, the Deer Hunter's Equipment Guide, and a special issue in October, are distributed to subscribers and newsstands in early August. Contact: Editor, 700 E. State St., Iola, WI 54990.

Eastern Fly Fishing magazine is a destination-specific publication to be viewed as an inspiring, collectible reference of eastern and midwest angling destinations. Eastern Fly Fishing is issued on a quarterly schedule. The area of coverage for Eastern Fly Fishing includes the entire eastern half of the continent, from the midwest to the northeast to the deep south, including the Caribbean and the eastern half of Canada. Send all queries/manuscripts/images to: John Shewey, Editor-in-Chief, Eastern Fly Fishing, P.O. Box 12275, Salem, OR 97309. Email: shewey@matchthehatch.com.

Eastmans' Hunting and Bowhunting Journals are dedicated to their members. Part of the purpose is to give hunters the chance to share success stories and tips with other hunters, as they make up a significant part of each issue. The journals strive to help their audience become more skilled, ethical hunters and expand their knowledge, appreciation and awareness of the outdoors and its wildlife. Every year, nearly 1.5 million western, big game hunters take to the field in pursuit of a trophy and every year hundreds of stories vying for the opportunity to be read by 225,000-plus readers are received. Contact: editorial@eastmans.com.

Meeting Minutes

POWA Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, November 8, 2017

GoToMeeting Web Conference

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 p.m. by President Brad Isles. Present: Executive Director Dennis Scharadin, 1st VP Tyler Frantz, 2nd VP Marshall Nych, Directors Doyle Dietz, Paula Piatt, Jeff Woleslagle, Treasurer John Allen, Parliamentarian Charlie Burchfield, and Secretary Steve Sorensen. Absent but excused were Supporting Member Rep. Connie Spindler and Directors Ben Moyer and Wade Robertson and Board Chair Ralph Martone.

Approval of Minutes, May 19, 2017 Board of Directors Meeting and May 20, 2017 Membership Meeting.

*Motion to accept minutes. Frantz/Nych. Approved.

Executive Director's Report: Kudos go to the Spring 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 AM and 88 SM; 2015: 159 AM and 87 SM; 2016: 157 AM and 79 SM. This year, as of today, the membership is 154 AM and 80 SM. Since the May conference we have had one applicant, Traditions LLC. We need to find some way to get our membership to find new members. The current incentives are not working.

Our POWA 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. Due to a change in our NRA contact we may not receive the \$2,500 grant we got last year. It was used to fund three awards and the Friday night conference meal. Our current NRA contact has taken a request for the same grant this year to executive office. Time will tell how it goes.

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

I signed a contract for a free booth with the 33rd Allegheny Outdoor Sport Show, Monroeville, for the Feb. 16-18, 2018 show. Mike Gogal, who is from Pittsburgh, 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. Since, there is no more Philly show I thought it would be good to show 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. August 31 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 the membership renewals.

President's Report: It was a fast summer. It seems like our spring conference was just a few weeks ago. But here we are, in the midst of myriad fall hunting seasons. Fall is my favorite time of year and I'm happy it has arrived. Now, to take advantage of it.

It was also a tough summer. 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 – at least since I joined POWA in 2005. Other members have lost spouses, sons, brothers and good friends. I ask that you please take a moment to reflect on how important those close to us are. How they have supported us through the good and bad, encouraged us to take a trip to a faraway place so we can write or photograph our exploits, and made us better from knowing them.

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 the Press Outings Committee for the work they have done in organizing trips for our members.

Our work is not done, however. We must continue to build upon these events. We must plan our next spring conference. And we must continue to mine for members, including supporters of POWA. We can't do it individually but we can do it together.

Treasurer's Report: As posted.

*Motion to accept Officers' Reports. Dietz/ Frantz. Approved.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Awards: The Excellence in Craft award categories will be announced in the upcoming PowWow newsletter with a submission deadline of Feb. 10. There are no new awards this year, but we should hold steady at 28 total – eight core and 20 specialty. Judges will again be secured in advance of the submission deadline. Winners will be announced at the Spring 2018 conference.

Awards Review: No report.

Constitution & Bylaws: No report.

Craft Improvement: The committee had no activity since the last meeting.

Duties Manual: There has been no committee

action since the last report. There is no board or membership action being requested by the committee. We would like to house an electronic copy of that on a Google Drive so that it is readily accessible by all Board members. A copy could also be placed on the website for the membership. Chair Don Knaus said he might be willing to continue to any manual updates as necessary or a board member may be assigned to the task.

Editorial Review: No report.

Ethics: No report.

Finance and Budget: No report.

Financial Auditing: No report.

Historical Archives: The committee has been tracking POWA activities via the PowWow newsletter and meeting minutes, and also through discussions with various board members regarding for information relevant to the organization that may be included in the historical archives. A full review will be forthcoming.

Media: The former "Publicity" and "Tech/Website" committees have been merged to form a new, more streamlined committee to be called the "Media" committee. This will hopefully make things more efficient while continuing to serve the organization. Our POWA website continues to be a platform for housing news updates, PowWow newsletters, member website links, and membership applications. Chairman Frantz shared POWA materials at his booth at the Bear Creek Festival in Schuylkill County in June and continues to promote POWA whenever possible. The POWA Facebook page has become more active with 480 likes and has been used to showcase highlights from the 2017 Spring Conference and media events POWA members have recently attended. The 2017 EIC Award winners post reached 2,518 Facebook users and generated 240 reactions. This was our highest reach all year. It is suggested we share more photos from our membership outings and any successes Active, Associate or Supporting members encounter throughout the year to keep people engaged. If something good is going on, we want to hear about it! Feel free to email anything you wish posted to the Facebook page to Tyler Frantz at tfnaturalpursuit@gmail.com.

Membership Audit: The committee has essentially made no report since we suspended the practice of auditing members a number of years ago and have yet to reinstate it. Chair Tatum said the Mason-Dixon Outdoor Writers Association does not audit their membership. Perhaps we could request that, since the Audit Committee has been in limbo for so long, we either reinstate the practice of auditing members OR we dissolve the committee altogether. Since auditing has been suspended, he remains the only member of the committee.

Membership Development: No report.

Member Screening: No report.

Nominating Committee: No report.

Outdoor Education: Applications for POWA education grants have been received and are being considered. No action will be taken until after the auction at the sports show.

Outdoor Press Outings: Since the last report,

Continued from previous page...

have made several attempts via email to get trips lined up for the coming months, but no responses as of this time.

Past Presidents' Council: No report.

Scholarship: No report.

Sport Shows: No report.

Supporting Member Rep.: No report.

Supporting Member Screening: The committee screened Traditions Media, LLC, 5115 Excelsior Blvd #440, St. Louis Park, MN 55416; 612-839-4322; www.traditionsmedia.com. Contact is Leslie Sundahl. Sponsor is Dennis Scharadin.

Supporting Member Recruitment: No report.

Ways and Means: No report.

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

CONFERENCES

2018 Conference: The Spring Conference will be May 3-4-5-6, 2018, at Quality Inn & Conference Center, Franklin, PA. Marilyn Black is the conference organizer. It has been four years since we were last there.

*Motion to approve Franklin for the Spring 2018 conference. Frantz/Dietz. Approved.

2019 Conference: Tom Tatum is looking into Chester County/Southeast PA areas.

2020 Conference: Marshall and Ryan Nych are looking into Mercer or Butler County areas.

Isles suggested considering the Indiana, PA area.

OLD BUSINESS

Committee to research investments: Scharadin, Frantz and Allen are to pursue where to invest our funds before the Executive Director's retirement.

Audit of treasurer: Doyle and Betty Dietz to do the audit in May and August.

Pennsylvania sales tax exemption status: Scharadin had a meeting planned with Ron Kistler to complete and submit the forms.

Researching membership audit process: Paula Piatt provided a thorough report on audit policies used by other organizations. She is continuing to research and, with Tatum, will present an idea for POWA to use going forward.

Projector purchase: Isles has looked into costs for a projector but suggests tabling the purchase due to the expense of roughly \$300. The Oil Region Alliance will provide a projector, screen and large TV, and sound system if necessary for the Spring conference.

Membership Directory on website: The Membership Directory is to be placed on the website. Scharadin to forward Isles the file to complete the request.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business to discuss.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Nothing to report.

*Motion to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. Dietz.

– Submitted by
Steve Sorensen, Secretary

Supporting Member Spotlight

Flock to Hawk Mountain for autumn's best bird's-eye views

By Tyler Frantz

Reaching the famed North Lookout of Hawk Mountain Sanctuary takes a bit of climbing. Located at the summit of a rocky Blue Mountain ridgeline, nature-goers must work for the grand rewards it bestows. Add optics, camera gear, and a squirming two-year-old to carry, and it's possible for even active outdoors enthusiasts to break a sweat.

But once fully ascended, the vantage point reveals a breathtaking vista beyond imagination – one that instantly gratifies and validates the effort expended to get there. The scenic view spans 70 miles on a clear day, offering a picturesque gaze upon the Kittatinny Ridge and its surrounding valleys. Add in the vibrant color palette of fall's deciduous leaf transformation and one can easily surmise the summoning splendor.

This popular eco-tourism destination draws visitors from around the globe each year, not only for its leaf-peeping or cardiovascular potential, but also for its unique ability to showcase various birds of prey during the peak of their autumn migration.

In fact, it is one of the top viewing locations in the entire world to see multiple raptor species in their natural southerly travels through these historic mountain ridges.

As part of the Autumn Hawk Watch, which runs from Aug. 15 through Dec. 15 each year, sanctuary bird counters are stationed atop the North Lookout daily to identify and compile data on the winged migrants passing overhead.

Mountain members, whose annual subscription to the sanctuary helps fund its operation, are free to use any trails as a benefit of their \$40-individual or \$50-family membership, while non-subscribing public is welcome anytime for a nominal daily trail fee.

Weather strongly affects the flight on any given day, with best flight conditions occurring one or two days after the passage of a



Tyler Frantz Photo

The Autumn Hawk Watch, which runs from Aug. 15 through Dec. 15 each year, draws bird counters to the North Lookout to identify and compile data on the winged migrants passing overhead.

cold front and on days with northwesterly winds, making it perfect for a fall getaway.

"The absolute best time to be here would probably be around mid-October," Hawk Mountain Sanctuary bird counter Bracken Brown said. "The weather is usually ideal, birds are on the move, and there is the potential for seeing all 16 of our region's raptors during this time frame."

HMSA staff hosts a variety of educational programs, guided tours, live raptor displays, lectures and other activities from their interactive visitors center and extensive trail system throughout the fall migration season. Helpful volunteers are stationed throughout the property to offer insight and advice for a positive experience.

Other amenities include convenient restroom sites, picnic areas, outdoor amphitheater, a native plant garden, and more. It is truly a must-visit destination for families, nature lovers, outdoors enthusiasts and anyone interested in viewing this incredible natural treasure at the peak of its autumn glory.

For additional details, membership inquiries and trail fee information please visit www.hawkmountain.org or call 610-756-6961.

Frantz is POWA's 1st Vice President. A complete version of this article originally appeared on his blog, www.naturalpursuit-outdoors.com.

POWA members enjoy day afield at Martz's Gap View Hunting Preserve

By Tyler Frantz

On October 18, 2017, three active POWA members visited longtime supporting member Martz's Gap View Hunting Preserve in Dalmatia, PA for an exclusive media hunt. Videographer Ron Koch, along with his granddaughter Shanelle filmed a segment for their "Outdoor Buddies" online web show, while Dubois-based outdoor columnist Charlie Burchfield collected quality photo stock and story material.

First Vice President Tyler Frantz filmed a point-of-view Tactacam mash-up for his "Natural Pursuit Outdoors" YouTube Channel and included the hunt in a blog he wrote for *Pennsylvania Outdoor News* online. POWA Membership Outing Co-Chair Mark Demko arranged the semi-guided pheasant hunt thanks to the generosity of preserve owner Mike Martz.

After a brief warm up, bird dog Cali Frantz was able to locate and flush all 12 stocked birds, although her fellow hunting companions proved a bit less effective in



Tyler Frantz Photo

Pictured from left to right: Ron Koch, Shanelle Koch, Charlie Burchfield and bird dog Cali.

performing their required duties. All told, nine of the 12 birds were harvested, and each party took home three fully dressed roosters for the roaster.

It was a wonderful day afield with POWA friends at one of the finest shooting establishments in the state. Many thanks go to

Martz's Gap View Hunting Preserve and the Membership Outing Committee for making this event possible.

For more information about hunting at Martz's, please visit www.martzs.com.

Frantz is POWA's 1st Vice President.



Tyler Frantz Photo

The Pennsylvania Trappers Association provides unique training opportunities and proves the sport offers a lifelong learning experience.

PA Trapper Schools are a prime catch for fur-taking knowledge

By Tyler Frantz

While fur prices are down, and fewer trappers run lines than back in the "good old days," it is clearly evident that trapping is far from dead in the state of Pennsylvania.

At least that's the impression I got from attending the Pennsylvania Trappers Association's District XI Trapper Training School held in Lebanon County late last summer.

The Pennsylvania Trappers Association has been a longtime POWA Supporting member.

As a relatively new recreational trapper with only a brace of seasons under my belt, I found this unique opportunity to

increase my trapping knowledge incredibly worthwhile. In fact, I could see that many of the instructors were just as engaged in the lessons as the students, proving that trapping is a lifelong learning experience with more than one approach to nearly everything we do.

Stations covered a wealth of information from basic regulations, trap preparation and skinning/fur-care to specific trapping techniques, such as beaver sets, water sets for raccoon, mink and muskrat, land sets for canines and an introductory overview of cable restraints.

The instructors consisted of experienced trappers of various ages with tried and true

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strategies to share. Two young men co-taught stations with their fathers, and while they were much younger than some of the school's attendees, the fact that they were both former 'Youth Trappers of the Year' enticed everyone to pay a little closer attention to what they had to say. Yes, they knew their stuff.

The field school was offered free of charge, and each registrant received a complementary trap, a guidebook titled "From Trapline to Fur Shed," a chance at various door prizes, and lunch sponsored by Izaak Walton League's Lebanon County Chapter.

It was an incredibly informative day, and I would highly recommend attending a Trapper Training School if you have never done so. They are perfect for beginning and experienced trappers alike. I know I personally learned a lot, and I'm eager to put my newly found knowledge to good use.

But I was most impressed with Coordinator Butch Herr's message of sustaining the sport through the promotion of ethical trapping practices and educating novice trappers in how to find success while adhering to all trapping laws and avoiding societal conflict.

"PTA's motto is 'Our image is our future,' and that's exactly right," Herr said. "It is absolutely critical that we do all within our power to ensure the sport that we love doesn't go away.

"That's on us," he explained. "We need to be responsible and represent ourselves as the meaningful contributors to society we've always been- and hopefully continue to be."

For information on PTA membership, trapper rendezvous, or



Tyler Frantz Photo

The Pennsylvania Trappers Association aims to sustain the sport of trapping through the promotion of ethical practices and education of novice trappers.

upcoming training schools, please visit patrappers.com.

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



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