



# POWOW

Newsletter of the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association

Fall 2018



Chester County CVB Photo

Canoeing and kayaking on the Brandywine Creek while fishing for smallmouth is one of the activities slated for the conference on Friday.

## Excellence in Craft Award entries due February 16

Please study all 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 16, 2019. 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 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

See AWARDS, page 7

# POWA heading to Brandywine Valley

By Tom Tatum  
*Spring Conference Chair*

POWA returns this spring to Pennsylvania’s southeastern corner with a visit to the Brandywine Valley – complete with some great fishing, interesting newsmakers, and a centrally located host hotel. Our annual conference is slated for May 16-19, 2019.

We’ll be based at the Quality Inn & Suites West Chester, 943 South High St., in West Chester, with visits to the Delaware County Natural Lands properties (including VALLEY, page 6



Linda Stager Photo

Cedar waxwings and other species will be the subjects of birding activities slated for world famous Longwood Gardens.

## Piatt named executive director

The Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association’s Board of Directors in September appointed Paula Piatt as the organization’s new executive director.



Piatt

Piatt succeeds Dennis Scharadin, who retired from the position

on Aug. 31 after five years of leadership.

“We are thrilled to have Paula and the experience she brings to the organization thanks to her long and distinguished career as an outdoor communicator,” said Brad Isles, POWA president. “On behalf of the board, we wish Dennis nothing but the best as he transitions into retirement. We ap-

See DIRECTOR, page 6

# POWA eyes successful show season

POWA is looking to its members to make the upcoming sport show season a successful one.

Once again in 2019, thanks to our supporting members, the NRA and Expositions, Inc., we have been given space at the two largest shows in the state – the Great American Outdoor Show in Harrisburg (Feb. 2-10, 2019) and the Allegheny Outdoor, Sport & Travel Show in Monroeville (Feb. 15-17, 2019). This is a great opportunity to showcase POWA and recruit both individual and supporting members.

We are encouraging our eastern Pa. members to help staff the booth at Harrisburg and our western Pa. members to help out in Monroeville. If you can donate a couple of hours, please contact Executive Director Paula Piatt at [ppiatt@paoutdoorwriters.com](mailto:ppiatt@paoutdoorwriters.com).

For those in the west interested in helping out in Monroeville, Chris Fassnacht of Expositions, Inc. sent along a reminder that there are rooms available at a special exhibitor rate at a nearby hotel.

Additionally, our annual auction at the Harrisburg show is the major fundraiser for our youth education grant program. If you would like to donate an item for the auction, email Paula.

Tickets are now on sale for the Great American Outdoor Show. Members of the news media are welcome to cover the Great American Outdoor Show. For media inquiries and interview requests, email [nragomedia@nrahq.org](mailto:nragomedia@nrahq.org) or visit the Press Office at the show. For media passes to the show, visit [www.greatamericanoutdoorshow.org/media](http://www.greatamericanoutdoorshow.org/media).

## 2018/19 POWA Committees

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>Liaison</b>
Awards .....	Vacant	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.....	Mark Nale	Jeff Wolesslagle
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.....	Doyle Dietz	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.....	Vacant	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 .....	Kyle Hey	Marshall Nych

# PowWow

Fall 2018

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

[www.paoutdoorwriters.com](http://www.paoutdoorwriters.com)

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Secretary – STEVE SORENSEN  
Treasurer – JOHN ALLEN  
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Parliamentarian - VACANT  
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## Craft Improvement

### Author Klimkos details book self-publishing experience

By Ryan Richard Nych  
*Craft Improvement*

Longtime member Michael Klimkos was inspired by firefighter friends for his recent publication of “The Fires of Penn’s Woods” and discussed his experience with self-publishing the book at the POWA Spring Conference in Franklin.

Klimkos advised anyone interested in writing to read “Draft No. 4” by John McPhee as a tool to improve efficiency. The software, Scrivener, also does wonders to keep the writer organized as “writing is a laborious process.”

Klimkos went on to discuss his recent experience using Createspace.com, a sister to Amazon, that is largely free with charges for special add-on features. Createspace’s format allows you to create an account, come up with a title and begin. The “Step-by-Step” option is recommended over “Expert” as it goes through all necessities in order to create a published piece. Other considerations are ISBN and Library of Congress Number (which both have means of being free to the author). Complete a manuscript and choose a format size. Copy/Paste document into the format size’s template and upload. “It’s so simple you’ll think you’re doing something wrong,” Klimkos said.

Other key points added to the conclusion and questions included dealing with price and royalties. Amazon lets the author set price



Brad Isles Photo

**POWA member Michael Klimkos discusses his experience with self-publishing his recent book during a craft improvement seminar at the spring conference in Franklin.**

and allows for detailed royalty reports. Marketing is largely up to the author, but Createspace automatically creates opportunities for sale on Amazon and Barnes & Noble websites. The author will need a PA Sales Tax Number to report copies sold by the author. The dashboard checklist helps with organization and if there are any hiccups, authors can refer to helplines and blogs as long as they are willing to “ignore the noise of the internet and (the authors will) find answers.”

Klimkos also recommended ordering a “Proof” copy before finalizing the publishing, but through Createspace any further edits are automatically updated with no need for a 2nd edition.

## Two tips to grab readers with good ledes

By Nick Sisley  
*Craft Improvement*

A good, “grabbing” lede is what we writers are always trying to come up with.

Sometimes our writing task gets stagnated because of non-productive minutes (or more) as we stare at the keyboard or computer screen – and nothing “grabbing” comes to mind.

I always thought Charlie Waterman was excellent at writing ledes, so I wrote him about it. As per in those days he answered on a sheet of paper and hacked away at his Underwood with his answer.

Charlie didn’t waste too much time cogitating about his lede. He was prolific, so he had to write ledes quite often. Here’s what he told me, and I’m paraphrasing, “If the lede doesn’t pour out immediately, just start writing.” And **just start** writing about your subject is top advice. Keeps you from not starting. Keeps you putting words on

paper. Always a good thing.

Waterman continued, “Once you’re writing – a good lede may pop into your head. Often suddenly. If that doesn’t happen you may find that the first words you started with actually make a good lede.” Again, just start writing.

Last night I was giving lede-writing some additional thought and came up with this idea. Just borrow someone else’s lede to get started! Of course, if you do that you must give proper credit. Here’s one example. Say you’re getting ready to hit the keyboard with a grouse-hunting story.

*It was a long way, but he knew where he was going. He would follow the road through the woods and over the crest of a hill and down the hill to the stream, and cross the sagging timbers of the bridge, and on the other side would be the place called Tinkhamtown. He was going back to Tinkhamtown.*

Next you say something like “That’s

the opening paragraph of Corey Ford’s classic, epic, unforgettable story ‘The Road to Tinkhamtown.’ Now that I have your attention – here’s my own grouse hunting tale.”

In this same vein, let’s say you’re stuck with no lede for what you know is your great bass fishing article. This time borrow a line that goes like this on working a topwater lure, “*Tip could make the little strumpet show her panties as coyly as an ingenue.*”

Next you give credit, “That’s a line from Havilah Babcock’s bass fishing article on a rainy day called ‘When a Lady Undresses.’ That one is a wonderful story, and you should read it. But hopefully I have your attention so that you go on to read my own bass-fishing tale.”

You should now have two ideas that could help you write better ledes: 1. Just start writing. 2. Borrow a lede but go overboard giving credit.

# Executive Director's Report

by Paula Piatt,  
Executive Director



To be honest, I didn't know what to expect. You study and prepare; play all the scenarios out in your mind. You know you're going to have your work cut out for you, but relying on the work you've done before, and a good deal of persistence, you can walk out on the other side with some success – which is just what I was blessed with in September.

So now, with my successful Newfoundland moose hunt out of the way and more than 300 pounds of protein in the freezer, I was ready to tackle “the next big thing.” I'm truly looking forward to serving at your executive director alongside an energetic and forward-looking board of directors.

First, a “thank you” to the now-retired Dennis Scharadin for his hard work on behalf of POWA. There's so much more to this position “under the surface” and his dedication to the cause has not gone unnoticed. We are a better organization for his work the last five years.

We are in the midst of membership renewals, both for individuals and supporting members. At last check, we had 147 individual members (down from 154 in 2017) and 77 supporting members (up from 72 in 2017). We welcomed five new members in 2018, with a sixth (a student member) currently going through the application process. On the supporting member side, we've gained seven members and there are several currently in the application process.

Here is your gentle reminder to return your renewal form to me as soon as possible. And be thinking about new members. Given our business, we know a lot of people; think about who could benefit from a POWA membership. I can provide brochures for potential individual and supporting members, as well as applications and they are on our website. Don't hesitate to reach out for more information. Remember, sponsor two new members in 2019 and we'll waive your \$60 dues for 2020.

You may have noticed a new email format with your renewal and some of the news items we're sending out. I'm

hoping you find that helpful and easy to read. It will allow us to include photos and links and will be especially helpful to our supporting members as they look to inform members of new services and products. Look for a regular email highlighting the work of POWA in between regular *PowWow* issues.

In my discussions with some of our supporting members, Mary Jane Williamson of the American Sportfishing Association has asked me to remind our active members that ASA offers free registration for ICAST (the International Convention of Allied Sportfishing Trades) for current card-carrying members of outdoor media organizations – and that includes POWA, of course. Next year's show is July 10-12 in Orlando, Fla. Contact Mary Jane for more details; you'll find contact information in the directory.

I'm saddened to report the loss of two POWA members over the summer. Will Elliott of Pavilion, New York, passed away on July 1, 2018. I had the pleasure of knowing Will and working with him through *New York Outdoor News*. I can still remember the first time I met Will, at my first New York State Outdoor Writers Conference almost 15 years ago. Will was the first to come up to Steve and I, welcome us warmly and let us know, in no uncertain terms, that if we needed anything, all we had to do was ask. Turns out, he could help and Will was a columnist for *New York Outdoor News* from its very first publication. He will be missed by the sportsmen and women of New York and Pennsylvania.

Pennsylvania lost a favorite son in September with the passing of Charles Meck. I didn't know Charlie, but he certainly had an influence on me, and many other trout fishermen in the state. Perhaps best known for his book “Pennsylvania Trout Streams and their Hatches,” he led me to

many gems around the Keystone State. POWA member Len Lichvar shares a remembrance of Charlie in this edition of *PowWow*.

As we look forward to a new year, there have been some great discussions and ideas thrown around among the officers and board members with regard to the future of POWA. You, as members, are welcomed to join in that conversation. Don't hesitate to call or email me with your ideas, suggestions and, yes, even complaints. I want to hear them all. That's how we'll continue to move our organization forward.

You can reach me at either [ppiatt@paoutdoorwriters.com](mailto:ppiatt@paoutdoorwriters.com) or 570-886-1609.

## New Supporting Members

### Chester County Conference and Visitors Bureau

300 Greenwood Rd.

Kennett Square, PA 19348

Phone: 484-840-7213

Web: [www.brandywinevalley.com](http://www.brandywinevalley.com)

Contact: Courtney Babcock

Email: [courtney@brandywinevalley.com](mailto:courtney@brandywinevalley.com)

Subject: The tourism promotion agency in Chester County.

Sponsor: Paula Piatt

### Media Direct Creative Group

8845 Wattsburg Rd.

Erie, PA 16509

Phone: 309-944-5341

Web: [www.mediadirectcreative.com](http://www.mediadirectcreative.com)

Contact: Kim Cahalan

Email: [kim@mediadirectcreative.com](mailto:kim@mediadirectcreative.com)

Subject: Full-service marketing agency

Sponsor: Nick Sisley

# President's Message

by Brad Isles



Think back to the last time you were on-stand, in your hunting blind or working on a story under deadline. Did one of POWA's supporting members influence or otherwise impact the outcome of your day?

I remember during rifle bear season in November. My post was high on a tall boulder overlooking a steep hillside while hunting state game lands in southwest Warren County. Fellow hunters in my party were to the east, along the same bench, but we could not see each other and were out of communication. I opened the OnX Hunt mapping application on my phone – which I could do despite having no cellular service thanks to the ability to download a detailed topographical map and satellite overlay beforehand. The app's tracking ability told me I had walked almost two miles to get there. I noted Shawn was 500 yards away and Todd was 200 further. I had their "rocks" marked after adding their GPS coordinates.

Later, in rifle deer season, I noted where the others in my hunting party were in comparison to my treestand. I had eschewed using a headlamp in the pre-dawn darkness and instead relied upon the app to guide me. I had marked fresh deer scrapes and even noted a line of rubs during pre-season scouting trips with the hope of having the buck that had made them cruise within range.

OnX is a newer supporting member, and the app is a valuable tool on a number of levels. Not only does it measure distances, but you can add waypoints like a standard GPS unit, along with having the ability to note specific waypoints if you're tracking a wounded deer, or coordinates of your trap line. Perhaps its most powerful tool is the landowner overlay. I've used it in Montana when fishing to determine publicly-owned land versus private. The feature also helps when it comes to asking permission to hunt or fish a specific property.

OnX wasn't the only supporting member to affect my bear hunt, however. Among others were the Pennsylvania Game Commission for obvious reasons, and another

newer addition to our ranks in Backcountry Hunters and Anglers. I personally feel the work BHA is doing nationally – as well as across the commonwealth – is admirable. BHA "seeks to ensure North America's outdoor heritage of hunting and fishing in a natural setting, through education and work on behalf of wild public lands and waters." BHA is one of the fastest-growing conservation organizations in the country with chapters in nearly every state. The Pennsylvania chapter is focusing its efforts on the exploitation of our public lands for resource extraction, primarily of oil and natural gas, and pursuing Sunday hunting opportunities.

We are fortunate to have a well-managed resource and game lands system. I was thankful for that during bear season. Though we did not fill a bear tag that day, rifle deer season was just days away and our boots would be walking the same ground. And who knows, maybe a deer would be donated to the cause led by another supporting member, Hunters Sharing the Harvest?

Some of our supporting members have been around or decades. Others, like OnX and BHA, have joined us within the past year. Be sure to mention and use our supporting members as a resource in your next article or broadcast.

Tom Tatum did just that in his article about our spring conference, which will be held in the Brandywine Valley from May 16-19, 2019. The Chester County Conference and Visitors Bureau recently came on board as a supporting member.

And if there is a group, product or organization that is a consistent part of your enjoyment afield, consider asking them to join POWA.

It seems like this past conference in Franklin was just a couple of weeks ago,

yet it also feels like it's been several years. The summer flew by, but it wasn't without action on a number of POWA fronts.

Most importantly, our Executive Director search committee recommended Paula Piatt to the Board of Directors for appointment, and we welcomed Paula to the organization's top position in September. Paula is off to a fast start and we look forward to following her lead as we focus on member recruitment – both active and supporting – and other areas that will ensure organizational progress. Sincere thanks to Dennis Scharadin for his years of service and cheers to a well-deserved retirement.

Looking ahead to 2019, we should all have the Allegheny Outdoor, Sport and Travel Show in Monroeville or the Great American Outdoor Show in Harrisburg on our calendars. Staffing tables at these events takes a great sacrifice of time and effort to make a success. But they are important to POWA in terms of exposure and awareness, not to mention for our educational fund. We need more assistance at these shows. I ask members in the eastern half of the state to consider assisting with the Great American Outdoor Show and members in the western half of the state to help out at Monroeville.

If you are asked to assist in some manner, whether it be serving on a committee or providing a brief contribution to our newsletter or social media sites, I urge you to consider giving back to the organization in some fashion.

## Valley

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ing a hayride) along with fly-fishing for wild browns and other rising trout, muskie fishing, float trips via canoe and kayak for smallmouth bass, and birding tours of the famed Longwood Gardens.

We have been working hard to provide a great lineup of events, trips and craft improvement sessions. Of course, things are still in the planning stages, but planned craft improvement and newsmaker sessions include: tips on mentoring those first-time outdoorspeople, Conservation 101, "Top-notch writers share secrets of success," and others. A full line-up will be available in the next PowWow.

Planned spouses' tours are slated to include world famous Longwood Gardens, the Brandywine River Museum, and the QVC shopping network headquarters.

The weekend will include some "old standbys," a hospitality suite where we can get together in the evenings, the Saturday breakout to meet and speak with our supporting members, and, of course, Saturday evening's Excellence in Craft Awards banquet. And we may have some surprises in store, we're still planning the weekend.

In the meantime, you can check out the Brandywine Valley and all it has to offer through the Chester County Conference and Visitors Bureau's website, [www.brandywinevalley.com](http://www.brandywinevalley.com). The bureau is one of our newest supporting members, so we welcome them aboard!



Chester County CVB Photos

The POWA spring conference will include a haywagon tour of the Natural Lands properties in Chester County, above. Saturday's luncheon and breakout is slated to be held at the beautiful Natural Lands Lenfest Center, below left. The business meeting, luncheon, and breakout will be held at the Lenfest Center's pavilion, bottom right.



## Director

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preciate the countless hours and knowledge he provided POWA during his tenure."

An avid outdoorswoman, Paula currently serves as an associate editor for Outdoor News Publications, where she also regularly contributes as a feature writer. She first joined POWA in the mid-1980s before relocating to the Adirondacks of New York. Now, back home in Pennsylvania, she has been a member since 2010 and most recently served on the Board of Directors.

"I'm excited to continue the good work of POWA in this new role. Now, more than ever, the work of outdoor communications is vital to not only preserving our outdoor

heritage, but growing it for the future. I'm looking forward to helping both our individual and supporting members do their best work," said Piatt.

During May's POWA spring conference in Franklin she won an Excellence in Craft Award in the Best Magazine or Regional Newspaper Feature category for "On duty," which was published in the September/October 2017 Just Labs magazine.

"Paula is more than a talented writer and editor. Her work with and knowledge of other member-led organizations, particularly those in based the outdoors and conservation, will be a great benefit to us as we look for new avenues of growth," Isles said. "The future of POWA is bright."

Paula graduated from Lock Haven

University with a degree in Journalism/Media Studies and has worked in various media for the past 35 years. She serves as a member of Gov. Tom Wolf's Advisory Council for Hunting, Fishing and Conservation and holds memberships in the New York State Outdoor Writers Association; the National Wild Turkey Federation; Backcountry Hunters and Anglers; and the Sayre Sportsmen's Club, where she serves on the Board of Directors as secretary and delegate to the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs.

Paula and her husband, Steve, who is also a POWA member, live in Sayre, Pa., with their two Labrador retrievers. They co-hosted the POWA Spring Conference in Sayre in 2016.

## Awards

from page 1

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. To be considered for an award, 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 its 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 POWA EIC Entries)** – 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

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### ***Continued from previous page...***

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 Book Award (alternates with Best Radio/TV Program 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 POWA EIC entries)** – \*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. Best of the Best Award (\$500 and plaque, \*sponsorship pending)** – 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. If a sponsor is not secured, no award will be issued.

**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](http://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 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 its publication with acknowledgement of the photographer’s award. If so used, the PFBC will pay its going rate for the 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.

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## 2018 Chautauqua County-sponsored writing contest entries due Feb. 1

**Publish Period:** Jan. 1, 2018 – Dec. 31, 2018

**Submission Deadline:** Feb. 1, 2019

**Category:** Outdoor Adventure

**Entry Fee:** Free. Sign up with direct entry to CCVB (email below).

**Prizes:** 1st Prize: \$250 Cash, +free weekend hotel reservation, +free charter fishing trip; 2nd Prize: \$125 cash; 3rd Prize: \$75 cash

**Description:** For this writing competition, tempt us with your creative outdoor story. Deliver a sense of urgency to join the fun of any Chautauqua County

outdoor adventure with your compelling message. Your story can be about fishing, hunting, camping, hiking, kayaking, boating or anything outdoors, including our grape country – wine tasting, hops farming (microbreweries), etc. Please email submissions as a PDF, if possible. No limit on number of submissions.

**Contact Information:** Andrew Nixon

Email: [nixon@tourchautauqua.com](mailto:nixon@tourchautauqua.com)

Phone: 716-450-4569

Mail: Chautauqua County Vacations Bureau, PO Box 1441, Main Gate, Chautauqua, NY, 14722.

*Email contest entries to Andrew Nixon.*

### 2019 Outdoor Media Writing Contest - Chautauqua County, NY

- **\$875 in CASH PRIZES, Hotel Weekend, Free Charter Fish Trip**
- **Visit Us, On Us! [Apply for FREE FISH CAMP Reservation](#)**

**Publish Period**

Jan. 1, 2019 – Dec. 31, 2019

**Submission Deadline**

February 1, 2020

**Category**

Outdoor Adventure

**Entry Fee**

Free. Send your published copy to Chautauqua County Vacation Bureau (see email address below).

**Eligibility**

Open to registered media members of NYSOWA, POWA, AGLOW and OWO (Ohio).

**Join Us at FISH CAMP 2019**

Free Invitation offer to apply for a free Fish Camp Experience in Chautauqua County. Please consider a visit. Our fishing camp trips target walleye, giant musky, smallmouth and largemouth bass, lake trout and steelhead in Chautauqua County waters, including Lake Erie and trib’s, depending on time of year. Your only requirement is to get yourself to the Chautauqua Fish Camp location we will provide to you. We’ve got you covered!

**Prizes**

1st Prize: \$500 Cash + free weekend hotel + free charter fishing trip (**\$1,200 total value**)

2nd Prize: \$250 Cash + certificate

3rd Prize: \$125 Cash + certificate

**Description**

This contest is a professional writing competition, so please tempt us with your best published creative outdoor story. Deliver a sense of urgency for your readers or viewers to join the fun for any of many Chautauqua County outdoor adventures with your compelling message. Your story can be about fishing, hunting, camping, hiking, kayaking, boating or anything outdoors, including our grape country – wine tasting, hops farming (microbreweries), etc. Please email submissions as a PDF or web link, if possible. No limit on number of submissions. Our 2019 Contest Winners will be announced at your respective Annual Conference.



Wade Robertson with Chautauqua Lake walleye caught during 2018 Fall Fish Camp.

**2019 FREE Fish Camp Invitation Dates...APPLY for reservation ASAP:**

Jun. 3, 4, 5, 6 (Mon. - Thur.) - Chautauqua Walleye & Trophy Lake Erie Smallmouth

Aug. 5, 6, 7, 8 (Mon. - Thur.) - Lake Erie Walleye & Summer Smallmouth

Oct. 7, 8, 9, 10 (Mon. - Thur.) - Chautauqua Lake Musky, Lake Erie Bass, Tributary Steelhead, Archery Big Game Deer & Bear Season

*To request a reservation, contact Dave Barus at [dbarus35@yahoo.com](mailto:dbarus35@yahoo.com) or call 716-597-4081 directly.*

**Chautauqua Visitors Bureau Information**

Andrew Nixon, Email: [nixon@tourchautauqua.com](mailto:nixon@tourchautauqua.com); Phone: 716-450-4569; US Mail address: Chautauqua County Visitors Bureau, PO Box 1441, Main Gate, Chautauqua, NY, 14722. For more info on Chautauqua: [www.tourchautauqua.com](http://www.tourchautauqua.com). Email contest entries to Andrew Nixon.

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**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. Lantz Hoffman White-Tailed Deer Award (\$150 and plaque, sponsored by Karen Wolf)** – This award recognizes Lantz Hoffman, former POWA member and director of the Pennsylvania Game Commission Bureau of Information and Education. It 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.

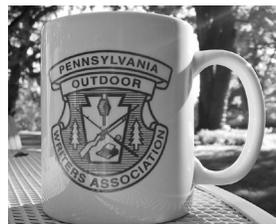
**18. Young Trees Habitat Award (\$150 and plaque, sponsored by the Allegheny Chapter of the Ruffed Grouse Society)** – This award will be given to the best published piece that showcases the declining wildlife species of conservation concern and how to create “young tree” habitat for these species of 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.

## **POWA 65th Anniversary**

### **Merchandise**



**‘Celebrating 65 Years – 1950-2015’ on back!**

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

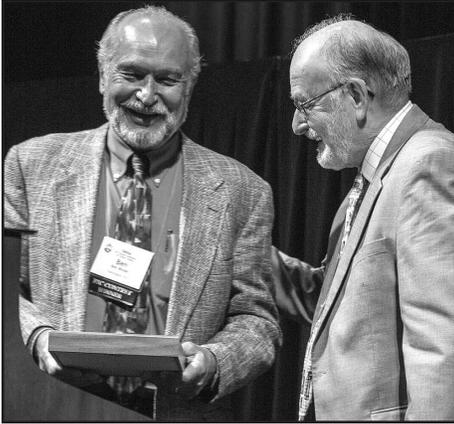


**Knives numbered 1-100 on the blade. Ask for your favorite to see if it’s available!**

**Knives are \$35 each plus shipping**

*Place your orders with*  
Executive Director Paula Piatt  
P.O. Box 885 / Sayre, PA 18840  
Phone: 570-886-1609  
Email: [info@paoutdoorwriters.com](mailto:info@paoutdoorwriters.com)

## Member News



Contributed Photo

POWA member Ben Moyer (left) receives the Outdoor Writers Association of America, 2018 Excellence in Craft Award from OWAA past-president Tom Huggler.

## OWAA honors Moyer for craft excellence

At its annual conference held in Fort Wayne, Ind., June 2-4, the Outdoor Writers Association of America named POWA member Ben Moyer as its 2018 Excellence in Craft Award recipient.

Moyer has written about nature, outdoor recreation and conservation issues in regional, state and national publications for more than three decades. The OWAA Excellence in Craft Award, initiated in 1971, is given to one OWAA member annually to honor "outstanding effort in upholding the OWAA Creed and continued excellence in craft throughout a career."

Past Excellence in Craft OWAA honorees include Pat McManus, Grits Gresham, Gene Hill, Babe Winkelman and Roger Latham.

"The OWAA Creed commits our members to accuracy, fairness, clarity and ethics in our words. Our recipient this year is, indeed, a writer that reflects all those qualities stated in the creed," said OWAA past-president Tom Huggler in presenting the award.

OWAA has a membership of 800 professional writers, film-makers and broadcasters representing every U.S. state, Canada, New Zealand, South Africa and the United Kingdom.

## Treasurer's Report

By John Allen, POWA Treasurer / Expenditures as of August 31, 2018

<u>Income Accounts</u>	<u>Budget 17-18</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Active Members' Dues	8,600	8,230	96
Supporting Members' Dues	6,700	7,710	115
Merchandise Sales	200	16	8
Craft Award Income	5,000	5,285	106
General Contribution	-	165	-
Spring Conference Income (Net)	3,600	3,418	95
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$24,100</b>	<b>\$24,824</b>	<b>103%</b>
<u>Expense Accounts</u>	<u>Budget 17-18</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Executive Dir. Stipend	10,200	10,200	100
Pow Wow (Print/Edit)	4,000	3,227	81
Member Awards	5,100	4,600	90
Membership Directory	1,850	757	41
Plaque Expenses	750	950	127
Office Expenses	550	568	103
Postage, General	700	573	82
Insurance	505	540	107
Credit Card Fees	150	138	92
Professional Fees	100	-	-
Website Expenses	50	-	-
Miscellaneous	-	100	-
Board Meeting Expense	145	-	-
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$24,100</b>	<b>\$21,653</b>	<b>90%</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$3,171</b>	

Cash Accounts as of August 31, 2018: General Fund, \$36,248; Youth Education Fund, \$1,753; Scholarship Fund, \$54,449; Jacquelin Knight CD, \$14,436; Emergency Fund, \$9,192; Northwest CD, \$20,000. Total Cash Accounts: \$135,077.

## POWA Budget

By John Allen, POWA Treasurer

<u>Account Description</u>	<u>Approved 17-18</u>	<u>Proposed 18-19</u>
Active Members' Dues	8,600	8,240
Supporting Members' Dues	6,700	6,500
Merchandise Sales	200	50
Awards Income	5,000	5,000
General Contribution	-	-
Conferences (Net)	3,600	3,020
Miscellaneous	-	-
<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>\$24,100</b>	<b>\$22,810</b>
Member Awards	5,100	5,100
Executive Dir. Stipend	10,200	10,200
Plaque Expenses	750	1,000
Pow Wow (Print/Edit)	4,000	3,500
Website Expenses	50	50
Membership Directory	1,850	850
Postage, General	700	700
Office Expenses	550	650
Marketing	-	-
Merchandise Expense	-	-
Insurance	505	505
Professional Fees	100	100
Credit Card Fees	150	150
Interim Board Meeting	145	-
Travel	-	-
Miscellaneous	-	-
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$24,100</b>	<b>\$22,810</b>
<b>Net Increase/(Deficit)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

## Market News

by Freddie McKnight



Full time and freelance positions are available for qualified candidates for **BoatTEST**'s increasing business. Must have at least five years of boating magazine writing experience, know a wide range of boats, have experience operating boats in a wide variety of sizes. Knowledge of engines, electronics, and other aspects of boating helpful. Must be conscientious and deadline-oriented. Freelancers working for boating magazines may reply in confidence. Send resumes to Jeff@BoatTEST.com.

**Game News** magazine is accepting queries now for "Me-and-Joe"-type spring gobbler hunting stories for spring 2019 issues of the magazine. Photo support is important and writers can query

Bob D'Angelo at the Game Commission at rdangelo@pa.gov.

**Bowhunter** is a bimonthly magazine that covers hunting big and small game with bow and arrow. The editors say, "We are a special-interest publication, produced by bowhunters for bowhunters, covering all aspects of the sport. Material included in each issue is designed to entertain and inform readers, making them better bowhunters." The magazine pays \$100-\$500 for nonfiction pieces of 250-2,000 words. Potential writers should query first.

**Gray's** is published seven times a year, including four themed issues: the Fly Fishing Edition (March/April), the Upland Bird Hunting Edition (August), the

Big Game Edition (September/October), and the Expeditions and Guides Annual (December). Because 90 percent of the magazine's readers are bird hunters, 85 percent are fly fishers, and 67 percent hunt big game, Gray's is always looking for good upland-bird-hunting, fly-fishing, and big-game manuscripts for these issues and throughout the year. Query: Gray's Sporting Journal, 735 Broad St., Augusta, GA 30901.

Since 1925, **Fur-Fish-Game** has been highly acclaimed as the magazine for practical outdoorsmen. Articles are written to instruct and entertain, by real life, everyday outdoorsmen who hunt, trap and fish year-round. Fur-Fish-Game covers a wider variety of outdoor pursuits than any other magazine. It is the only national outdoor magazine that still publishes a new issue each and every month of the year. Query 2878 East Main Street, Columbus, Ohio 43209.

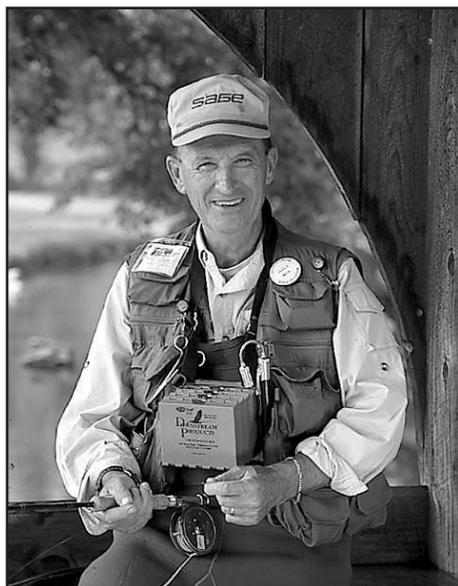
## In Memoriam

### Charles R. Meck

Pennsylvania lost a friend, author, conservationist and longtime member of POWA with the passing of Charles R. Meck on Sept. 18, 2018. Charlie Meck, 86, was one of the most prolific outdoor fishing writers of the modern era. He authored 15 books on fly-fishing as well as countless state and national magazine articles on the subject.

Born in Cressona, PA, Meck worked in continuing education at Penn State University for over 25 years. He became well connected in the fly-fishing world of writers and celebrities, but he also connected with hundreds of lesser known local anglers around the state through his writing, speaking engagements, personal appearances and regular presentations at the Fly Fishing Shows across the country.

Among his many works was the book, "Pennsylvania Trout Streams and their Hatches." To gather the material and photos for the book he crossed the state fishing with the not so famous local anglers so he could learn about the outstanding angling



Meck

opportunities around the state. Charlie also wrote so the regular angler, regardless of skill, could understand and relate to the volumes of information he provided.

His writings contributed significantly to promoting the outstanding angling available in Pennsylvania to residents and visitors alike and no doubt increased eco-tourism and generated other outdoor-related positive economic impacts throughout the Keystone State.

Charlie also wrote about water quality issues such as the Stonycreek River in Somerset County, in regard to its historic abandoned mine drainage (AMD) pollution and the work that was occurring to reduce that pollution to restore a fishery, when those efforts needed all the public support they could get. He also traversed all of Pennsylvania gathering information and knowledge on the waterways and fishing locations.

For his efforts, Charlie received the Confluence Award from the PFBC for promoting angling in the state and he received the Rising Trout Award from the Cumberland Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited in 2012 for his contributions to the sport of fly-fishing and conservation. His contributions to the sport of fly-fishing are also documented and recognized at the Pennsylvania Fly Fishing Museum near Carlisle.

Although he spent the later years of his life in New York State to be close to his son, daughter and three grandchildren, his lasting impact in Pennsylvania will continue to be felt as long as flies are tied, lines are cast and fish are caught.

– By Len Lichvar

## Supporting Member News

# Foundation receives \$250K grant for wildlife center

The Wildlife for Everyone Foundation received a \$250,000 grant from the PA Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) to kick off planning and construction of its highly-anticipated Wildlife Center, located in Huston Township, Centre County.

The DCED award was granted through its Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program that funds organizations for the planning, acquisition, development, rehabilitation and repair of greenways, recreational trails, and open space. The Foundation's proposed Wildlife Center will be an ADA-certified, outdoor learning space and nature observatory that will feature a one-mile, accessible trail allowing all individuals to experience nature regardless of their physical limitation.

"The planned Wildlife Center will significantly improve the quality of life for our community and region by providing increased access to our natural resources," said Senate Majority Leader Jake Corman, who supported the Foundation's bid for state grant money. "This is an exciting project that not only encourages people to get out and experience nature, it makes experiencing the outdoors accessible to everyone."

The Wildlife Center project addresses the shortage of accessible natural areas across the state that offer passive recreational opportunities for persons with disabilities. This project will meet or exceed all ADA requirements and provide *full* accessibility, allowing persons with physical challenges to navigate easily from the parking lot to all features of the Center including the trail loop, picnic facilities and restrooms.

The project will include a one-mile accessible boardwalk with benches and observation areas, educational pavilion with picnic tables, interpretive signage and restrooms. A handicap-accessible fishing platform is also planned.

The 135-acre property gifted to the Wildlife for Everyone Foundation by the WHM Group in 2010 includes 55 acres of



Contributed Photo

**The Wildlife for Everyone Foundation received a \$250,000 grant to kick off planning and construction of a wildlife center, which includes a one-mile accessible boardwalk with benches and observation areas.**

mitigated wetlands. The Ridge and Julian Wetlands attract over 190 species of birds as migrants or breeding residents. The accessible Wildlife Center will capitalize on the beauty of the wetlands for the aesthetic, educational and recreational value it offers its visitors. Groundbreaking is planned for the summer of 2019.

"I am thrilled after 18 months of planning with our talented committee to receive this crucial grant for our new Wildlife Center project from the Department of Community and Economic Development, said Jerry Regan, chair of the Wetlands Project for the Wildlife for Everyone Foundation. "We can now get to work on the detailed drawing and bid the project out this winter. If all goes according to plan, we will begin construction in the summer and have a dedication next fall. Creating accessibility for everyone is the keystone of this project and when completed, it will become a crown jewel in our state's rich outdoor heritage."

For more information, visit [www.wildlifeforeverone.org](http://www.wildlifeforeverone.org).

## Nominate a teen for Wildlife Leadership Academy

The Wildlife Leadership Academy enriches Pennsylvania teens and empowers them to become certified Conservation Ambassadors through attending one of our five-day residential summer field schools: white-tailed deer, brook trout, ruffed grouse, turkey, or bass.

Students gain extensive knowledge about wildlife and conservation, leadership experience and communication skills.

Please consider helping to continue building a network of inspired and dedicated young leaders for conservation to ensure a sustained wildlife legacy for future generations.

Our Conservation Ambassadors receive:

- Letters of recommendation from the Executive Director for college applications;
  - Certification of community service work, and,
  - Certificates designating them as Conservation Ambassadors.
- Conservation Ambassadors are also eligible to:
- Receive three college credits from Cedar Crest College;
  - Apply to become a Youth Mentor and return to the program tuition free the following year;
  - Compete for college scholarships;
  - Attend college visit days at colleges

and universities that have wildlife and conservation programs; and,

- Join an Academy alumni network of wildlife, fisheries and conservation professionals.

Highly motivated students between the ages of 14 and 17 can attend one of the five-day residential summer wildlife/fisheries focused field schools to begin their journey to become Conservation Ambassadors. Students should have demonstrated interest in the outdoors and in wildlife and/or fisheries conservation.

Visit [www.wildlifeleadershipacademy.org/](http://www.wildlifeleadershipacademy.org/) for information.

# Meeting Minutes

## POWA Board of Directors Meeting

Friday, May 4, 2018  
The Franklin, Franklin, PA

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 by President Brad Isles. Present: Executive Director Dennis Scharadin, President Brad Isles, Board Chairman Ralph Martone, First VP Tyler Frantz, Second VP Marshall Nych, Directors Wade Robertson, Marshall Nych, Jeff Wolesslagle, Ben Moyer, Paula Piatt, Doyle Dietz, Parliamentarian Charlie Burchfield, and Secretary Steve Sorensen. Absent but excused: Supporting Member Rep. Connie Spindler, Treasurer John Allen (present by telephone) and Mark Demko.

\* *Motion* to approve minutes from the November 2017 Board of Directors Meeting. Dietz/Moyer. Approved.

**Correspondence:** None.

### OFFICERS' REPORTS

**Executive Director's Report:** Much has happened the beginning of 2018. POWA has had booths at both the Great American Outdoor Show in Harrisburg and the Allegheny Outdoor Show in Monroeville. Both were successful promotionally and we gained several new members from our being at them.

Something new was begun with the membership renewals. Renewal notices were emailed those members having email and snail mail notices were sent to those who don't. Likewise, Supporting member renewal notices were sent by email also. The results could have been better. Numerous reminders were emailed to the membership and finally renewal notices were sent via USPS to those who hadn't renewed.

Ten members did not renew, several because of retirement. They are Tom Gilmore, William Halbfoerster, Jeff Herman, Paul Jukes, Adam McCully, Connie Mertz, Nancy Olney, William Wasserman, Jessica Welshans and Rich Wood.

The Supporting member renewals are still taking place. Currently, 25 have still not renewed.

Our grant and scholarship programs were both successful. Thirteen grants were issued to organizations throughout the state. A scholarship recipient, Hunter Kauffman, was chosen to receive this year's Will Johns Scholarship.

Several important committee chairmen will need replacements. John Swinton has stepped down, after 30 years, from both the Ethics and Scholarship committees. Ralph Scherder has

also stepped down as chairman of the Ways and Means committee. Those are big shoes to fill.

The conference at Franklin will be a great success with an extremely well planned program, but the number of registrants is the lowest in the last four years. 2015-Seven Springs had 70 registered and 66 at the banquet; 2016-Sayer had 78 registered and 74 at the banquet; 2017-Harrisburg-Hershey had 70 registered and 78 at the banquet; 2018-Franklin has 48 registered and 38 for the banquet. Why? Maybe moving the date two weeks earlier was a reason. Some brainstorming should be done to see what should not be repeated. POWA depends on the income from the banquet to stay in the black.

I think the time frame for the nominations and election in the constitution has to be changed. According to the constitution the membership should be notified of the candidates 70 days before the spring meeting (February 25). At 60 days, the ballots must be mailed out (March 6). Ballots must be received 20 days before the spring membership meeting (April 15). I think the Past Presidents Committee should be asked to look into this and find a solution.

With a new Executive Director on the horizon there needs to be some clarifications regarding their duties.

**President's Report:** I offer a sincere and heartfelt thank you to each member who assisted in some manner at either (or both) the Allegheny Outdoor, Sport and Travel Show in Monroeville or the Great American Outdoor Show in Harrisburg this year. It takes a great sacrifice of time and effort to make these events a success, and your efforts are recognized and appreciated.

Thanks again to Dennis and Kermit Henning and the other members who not only worked the table but solicited items for our auction at the GAOS. 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.

As you've heard before, we need more assistance at these shows and other events where a POWA presence is necessary. If we as an organization are going to build upon what we have accomplished to this point we need all hands on deck. Any assistance, no matter how big or small, is welcomed.

Following the Spring Conference in Franklin, our search committee will proceed head-first into the task of replacing Executive Director Dennis Scharadin. The hope is to have a thorough search and have a replacement lined up in the next month or so in order to get him or her on board in time to get up to speed before Dennis concludes his duties.

Special thanks to Marilyn Black, our capable chair for this year's Spring Conference in

Franklin, and her team at the Oil Region Alliance for Business and Industry for their roles in helping to organize the week's activities. We have a solid lineup of seminars and events, not to mention meals and the banquet.

I grew up in Grove City, just a half hour away from Franklin, so I have a great fondness for this area of the state. 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. Take some time to explore on your own. You won't regret it.

It's been a busy start to 2018 for POWA. And it's not going to taper much over the next few weeks. If you are asked to assist in some manner, whether it be serving on a committee or providing a brief contribution to our newsletter or social media sites, I urge you to consider giving back to the organization in some fashion.

\* *Motion* to approve Officers' Reports. Isles/Wolesslagle. Approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** As posted in the Spring/Summer 2018 *PowWow*. Allen reported by phone that we are at 74% of our budget as of March 31. Expenses are at 45% of budget spend, leaving a surplus of \$13,369. Regarding the need for a new Executive Directory, we may not be able to continue paying what we have been paying. Recommending \$700 per month (\$8,400 annual, down from \$10,200). The proposed budget will be adjusted after the conference.

\* *Motion* to approve Treasurer's Report. Moyer/Frantz. Approved.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Awards:** For the 2017 Excellence in Craft Awards we had 39 members submit 327 entries across 210 total categories. In comparison, we had 46 members submit 323 entries across 212 total categories in 2016. Entry fees resulted in \$1,050, which is just \$10 less than last year. Members were offered 28 total award categories – eight core awards and 20 specialty awards. Judging was completed from mid-March to mid-April. Winners will be announced at the Spring 2018 conference.

**Constitution/Bylaws & Duties Manual:** No requests for the board.

**Craft Improvement:** Member Tim Flanigan forwarded a Craft Improvement article on photographing spring wildflowers to *PowWow* Editor Brad Isles for inclusion in the winter newsletter. Isles contacted member Mark Nale to secure photos to support the article, which Nale submitted.

**Duties Manual:** No report.

**Editorial Review:** Editor Brad Isles con-

tinues to do a super job. Timely news; good photos and nice layout!

**Ethics:** Tom Tatum reported on revising the points system for full membership. He offered several options for creating a revised system, but no decision has been made. We will bring this up at the membership meeting to get feedback from the general membership.

**Finance/Budget:** As posted in Spring/Summer 2018 *PowWow*.

**Financial Auditing:** No action.

**Historical Archives:** The Committee continues to follow 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 after the spring conference to be included in the 2018 directory.

**Media:** No action.

**Membership Audit:** Chair Tatum put together pieces of two documents that need to be discussed in the event that POWA decides to reinstate the practice of membership auditing. The two are from the duties manual and the membership application form. He highlighted the section indicating that members who have been in POWA for 15 years or more will be grandfathered out and not be subject to auditing. That would exempt any members who joined prior to 2003 and remained members in good standing throughout that time. He also noticed the point system which determines qualification for membership is somewhat random and might be streamlined to some extent. Looking over criteria for membership in VOWA, AGLOW and OWAA, he noticed that none employ a similar point system. Moving forward, where do we go from here?

**Membership Development:** No action.

**Member Screening:** Approved Active members John Hayes, Jason Nark and John Negich, and Associate members Kyle Hey, Jeff Hale, Caleb Ritenour and Robert Schmid.

**Nominating:** Martone said he has been having ongoing discussions with Brad, Tyler, Dennis and several board members. We are months behind in the process of putting together a ballot and election. With the spring conference, where the election is going to take place, only three-weeks away, the best scenario is to have a slate of officers and board members that keeps everyone in the same roles. So far, that is happening with Brad and Tyler agreeing to stay in the president and 1st vice-president positions another year. Paula Piatt and Ben Moyer are the only board members up for re-election and one vacant board seat as a result of Bud Cole's passing. Paula has agreed to stay, Mark Demko is willing to take Bud's seat.

**Outdoor Education:** As posted.

**Outdoor Press Outings:** As posted.

**Past Presidents Council:** No report.

**Scholarship:** The scholarship seems to be winding down. No one has taken up its UPJ arm, and applications at Penn State, though still coming in, seem to be waning. The reason, chair Swinton surmises, is the retro form of our procedure: no social media involved, actual writing required, face-to-face incidents inherent. Swinton is retiring from the position. This year's recipient of the Will Johns Scholarship is Hunter Kauffman.

**Sport Shows:** No report.

**Supporting Member Recruitment:** No report.

**Supporting Member Rep.:** No report.

**Supporting Member Screening:** Approved Traditions Media, LLC; Pennsylvania Great Outdoors Visitors Bureau; International Bowhunting Organization.

**Ways and Means:** Supporting members have been contacted in an attempt to solicit donations for the raffle at the awards banquet at this year's conference. Emails have also been sent to the general membership requesting conference attendees bring a prize or two to contribute to the raffle. This worked really well last year and hopefully will be just as fruitful. In early April, chair Scherder sent emails to Executive Director Scharadin and current President Isles informing them he was stepping down from the Ways & Means Committee following this year's conference in Franklin. He has headed the committee for about seven years and feels it would benefit the organization to get some new blood involved who will have new ideas about how to make this committee more effective. He's grateful for the opportunity to serve POWA and appreciate the generosity of our supporting members over the years who have contributed so much to our success. He looks forward to serving POWA in other ways. Once a new chair is found, Scherder will share with them any solicitation letters he's used in the past, as well as other information that he's gathered and made the process easier.

\**Motion* to accept committee reports. Woleslagle/Moyer. Approved.

### NEW MEMBERS

Active:

- John Hayes, sponsored by Ben Moyer
- Jason Nark, sponsored by Dennis Scharadin
- John Negich, sponsored by Marshall Nych
- Jeff Hale, sponsored by Tyler Frantz

Associate:

- Kyle Hey, sponsored by Tyler Frantz
  - Caleb Ritenour, sponsored by Karl Power
  - Robert Schmid, sponsored by Ralph Martone (still to be voted on by Board)
- \**Motion* to accept Robert Schmid

as associate member. Isles/Frantz. Approved.

Supporting:

- Traditions Media, LLC (Contact: Leslie Sundahl) sponsored by Dennis Scharadin
  - PA Great Outdoors Visitors Bureau (Contact: Danielle Taylor) sponsored by Terry Brady
  - International Bowhunting Organization (Contact: Brian Marcum) sponsored by Marilyn Black
  - OnX Hunt, Missoula, MT (Contact: Jared Larsen) sponsored by Tyler Frantz
- \**Motion* to approve new members. Nych/Frantz. Approved.

### SPORT SHOWS

**Great American Outdoor Show, Harrisburg:** POWA will again have a booth. Staffing and the sportsman's auction benefitting our youth education fund are concerns, and we need members who live in the area to step up and volunteer.

**Allegheny Outdoor, Sport & Travel Show, Monroeville:** Dennis Scharadin suggests we do the Monroeville show again. We have booth space thanks to longtime supporting member Expositions, Inc. We need members who live in the area to step up and volunteer at the booth.

### CONFERENCES

2019 – Tom Tatum is looking into Chester County/Southeast PA over the May 16-19 weekend.

2020 – Harrisburg/Hershey Mary Lahane, Grantville.

2021 – Marshall Nych will seek a proposal from Mercer County

2022 – Mark Demko suggested we also look into the Lehigh Valley area

2023 – Tyler Frantz suggested we look into Williamsport area

\* *Motion* to approve conference schedule. Dietz/Moyer. Approved.

### OLD BUSINESS

**Executive Director search:** Isles is forming a committee to seek a replacement for Dennis Scharadin.

**Audit of Treasurer:** The audit will be done in August by the Financial Auditing Committee.

**IRS non-profit status:** Scharadin has sent in an application. It takes four to six weeks to get approval. If/when approved we can get reimbursed for sales tax.

**Membership audit process:** Chair Tatum discussed and submitted by committee report. The committee will present an idea for POWA going forward.

**Membership renewals:** The board is looking into disseminate information digitally.

**65th Anniversary merchandise:** There are a number of knives still on hand. Chair of the

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Ways & Means Committee will be assigned to bring an idea of what to do with them back to the board.

**Election timeline:** Past Presidents Committee to review the possibility of changing the election timeline.

**Membership directory:** A digital copy is posted on the website and password protected for member-only use.

**Will Johns Scholarship Committee:** Isles needs to find a committee chair.

**2018 Election:** Officers and directors slate is the same as last year.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**SEOPA Conference:** SEOPA plans a super-conference to enable all organizations to get together to discuss membership issues, supporting member issues.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

**Treestand accident seminar:** We have been solicited to participate in a possible one-time event about prevention of treestand accidents. In view of the fact that the PGC is already working on this, there is currently no interest in this person's efforts. Dennis will write a letter to communicate this.

\**Motion* to adjourn at 10:26 p.m. Wade Robertson.

**Ammo adaptation...**



Ben Moyer Photo

**POWA member Charlie Burchfield makes a presentation on non-toxic shotgun loads and rifle projectiles to members of the Governor's Council on Hunting, Fishing and Conservation. Burchfield offered his seminar at the Governor's Council meeting at the Elk Country Visitor Center in Benezette on Sept. 24. Charlie summarized the latest technological improvements in non-toxic ammunition, and offered pointers on how hunters can learn to adapt its use in their shooting and hunting. Council members asked numerous questions after the talk, indicating they appreciated being better prepared to discuss the issue with others.**



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