



Newsletter of the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association

Winter 2021

POWA announces Youth Education Grant recipients

The Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association has announced the 2020 recipients of its Youth Education Grants.

Twelve organizations have received funding for programs designed to get youth outdoors and to teach them about the valuable natural resources available throughout the state.

The POWA Youth Education Grant Fund is funded primarily through the Annual Sportsmen's Auction held at the Great American Outdoor Show in Harrisburg in February. To date, POWA has raised and distributed over \$420,000 to fund youth educational opportunities. POWA supporting and individual members, as well as many of the show's vendors, donate items and services which are then auctioned the last Sunday of the show. Donations to the fund are also accepted.

In addition to serving as the state's only professional organization for writ-

See **GRANTS**, page 3

Writing contest a hit with elementary students

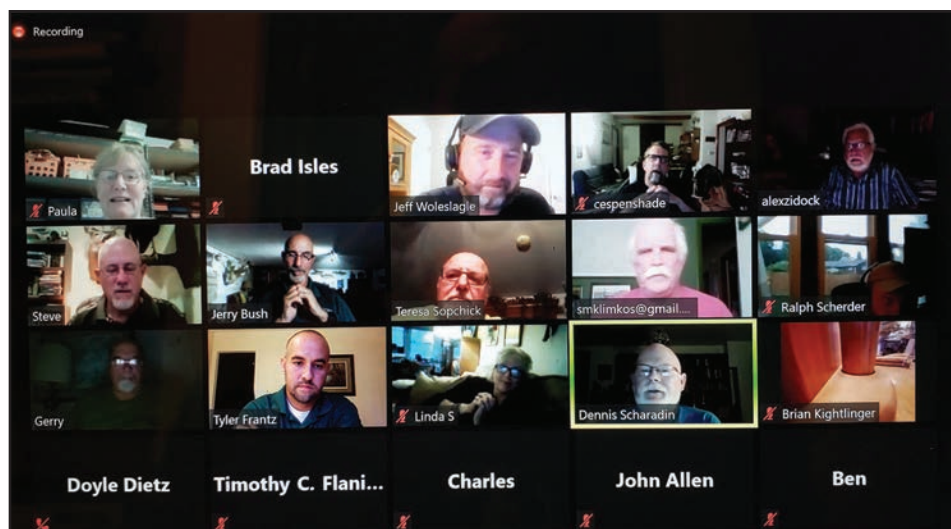
By Marshall Nych

POWA President

Those passionate about outdoor pursuits realize the importance of recruitment and getting future generations curious, excited and involved with nature. Similarly, as an outdoor communicator organization, POWA strives to encourage and mentor youths as well.

The 2019-2020 academic year marked

See **CONTEST**, page 15



Brad Isles Photo

Attendees tune in to the 2020 POWA membership meeting and Excellence in Craft Award presentation held virtually on Zoom in August.

2020 Awards 'Zoom'

The Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association presented the annual Excellence in Craft Awards at the conclusion of its virtual membership meeting on Saturday, Aug. 29.

First-place awards were presented to 17 individuals in 28 categories. There were over 294 total entries by 36 members. Winners are:

POWA CORE AWARDS

Best Newspaper Column (*sponsored by Bob & Linda Steiner*) – "So many Christmases" by Wade Robertson, published in the Bradford Era on Dec. 21, 2019.

Runner-up – "Defining moments: Hooking a young hunter for life" by Tyler Frantz, published in the Pottsville Republican Herald on May 5, 2019.

Best Newspaper Feature (*sponsored*

by Pennsylvania Hunters Sharing the Harvest) – "Cost of conservation: A hunting license goes a long way in PA" by Linda Stager, published in the Williamsport Sun-Gazette on Nov. 26, 2019.

Runner-up – "Hollywood is finally getting 'reel' portraying correct use of flintlock rifles in films" by Doyle Dietz, published in the Pottsville Republican Herald on June 30, 2019.

Best Magazine or Regional Newspaper Column (*sponsored by POWA EIC entries*) – "Carpe Diem" by Marshall Nych, published in PA Outdoor Journal, Aug. 2019.

Runner-up – "Bowhunting the 'Burbs'" by Tyler Frantz, published in Pennsylvania Game News, July 2019.

Best Magazine or Regional Newspaper

See **AWARDS**, page 7

See page 10 for 2021 Excellence in Craft Award entry information.

Member audit process to resume in '21

By Tom Tatum

Membership Audit Committee Chair

After spending the last few years in limbo, membership audits are about to resume. The practice of regularly auditing POWA members is set to begin again in 2021. POWA members in good standing for 20 years or more are grandfathered out of the process and will be exempt from any future audits.

Audit criteria are:

1. You have produced, published, broadcast, or posted, and been paid for or derived income from – in any media recognized as an outlet for professional communication or expression – five demonstrably different stories, articles, columns, photographs, illustrations, television or radio broadcasts, videos, blogs* or podcasts* on outdoor-related topics in the past year.

* Qualifying digital media shall be updated with original content at least twice a month and receive 500 AUVs (Average Unique Views) per month over a 12-month period.

2. You have written a published book or written, produced, or hosted an income-producing stand-alone film (not part of a regularly scheduled series) on outdoor-related topics in the past five years.

3. You have presented a minimum of five demonstrably different, or 15 repeated, lectures on an outdoor-related topic for which compensation was received. Such lectures shall take place on at least five different dates (12 days for repeated presentations). Attach speaking schedule for the past year, with brochures, newspaper clippings or other promotional material.

4. You are a full-time outdoor communicator in any media. Please see below for a list of qualifying positions.**

** Outdoor Agency or conservation

organization employee (i.e. Information officer for the Game Commission, Fish Commission, Bureau of Forestry, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Trout Unlimited, etc.). Audited members in this category qualify for continued membership if the primary duty for which the member is specifically compensated predominantly involves the communication of news or information (not to include commercial advertising messaging) dealing with the outdoors and/or related subjects.

If you do not qualify for Active member status as outlined here, you qualify as an Associate member if you are paid for any number or volume of the work described above. Associate members in good standing may petition the POWA Board of Directors at any time for consideration for Active membership, provided an active member reviews their body of work over the previous year and sanctions the petition.

If you do not qualify as an Active or Associate member but are enrolled in an outdoor- or journalism-related course of study at the secondary or higher education level, you qualify as a Student member.

Outdoors communicators must pass a periodic audit to maintain membership in POWA. If you have been a member for at least five years and find that you do not currently qualify for membership, you may ask to be reclassified as an Associate member for a period of up to two years. Auditees are required to submit the required documentation, including proof of payment, to the Audit Committee.

Auditees in POWA must meet certain minimum requirements based upon a set of criteria established by the Board of Directors. Each audit will be reviewed by the Membership Audit Committee and either accepted or rejected. If rejected, the audit material will be given to the Board of Directors who will take final action for acceptance, reclassification, or rejection.

PowWow

Winter 2021

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

PAULA PIATT

POWA Executive Director

P.O. Box 885 / Sayre, PA 18840

Phone 570-886-1609

Email: info@paoutdoorwriters.com

POWA Officers 2020-21

President – MARSHALL NYCH

3213 Bethel Wilmington Road

New Wilmington, PA 16142

724-977-3419; mnych@hotmail.com

1st V.P. – JEFF WOLESAGLE

2nd V.P. – KYLE HEY

Secretary – STEVE SORENSEN

Treasurer – JOHN ALLEN

Board Chair – TYLER FRANTZ

Board of Directors (term ending): BEN MOYER ('21); RALPH SCHERDER ('21); JERRY BUSH ('22); LINDA STAGER ('22); MARK DEMKO ('23); RALPH MARTONE ('23)

Sup. Mbr. Rep. – RANDY FERGUSON,

Ernst Seeds

Parliamentarian – DOYLE DIETZ

PowWow Editor – BRAD ISLES

POWA Legal Counsel - METTE, EVANS &

WOODSIDE, Harrisburg, Pa.



IN THIS ISSUE

Craft Award Winners.....	1, 7-8
Youth Education Grant Recipients....	1, 3
Youth Writing Contest.....	1, 11-15
Membership Audit Returns	2
Johns Scholarship Recipients	3
President's Message	4
Executive Director's Report.....	5-6
Member News	8
Craft Improvement.....	9
Supporting Member News.....	13
Committee Assignments.....	13
Treasurer's Report.....	14
Market News	14

Member contributors to this issue:

Brad Isles, Marshall Nych, Tom Tatum, Paula Piatt, Ben Moyer, John Allen, Doyle Dietz.

SEND POWWOW CONTRIBUTIONS TO

POWA Exec. Director Paula Piatt

P.O. Box 885 / Sayre, PA 18840

Phone: 570-886-1609

Email: ppiatt@paoutdoorwriters.com

-or-

Brad Isles, PowWow Editor

P.O. Box 23, Grove City, PA 16127

Phone: 724-967-2832

Email: powwow@paoutdoorwriters.com

© Copyright 2021 by the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association, Inc.

Send newsletter submissions to
powwow@paoutdoorwriters.com

Four awarded Willard T. Johns Memorial Scholarships

The Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association is pleased to announce the recipients of this year's Willard T. Johns Memorial Scholarship Awards.

Dana Arnold, Cranberry Twp., Pa., is a junior at Penn State Main Campus, majoring Wildlife and Fisheries Science, with a minor in Forest Ecosystems. Her career goals included working in wildlife conservation, habitat restoration, wildlife biology and endangered species protection.

Elijah DePaulis, York Springs, Pa., is a junior, at Penn State Main Campus. He has an associate's degree in Wildlife Technology from Penn State – DuBois and is now pursuing a bachelor's degree in Forest Ecosystem Management at Penn State's Main campus. His career goals include a position in public land management or natural resource management, with an eye toward education about the outdoors and advocacy regarding wildlife and other natural resources.

Nicole Guise, Spring Grove., Pa., is a junior at Penn State's main campus is majoring in Agricultural and Extension Education, with minors in Environmental



Arnold



DePaulis



Guise



Yetko

Resource Management and International Agriculture. Her goals include becoming a high school agricultural science teacher, inspire students to pursue careers where they can protect the natural resources, feed our growing population, defend pollinators and reap the benefits the agriculture industry has to offer.

Jenna Yetko, Portage, Pa., is a junior at the University of Pittsburgh – Johnstown, where she is majoring in Environmental Studies, Geography, and obtaining a certificate in Geographic Information Systems. Her goals include working on several environmental issues including pollution, global warming, waste disposal and climate change in order to "make the world and

environment a better and healthier place."

The POWA-Willard T. Johns Scholarship annually recognizes up to four outstanding undergraduate students at Penn State Main Campus and the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown who aspire to careers in outdoor communications.

The scholarship is named for Will Johns, a charter member and past president of POWA. Johns, a college-trained wildlife conservationist, served as editor of Pennsylvania Game News and then as an education specialist for the National Wildlife Federation before assuming his post with the Pennsylvania Fish Commission in 1968.

Grants

from page 1

ers, photographers, artists, broadcasters and bloggers dedicated to informing Pennsylvanians about the wise use and management of natural resources and outdoor recreation, POWA's mission includes promotion of outdoor education and increasing awareness and appreciation of our natural resources and outdoor heritage.

Recipients of this year's award include:

- **ArtsQuest, Bethlehem, Pa.**, \$700 for Step Outdoors, a hands-on event at SteelStacks that offers opportunities for children to experience archery, fly and spin casting, and animal identification, as well as enjoy wildlife presentations by conservation and sportsmen's organizations.
- **Blue Ridge Rifles Muzzleloader Club**, Orwigsburg, Pa., \$200, for the Youth Shoot at the club's Memorial Day Rendezvous, allowing the club to waive all fees for youth.
- **Monroe County Youth Field Day**, Blakeslee, Pa., \$700, to help sponsor

the day which includes archery, fishing, canoeing, trapping, wildlife identification and shooting sports for youth ages 8-14.

- **Bertsch-Hokendauqua-Catasauqua Watershed Association**, Northampton, Pa., \$700, for various wildlife programs presented by the Pocono Wildlife and Rehabilitation Center at several venues throughout the watershed.
- **Capital City Bassmasters**, Lewisberry, Pa., \$700 for youth activities including events that teach kids to fish, fishing derbies and casting competitions.
- **Ned Smith Center for Nature & Art**, Millersburg, Pa., \$700 for its nature Haiku Boards, which will add a literary element to the outdoor lessons at the center.
- **Camp Compass**, Allentown, Pa., \$700, an organization dedicated to introducing urban middle and high school students to various outdoor activities.
- **Jefferson County Youth Field Day**, Sigel, Pa., \$700, for its annual

free event, which gives youth the opportunity to have fun and develop new skills by participating in shooting sports, archery, canoeing and other skills stations.

- **Brandywine Red Clay Alliance**, West Chester, Pa., \$700, to support its youth programs, including Summer Nature Camps for students ages 4-15.
- **Wildlife Leadership Academy**, Lewisburg, Pa., \$700; which offers weeklong summer field schools for high school students. The schools focus on single species, but are used as a springboard to explore ecological concepts and management issues.
- **York Area Sportsmen for Youth**, Glenville, Pa., \$700; to support the 2020 Youth Day which will be offered to 210 youth.
- **Cameron County Outdoor Youth Activities**, Emporium, Pa.; \$700; to support youth programs such as hunting and fishing clinics, night sky viewing classes and local Envirothon team support.

President's Message

by Marshall Nych

Now that the national presidential election and its debates, political ads, news coverage and more is recent history, I am relieved POWA does not require similar campaigns to be President.

First, how could I possibly coin a catchy saying? "Let's Make POWA Great Again!" Such a slogan would not suffice. I sincerely believe our organization has been consistently great since its conception.

Next, how could I possibly use smear tactics and negative campaigning? I can think of not a single defamatory remark about any POWA member. Each and every one I have had the privilege of getting to know proudly hails from their place in Pennsylvania, using their talents and gifts to communicate the spirit of the outdoors in their own creative way. I would have a hard time digging up dirt on a group of people unafraid to get their hands dirty with hard work.

Rather, let this Presidential Message be one our country could borrow – TEAMWORK. During these unsettling times we need to look to, work with, and trust in one another.

My son's kindergarten class has a catchy chant. "Teamwork makes the dream work!" So often, leave it to the innocent, imaginative perspective of a child to get things right.

The first part of our teamwork focus is TEAM.

Throughout every rank of POWA, from supporting member to active, new member to the experienced, I see teamwork exemplified. There are countless teams in POWA. They take the form of committees, boards, etc.

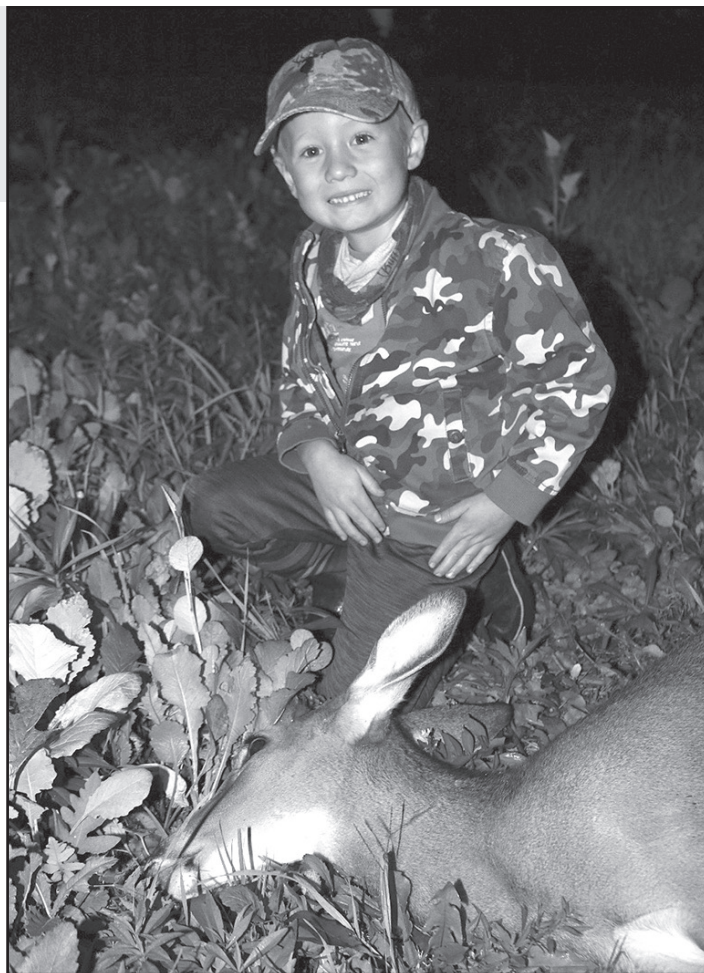
The first event I encountered as POWA President was the uncertainty of a Spring 2020 Grantville Conference. The planning, negotiating and, ultimately, cancelling required teamwork. Each arduous step of the way, a dedicated, consummate professional rose to the occasion to make a call. My hat's off to Tyler Frantz, Paula Piatt, John Allen, and all others involved with this lengthy process.

A ripple effect spotlighted another opportunity for teamwork. When the EIC Awards and membership meetings were forced to go virtual, a team stepped up to the plate, worked seamlessly together, and smacked a home run. Brad Isles led the charge with Excellence In Craft Awards while Jeff Woleslagle ran the members meeting. What a fine job on both fronts.

A final illustration of teamwork is vividly painted each and every board meeting. POWA members, please know you are in good hands. A team of intelligent and caring people are leading this ship. Though times force us to navigate rough waters where we face hardship, it is friendship and fellowship that always prevail. It astounds me how a group of nearly a dozen people can generate so many great ideas, genuinely listen to each other, and conduct our organization's business within a single evening.

The second half of the word teamwork is WORK. This necessitates action and doing.

For those members awaiting a call to answer and worthy cause



Contributed Photo

Noah Nych's first deer.

to embrace, Paula Piatt has initiated the creative idea of a POWA fundraiser shoot. In the wake of cancelled auctions, which was the lifeblood for so much funding, our organization requires a different approach. I challenge members to harness their talents towards this endeavor and welcome any way membership can help. Proceeds will keep Youth Education Grant alive and well.

Something remarkable just came across my desk. I am honored it occurred during my presidency. For the first time in POWA history, we have received, processed, and welcomed an applicant under the Podcaster category. Welcome George Kontes! I predict many other professional collaborations in this direction.

I now leave all of you to your work. May you continue doing good things for good people and good causes. May your hands not only write beautiful words to convey our passions, but also be used to better our organization, our state, and our country.

How I hope to see our POWA team work together again come May in Mercer County.



Executive Director's Report

by Paula Piatt,
Executive Director

All the “new” things this year haven’t been all that bad. New for me was a walk in the squirrel woods. I’m not sure why I hadn’t done this before, but it sure won’t be the last time. A beautiful fall day on a nearby farm brought me not only my first bushytail harvest, but a great pot pie dinner that week. Even with the craziness of our world right now (or perhaps because of it!), remember to take the time to get outdoors and enjoy what we are blessed with.

Speaking of the craziness of 2020, a big thanks to our officers and board for navigating an unprecedented year. All of us have been dealing with so many things this year, and these people also took the time and energy to make sure POWA remained on course and relevant. The job is not done, however, and they are committed to continuing to work for POWA. I would urge all our members – individual and supporting – to take some time, check your directories for contact information, and thank them for the work they are doing on POWA’s behalf.

Our 2021 membership drive is now under way. Individual and supporting members have received the first email with an organizational update and links to a renewal form. The email will eventually be followed by a snail mail request, but please respond to the email, so we can save on printing and postage for follow-up letters.

I realize that many may be questioning their POWA membership this year. Some writers or bloggers have been cut back, others have lost outlets completely. There are supporting members who will be tightening expenses. I would urge everyone to look at the benefits of POWA membership – they were outlined in the renewal emails and letters.

Now, perhaps more than ever, it’s important that you use every advantage POWA offers. Market news, story/video/podcast ideas, craft improvement, networking – it’s all important as you look to sell your work. We’re partnering with our state agencies to bring you virtual news conferences and will be looking at other virtual events with supporting members and storymakers. And, of course, we’re always open to new ideas. We are all in uncharted waters here and collaboration will help us all stay afloat.

On a related note, I would encourage all of us to reach out to our supporting members when working on story and video assignments and give them an outlet for their programs, services and products. We all need each other, but during times like this, it is especially important.

POWA still had a very successful 2020 despite some challenging circumstances.

At our first-ever virtual General Membership meeting, Life Memberships were awarded to Gerald Putt and Dennis Scharadin following a unanimous vote. Dennis was also honored with the Meritorious Service Award following unanimous election by the Board of Directors. The evening ended with a very well-done Excellence in Craft Awards presentation from Award Committee



Contributed Photo

Paula Piatt with her first squirrel harvest.

Chair Brad Isles. Congratulations to all the winners. (And thank you for sending “thank you” to the sponsors of your award!)

We have successfully amended our Constitution and ByLaws to welcome podcasters into the membership and already have our first new member! The amendments also included the permission to conduct our annual election of officers online. Thank you to our Wellsboro crew – Linda Stager ’16, Don Knaus ’06 and Chris Espenshade ’18 for gathering to count the ballots. Our Duties Manual and Board Directives documents have been reviewed and are in the final stages of update. Thanks to Bob Mitchell ’81, Linda Steiner ’80 and Terry Brady ’83 for their help in reviewing all three documents and then committee chair Caleb Ritenour ’18 for coordinating the review.

This year saw a revival of the Will Johns Scholarship and thanks to the scholarship committee including Jeff Wolesslagle ’10 and John Allen ’05, we have awarded four scholarships. You can find those details in this *PowWow*.

Twelve Kermit Henning Youth Education grants were awarded this year. You can find details in this *PowWow*. While many of the events had to be cancelled, recipients were asked to put the grant toward future events.

We have begun a partnership with the Pennsylvania’s Fish and Boat and Game commissions to present quarterly conference calls following both commissions’ meetings to give POWA members access to executives and staff. Members are then able to follow-up on commission activities for news stories, podcasts and blogs.

The challenges look to continue in 2021, as the NRA has made the decision to cancel the Great American Outdoor Show

Continued on next page...

Continued from previous page...

in Harrisburg. As we all know, this is the major fundraiser for the Kermit Henning Youth Education Grant Program, raising between \$6,000-\$7,000 annually. If we are to award the grants in 2021, we will have to find another way to raise those funds. Of course, the Sport Show and Ways and Means committees are currently brainstorming solutions, but I would also ask that the membership get involved here. What ideas do you have? Please forward them to the POWA office. You can call, email, send a letter, or comment on our members-only Facebook group. We need your help with this.

The Henry Rifle Raffle, thanks to the generous support of supporting member Henry Repeating Arms '19, raised \$2,460, with a portion of the proceeds going to our Youth Education Grant Fund. Marty Harris of West Newtown, Pa., was the winner of the drawing held May 16 on Facebook Live. The majority of the proceeds were placed in the Kermit Henning Memorial Youth Education Grant Award fund.

A Facebook Group for members only has been created, giving POWA another communications channel. Please contact me for information about joining. This is a great avenue for breaking POWA news and information, as well as another way to reach me for time sensitive questions.

As we all know, the first quarter included a devastating loss for POWA with the death of Kermit Henning '79. In his obituary, family members generously listed POWA's Youth Education Grant Program for memorials. To date, over \$1,700 has been received and deposited in the Youth Education Grant account.

As we look ahead to 2021, next year will bring its own challenges, no doubt. But before we race headlong into another year of unknowns, take a moment this fall, maybe during your all-day sit in the deer stand, to be thankful. We are truly blessed to be part of the outdoor world and have the opportunity to participate in all it has to offer.

I want to thank all who helped POWA through 2020; I'm looking forward to a great 2021.

Changes/Corrections

Active Members

Michael Parker '18 – P.O. Box 67000, Harrisburg, PA 17106

Jim Collins '83 – Email: jimcollinsinsurance@frontier.net

Carli Dinsmore '18 – Phone: 814-880-4122

Rich Faler '78 – Email: richfaler@gmail.com

Bob Frye '97 – Email: bfryeoutdoors@comcast.net

Ralph Martone '01 – Email: pahuntr@gmail.com

Cindy Ross '09 – Email: cindyross-travel@gmail.com

Supporting Members

Pennsylvania Chapter Of Backcountry Hunters & Anglers '18 – 328 Mountain View Dr., Kunkletown, PA 18058; Facebook: PennsylvaniaBackcountryHunters

Kahr Firearms '16 – Phone: 914-646-7224

Wildlife For Everyone Endowment Foundation '07 – Facebook: Wildlife

New Active Members

Lilace Mellin Guignard '20

18 Riberolle St.

Wellsboro PA 16901

Tioga County

Phone: 670-404-4666; 570-662-4579(w)

Email: lguignard@mansfield.edu

Sponsor: Chris Espenshade '18

William T. Hindman '20

1636 Sunshine Ave.

Johnstown, PA 15905

Cambria County

Phone: 814-536-0453; 814-536-1770(w)

Email: trkych@yahoo.com

Sponsor: Joe Workosky '79

George Kontes '20

36 Christy Rd.

Delmont, PA 15626

Westmoreland County

Phone: 412-951-7350

Email: georgekontes@gmail.com

Sponsor: Paula Piatt '10

New Supporting Member

Neshannock Creek Fly Shop '20

PO Box 310, 250 Main St.

Volant, PA 16156

Phone: 724-533-3212

Website: www.ncflyshop.com

Fly-fishing rods, reels, gear, flies, apparel, fly-tying tools and materials. Authorized dealer: Orvis, Simms, Fishpond, Sage, Ross, Risen and more

Contact: Mark Collier

Email: mcollier484@comcast.net

Sponsor: Jerry Bush '02

SPONSOR 2 NEW MEMBERS IN 1 YEAR ... AND YOUR NEXT YEAR'S DUES ARE

FREE!

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

Where to get applications? POWA individual and supporting member applications are available at www.paoutdoorwriters.com.

Information on the value and benefits of membership is on the website. For more information, contact the Executive Director.

Awards

from page 1

Feature (sponsored by POWA EIC entries) – “Memoirs of a Quehanna chief” by Ben Moyer, published in Pittsburgh Quarterly, Fall 2019.

Runner-up – “Amazing, Adaptable Whitetails” by Steve Sorensen, published in Deer and Deer Hunting, Dec. 2019.

Best Published Newspaper Photo, Color or Black & White (sponsored by POWA Past Presidents) – “Katydid on Coneflower” by Mark Nale, published in The Daily Herald on Sept. 12, 2019

Runner-up – “No ‘Indecent’ Exposure” by Karen Wolf, published in the Dillsburg Banner on Aug. 1, 2019.

Best Published Magazine Photo, Color or Black & White (sponsored by POWA EIC entries) – “Snarling Bobcat” by Ralph Scherder, published in American Frontiersman, Spring 2019.

Runner-up – Linda Stager for “Eagle and Eaglets” published as the cover for Explore Wellsboro, Spring/Summer 2019.

Best TV/Radio Award (sponsored by POWA EIC entries) – “Pike County Tick Task Force” by Alex and JoAnne Zidock for Out in the Open TV on April 18, 2019.

Runner up – “Author/Naturalist Cindy Ross” by Doyle Dietz, Experience the Outdoors, Aug. 26, 2019.

Best Published Art Award, Color or Black & White (sponsored by POWA EIC entries) – “The Resting Place” by Gerald Putt, 2019 State of Maryland Duck Stamp.

Runner-up – “Finders Keepers” by Bob Sopchick, cover of Pennsylvania Game News, February 2019.

POWA SPECIALTY AWARDS

Pass it on Award (sponsored by PA Environment Digest) – “Women and Hunting: Count Me In” by Joe Byers, published in Whitetails Unlimited, Fall 2019.

Runner-up – “Noah’s Arc” by Marshall Nych, published in Pennsylvania Outdoor Journal, June 2019.

Wildlife Conservation Partnership Award (sponsored by the Pennsylvania Game Commission) – “Kinzua cooperative is a hit with deer hunters, timber producers and conservationists” by Ben Moyer, published in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

on Dec. 19, 2019.

Runner-up – “Game Commission announces new partnership to aid with CWD” by Mark Nale, published in The Daily Herald on Aug. 22, 2019.

Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Raptor Conservation and Eco-Tourism Award (sponsored by Hawk Mountain Sanctuary) – “The migration has begun!” by Dave Wolf, published in the Dillsburg Banner on Sept. 26, 2019.

Runner-up – “Sore after the soar” by Marshall Nych, published in American Falconry, Summer 2019.

The Pennsylvania Elk Resource Award (sponsored by the Keystone Elk Country Alliance) – “Luck of the draw: Acquiring a Pa. elk tag leads to record bull” by Wade Robertson, published in the Olean Times Herald on Sept. 1, 2019.

Runner-up – “Call of the wild: Pennsylvania’s elk rut attracts nature enthusiasts” by Linda Stager, published in the Williamsport Sun-Gazette on Oct. 1, 2019.

Best Action Hunting, Trapping or Fishing Photograph (sponsored by POWA EIC entries) – “Grin and Bear It” by Tyler Frantz, published in the Pottsville Republican-Herald on Nov. 17, 2019.

Runner-up – “Trout Season Begins” by Dave Wolf, published in the Dillsburg Banner on April 14, 2019.

Best Conference-Related Material Award (sponsored by POWA EIC entries) – “Overcoming adversity: Parallel histories flow through Valley Forge water” by Tyler Frantz, published in the Pottsville Republican Herald on June 2, 2019.

Runner-up – “POWA West Chester Highlights” by Alex and JoAnne Zidock for Out in the Open TV, May 30, 2019.

Best Published Pennsylvania Fishing Or Boating Related Newspaper Photo, Color Or Black & White (sponsored by the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission) – “Let’s Eat Trout” by Alex Zidock, published in the Journal-Herald on June 27, 2019.

Runner-up – “Rainbow Reflections” by Tyler Frantz, published in Pottsville Republican Herald on March 24, 2019.

Don Heckman - Tell the Story Award (\$150 and plaque, sponsored the Pennsylvania Chapter of the NWF) – “A Hallmark Season: Reflections of

Pennsylvania’s 50th spring turkey hunt” by Bob Sopchick, published in Pennsylvania Game News, April 2019.

Runner-up – “Examining changing turkey populations in connection with West Nile Virus” by Bob Frye, published at everybodyadventures.com on July 3, 2019.

Handloading Promotion Award for Broadcast Media (sponsored by Redding Reloading) – “Gun Club Makes Reloading Easy” by Alex and JoAnne Zidock for Out in the Open TV on Aug. 8, 2019.

Runner-up – None.

Handloading Promotion Award for Electronic Media (sponsored by Redding Reloading) – “Hand loading allows good guns to shoot better” by Charlie Burchfield, published at bradfordera.com on Oct. 17, 2019.

Runner-up – “Three Generations” by Marshall Nych, published at bucktailoutdoors.com, December 2019.

Handloading Promotion Award for Print Media (sponsored by Redding Reloading) – “For demanding shooters, handloading’s the way to go” by Wade Robertson, published in the Olean Times Herald on Dec. 7, 2019.

Runner-up – “Tipped bullets keep on improving” by Charlie Burchfield, published in the Bradford Era on Sept. 26, 2019.

Outdoor Blog Entry Award (sponsored by POWA EIC entries) – “Millennials on Safari” by Joe Byers, published at nrhlf.com on Nov. 27, 2019.

Runner-up – “Is Deer Hunting a Rich Man’s Game” by Ralph Scherder, published at bowhunting.com on Sept. 23, 2019.

Pennsylvania Trappers Award (sponsored by the Pennsylvania Trappers Association) – “Perfect Sets” by Rich Faler.

Runner-up – “The Master Trapper Course” by Ralph Scherder.

Trout and the Coldwater Resource Award (sponsored by Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited) – “Trickle Trout” by Ralph Scherder, published in American Angler, Spring 2019.

Runner-up – “Wild trout, a canary in the coal mine of water conservation” by John Hayes, published in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette on April 7, 2019.

Lantz Hoffman White-Tailed Deer

Continued on next page...

Member News

NYSOWA honors Steve Piatt

POWA member Steve Piatt '14 has been honored by the New York State Outdoor Writers Association with the group's M. Paul Keesler New York Outdoor Citizen Award, presented to an individual or organization that effectively has raised the public's awareness of outdoor recreational opportunities and conservation issues in New York state.

The award was created to honor worthy individuals and organizations, at the same time perpetuating the name of one of NYSOWA's dearest members. The late M. Paul Keesler spent nearly five decades promoting and conserving the outdoor wonders and recreational opportunities within New York state.

Piatt fulfills the vision of the award's founder both through his journalistic endeavors as well as with his practical mentorship of youth.

In 2004, Piatt became the founding editor of New York Outdoor News, a post he continued to man until his retirement in April of this year. The Outdoor News Company had already established state editions in some other, farther west, Great Lakes states, and in 2004 they were ready to gamble that a New York edition of its every-other-week tabloid-sized publication could be a success.

Every other week for those next 16 years Piatt produced information-packed publications that reported on the developments in the outdoor world, especially as it pertained to New York anglers, hunters, trappers and fish and game. Through the articles, readers learned about outdoor



Piatt

recreational opportunities, including a back-of-the-publication full-page report and map of a publicly accessible fishing and/or hunting location.

When conservation issues faced our fish and wildlife or when political issues threatened our right to hunt, fish, trap or own firearms, Piatt made sure it was addressed. He did so through reports that he either wrote or assigned to many of the fine staff of writers he hired. When the information wasn't being disseminated in highly journalistic reports, he would deliver his message through his Editorial and through his award-winning "Out There" column.

NYSOWA awarded Piatt its Pass It On Award for his accomplishments to do just that, pass on the information and the skills to others to continue our outdoor heritage. Judges of the highest credentials from across the nation often judged Piatt's articles "best" in NYSOWA's Excellence in Craft awards program.

Piatt has not only fulfilled the criterion of the award through his writing and editing, but also through his mentoring of youngsters. He is almost always accompanying a young hunter on the youth hunting days New York holds for deer, turkey, and pheasant. He teaches them the right way – his way – and at the same time he exposes them to the outdoor recreational and conservation treasures of New York state.

Pennsylvania BHA strengthens team with addition of John Kline

Backcountry Hunters & Anglers added longtime outdoors advocate John Kline of Kline Associates, Ltd. to its Pennsylvania team as it continues to strengthen its voice as a leader for wild public lands, water and wildlife in the Keystone State.

With more than 20 years of experience in education and advocacy for the outdoors, hunting, fishing and conservation, Kline will focus on outreach efforts, membership growth and educating the public and policy makers about BHA's public lands mission.

"Since its arrival in Pennsylvania in 2014, BHA has worked tirelessly on many of the issues that are at the heart of who we are as hunters and anglers," Kline said. "I've seen the work that BHA and its members can do and look forward to what we can accomplish in the future."

A lifelong hunter and sport shooter, Kline, of Harrisburg, holds memberships in and serves on the board of Harrisburg Hunters and Anglers Association and Hummelstown F&S Association, is a benefactor life member of the National Rifle Association and is a life member of Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen & Conservationists. Kline enjoys small game and deer hunting and trap/sporting clays as well as competitive pistol shooting. He is also a certified pistol instructor. He serves on the board of the Wildlife for Everyone Foundation and the Wildlife Leadership Academy, and is an active member of POWA.

Continued from previous page...

Award (sponsored by Karen Wolf) – "Amazing, Adaptable Whitetails" by Steve Sorensen, published in Deer and Deer Hunting, December 2019.

Runner-up – "The Fog" by Marshall Nych, published in Pennsylvania Game News, October 2019.

Wildlife Art Award (sponsored by Ned Smith Center for Nature and Art) – To be determined at 2021 Spring Conference.

Young Trees Habitat Award (sponsored by the Upland Bird Hunt Chapter of the Ruffed Grouse Society) – No award presented.

Youth Fishing Award (sponsored by Expositions, Inc.) – "Hooked: Take a Kid Fishing and Help Save our rivers" by John Hayes, published in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette on Aug. 18, 2019.

Runner-up – "Something very fishy going on at school" by Tom Tatum, published in the Daily Local News on

April 16, 2019.

Youth and the Hunting/Shooting Sports Award (sponsored by the National Shooting Sports Foundation) – "Three for Three: Parts I & II" by Brian R. Kightlinger, published at bowhunting.net on April 6 and April 9, 2019.

Runner-up – "Saturday deer opener for kids more important than catering to those going 'camping'" by Doyle Dietz, published in the Pottsville Republican Herald on Nov. 24, 2019.

Craft Improvement

Get 'region' and 'area' right for your readers

By Ben Moyer
Craft Improvement

A local television weather forecast sparked the idea for this column. I think most would agree that the job of television weather anchor is more communicator than scientist. Useful weather reports, then, should be presented with both accuracy and clarity.

A particular anchor's reports, though, are less clear than they could be because he continually misuses the word "area" in forecasts. He'll sweep an arm across the broad map of western Pennsylvania, eastern Ohio, and northern West Virginia and say, "rain will sweep across our area."

He should have said "rain will sweep across our region."

Throughout the segment he'll use the word "area" many times, sometimes referring to a broad expanse, and sometimes to a local community or neighborhood.

But the words "region" and "area" are not interchangeable. Even though both words are loosely defined and vague, they convey different senses of meaning, and when these words are mis-used they cheat the viewer, listener, or reader out of more precise understanding.

We encounter this confusion of "region" and "area" sometimes in written works about the outdoors. This is important, and signals a way to improve our craft, because outdoor writing is often about places, or places are important elements of the message.

Webster's Dictionary defines region as: "a broad homogeneous geographical area; a major area that supports a characteristic fauna; an area characterized by one or more vegetational types."

Clearly, these words are vulnerable to confusing use because it is difficult to define one without using the other, but they are different.

Area is defined as: "a particular extent of space or surface."

So, in general, a region is larger than an area, and it exhibits some characteristic common throughout its reach. An area is



Ben Moyer Photo

The words "region" and "area" are loosely defined and vague, but they do convey different senses of meaning to readers. When writing about place, appropriate use of these words lends your work precision and credibility.

smaller and need not have any identifying characteristic beyond its more restricted location.

When forecasting sweeping rain, the weather anchor should have said "our region" because the broad map and the approaching weather front were common to all viewers. That commonality makes the anchor's viewing public residents of a homogeneous region. "Area" would be a better selection if scattered thunderstorms were expected to pop up in isolated communities like Cranberry Township or the Washington (PA) suburbs—these are areas.

Using region and area appropriately boosts an outdoor communicator's credibility. It also makes work more enjoyable to read. Overuse of "area" can so dominate a piece about fishing or hunting locations that the work cries out for more creative alternatives. Here are some examples of appropriate uses of these words.

Use region when you are telling the reader about large expanses with a common characteristic: "Southcentral Pennsylvania's Ridge and Valley region has the most documented cases of chronic wasting disease." Or "The Pocono Plateau is a region of meandering wetlands and dense thickets." "Much of the non-point pollution entering the Chesapeake Bay originates in Pennsylvania's Lower Susquehanna region." Within the context

of Pennsylvania publications, you could even say something like "the elk region" because readers know that five or six rural counties across northcentral Pennsylvania share an elk herd in common.

Examples for using area are: "State game lands 85, 202, 277, and similar areas are great places for waterfowl hunting." Or "In some areas with heavy acorn production, it could be tough for hunters to pattern deer." "There is one area of heavy gypsy moth defoliation on Peters Mountain north of Harrisburg."

Often you can omit region or area entirely. Just identify the place by name: "Allegheny High Plateau," or "Lake Erie coastal plain." This reduces repetition and gives your reader confidence in your knowledge.

Sprinkle in synonyms for region or area to prevent overuse. Zone, district, or sector are possibilities. But these are best used only once in an article or column, unless there is reference to an officially designated administrative zone or district, such as the "South Zone" in the context of waterfowl hunting regulations. Or the Clarion County Conservation District.

The landscapes we fish, hunt, hike, and write about are rich places that merit attention to detail and common attributes. Readers, listeners, and viewers will appreciate that attention from us as professionals.

Excellence in Craft Award deadline Feb. 21

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.

New specialty award additions are for humor and archery.

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 21, 2021. 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 category is allowed.

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

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

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

6. 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.

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. Please mail all separated entries in one master envelope.

12. Entries must be postmarked no later than February 21, 2021.

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.

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/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 12 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 POWA EIC Entries) – 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. 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

Continued on next page...

Continued from previous page...

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. Entry requirements are the same as for the Best Published Newspaper Photo Award.

7. Best Book Award (alternates with Broadcast Media 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. POWA Pass it on Award (\$300 and plaque, sponsored by PA Environment Digest)

– 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, podcast 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.

2. 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.

3. 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.

4. 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, podcast 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.

5. Best Action Hunting, Trapping Or Fishing Photograph (\$100 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.

Continued on next page...

Continued from previous page...

6. Best Conference-Related Material Award (\$100 and plaque, sponsored by POWA EIC entries) – No award will be presented this year.

7. Best Published Pennsylvania Fishing Or Boating Related Newspaper Photo, Color Or Black & White (*Framed Ned Smith “Sting of the Hook” art print with brass plate acknowledging the winning entry, sponsored by the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission*) – This photography category is for the best published local or regional newspaper photograph (printed on newsprint paper) that features Pennsylvania fishing, sport fish, boating or fishing tackle. All entries must have been taken within the Keystone State and published during the previous calendar year. If the winning entry meets the Pennsylvania Angler & Boater photo submission guidelines, the PFBC would like the option of reprinting the winning photograph in their publication with acknowledgement of the photographer’s award. If so used, the PFBC will pay their going rate for their use of that photo. (This is not a condition for applying, just a possible added benefit.) Submit one copy of the photograph exactly as it appeared in the publication, or an exact photocopy.

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

9. 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.

10. 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.

11. 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.

12. Outdoor Blog Entry Award (\$100 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.

13. 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.

14. 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.

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

16. 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.

17. Young Trees Habitat Award (\$150 and plaque, sponsored by the Upland Bird Hunt Chapter of the Ruffed Grouse Society) – This award will be given to the best published piece that focuses on creating young forests through wood harvest, non-commercial harvest or supplemental plantings. Prescribed fire stories will not be considered.

18. 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.

19. 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

Continued on next page...

Supporting Member News

Toyota, Bass Pro, Cabela's renew longstanding partnership

Toyota '18 and partner Bass Pro Shops and Cabela's have announced the renewal of a longstanding partnership for an additional five years, which will lead the brands into 20 years of collaboration together.

WLA accepting nominations for 2021 field school season

The Wildlife Leadership Academy '07 is now taking nominations for the 2021 field school season. Academy students gain extensive knowledge about wildlife, fisheries, and conservation plus develop leadership and communication skills. Applications and more info is available at the WLA website, wildlifeleadershipacademy.org.

Dardevle by Eppinger offers loaner tackle boxes and discounts on

Dardevle by Eppinger, the makers of the original world-famous Dardevle spoon, offers writers traveling on assignment a

Continued from previous page...

the participation of young people in the shooting/hunting sports.

20. Archery Award (\$100 and a plaque, sponsored by POWA EIC entries) – This award is given to the best written or Broadcast Media (TV, radio, podcast) piece that focuses on the method of or use of archery to tell the story. Traditional, compound, and crossbow methods are acceptable topics.

21. Humor Award (\$100 and a plaque, sponsored by POWA EIC entries) – This award is given to the best written or Broadcast Media (TV, radio, podcast) piece that clearly uses humor or satire as a key element in order to tell the story.

loaner tackle box program where we will send you a tackle pack loaded with the appropriate lures for the location or region you will be fishing and writing about.

All you need to do is contact John Cleveland, our marketing director, and he will set up your custom tackle pack and ship it to you. We ask in return that our products are featured in some way in the publications that you are writing for, and require a copy of the finished story when it is published. When the project is completed we ask that you return the box minus any tackle you wish to keep for further adventures.

We also offer writers a 50% discount off factory retail pricing on any purchase done directly with our factory. For more information please contact John Cleveland directly at john@dardevle.com.

Toyota provides support through scholarship

This past year, supporting member Toyota '18 has generously donated \$1,000 to award the POWA/Toyota Let's Go Places Scholarship Program to recruit individuals into POWA and honor students pursuing a career in outdoor communications.

Our Scholarship Committee and Chair Jeff Woleslagle '10 are currently working on criteria for the scholarship and how the funding will be used. Thank you to Toyota and Curt McCallister, Midwest Public Relations Manager at Toyota Motor North America, for supporting the next generation of outdoor communicators.

2020/21 POWA Committees

Committee	Chair	Liaison
Awards	Brad Isles	Mark Demko
Constitution & Bylaws and Duties Manual...	Caleb Ritenour	Ralph Scherder
Craft Improvement.....	Ben Moyer	Tyler Frantz
Duties Manual.....	Caleb Ritenour	Ralph Scherder
Editorial Review	Terry Brady	Ben Moyer
Ethics.....	Mark Nale	Mark Demko
Finance/Budget	John Allen	Linda Stager
Financial Auditing.....	Doyle Dietz	Linda Stager
Historical Archives.....	Harry Guyer	Linda Stager
Media (Technology/Website/Publicity)	Brad Isles	Tyler Frantz
Membership Audit	Tom Tatum	Ben Moyer
Membership Development.....	Caleb Ritenour	Ben Moyer
Member Screening	Doyle Dietz	Tyler Frantz
Nominating	Brad Isles	Tyler Frantz
Outdoor Education.....	Dennis Scharadin	Ralph Martone
Outdoor Press Outings	Mark Demko	Mark Demko
Past Presidents Council.....	Tyler Frantz	Tyler Frantz
Scholarship.....	Jeff Woleslagle	John Allen
Sports Shows.....	Dennis Scharadin	Ralph Martone
Supporting Member Recruitment	Vacant	Jerry Bush
Supporting Member Rep.....	Randy Ferguson	Jerry Bush
Supporting Member Screening	Don Knaus	Ralph Scherder
Ways and Means	Kyle Hey	Jerry Bush

OPT-IN TO RECEIVE NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL

If you are interested in receiving PowWow electronically as a downloadable file rather than a printed copy via postal service, please inform Executive Director Paula Piatt at ppiat@paoutdoorwriters.com.

Market News

Pennsylvania Outdoor News '19 – Editor Jeff Mulhollem will consider any Pennsylvania-specific story, and especially news stories. PON is not accepting first-person tales or anything related to businesses such as call-makers, guides or events such as outdoor shows or youth field days. Please send queries and not finished stories.

Pennsylvania Game Commission '08 – Game News Editor Bob D'Angleo is currently open to receiving queries or submissions for deer hunting stories, especially muzzleloading, and looking to restock spring turkey hunting stories for spring 2021 issues. They strongly recommend quality photos for articles accepted.

Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission '14 – Boater and Angler Editor Spring Gearhart is looking for more “where to” articles, but new locations that have not been covered as much. Also, she is looking for articles that combine other recreational opportunities with fishing and boating.

Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation '09 – Bugle magazine, the flagship publication of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation is calling for stories on elk and elk hunting. To learn more about RMEF, submission guidelines and writing tips for Bugle, visit the RMEF website, www.rmef.org and click on Bugle Magazine under the Our World tab. Unless otherwise noted, word counts range from 1,000 to 3,000 words. Deadlines are rolling unless specified.

Strung Magazine is a quarterly print magazine with international distribution throughout North America and beyond. Strung is dedicated to mindful outdoor living with a focus on responsible fly-fishing, hunting, adventure sports, yoga, conservation and food/drink. While the majority of the content comes from established, experienced writers and photographers, submissions from all interested parties is welcome. Submissions for both print features and online-only blog/social media content are acceptable. Submissions should be sent to editor@StrungMag.com; Dr. Joseph Ballarini, publisher, Strung Magazine, www.strungmag.com.

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. Query 2878 East Main Street, Columbus, Ohio 43209.

The Contemporary Sportsman is a quarterly online magazine devoted to people who share a serious passion for fly-fishing and wing shooting. Feature articles have the foundation of a fly-fishing and/or wing shooting experience, but the copy and photographs exhibit the adventure in a three-dimensional level. Articles aren't the predictable stories or portfolio of pretty pictures, rather the reader should feel the experience, hear, see and taste peripheral issues like food, wine, art, history, ecology, friendship, humor and culture. Emphasis is not on techniques or technologies or product reviews.

Each quarterly publication has at least

three feature articles about fly-fishing (fresh or salt) and/or wing shooting. An average feature contains 2,500 to 3,000 words. Short sidebars can be used to provide additional details. Feature articles should be heavily supported with photos to relay the total experience of “being there.” Submit text as Word documents and photos as high resolution (300 dpi) .jpps. Photographs for publication must be a minimum of 150 dpi but it is preferred they be 300 dpi. Maximum dimensions are 17x11 but can be smaller.

Please submit an email to query. Prospective authors and photographers are contacted once the year's editorial outline is tentatively scheduled. Contact Jim Stenson, publisher/managing editor, The Contemporary Sportsman, 4362 Byron Avenue North, Mobile, AL 36609; jim@integrateddigitalpublishing.com.

Treasurer's Report

By John Allen, POWA Treasurer / Expenditures as of August 31, 2020

Income Accounts	Budget 19-20	Actual	% of Budget
Active Members' Dues	8,160	7,850	96
Supporting Members' Dues	7,400	6,300	85
Merchandise Sales	400	48	12
Rifle Raffle	-	2,380	-
Craft Award Income	5,000	4,450	89
General Contribution	-	268	-
Spring Conference Income (Net)	2,310	1,076	47
TOTAL INCOME	\$23,270	\$5,171	96%
Expense Accounts	Budget 19-20	Actual	% of Budget
Executive Dir. Stipend	10,500	10,475	100
Pow Wow (Print/Edit)	3,300	1,183	36
Member Awards	4,600	-	-
Membership Directory	850	894	105
Plaque Expenses	1,200	269	22
Office Expenses	650	295	45
Postage, General	600	516	86
Insurance	540	540	100
Merchandise Expense	250	-	-
Credit Card Fees	180	23	13
Professional Fees	100	-	-
Website Expenses	50	-	-
Miscellaneous	-	100	-
Travel	450	185	41
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$23,270	\$14,480	62%
Net Income	0	\$7,892	

Cash Accounts as of August 31, 2020: General Fund, \$43,622; Youth Education Fund, \$2,248; Scholarship Fund, \$53,518; Jacquelin Knight CD, \$14,436; Emergency Fund, \$9,193; Northwest CD, \$20,000. Total Cash Accounts: \$143,017.

Contest

from page 1

the first POWA Youth Outdoor Writing Contest. As a trial run, POWA launched the contest in Mercer Elementary, a public school in northwestern Pennsylvania.

A resounding 114 students from grades 1 through 6 penned a story. The prompt was simple – anything pertaining to nature and wildlife. A trio of POWA judges combed through every genre, from poetry to short stories and science fiction to non-fiction. Topics covered seemingly every facet of outdoor enjoyment – the classic first deer, timeless big fish tale, cloud watching, camping misadventures, and informative pieces on wildlife species to name a few.

The top three places for each grade level received an award, kindly sponsored in part by POWA. Please enjoy a sample of the winners...



POWA
Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association

My favorite day, was
when I went with
my dad, papa, and Great
Grandpa out in the woods
for them to hunt. My
dad put up a blind
for us to sit in. We
didn't see any deer that
day but I can't wait
till I'm old enough to
be able to hunt. I
loved that day and
I'm excited to learn
everything there is about
hunting.

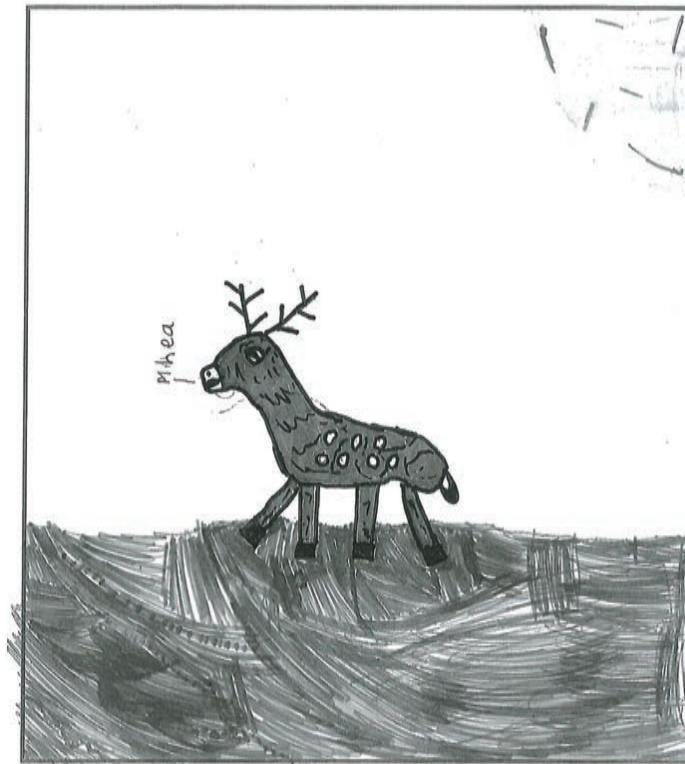
Cayden – Grade 1
page 1



POWA
Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association

The Salmon Life Cycle
First is the eggs. Then
they hatch and they grow.
Then they have a long
journey. They have to get
past the bears and the
water fall. Then they
change color then they find
a perfect spot. Then they
lay eggs and bury the eggs.
But they die. That is the
life cycle of the
Salmon
the End

Laura – Grade 1
page 1



Leah – Grade 2
cover

It was early October and I was excited to go hunting. But I had broke my arm so my dad said you do not have to go hunting. I said yes to going hunting, so we went to the stand and we were practicing with the crossbow and then we saw a red squirrel. But before that we heard crackling noises. I thought it was a deer but my dad said it was the wind and I said the red squirrel scared the deer away. But after about 30 minets we saw two fawns and a dow!!!

Leah – Grade 2
page 1

I showt the dow we gave the dow about an half an hower. Then we walked the blood trail. I had found a monster dow!!! After that my mom got me some of my faveret petssal chees withe green pepers! Then we went to my papas hous he and my othey reletvs that were there were so proude of me.

Leah – Grade 2
page 2



POWA
Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association

First, you will need a fishing license, fishing pole, net, line, hook, bait, and a bobber. Next, you go to a pond or stream. Then, you grab your fishing pole and put the line on it. Put the bobber on the line and the hook on the line and put the bait on it. Cast the bait out. Wait! When the bobber goes down, start reeling in the line. When you have the

Megan – Grade 3
page 1



POWA
Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association

fish close to you put it in the net. Take the fish out of the net and undo the hook. You can take a picture with the fish. You can eat it for dinner or you can gently put it back. I hope you get a bunch.

Megan – Grade 3
cover



POWA
Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association

Nature is a beautiful thing. When you think of nature what do you think of? Birds, animals, trees, leaves, grass, and many more things are in plain sight but nature also has some stuff in it that you can't see. Some animals and plants camouflage themselves. Some of them do it to catch prey and some do it to hide from predators. A good example of camouflage is a chameleon, they can change color to blend into its surroundings so predators don't see it but, it also does it so it can catch its prey. Phasmids, also known as stick insects, stick-bugs, walking sticks or bug sticks can camouflage themselves as sticks as said by their

Bronwyn – Grade 4
page 1



POWA
Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association

nicknames. An Uroplatus phantastus looks like an leaf so it can blend into trees to be camouflaged. Rattle Snakes can also blend in because of their tanish color they are, they can blend into the dry areas they live in. Those are some things on our mother Earth that can camouflage. I hope you enjoyed reading about these fascinating creatures!

Bronwyn – Grade 4
page 2



POWA
Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association

One Saturday, my dad woke me up early to go hunting. It was the first day of hunting season. We woke up at 6:30 a.m. We got ready, and drove down to our farm, and then we went into the woods. We got in our tree stand, it was about 7:00 a.m. by then. We were quietly, and patiently waited. It was chilly. I was so excited and nervous! Right about 7:40 a.m., we saw a giant buck. It was about 80 yards away. I couldn't find the right position to shoot, so the deer started walking. My dad made a doe call, the buck stopped in his tracks and looked in our direction. That was my opportunity. I stood up to shoot and nailed it! My heart was racing!

It was around 8:00 a.m. when we went and found it.

Jens – Grade 4
page 1



POWA
Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association

because we wanted for it to die. The buck didn't make it far before it dropped to the ground. It was in a pile of thorns, so my dad dragged it out. It was a monster! A nine pointer with a huge body. Of course, we took pictures. Then we went back to our house and met my Grandpa. He came to see my trophy buck, and he was so happy for me. My friend and neighbor Lucas, was out with his family hunting. They stopped over to congratulate

me.

After that, we went back out with a sled to drag it out of the woods. My grandpa came along as well. We found the deer again to gut it. Last, we went back to the house to skin it. My mom and sister got to see my

Jens – Grade 4
page 2



POWA
Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association

buck, and they were excited for me. Mom took more pictures, some including grandpa. That is my story of the day. I shot my first buck. I was nine years old and I used a Ruger 243 rifle. It was a proud day, and a day I will always remember. I'm looking forward to helping my dad mount my buck, preserving this memory forever.

Jens – Grade 4
page 3



POWA
Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association

It was youth day and my dad took my brother Wyatt and I to the stream by my Uncle Dave's house. My brother Wyatt and I were having so much fun! We were catching one fish after another. All of a sudden, I hear my friend, Mark Hackett yell, "there is a golden trout, come see it!" I grab all my fishing gear and run down to him and start fishing. I fished for a long time and even went out into the water. I wasn't catching anything, so I went back and fished down stream a little.

Audrey – Grade 5
page 1



POWA
Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association

On my ninth cast I thought I had a small fish on, then I see it, gold shining in the water. The feeling of thrill rushing through me was indescribable. I felt so happy I couldn't stand still, I started at it for a long time just replaying it in my head. I will never forget the feeling inside me when I saw those first few flashes of gold.

Audrey – Grade 5
page 2

Limiting out, and then some...



Contributed Photo

Doyle Dietz, left, and Harry Guyer not only caught their limit of Chesapeake Bay fall rockfish with Capt. Robbie Robinson aboard the Miss Regina II out of Beacon Marina, Solomons, Md., but had six under-size throwbacks and three legal fish when clearing lines.

Capt. Robbie has nearly 50 years experience on the Bay and can be reached directly at 301-672-0383 to book a charter. Or email Calvert County Tourism at hilary.dailey@calvert-county.gov for help in setting up a spring charter after the May 15 rockfish opener. The trips make great feature/column opportunities.



**Pennsylvania
Outdoor Writers
Association, Inc.
PO Box 885
Sayre, PA 18840**

www.paoutdoorwriters.com

POWA Craft Award Entry Form

Name: _____

Send entry form, materials and check/money order

E-mail: _____

made out to "POWA": Brad Isles

147 Swain Hill Road
Harmony, PA 16037

Cost to enter is \$5 per award category. You may enter up to TWO pieces per category. Please check the line next to each award entered and fill in the total amount on the back side of this form.

CORE AWARDS

_____ 1. Newspaper Column

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

_____ 2. Newspaper Feature

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

_____ 3. Magazine or Regional Newspaper Column

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

_____ 4. Magazine or Regional Newspaper Feature

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

_____ 5. Published Newspaper Photo, Color or B&W *(Submit one original tear sheet or exact photocopy.)*

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

_____ 6. Published Magazine Photo, Color or B&W *(Submit one original tear sheet or exact photocopy.)*

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

_____ 7. Best Book Award *(Submit one copy.)*

Title: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____ Date: _____

_____ 8. Published Art Award, Color or B&W *(Submit one original tear sheet or exact photocopy.)*

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

SPECIALTY AWARDS

_____ 1. Pass it on Award

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

_____ 2. Wildlife Conservation Partnership Award

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

_____ 3. Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Raptor Conservation & Eco-Tourism Award

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

_____ 4. Pennsylvania Elk Resource Award

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

_____ 5. Action Hunting, Trapping or Fishing Photograph *(Submit one original tear sheet or exact photocopy.)*

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

N/A _____ 6. Best Conference Related Material Award

No award will be presented this year.

_____ **7. Published Pa. Fishing or Boating Related Newspaper Photo, Color or B&W** *(Submit one original tear sheet or exact copy.)*

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

_____ **8. Don Heckman – Tell the Story Award**

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

_____ **9. Handloading Promotion for Broadcast Media**

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

_____ **10. Handloading Promotion for Electronic Media**

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

_____ **11. Handloading Promotion for Print Media**

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

_____ **12. Outdoor Blog Entry**

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

_____ **13. Pennsylvania Trappers Award**

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

_____ **14. Trout and the Coldwater Resource**

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

_____ **15. Lantz Hoffman White-Tailed Deer**

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

_____ **16. Wildlife Art** *(Submit one entry and it must be present at the spring conference.)*

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

_____ **17. Young Trees Habitat**

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

_____ **18. Youth Fishing**

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

_____ **19. Youth and the Hunting/Shooting Sports**

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

_____ **20. Archery Award**

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

_____ **21. Humor Award**

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____ Publication: _____ Date: _____

Total Categories Entered: _____ x \$5.00 = **GRAND TOTAL: \$**_____

Make check or money order payable to “POWA” for amount above.