

# POWWow

Newsletter of the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association

Winter 2015

## See you at Seven Springs

**Resort hosts POWA's  
Spring Conference May 14-17**

By Nick Sisley  
*Conference Chair*

Arrangements for the POWA Spring Conference are now set: fishing, turkey hunting, craft improvement seminars, Breakout and more. Now, all we need is you to join us at Seven Springs Mountain Resort from May 14-17.

Let's touch on the craft improvement seminars first. The preliminary lineup follows, but is subject to change:

Mike Mohr will give a seminar on shotgunning – tips you can take home and make your readers better informed on this fast-growing part of the outdoor world.

Justin Sparklin will cover "Demystifying PA Hatches."

"My seminar will be on matching Pennsylvania fly hatches – with emphasis on fly selection and insect life cycles," Sparklin said.

Bob and Linda Steiner will be doing a combo seminar on writing and photography on "How to Work POWA for Fun and

*See SPRINGS, page 6*



Ben Moyer Photo

**Mark Taylor, eastern communications director for Trout Unlimited, drifts a fly at Elephant Rock on the middle section of the Youghiogheny River in Ohio's State Park. The Yough is one option for attendees to fish at this year's Spring Conference.**

### Acting DCNR secretary Dunn to speak

Acting DCNR Secretary Cindy Adams Dunn will share her vision of the conservation agency with the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association and take questions from its members at their Spring 2015 Conference at Seven Springs Mountain Resort in Somerset County.

She will speak during barbecue activities Friday evening, May 15, at the resort's The Grille at Sporting Clays. Depending upon schedule commitments, Dunn may also be available during Breakout the following day.

*See SPEAK, page 3*

## Committee seeks nominees for POWA leadership positions

The POWA Nominating Committee is asking for your input regarding leadership positions within our organization.

The committee seeks suggestions on who would best serve POWA as second vice president and names for consideration to fill two positions on the Board of Directors.

If you would like to be considered for

any of the positions mentioned, make the committee aware of your interest. The deadline is March 6.

POWA is growing on the foundation of those who have served the organization from its beginning. To keep moving ahead we need your thoughts as to who would be the best candidates to fill the positions

being vacated in the near future.

We need to hear from you as soon as possible. Contact John McGonigle, committee chairman, at 610-692-7066 or by email at mcg4guns@aol.com, or Charlie Burchfield, committee member, at 814-371-6818 or email gwoutdoors@comcast.net.

## Craft Improvement

# Thank-you letters strengthen POWA's awards program

By Ben Moyer  
*Craft Improvement*

Typically, POWA's Craft Improvement discussions offer tips for writing tighter, more effective prose, composing better photographs or modernizing the business aspect of the professional communicator's life. Those are always timely topics but improving our craft can be as simple as writing a letter. We can promote good writing and strengthen POWA at the same time by writing thank-you letters to award sponsors when we are honored for our work.

During my POWA years I've been fortunate to have my work recognized with a number of awards. Nearly every time I've won such an honor, I've taken a few minutes to compose a letter of thanks to the business, agency or organization that made the award and its cash prize possible. We can never know how a sponsoring entity may have weighed the worth of such an investment, or how it pondered the potential risk of associating its name with the sometimes unruly business of writing. A letter of thanks affirms their decision to support us. It's a courteous and professional response to public recognition. When we follow through with that thanks we establish ourselves as professionals and help to attract other sponsors to support POWA's efforts.

In my view, an important rule for composing thank-you letters to sponsors is to forget about email. A real, paper, "hard copy," letter that a sponsor can hold in their hands carries more impact than an electronic impulse sent with a mouse-stroke. A true letter shows the recipient that you cared about the prestige bestowed upon you, and that you invested time and effort to communicate your thanks. Dig out that box of leftover letterhead you had printed back before coyotes erupted in Pennsylvania and employ it to its intended purpose: to convey your appreciation through the written word – on paper.

We all know email makes it easy to send the same letter to multiple parties, which is often necessary when thanking all the people who may have been involved in the sponsorship commitment. But the same Internet that makes it possible to send out shotgun emails also enables us to find U.S. Mail addresses for real letters. It's likely that every one of our award sponsors has a website that also provides a mailing address.

I don't generally write different letters to the various individuals within the organization, although I've done that on occasion. Nearly always you can use the same letter to thank all parties, with the name and salutation appropriately changed, of course. You may not even need specific addresses for all the people you want to thank. For example, in last year's awards program I won the Wildlife Conservation Partnership Award sponsored by the Game Commission. I felt I should thank all eight commission board members, the agency's executive director, and its Information and Education bureau director. Rather than find individual home addresses for all the commissioners, I simply sent all the letters – in separate envelopes – to the Game Commission's Harrisburg address. I knew staffers there would get the letters into individual commissioners' hands.

I also copy appropriate officers and chairmen within POWA. It's entirely possible that the sponsor you thank might encounter our current POWA president, board chairman or, especially the awards chairman and mention your letter in conversation. Our officers' ability to comment on these communications if the subject arises reinforces POWA's credibility. But officers can only return blank stares if they're unaware of your letter. Spend another stamp or two and keep POWA in the loop.

Make your letter brief and to the point, but pack in meaningful thoughts. A letter always carries more "punch" if you keep

*Continued on next page...*

## PowWow

**Winter 2015**

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

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**POWA Executive Director**

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**Phone 570-739-2085**

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### **POWA Officers 2014-15**

**President - MARK NALE**

**573 Bell Hollow Road**

**Port Matilda, PA 16870**

**814-692-5076; [MarkAngler@aol.com](mailto:MarkAngler@aol.com)**

**1st V.P. - DON KNAUS**

**2nd V.P. - RALPH MARTONE**

**Secretary - MARY LINKEVICH**

**Treasurer - JOHN ALLEN**

**Board Chair - RICH FALER**

**Board of Directors (term ending): BRAD**

**ISLES ('15); RALPH SCHERDER ('15); BUD**

**COLE ('16); DOYLE DIETZ ('16); MARK**

**DEMKO ('17); MARY HOSMER ('17)**

**Sup. Mbr. Rep. - CONNIE YINGLING,**

**Maryland Office of Tourism Development**

**Parliamentarian - RALPH MARTONE**

**PowWow Editor - BRAD ISLES**

**POWA Legal Counsel - METTE, EVANS &**

**WOODSIDE, Harrisburg, Pa.**



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### Continued from previous page...

it to one single sheet. Tell the sponsor that you won the award they sponsored, mention POWA specifically, and thank them for their support of POWA's awards program. Enclose a copy of the winning article or photo if you can.

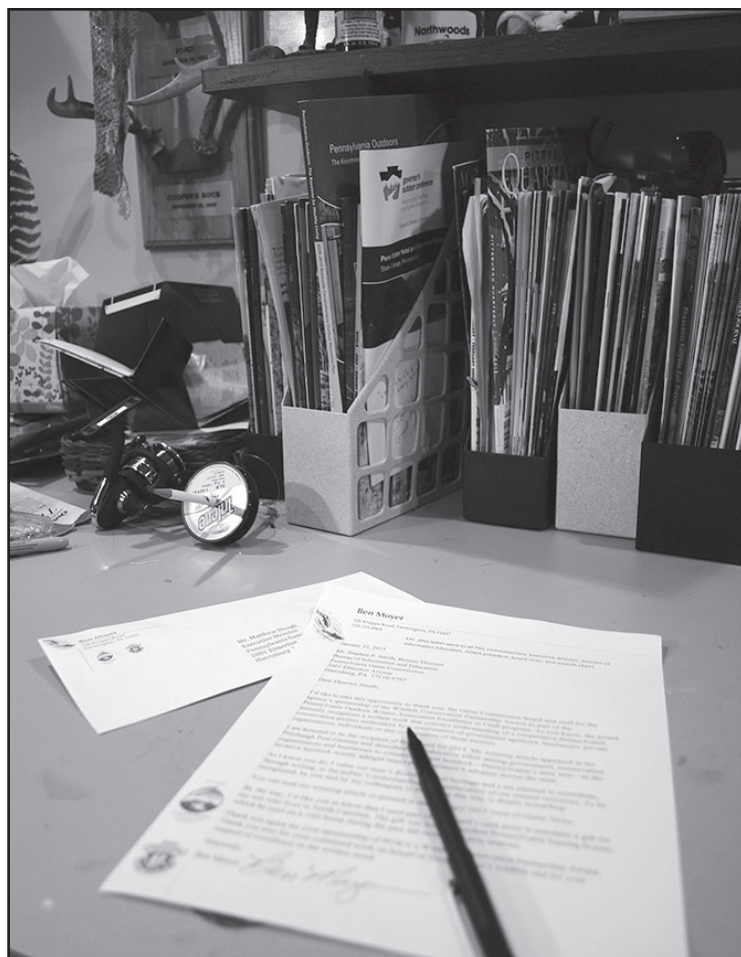
For an agency like the Game Commission, or organizations like Trout Unlimited or Hunters Sharing the Harvest, I also like to thank the group in a more general way for their overall mission. This confirms to the sponsor that you know and understand their work, and establishes a constructive sense of mutual respect. I think it's effective to write something like this near your letter's closing:

"Thank you (Trout Unlimited) for your work to protect and enhance Pennsylvania's coldwater fisheries, and for your support of both the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association and excellence in the written word."

I also think it good practice, if you can, to tell the sponsor how their support of POWA resulted in some benefit returned to their own organization.

In my recent thank-you to the Game Commission I shared with commissioners and high-level staff the fact that I'd used part of the prize to buy a gift for my son, who lives in North Carolina. That gift was his non-resident Pennsylvania hunting license. That personal addition cast the sponsorship as a "win-win" for me, POWA, and for the sponsoring agency.

If you are a POWA award-winning communicator you are probably producing columns, articles, pictures or broadcasts on a frequent and regular schedule. Writing a one-page letter of thanks to your award sponsor adds little additional time and work to that load. But it does elevate your standing as a professional outdoor communicator and POWA as a professional communicators' organization.



Ben Moyer Photo

**A one-page thank-you letter to the sponsor of a writing award you may win this May will build credibility for POWA and for you as a communicator.**

## Speak

*from page 1*

No stranger to POWA members, Dunn has addressed the organization in the past while wearing many hats with other conservation groups. The health of the Chesapeake Bay, bird life in her home state, and deer in Penn's Woods are just a few of the topics addressed by Dunn in a POWA affiliation that goes back decades.

Gov. Tom Wolf's appointee began her first day on the job by greeting employees as they arrived for work in mid-January in Harrisburg. She was joined in the lobby of the Rachel Carson State Office Building by Acting Secretary John Quigley, the appointee for the Department of Environmental Protection.

In appointing Dunn to the post, Wolf said, "While previously at Conservation and Natural Resources, Cindy Dunn led a conservation landscape program

that provided tens of millions of dollars annually for conservation and recreation throughout the commonwealth.

"Cindy has the experience to develop new programs and new policies that increase access to these invaluable assets and enhance our State Parks and State Forest facilities," Wolf said.

Prior to her appointment, Dunn served as President and CEO of PennFuture, a statewide environmental organization. Previously, she served as DCNR's Deputy Secretary of Conservation and Technical Services. In that capacity, she led DCNR's Conservation Landscape program and oversaw the community conservation partnerships grant program, which provides \$30-\$60 million annually for conservation and recreation throughout



Dunn

the Commonwealth.

"It's a privilege to serve Governor Wolf and the citizens of this state," Dunn said. "I join staff in their passion for DCNR's mission to provide all Pennsylvanians with incredible outdoor experiences and engage them in conservation. I intend to work with to further expand the department's service and value to all citizens."

Dunn's leadership posts over more than a decade at DCNR include oversight of the Bureau of Recreation and Conservation as well as the Office of Communications, Education and Partnerships.

Prior to joining DCNR, Dunn served as the executive director of Audubon Pennsylvania from 1997-2003, and was the Pennsylvania program director for the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay for 10 years.

Dunn holds a master's degree in biology from Shippensburg University. Her appointment requires confirmation in the Senate.

# President's Message

by Mark Nale



It is difficult to believe that almost two years have passed since my first "President's Message." For this, my final message, I would like to take the opportunity to glance backwards and – more importantly – to look to the future.

In June of 2013, I noted that the POWA "ship" had been sailing through rough waters. My goal was to help steer the organization past the icebergs and into calmer waters. I believe that we have successfully accomplished that goal. And I want to stress the word "WE," because what was accomplished was the collective effort of dozens of people.

OUR accomplishments:

- Hired a new executive director
- Established new membership categories and criteria that reflect our changing marketplace, yet still keep POWA a professional organization
- Cleaned up all constitution and by-law issues relating to our transition to one membership meeting and conference per year
- Developed colorful, new membership and supporting membership brochures
- Established eight new Excellence In Craft Awards – now totaling 25 – the most ever in POWA history
- Held very productive Board meetings in Franklin, Benezette, Bald Eagle State Park, Shippensburg and by teleconference
- Updated Board directives and streamlined procedures within the membership committee
- Created a new, larger-format Membership Directory
- Authored and approved a new POWA Mission Statement
- Continued POWA's presence at outdoor shows across the state
- Established a new committee to investigate writing trip opportunities
- Promoted and achieved positive membership growth

It has been a pleasure to work with the

Board, our Executive Director, Dennis Scharadin, and *PowWow* editor Brad Isles, as well as conference chairs Mike Klimkos (Shippensburg, 2014) and Nick Sisley (Seven Springs, 2015).

A special thanks goes to Board Secretary Mary Linkevich, Awards chair Brad Isles, Ways and Means chair Ralph Scherder, Charlie Burchfield and Paula Piatt. Mary hosted a board meeting and provided valuable leadership as secretary. Brad has continued the big job of facilitating our growing craft awards program. Ralph has been busy collecting prizes for our conference raffles for the past several years – his work is invaluable. Charlie was instrumental in planning our Fall 2013 gathering in elk country, as well as many other things. Paula has been the driving force and talent behind the creation of the beautiful, new membership and supporting membership brochures. They would not have happened without Paula.

This next "thank you" might seem a bit odd: I would like to thank any "critics" – members who were willing to voice opinions different from mine or the Board during the past two years. I am glad that we have a country and an organization where

this kind of democracy is possible. An open discussion of those opinions and differing perspectives always helps to forge better outcomes. In the end, we remain friends and respected colleagues.

Looking to the future – POWA is on firm ground. Freddie McKnight and Mark Demko already have a half-dozen potential sponsors for outdoor writer trips for 2015, and Freddie will be detailing this at the May membership meeting. Freddie has my full support for the way this will be professionally handled. Nick Sisley has a bountiful May conference planned.

A possible joint Maryland/Virginia/Pennsylvania outdoor communicators' conference for fall 2015 or 2016 has been discussed, but more will have to be done for this idea to move forward to realization.

As I see it, we have the tools in place for continued growth and prosperity as an organization. An actively involved membership, updated membership criteria, a multitude of craft awards, as well as new, colorful membership and supporting membership brochures – these are the tools. We all need to pitch in together and get things done.

It has been very rewarding to serve as POWA president for these two terms. Every time that I turned around during the past two years, someone new was offering to help the organization. I am truly thankful to each and every one (over 40 members) who helped to get things done and to the membership for your support. I hope that you will agree, it has been a positive two years for POWA.



Contributed Photo

**POWA President Mark Nale with a large golden rainbow trout on Spring Creek.**



# Executive Director's Report

by Dennis Scharadin,  
Executive Director



While winter is a slow time for many people, it isn't for POWA. Final arrangements for the spring meeting are being completed. Articles, photos, PDFs and other materials are being collected and copied by those who are entering our Excellence in Craft awards. The member renewal time has come and gone and supporting member renewals are currently taking place.

An invitation has been received from the Mason Dixon Outdoor Writers Association to join them at their upcoming conference. The Mason-Dixon Outdoor Writers Association would like to invite members of the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association to attend M-DOWA's 2015 Annual Conference to be held April 23-26, 2015 in Bedford, PA. Any questions or problems please contact: Matt Schwartz, Executive Director Mason-Dixon Outdoor Writers Association, email: matt0545@comcast.net.

Since the last *PowWow* there are a number of new Supporting members and an active member.

## NEW ACTIVE MEMBER

**Eric Levis**

5255 Meadowbrook Drive  
Mechanicsburg, PA 170520  
Email: elevis@pa.gov

Phone: 717-705-7806.

Credits: Eric is the contact for the PA Fish and Boat Commission.

## NEW SUPPORTING MEMBERS

### **Laurel Highlands Visitor's Bureau**

120 East Main Street  
Ligonier, PA 15658  
Website: www.laurelhighlands.org  
Contact: Julie Donovan  
Phone: 724-238-5661 ext. 109  
Sponsor: Nick Sisley

### **Classic Shotshell Co. Inc.**

784 Turnpike Road  
Friendsville, PA 18818  
Website: www.rstshells.com  
Contact: Julie Kerr/Morris Baker  
Phone: 570-553-1651  
Sponsor: Nick Sisley

### **Kent-Gamebore Corporation**

P.O. Box 847  
727 Hite Road  
Kearneysville, WV 25480  
Website: www.kentgamebore.com  
Contact: Linda Barnhart  
Phone: 888-311-5368  
Sponsor: Nick Sisley

### **My Core Heated Gear, Inc.**

12614 Hempstead Road  
Houston, TX 77092  
Website: www.mycorecontrol.com  
Contact: Ben Reynolds  
Phone: 713-900-1958  
Sponsor: Doyle Dietz

### **The Western Pennsylvania Conservancy**

800 Waterfront Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222  
Website: www.waterlandlife.org  
Contact: Kristin Blevins  
Phone: 412-586-2328  
Sponsor: Dennis Scharadin

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

## CALENDAR

Greater Philadelphia Outdoor Show, February 26-March 1, Greater Philadelphia Expo Center at Oak, PA, www.sportshows.com

Lehigh Valley Sportsman Show, March 6-8, Agri-Plex, Allentown Fairgrounds, Allentown, www.lehighvalleysportsman-show.com.

POWA Spring Conference, May 14-17, Seven Springs Mountain Resort. www.paoutdoorwriters.com.

## **SPONSOR 3 NEW POWA MEMBERS IN 1 YEAR ... AND YOUR NEXT YEAR'S DUES ARE FREE!**

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

**This special "1 GET 3; YOURS IS FREE" membership offer applies to all POWA membership types – active, associate, supporting and student. You may sponsor three in one membership category or mix categories.**

**Who can sponsor a new member? POWA active members and supporting members (the latter with an active member co-signer).**

**Where to get applications? POWA individual and supporting member applications can be printed from the POWA Web site, www.paoutdoorwriters.com. Information on the value and benefits of membership is on the website, too. For more information, contact the Executive Director.**

## **POWA on the Web**

**Connect with the  
Pennsylvania Outdoor  
Writers Association**

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



**at [twitter.com/P\\_O\\_W\\_A](https://twitter.com/P_O_W_A)  
or**

**[facebook.com/  
paoutdoorwriters](https://facebook.com/paoutdoorwriters)**

## Springs

*from page 1*

Profit.”

“This is a broad view of the topic we are planning to cover and is the best way to describe our longtime relationship with the organization,” the Steiners said. “Newcomers and even those who have been in POWA for a while can pick up tips on how to use business opportunities, personal relationships, craft improvement instruction, award program possibilities, etc. to make more money in the outdoor communications field, as well as how to ‘use’ POWA for a better quality of life (think friendships and fun times). We have certainly profited through the years both ways and we would like to share with attendees how this has happened and how this can work for them.”

Bob Ford will give a blogging seminar: “How a traditional author uses blogging to expand a magazine audience – a way to get new eyes on our work.”

John Hayes, outdoor editor for the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, offered this about his workshop: “Acquiring knowledge about wildlife and the outdoors can be quite different than communicating that information when writing to a broad target audience. Some reader groups are very knowledgeable while others know little about nature and may be culturally opposed to some outdoor traditions. My seminar will offer tips on how to get through to these latter readers.”

The craft improvement seminars take place Saturday morning starting promptly at 8 a.m., so don’t be late. Breakfast, at 7 a.m., will be at the same venue and is sponsored by the Laurel Highlands Visitors Bureau. Allow time to drive from the resort, where you will stay overnight, to the The Grille at Sporting Clays – where both breakfast and the seminars take place.

Lunch follows immediately after the craft improvement seminars at the same location and is sponsored by Elite Shotguns. Following lunch we walk out the front door to the sporting clays parking lot where our supporting members will be set up for Breakout. The supporting members will have their wares on display and be available to talk with our members – providing plenty of information about



Ben Moyer Photo

**This brown trout hit a black woolly bugger, then was released back into the Youghiogheny River section POWA members will be floating and fishing during the Spring Conference at Seven Springs.**

products and services that we can make notes about, photograph and take home information for our readers. Breakout ends at 3:30. From there it’s back into The Grille again for our POWA members meeting.

We return to Seven Springs Resort after the meeting for Saturday’s award banquet and dinner. There will be a cash bar. The meal is sponsored by the National Shooting Sports Foundation.

Going back to Friday evening, dinner will take place at The Grille. Wine and hors d’oeuvres will be complements of Seven Springs and the barbecue is sponsored by the National Rifle Association.

In this issue you will find the conference registration form. If you are interested in the guided fishing float trip down the Youghiogheny on Friday afternoon, we only have room for eight to 10 individuals. It will be first-come, first-served, so sign up for this exclusive trip early. Guides will have limited spin tackle, so if you are not fly fishing be sure to bring your own equipment. Contact member Len Lichvar, who is handling the rest of the fishing on the Yough between the dam and Ohiopyle – including using a bike (yours or a rented one) to access this fishing.

The Yough is a big river, and there are several miles to fish. Further, there are additional trout streams in this area. There is Laurel Hill Creek, the Casselman River

and others. You can fish these on your own. Both flow into the Youghiogheny at Confluence – which is just below the Yough Dam. Please email Len for additional fishing information. Bank on Len’s knowledge of this area. He’s a co-author of an upcoming book on fly fishing PA – and he covers the southwest part of the state. Fishing this area of the Yough has gained national attention – the resource is that good.

For spring gobbler hunting the coordinator is Ralph Martone, a member of my Spring Meeting Committee. He will be arranging guides, and there are plenty of turkeys within proximity of Seven Springs. Please contact me or Ralph (teachr2@comcast.net) as early as possible so he can prepare his guide list. Depending upon interest guided hunts could be limited, thus the reason for signing on early.

The spouses’ tour destination on Friday is Fallingwater – a spectacular Frank Lloyd Wright design. There is a \$20 fee, which is a reduced rate and requires a minimum of 20 attendees to get that price. Dennis Scharadin is working with the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy to possibly lower the cost even more. Spouses can carpool to Fallingwater in the morning. Lunch and the rest of the afternoon will be in Ligonier, where there are many

***Continued on page 9...***

POWA Spring Conference 2015 / May 14-17 / Seven Springs Mountain Resort

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

( ) Member

( ) Supporting Member, Company Name \_\_\_\_\_

( ) First POWA conference?

( ) Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_

( ) Guest Name \_\_\_\_\_

**REGISTRATION** (No fee for Supporting Members.)

Cost X # persons = Total Fee

Cost is \$25 for each individual. Please register by May 1.) ..... \$25.00 x \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Cost is \$30 for each individual after May 1. .... \$30.00 x \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Supporting Member Company or Organization Breakout Fee ..... x \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ N/C \_\_\_\_\_

*If you are a Supporting Member and want to participate in Breakout Day please contact Nick Sisley – see info on reverse side.*

*We want to do everything we can to make your Breakout Day a positive and profitable experience.*

**REGISTRATION TOTAL** ..... = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**ALL ATTENDEES PAY REGISTRATION FEES, including spouses/guests/breakout participants**

**Exception - spouses/guests attending banquet only**..... \$10.00 x \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**MEALS**

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

**FRIDAY**

Barbecue Dinner (Sponsored by the National Rifle Association)..... x \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ N/C \_\_\_\_\_

**SATURDAY**

Breakfast (Sponsored by Laurel Highlands Visitors Bureau) ..... x \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ N/C \_\_\_\_\_

Lunch (Sponsored by Elite Shotguns)..... x \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ N/C \_\_\_\_\_

Dinner Banquet (Sponsored by the National Shooting Sports Foundation)..... x \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ N/C \_\_\_\_\_

**SUNDAY**

Breakfast on your own ..... N/A or Ind. Pay

**MEAL TOTAL** ..... x \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*Children and guests (not spouses) must pay for sponsored meals -- Pay on-site.

*Please list any dietary restrictions so alternate arrangements can be made:*

.....  
*Please see reverse side for hotel registration information and activities...*



**POWA Spring Conference 2015 / May 14-17 / Seven Springs Mountain Resort**

**ACTIVITIES**

**\$20 REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT REQUIRED FOR EACH ACTIVITY** (*Attend activity and your fee is returned.*)

**Friday, May 15** ..... # Attendees = (x\$20)

Guided Float Trip on the Youghiogheny River (eight to 10 fishermen maximum) ..... = \$

Guided Fishing on the Youghiogheny River ..... = \$

Bike Fishing Along the Youghiogheny River ..... = \$

Guided Spring Gobbler Hunting ..... = \$

**Friday, May 16** ..... # Attendees = (x\$20)

Spouses' Tour of Frank Lloyd Wright's Fallingwater ..... = \$

(\$20 is non-refundable. Cost covers entry to facility.)

**Sunday, May 17** ..... # Attendees = (N/C)

Sporting Clays Course at Seven Springs ..... = \$ N/C

**ACTIVITY DEPOSITS SUBTOTAL:** ..... \$

**GRAND TOTAL**

**Registration + Meals + Activity Deposits (Enclose full amount/no partial payments.)** ..... = \$

**PAYMENT OPTIONS**

Make check (preferred) payable to POWA

or send: MasterCard/Visa # ..... Exp. Date .....

Security Code ..... Card's Zip Code .....

**Send form & check/credit card info to:**

**Nick Sisley,**

**509 First Street,**

**Apollo, PA 15613**

**Phone: 724-478-2415**

**Email: nicksisley@hotmail.com**

**POWA SPRING CONFERENCE 2015 HOTEL RESERVATION FORM**

**Make your room reservations at Seven Springs Mountain Resort**

Use the form below or call for reservations at Seven Springs 866-437-1300. Room rate \$129 plus tax. (Mention POWA Discount). Reservations must be made by April 14, 2015.

Name: ..... Phone: .....

Address: .....

Arrival Date: ..... Departure Date: .....

Make room reservations check payable to Seven Springs Mountain Resort, 77 Waterwheel Drive, Seven Springs, PA 15622.

Or use a credit card. Deposit for one night's lodging is required.



# **POWA Spring Conference Itinerary**

## **May 14-17 / Seven Springs Mountain Resort**

### **Thursday, May 14**

Guided turkey hunting  
Fishing on your own

**1 p.m.** – Registration opens, Seven Springs Hotel Lobby  
No evening activities

### **Friday, May 15**

Guided turkey hunting

Guided fishing on the Youghiogheny below the dam

Canoe fishing the Yough below the dam (eight to 10 anglers, first-come, first-served).

Fishing local streams on your own

Fishing Seven Springs' ponds on your own

**TBA** – Spouses' Tour, morning drive to Fallingwater then to Ligonier for lunch and shopping

**8 a.m.** – Registration

**6:30 p.m.** – Wine and cheese at The Grille at Sporting Clays, sponsored by Seven Springs

**7:15 p.m.** – Barbecue at The Grille at Sporting Clays, sponsored by National Rifle Association

**TBA** – POWA Board Meeting, place and time to be announced.

**TBA** – BYOB libations, Executive Director's Suite identified at registration

### **Saturday, May 16**

**7 a.m.** – Breakfast at The Grille at Sporting Clays, sponsored by Laurel Highlands Visitors Bureau

**8 a.m.** – Craft Improvement Seminars

*Not necessarily in this order*

Justin Spacklin: Demystifying PA Fly Hatches

Mike Mohr: Shotgun Tips for Your Readers

Bob Ford: Blogging to Expand your Readership

Bob and Linda Steiner: Writing and Photography

John Hayes: Reaching Your Non-Outdoor Audience

**Noon** – Lunch at The Grille at Sporting Clays, sponsored by Elite Shotguns

**1 p.m.** – Breakout Day, Sporting Clays parking lot

**3:30 p.m.** – Membership Meeting, The Grille at Sporting Clays

**6 p.m.** – Cocktails, Seven Springs Resort, cash bar

**7 p.m.** – Awards Dinner & Banquet, sponsored by National Shooting Sports Foundation

**TBA** – BYOB libations, Executive Director's Suite identified at registration

### **Sunday, May 17**

**TBA** – Sporting Clays at Seven Springs Course, 50 free targets and 50 free 12 gauge shells.

**TBA** – POWA Board Reorganization Meeting, place and time to be announced.

### ***Continued from page 6...***

restaurants and a plethora of specialty shops to browse. Some regular members may also want to join the spouses on this trip.

To recap the meals are as follows:

Friday's barbecue – The Grille at Sporting Clays – wine and hors d'oeuvres sponsored by Seven Springs – dinner is sponsored by the National Rifle Association.

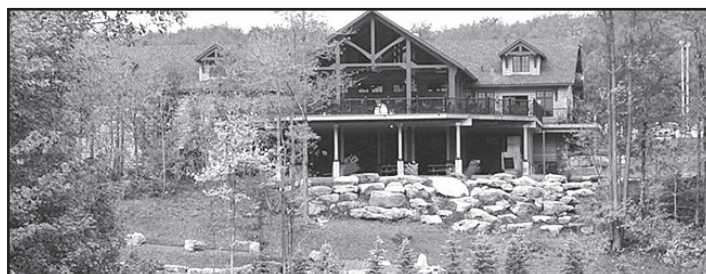
Saturday's breakfast – The Grille at Sporting Clays, sponsored by Laurel Highlands Visitors Bureau

Saturday's lunch – The Grille at Sporting Clays, sponsored by Elite Shotguns

Saturday's Banquet – Seven Springs Resort, cash bar, meal sponsored by the National Shooting Sports Foundation.

On Sunday, for those interested, members can shoot 50 free sporting clays targets. We have 12 gauge ammo from several manufacturers. Bring your own shotgun or one will be provided. Those who want to get started home early can begin shooting their 50 targets as early as 8 a.m. Otherwise, show up at your leisure.

We will be shooting five selected stations, with a certified instructor at each, in case you want to ask for any shooting tips. For any member who has not shot sporting clays before look at this as an introduction to a sport that's rising fast in popularity.



Seven Springs Photo

**The Grille at Sporting Clays will be the site for several meals and Saturday afternoon's breakout and membership meeting.** For those of you familiar with this shotgun game, just enjoy the free shooting.

I am looking for a member to become a part of my committee – call it Registration Chairman. That member will coordinate with other POWA members to man the registration desk at Seven Springs. This is a very important task because this is where members will receive the final and written details on what is going to take place for the weekend. The job also requires putting together the registration goody bag. I will work closely with that chairman, and so will Seven Springs.

If you have questions I am at 724-478-2415 or nicksisley@hotmail.com. Hope to see you at Seven Springs in May.



# KECA offers an inside look at elk country

By Brad Isles  
*PowWow editor*

A dense fog rolled in low and heavy an hour before daybreak, our early alarm and ensuing trek to Winslow Hill on the verge of being wasted. A distinctive bel-low erupted from an unseen bull elk and cut through the darkness, brought us back to the moment, reminding us in the heavy mist, that no trip to Benezette is truly lost.

The wild is always within earshot. And the area's most intriguing residents can appear at any time from any place.

They cross the road in front of your vehicle. They gorge themselves on apples freshly knocked from the branch. They pose for your photos before retreating to the safety of a treeline.

For a special raffle at last year's POWA spring conference in Shippensburg, Rawley Cogan and the Keystone Elk Country Alliance generously donated a two-day behind-the-scenes look at their endeavors. The trip, which I was fortunate enough to win, included private discussions with Cogan, a personal tour of the Elk Country Visitor Center, its new outdoor classroom and distance learning initiatives, a ride-along through the Winslow Hill viewing area and State Game Lands 311 with the Pennsylvania Game Commission's land management group supervisor, and much, much more.

The full schedule still offered plenty of time for elk viewing. POWA's member Charlie Burchfield served as the driver and guide, and his local knowledge was indispensable. On our first morning, after the thick fog had settled into the viewing area and showed no signs of burning off, we observed a flock of a dozen turkeys milling about the parking lot. We then made our way to Medix Run and came upon a small herd of elk next to the road. For 45 minutes we watched as a large bull used his massive rack to separate apples from a tree as cow after cow appeared from the woods to graze.

The highlight, however, was a horseback ride through the heart of elk country led by Cogan and his wife, Lanna, to close out the first day. Cogan, who is arguably the

*Continued on next page...*



Brad Isles Photos

Above, a monster bull elk takes a break after working over an apple tree along Medix Run. Below, Colleen Shannon, Pennsylvania Game Commission land management supervisor, details the Winslow Hill elk viewing area master plan.



***Thanks once again to the generosity of the Keystone Elk Country Alliance and Rawley Cogan, a trip to elk country from Sept. 8-9, 2015 is being offered as a prize during a special raffle at POWA's conference at Seven Springs. Be sure to enter. It's one you won't want to miss!***





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

person most responsible for making sure Pennsylvania's elk herd remains a viable resource, offered his own team of horses for the outing. We set off from the Cogans' personal camp not far from the visitor center in the late afternoon, and as if on cue a bugle rang out across an adjacent hollow.

Not long we emerged from a tree line and into a large clearing. Ahead of me Cogan uttered a "whoa" and reigned in his mount. He turned broadside and motioned us forward. Far across the field stood a monstrous bull, surely one of the largest and most magnificent in the range. Distance made it difficult to put an accurate count on his rack, as did a broken pine branch caught across both main beams atop his head.

I dismounted and used cover to close the distance between us in order to take photos. Alerted to our presence, the bull gathered his followers and retired to thick cover.

Before we continued I asked Cogan, who has surely seen tens of thousands of elk during his 30-plus year career, if sights like what we had just witnessed ever get old.

He offered a grin. "Never."

It was a scene few people would ever have the opportunity to experience, and I was grateful for it.

For four hours we traveled trail and road, across public and private land with frequent stops to watch elk graze and majestic bulls rally their harems in preparation for the upcoming rut. We saw more than 80 by sunset, including a handful of trophy bulls at close range.

Thanks once again to the generosity of Cogan and KECA, a similar trip is being offered from Sept. 8-9, 2015. It will be the prize for a special raffle held during the conference at Seven Springs. Partnerships such as this benefit both POWA and the sponsoring organization. Be sure to enter. If you're lucky enough to win, it will be a trip you'll remember forever.



Brad Isles Photos

**Above, a spike bull elk crosses Winslow Hill Road near the Benezette Hotel. Above left is the Keystone Elk Country Alliance's new outdoor classroom facility.**

## **Treasurer's Report**

By John Allen, POWA Treasurer / Expenditures as of Dec. 31, 2014

<b><u>Income Accounts</u></b>	<b><u>Budget 14-15</u></b>	<b><u>Actual</u></b>	<b><u>% of Budget</u></b>
Active Members' Dues	9,000	4,630	51
Supporting Members' Dues	7,500	600	8
Merchandise Sales	100	30	30
Craft Award Income	2,000	200	10
General Contribution	-	140	-
Spring Conference Income (Net)	2,585	-	-
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$21,185</b>	<b>\$5,410</b>	<b>26%</b>
<b><u>Expense Accounts</u></b>	<b><u>Budget 14-15</u></b>	<b><u>Actual</u></b>	<b><u>% of Budget</u></b>
Executive Dir. Stipend	8,000	2,667	33
Pow Wow (Print/Edit)	4,750	1,148	24
Member Awards	2,850	-	-
Membership Directory	1,500	-	-
Plaque Expenses	1,000	55	6
Office Expenses	1,000	50	5
Postage, General	750	233	31
Insurance	510	-	-
Marketing	300	-	-
Credit Card Fees	150	29	19
Travel	125	-	-
Website Expenses	100	-	-
Interim Board Meeting	100	-	-
Miscellaneous	50	-	-
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$21,185</b>	<b>\$4,182</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$1,228</b>	

Cash Accounts as of Dec. 31, 2014: General Fund, \$38,917; Youth Education Fund, \$2,241; Scholarship Fund, \$56,831; Jacquelin Knight CD, \$14,369; Emergency Fund, \$9,171; Northwest CD, \$20,000; U.S. Treasury Note, \$10,000. Total Cash Accounts: \$151,529.

## Supporting Member News

by Supporting Member Representative

**CONNIE YINGLING, PR Coordinator,  
Maryland Office of Tourism Development**



I am writing this article with one eye on the computer screen and the other on the window, hoping to leave the office prior to the next snow squall. I love snow, but my sports car does not handle well in it, so this will be short, sweet and to the point.

While there is plenty there now, there won't be any snow left for the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association's annual Spring Conference from May 14-17,

2015 at Seven Springs Mountain Resort.

Conference Chair

Nick Sisley has a wonderful program scheduled. There will be speakers, seminars and outings to local hot-spots.

The annual conference gives supporting members an excellent opportunity to put their programs, products and services into the spotlight via breakout and during some

of the outings. The Seven Springs breakout session for supporting members even has shooting facilities, so gun and archery members are especially encouraged to sign up for breakout day.

And did I mention networking? At the opening night barbecue, at breakfast, at lunch, at the seminars and awards banquet on Saturday night.

Some of my best journalist contacts have been made simply standing in line for food!

So don't delay—fill out your registration form, book your hotel room now – and I look forward to seeing you at the conference in Seven Springs.

# Rivers Conservation Camp set for June

The 21st annual Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp will be held June 21-26 at the Allenberry Resort in Boiling Springs, PA.

The highly structured curriculum is based on college-level classes. Students are instructed in ecology, aquatic biology, geology, hydrogeology, erosion and sedimentation control, ichthyology, riparian corridor protection, watershed management, entomology, and much more. Students also participate in a hands-on stream habitat improvement project. But it's not all work. There are 10 fishing sessions and fly tying instruction. Over 30 instructors, all experts in their field, teach the various classes.

Admission is limited to 32 selected qualified students, ages 14 to 17. Applicants must have been born between June 26, 1997, and June 21, 2001. The 32 students will be selected through an application process where they must state why they want to attend camp.

Camp tuition is \$350 per student for the entire week. All meals and accommodations are included for the residence camp. A student need not be an accomplished fly fisher or a budding aquatic biologist to attend. All the student needs is to be highly motivated and willing to learn.

The Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp was founded in 1995 through the efforts of the late Dr. John R. "Jack" Beck and the late Enoch S. "Inky" Moore, Jr., Pennsylvania Fish Commissioner.



Michael Klimkos Photo

**Students at the Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp participate in a stream habitat repair project under the guidance of the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission's Karl Lutz.**

Their goal was to select 32 teenagers each year who were the leaders in their class. The thought is that today's leaders in high school become the leader of tomorrow's communities. In a few short years, they will be the bankers, lawyers, realtors, municipal officials and the leaders in their communities.

If the camp can implant a kernel of knowledge in today's students about the importance of clean water, when those

students become the decision makers in their communities, it may have a positive impact on how water resources are used.

The camp began accepting applications for the 2015 camp on Nov. 1, 2014, and all applications must be postmarked no later than March 31, 2015. For a camp brochure, an application, or for more information, visit [www.riverscamp.com](http://www.riverscamp.com). Applications or questions may be submitted via US mail or via email to [riverscamp@gmail.com](mailto:riverscamp@gmail.com).



# Summer field schools for teens, teachers

The Wildlife Leadership Academy is now accepting applications for its 2015 summer field schools for youth ages 14-17 and adults. Adults serve as mentors and participate alongside the students. School teachers are encouraged to apply as mentors.

The Wildlife Leadership Academy is a year-round program that focuses on wildlife/fisheries conservation and leadership development. The mission of the Academy is to empower youths to become ambassadors for wildlife conservation in order to ensure a sustained wildlife legacy for future generations.

The Academy begins with an intensive, five-day residential field school experience that focuses on a fish or wildlife species as a springboard for exploring biology, habitat and conservation issues. Youths also develop leadership skills engaging in team-building activities, educational presentations and mock "town hall" meetings on current topics.

Four field schools are available this summer: Pennsylvania Bucktails, white-tailed deer focus at Stone Valley Recreation Area in Huntingdon County, June 16-20; Pennsylvania Brookies, brook trout and coldwater conservation focus at Sieg Conference Center in Clinton County, July 7-11; Pennsylvania Drummers, Ruffed Grouse focus at Powdermill Nature Reserve in Westmoreland County, July 21-25, and Pennsylvania Ursids, black bear focus at Stone Valley Recreation Area in Huntingdon County, Aug. 2-6.

As a result of the intensive field school training, students develop leadership skills and considerable knowledge about conservation issues specific to the theme of the Wildlife Leadership Academy program that they attended. Following their field school experience, students complete conservation outreach in their home communities that focuses on environmental education, community service, media engagement and/or participation in the arts.

Student Luke Benzinger of York County describes his participation in the program as "life changing."

"My whole life changed since attending the Wildlife Leadership Academy where I talked to so many knowledgeable

adults who wanted to spend time with other teenagers that were there with me," Benzinger said. "These adults opened my eyes to what I could do to teach everyone else in the world about the passion I have for the outdoors."

## A New Addition – The Black Bear-Focused Field School

Led by the Pennsylvania Institute for Conservation Education, the Wildlife Leadership Academy is a cooperative initiative and brings the experts to the students. Participants are taught by and interact with conservation professionals daily. These professionals represent agencies, conservation organizations and

universities from across the state.

For the first time, the Institute is adding a bear-focused field school, Pennsylvania Ursids, to the summer lineup.

Wildlife biologist Gary Alt, who coordinated the Pennsylvania Game Commission's black bear research and management program for over 25 years, and who has also been involved with the Wildlife Leadership Academy summer program since its start in 2007, will be leading the instruction and development of the bear-focused field school.

Alt notes his respect for the Wildlife Leadership Academy program and the

**Continued on next page...**

## 2014/15 POWA Committees

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

## Supporting members team up to improve habitat

The National Wild Turkey Federation, Range Resources and the Washington County Planning Commission completed a wildlife habitat enhancement project at the end of 2014.

Restoration work at Cross Creek County Park was planned by NWTF biologists and Range Resources personnel in the early spring and was covered through a donation from Range Resources made to the National Wild Turkey Federation.

The park is open to hunting and is a popular destination for local hunters. Range repurposed two plots making up 33 acres that were partially used for natural gas development and had a small amount of surface disturbance.

The land was transformed from a weedy field to a planting that would attract wildlife for park visitors to enjoy.

An herbicide application set the stage by eliminating invasive plants and undesirable weeds from the two locations. Lime and fertilizer applications began to prepare the site for planting in July. Brush hogging, plowing and disking were the final stages of site preparation and planting took place in September.

Planted on the 33 acres was a mix of clovers and a nurse crop of oats, which is are very attractive to deer and wild turkeys. By October the site was green-ing up and in pristine condition. Deer, turkeys and other wildlife utilized the project area for fall food sources and will carry over through winter and spring feeding. In summer, the fields will attract turkey broods and deer with fawns as they enjoy high quality clover forage and poults feed on insects.

## M-DOWA invites POWA'ers to conference

The Mason-Dixon Outdoor Writers Association would like to invite members of the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association to attend M-DOWA's 2015 Annual Conference to be held April 23-26, 2015 in Bedford, PA.

The registration form with the schedule of events is available at <http://bit.ly/17m279d> and is designed to be completed electronically.

Contact: Matt Schwartz, Executive Director, Mason-Dixon Outdoor Writers Association. Email: [matt0545@comcast.net](mailto:matt0545@comcast.net). See [www.mdowa.com](http://www.mdowa.com) for more.

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

importance of teaching the next generation of conservation leaders.

"For me, it has been an amazing inspiration and honor to be involved in a program that literally changes the lives of impressionable young students, providing them with new tools and confidence to succeed in life, and providing society with hope, support, and leadership skills for the conservation challenges that will arise long after we are gone," Alt said.

### **An Opportunity for School Teachers**

The Academy offers an incredible opportunity, not only for Pennsylvania youths, but for teachers as well to be engaged in a high quality, inspirational and unique educational setting. Teachers learn alongside the youth participants, serving as the primary mentors for the youths as they push themselves academically. Teachers who participate also have the opportunity to receive college credits and/or 40 ACT credits.

Adult participant Claire Orner described the experience as well thought out. In reference to the Wildlife Leadership Academy, she said, "It is welcoming and fun; challenging with the ability to stretch each participant to grow; inspiring with dedicated instructors and staff to ensure success and growth; and supportive as they set up collaborative networking and professional development for both adult

and youth participants."

### **Youth Participants Become Community Leaders**

Students return to their communities sharing what they have learned. They keep a record book of their conservation outreach efforts. Top outreach achievements qualify students for educational field trips, opportunities to return to field school tuition-free as mentors, and for college scholarships. Through field school and outreach projects, students learn and implement valuable life skills, such as leadership, communication, and responsibility.

Kayley Dillon of Columbia County, a student at the Pennsylvania Bucktails field school commented, "Wildlife Leadership Academy has made me so much more confident in myself. Before field school, I hated being the center of attention and making presentations. Now I'm the first person to volunteer for everything."

Academy youths have taken their mission to be ambassadors for conservation to heart. To date, graduates have conducted 932 conservation education, communication, and service projects; engaged in more than 4,000 contact hours with the public; and reached an audience of more than 20,000 Pennsylvania citizens across the commonwealth.

With 200 students coming through the Academy over the last eight years, Institute Director Michele Kittell said the partici-

pants are "the next generation to speak for conservation of our natural resources."

"We believe the leadership of Academy youth in their home communities will inspire others to care more, and therefore act more on behalf of conservation and the environment," she said.

Applications for the 2015 field schools can be downloaded at [www.PICEweb.org](http://www.PICEweb.org). The application deadline is April 1, 2015 for youth and adult mentors.

The Wildlife Leadership Academy is a cooperative initiative involving state agencies and conservation organizations and is administered by the Pennsylvania Institute for Conservation Education whose mission is to connect people, nature and community.

Expert instructors at the field school include representatives from POWA, Kutztown University, Pennsylvania Game Commission, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, Pennsylvania State University, the Ruffed Grouse Society, Trout Unlimited, Quality Deer Management Association and many more.

For more information, contact Institute Director, Michele Kittell, at [mkittell@picweb.org](mailto:mkittell@picweb.org) or 570-245-8518 or Program Coordinator, Katie Cassidy at [kcassidy@picweb.org](mailto:kcassidy@picweb.org) or 570-939-5109.

You can also connect with the Academy on Facebook at [facebook.com/wildlife-leadershipacademy](https://facebook.com/wildlife-leadershipacademy).



## Market News

by Freddie McKnight



**Bowhunter** is a magazine for people of all ages, backgrounds, and experiences who share a common love of bowhunting and the great outdoors. The magazine does not cover all aspects of archery – only bowhunting. Short items for *Bowhunter's Journal* generally run 100-500 words, and we pay \$50 to \$200 for these, on acceptance. *Bowhunter's Journal* covers industry and conservation news, interesting or unique hunting feats, and occasional book and video reviews. Feature articles run 1,000-2,500 words, with an average of about 2,000 words. We pay \$300-\$700, on acceptance, for features, depending on length, quality of text, quality and variety of photos, import of the subject matter, research required, and other variables. *Bowhunter* buys first North American serial rights to publication, and we pay upon acceptance. Again, most manuscripts are published about one year after acceptance. Send all submissions to: Bowhunter, 6385 Flank Drive, Suite 800, Harrisburg, PA 17112. We will accept brief queries via email. Send them to [bowhunter\\_magazine@intermediaoutdoors.com](mailto:bowhunter_magazine@intermediaoutdoors.com).

**Fly Tyer** is a quarterly magazine, and it is the largest publication in the world dedicated solely to fly tying with 43,000-plus paid readers. Feature articles describing new flies for catching trout, bass, panfish and saltwater species across the country and around the world. An article can describe one pattern (such as "The Latest, Greatest Mayfly Dun") or a group of patterns ("Montana's Newest Go-To Dry Flies"). We are also in the market for articles describing new tying materials and techniques, or new applications for older tying materials and techniques. We would also like to hear about articles that demonstrate how to tie older classic patterns, but these must include a lot of excellent tying photos. Note: Surveys tell us that our readers want information about new flies, new materials and tying techniques, and new applications for older materials, in that order. Articles about the history

of fly tying and the like always fall near the bottom of these surveys, but we will make room for them if they are particularly strong submissions with good tying photos. Most of our features run from four to six pages apiece, but when a submission contains a lot of good material, especially tying photos or artwork, we will devote even more pages to it. A feature article should contain 2,000 to 2,500 words. Please email brief proposals for the articles that you would like to write for *Fly Tyer* to [neangler@myfairpoint.net](mailto:neangler@myfairpoint.net).

**Deer and Deer Hunting** is a specialized magazine devoted to deer and deer hunting (with a strict emphasis on white-tailed deer). Readers include a cross-section of the deer hunting population: individuals who hunt with bow, gun or camera. Editorial content of the magazine focuses on white-tailed deer biology and behavior, management principles and practices, habitat requirements, natural history of deer, hunting techniques and hunting ethics. We also publish a wide range of "how-to" articles designed to help hunters locate and get close to deer at all times of the year. Most of our readership consists of three-season hunters (bow, centerfire/shotgun and muzzleloader) and about one-third camera hunt. Feature articles dealing with deer biology or behavior should be documented by scientific research (the author or that of others) as opposed to a limited number of personal observations. All letters to the editor should be emailed to [Dan.Schmidt@fwmedia.com](mailto:Dan.Schmidt@fwmedia.com).

**Outdoor Photographer** is a national magazine published 11 times per year for enthusiasts with a special passion for nature, travel and outdoor sports. We take a fresh look at the modern photographic world by encouraging photography as part of a lifestyle associated with outdoor recreation. Editorial is intended to demystify the use of modern equipment by emphasizing practical use of the camera in the field, highlighting the technique

rather than the technical. Feature articles include: 1. Interviews and portfolio displays of accomplished professional and amateur photographers. 2. Non-technical equipment evaluations directed at outdoor use. Methods and techniques for using, transporting and maintaining photo equipment in the field. 3. Travel, destinations, photo tours, field courses, workshops. Submissions that *Outdoor Photographer* publishes in the "Favorite Places" section of the magazine also will be archived on the website as a service to our readers. 4. New technologies, from traditional to digital, that help readers make better images. 5. Photographic instruction as it relates to outdoor interests and activities, including wildlife viewing, landscape, close-ups, nature, adventure and scenic travel, and outdoor sports such as backpacking, camping, canoeing/kayaking/rafting, skiing, climbing, surfing, bicycle touring, etc. Contact: [opeditors@outdoor-photographer.com](mailto:opeditors@outdoor-photographer.com).

**Trapper and Predator Caller's** editorial goal is to inform, educate and entertain our readers with articles, photographs and illustrations that promote trapping and predator calling. Highest consideration will be given to stories focused on methods and equipment used in trapping, calling or hunting. We also accept historical pieces, personality profiles and unusual experience stories. Feature stories should be between 1,500 and 2,500 words. Please submit stories as Microsoft Word documents. Send queries, manuscripts and photos to: [jared.blohm@fwmedia.com](mailto:jared.blohm@fwmedia.com).

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

# National TU meeting to be held in Scranton

For the first time in 25 years, Trout Unlimited's Annual Meeting is coming to Pennsylvania in 2015. Events will be held from Sept. 16-20 at the Center City Hilton Hotel and Convention Center in Scranton.

The Annual Meeting gives chapters an opportunity to see first-hand what it takes to operate Trout Unlimited on state and national levels, and offers an idea of what chapter officers in similar positions in other states are doing to advance coldwater fisheries and conservation.

Chris Wood, president and chief executive officer of Trout Unlimited, will present a "State of TU Address" and discuss the scope of TU operations and projects.

The tentative schedule of events is as follows:

**Wednesday, Sept. 16: Fishing Day** – Choose to fish one of northeast Pennsylvania's trout waters with a local volunteer as your guide. These include the Lackawanna, the Lackawaxen, the Delaware, Brodheads Creek and the Upper Lehigh River.

**Thursday, Sept. 17: Conservation Tour**

– Participate in a bus tour highlighting conservation projects and environmental issues being faced by Trout Unlimited in northeastern Pennsylvania.

**Friday, Sept.**

**18:** Full day of meetings and breakout training sessions, followed by an awards dinner.

**Saturday, Sept. 19:** "State of TU" by Chris Wood, president and CEO, followed by reports from the Board of Trustees, National Leadership Council and Trout Unlimited chief financial officer. Saturday evening will consist of the annual banquet, which will include a live auction, silent auction and raffle items, and the presentation of the prestigious Mortenson Award.

There will be tours and special programs throughout the weekend for all spouses who register at a reduced rate. A special



welcome reception will be hosted by the NEPA Fly Girls, a contingent of the Lackawanna Valley chapter. There will also be a hospitality suite each night for attendees to unwind, relax and socialize. This will be a fun event with a lot of great information to take back your chapter.

PATU is looking for donations for the live and silent auction. Proceeds will be used to cover the cost of the event and any additional funding will be used for the Back the Brookie grant program. PATU is asking for items of \$100 or more (retail value) for the auction. Please keep in mind that most attendees will be flying in, so and transporting large items could be difficult.

Contact Charlie Charlesworth, national committee chair, at 570-954-5042 or [ff-nepa@epix.net](mailto:ff-nepa@epix.net).

Registration will be available on [www.TU.org](http://www.TU.org) as the date gets closer. If you'd like to donate an item to the auction, please contact Samantha Kutschel at [skutschel@coldwaterheritage.org](mailto:skutschel@coldwaterheritage.org) or Sandy Sausser at [outreach@patrout.org](mailto:outreach@patrout.org).



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Outdoor Writers  
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