



# POWOW

Newsletter of the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association

Fall 2016

## Craft Award entries due February 18

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 this year is the specialty award: Don Heckman – Tell the Story Award sponsored by the Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Foundation.

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 18, 2017. 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

See **AWARDS**, page 8

## Mark your calendars for Spring Conference

By Nick Sisley and Tyler Frantz  
*Spring Conference Co-Chairs*

The POWA Spring Conference scheduled for May 19-21, 2017 is shaping up nicely. Our base of operations will be the Holiday Inn Harrisburg Hershey in Grantville, a bit east of Harrisburg.

The Inn has given us an excellent room rate of \$97 plus tax. Further, we have a comp suite/room for gathering Friday and Saturday evening. A second base of operations will be at the Palmyra Sportsmen’s Club – not far away.

We will have our Friday and Saturday evening banquets at the Holiday Inn. We’re hoping to have lunch at the sportsmen’s club. Saturday morning our workshops will be conducted at the Inn.

So far, we have Tim Flanigan lined up



Tyler Frantz Photo

**Do-it-yourself or guided turkey and fishing trips will be options at the 2017 POWA Spring Conference in Grantville, PA.**

for a photo workshop. Tim is going to show us how to use Photoshop to improve our photos. Matt Soberg, editor of the Ruffed Grouse Society magazine, will make some suggestions re what he likes and doesn’t like in writing. Dennis Scharadin is working on two more workshops – one

maybe involving an editor’s round table, another involving a newsmaker. Assuming we have lunch at the sportsmen’s club, our Breakout will immediately follow with Supporting Members showing their wares.

Following Breakout we will hold our

See **SPRING**, page 3

## Craft Improvement



Ben Moyer Photo

Strong development of place is as important to your reader's satisfaction as are vibrant human characters.

# Place matters: Put your readers there

By Ben Moyer  
*Craft Improvement Chair*

In many aspects of our lives, the importance of "place" has diminished. Not long ago, you knew the physical location of a friend when you spoke on the phone. Few businesses now provide a physical address in advertisements. And today you can access much information about a location without ever being present there yourself. But "place" remains important – often key – in the written story, some articles and columns. Within these works, the writer's strong development of place is as indispensable to the reader's benefit and enjoyment as human characters.

I was reminded of the impact of place during a recent fishing and camping outing with POWA member Don Feigert. As we relaxed around a campfire enjoying coffee, Feigert surveyed the scene and observed, "Right here, you're embraced by hills and forest so that it feels remote, but there's a highway and a town just beyond that ridge."

By habit, Feigert was using his writer's eye to process information about that place, then envisioning how he might communi-

cate some sense of the setting to readers. That's how the skillful communication of place begins – by paying attention.

As a writer of outdoor-themes, be alert to aspects of place listed below. There are many more, limited only by your observations.

**Vegetation:** Offer detail. Telling readers it's an oak woods helps them visualize and relate to their experience. A pine forest is different and your story merits the distinction. If there are grapevines present, note their serpentine shape or shaggy bark. If a laurel thicket is dense and labyrinthine, make the most of it in your text.

Look for things that convey something about place beyond themselves. For example, in a favorite part of Ohiopyle State Park, huge beech trees stand in an intimate cove above the Youghiogheny River. The presence of those looming beeches, which are too big to reach around, leads the mind to envision a wild place where man's intrusions are minimal. Note those trees and you're on your way to establishing mood and setting for your reader.

**Topography/Geology:** What's the ho-  
*Continued on next page...*

# PowWow

Fall 2016

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## Member contributors to this issue:

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Tyler Frantz Photos

**From small-stream brookies to Susquehanna River flatheads, several fishing options will be available during the 2017 Spring Conference.**

## Spring

*from page 1*

Membership Meeting right at the club.

Expect guided fishing possibilities at a number of different waters – plus there is fishing available near the sportsmen’s club

–and spring gobbler hunting Thursday and Friday morning. The Snitz Creek Brewery/Sky Blue Outfitters will provide guided trout fishing and “brew tour” for eight, Koinonia River Guides has a Susquehanna catfishing trip for four, and Ralph Martone is working on turkey guides. So if you want

to hunt turkeys contact Ralph; if you want the trout/brew tour or catfish trip contact Tyler Frantz.

Much more information about the conference will be in the next *PowWow*. But mark down the dates in your 2017 calendar – May 19 – 21.

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

rizon like? Does it tell of a flat plateau or is it carved by jagged peaks or a plunging gorge? When appropriate, I like to link a place within the context of larger landscape. If there is some opportunity to say that the water you’re fishing ultimately enters the West Branch of the Susquehanna, take advantage to orient the reader.

Look for detail here as well. Near where the big beeches stand, sandstone ledges jut out along the contours of the gorge. Massive red and chestnut oaks grow atop these ledges, their roots groping around to the cliff’s underside for anchorage. Noting such details are a service to your reader, and a nod to the character of place.

**Aspect:** The angle of the sun at various times of day can be important. Note such detail when it fits the flow of your tale. Western- and southern-facing slopes are warmer and drier than their directional counterparts and your reader will expect

and appreciate your encounter with plant communities thriving there.

**History:** Not always but sometimes an historical link can be helpful: A lot of my outdoor haunts hosted events in the French and Indian War. When it works, I’ll reference that history. I believe doing so roots the reader to something lasting and significant, and that reader appreciates the context.

**Natural vs. Municipal:** Depending on the nature of your article, it can be helpful to provide more practical locational information. Which county? Township? Such cultural facts may not be important to what you are writing, but if they are be sure to get it right.

I find it annoyingly unsatisfying when a caption says: “Young Billy killed this 8-point buck *near* Slate Fork Township.” That doesn’t make sense. In Pennsylvania, if buck-slayer Billy was near Slate Fork Township, then he was within some other

township. No point in our state is not within some municipality. Why not find out where Billy was standing and communicate that fact, instead of where he was near.

**Advice applied:** As an example of how detail can establish place, consider a column I wrote recently about hunting wood ducks along upland streams. Near the conclusion I referenced the plant jewelweed several times. I covered my kayak with frost-scorched jewelweed for concealment and a duck sailed into my decoys at jewelweed-height. I believe, or maybe hope, that these references to a particular plant that grows in damp places helps convey the setting of a waterfowl hunt. And if the reader knows jewelweed personally, he can envision the duck’s precise altitude as it approached, without my relating the mundane fact that it was three feet above the water.

Be alert to the details of place, on your reader’s behalf.

# Executive Director's Report

by Dennis Scharadin,  
Executive Director

Hope all of you are having good times chasing big bucks, longbeards, our state bird, timberdoodles, ringnecks, cottontails, or bushytails, and let's not forget the Canadas, woodies, greenies and suzies, cans, baldies, spoonies, hoodies and a bunch of other ducks.

I had the opportunity to use the fine shotgun shooting instructions Nick Sisley gave me at our last two conferences. I saw a cockbird flush, kept my eye on the bird's beak, mounted my 870, and proceeded to beak him. I must apologize however, Nick, on my shooting at a second rooster. The bird literally flushed at my feet, cackling as it gained altitude. My heart was beating as fast as a racecar heading toward the finish line at Daytona. Adrenalin was rushing through my veins. My eyes grew to the size of platters. I shouldered the shotgun and let three fly not realizing I'd never put my cheek on the stock... Never touched a feather.

The membership renewal, Active, Associate, Life and Honorary, is in full swing. So far, 61 percent of membership has renewed. Second notices are in the mail and renewal notices must be postmarked by Dec. 15. We have a total of 157 members, which includes three new members since the Sayre meeting in May. The new members are Active members: Tom Gilmore, Jeff Herman and Matt Soberg.

When returning your renewals please be sure to check your classification and sign the renewal notice. If you have been an Active member for 15 years but don't have enough points to qualify for Active membership you can check the grandfather classification. It allows you to remain an Active member, but you still must pay the \$60 membership fee.

Supporting member renewals will be mailed the end of December. We currently have 79 Supporting members. We have two new Supporting members since the May conference. They are the Chautauqua County Visitors Bureau and The Ruffed Grouse Society.

Two members took advantage of our

"Bring in two and it's good for you—a free membership" program. Tim Flanigan sponsored three and Ben Moyer sponsored two.

Our site for the 2017 Spring Conference is the Holiday Inn Harrisburg Hershey at Grantville. It's located right off Interstate 81. The dates for the conference are May 18-21, 2017 and co-chairs Nick Sisley and Tyler Frantz, along with Jeff Woelshlagle and John Allen, are already working hard on the program. I don't want to give away any surprises but I heard some of the program planners whispering there will be more turkeys, smallmouth bass and flatheads bagged at this conference than at any other.

POWA has a Lecturer's List. If you present slide programs, or outdoor lectures, email me the information on your programs, contact information, fee, etc., so you can be included on the POWA's Lecturer's List. From time to time I receive requests for information on members who offer outdoor programs.

Unfortunately, POWA lost another member this year. Dale Miller, a member since 2010 passed away while deer hunting.

## NEW SUPPORTING MEMBERS

### **Chautauqua County Visitors Bureau**

P.O. Box 1441

Chautauqua Main Gate, Rt. 394

Chautauqua, NY 14722

Contact: R. Andrew Nixon

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

Website: [www.tourchautauqua.com](http://www.tourchautauqua.com)

Phone: 716-357-4569

Sponsor: Doyle Dietz

The Chautauqua CVB can supply a travel guide, informative website, and fishing map for Chautauqua County, NY.



## **Ruffed Grouse Society**

457 McCormick Road

Coraopolis, PA 15108

Contact: Matt Soberg

Email: [matts@ruffedgrousesociety.org](mailto:matts@ruffedgrousesociety.org)

Website: [www.ruffedgrousesociety.org](http://www.ruffedgrousesociety.org)

Phone: 298-232-6227

Sponsor: Tim Flanigan

The Ruffed Grouse Society is a national conservation organization dedicated to preserving sporting traditions by creating healthy forests for ruffed grouse and woodcock.

## NEW ACTIVE MEMBERS

### **Tom Gilmore**

P.O. Box 777

102 Tupelo Trail

Pocono Pines, PA 18350

Email: [tomgilmore2@njudobon.org](mailto:tomgilmore2@njudobon.org)

Phone: 908-420-3336

Sponsor: Alex Zidock

### **Jeff Herman**

3429 Druck Valley Road

York, PA 17406

Email: [jpherman@gmail.com](mailto:jpherman@gmail.com)

Phone: 443-841-0496

Sponsor: Dennis Scharadin

### **Matt Soberg**

451 McCormick Road

Coraopolis, PA 15108

Email: [matts@ruffedgrousesociety.org](mailto:matts@ruffedgrousesociety.org)

Phone: 218-232-6227

Sponsor: Tim Flanigan

# President's Message

by Ralph Martone

On a recent trip to Chautauqua, NY with fellow POWA members Doyle Dietz, Mark Nale, Tom Tatum and Mark Demko I found myself sitting in a ground blind waiting for a flock of turkeys to make an appearance.

A rare moment with no place to go and a "no service" message flashing on my cell phone gave me a chance to look a little deeper into how hectic life had become and take stock of what got me into outdoor writing in the first place. I thought back to the days spent afield; the sights, sounds and unique experiences I encountered while hunting, fishing and camping and the desire to share those experiences with my readers.

But something had changed. I realized that more and more often I was not enjoying the same high-quality experiences that had once ignited a burning desire to share my experiences. It turns out the culprit was my cell phone. The ever-present cellular phone went hunting, fishing and camping with me. The device was a constant reminder of texts that arrived and emails impatiently awaiting a response.

Returning home I decided to act on my newfound knowledge and go 24 hours cell phone-free. Turning off my cell phone and placing it out of sight and out of mind in my top desk drawer I set out to spend the next 24 hours disconnected from the communications portion of the grid.

I chose to spend my first technology-free day sitting at the edge of my favorite wooded ridge overlooking a mature forest with small open meadows in the valley below. At first glance the scene seemed barren and void of life, but sitting long enough allowed my eyes and mind to adjust to nature. Like eyes adjusting to a darkened room, slowly I began to see things that were there all along. It wasn't so much a change in vision, but a change in my sense of time.

In our modern world, things happen in seconds and minutes are long periods of time. In nature, minutes and even hours are just part of the larger fabric of day and night.

I thought about how I would react to turning on the television and having to wait several minutes to see the picture or flipping on a light switch and having to wait a full minute before the light came on before allowing me to enter the room. But nature has the time to wait and more.

A hawk sitting on a fence post waiting for a mole to scurry from one hummock of grass to another is not counting time in minutes or even hours. There is no clock, no passage of time. There is success and food or failure and hunger. There are no manmade periods of time for the hawk. He sits awaiting his next meal with time passing on more earthly terms, the sun appearing above the distant horizon, the sun rising high in the sky, the sun receding and the sun setting below another horizon and then darkness.

But today my time on the mountain was uninterrupted by technology and thus unlimited. I saw a shadow pass as something yet unseen soared high above the forest and meadows below. While I never saw the actual bird, I was witness to its effects on the forest as it passed. The small creatures, chipmunks, squirrels, thrushes and blue jays reacted to the presence of a predator high above. Some scurried for cover. Others barked or trilled a warning. The jays gave voice to the forest, letting all know that something was amiss and danger was about.

All this and more brought me to the edge of my seat. No longer was I staring at forests and meadows. As my sense of time retreated, true nature appeared. Scenes that my mind once lacked the patience to observe began to emerge. It was as if a fog



had slowly begun to lift, replacing a once bland scene with a vibrant tapestry of life.

Below me the valley came alive and slowly hours meant nothing and the day grew old and passed. I was no longer the intruder on the ridge, but part of a rich mosaic of life throughout the valley, on the hillsides and topping the ridges.

It was a wonderful feeling to make the conversion from intruder to an integral part of nature. There was a sense of belonging that had once been lost and now found. Walking out in the blackness of night I vowed to enjoy many more cell phone-free days in the future.

In an effort to better showcase POWA's supporting members, select product reviews will be published in future PowWow newsletters.

If you are a POWA member who is interested in highlighting one of the organization's valued supporters, please submit your article to [powwow@paoutdoorwriters.com](mailto:powwow@paoutdoorwriters.com).

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

## Market News

by Freddie McKnight



**Outside** is a monthly national magazine dedicated to covering the people, sports and activities, politics, art, literature, and hardware of the outdoors. Although features are usually assigned to a regular stable of experienced and proven writers, they're always interested in new authors and their ideas. In particular, they look for articles on outdoor events, regions, and activities; informative seasonal service pieces; sports and adventure travel pieces; profiles of engaging outdoor characters; and investigative stories on environmental issues.

Queries should present a clear, original, and provocative thesis, not merely a topic or idea, and should reflect familiarity with the magazine's content and tone. Features are generally 1,500 to 5,000 words in length. Dispatches articles (100 to 800 words) cover timely news, events, issues, and short profiles. Destinations pieces (300 to 1,000 words) include places, news, and advice for adventurous travelers. Review articles (200 to 1,500 words) examine and evaluate outdoor gear and equipment.

Send queries (not manuscripts) and two or three relevant clips along with a self-addressed stamped envelope to: Editorial Department, Outside magazine, 400 Market St., Santa Fe, NM, 87501. Due to the amount of ideas they receive, they do not have time to respond to each and every query. If interested in your story, they will respond within six to eight weeks.

In each issue of **AMC Outdoors**, two compelling features tell stories about people and places that stimulate readers' curiosity and engage their passion for the outdoors. Features typically are assigned to professional writers six months to a year in advance and are due four months before publication date.

They are always on the lookout for stories that showcase an outdoor activity in a new and exciting way, offer a tangible sense of place and meaning, or profile individuals with unique approaches to conservation in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic. They are interested in stories that lend themselves to

stunning imagery and that feature people of diverse backgrounds and ages sharing their connections to the outdoors and recreation.

While we occasionally accept unsolicited manuscripts, a query letter conveying the tone and scope of a proposed piece is preferred. When submitting ideas, it's important to keep in mind that AMC Outdoors is an association magazine; topics should be of interest to the organization's membership. Looking over several issues, with an eye toward the subject matter and voice, is recommended before drafting your query. They work several months in advance of publication date, which means writers must be writing at least three months in advance of publication (longer for features). Please submit queries with sufficient lead-time for reporting, writing, and editing. Features range from 2,000 to 2,500 words.

Please allow two to four weeks for replies. All queries can be sent to [amcpublishings@outdoors.org](mailto:amcpublishings@outdoors.org) with a subject line referencing the appropriate editor: Features and Reflections: Jennifer Wehunt, editor in chief; Currents and Learn How: Marc Chalufour, senior editor; Voices and Field Notes: Ryan Smith, managing editor.

**Fur-Fish-Game** is a monthly magazine dedicated to serious outdoorsmen of all ages. They purchase around 150 freelance manuscripts a year. General topics include hunting, trapping, freshwater fishing, predator calling, camping, boating, wood crafting and conservation. They prefer "how-to" articles that have a specific slant or theme, typically focused on how to hunt, trap or fish for a species that is popular with everyday outdoorsmen. Other recommended topics include: Hunting dogs, living off the land, and do-it-yourself outdoor projects. Fur-Fish-Game looks for real-life tales of wilderness and adventure. Stories of historic or nostalgic value are also considered, as are unique personal experiences. They do not

publish "where-to" articles and no book, video or product reviews. No fiction, but they consider fictionalized pieces based on real experiences. Features run between 2,000 and 3,000 words. Shorter how-to, humor and human interest articles are also wanted. It is strongly recommended that writers familiarize themselves with the magazine and query story ideas before they begin writing anything intended for Fur-Fish-Game. Unsolicited manuscripts may be rejected unread. Queries need to be more than just topics; they should explain the specific slant or treatment that sets the story idea apart. All manuscripts are submitted on a speculation-only basis, unless otherwise agreed, and should be typed and double spaced. The author's name and address should be the header and all subsequent pages need to be numbered. If you can enclose a CD with digital text file, please do so. But always enclose a printed paper copy of the manuscript. Do not submit a CD alone without paper copy of manuscript, cover letter, etc. If you want anything returned, enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope of sufficient size and postage. Email manuscript submissions may be accepted, but only if the story idea has been queried and approved by the editor. All correspondence should be directed to Editor Mitch Cox, [mitchcox@furfishgame.com](mailto:mitchcox@furfishgame.com).

**North American Deer Hunter Magazine** is an opt-in, online digital magazine devoted to deer hunting across North America and honoring the greatest, most widespread, most challenging of our big game animals. Through the demanding selection of articles and photo images, they strive to provide North America's hunters the most thought provoking and most fulfilling content. The goal is for North American Deer Hunter to become the voice for North America's deer hunting community; to entertain them and keep them informed. Editor is George Gruenefeld, [editor.nadeerhunter@gmail.com](mailto:editor.nadeerhunter@gmail.com).

**On the Water** is always looking for freelance writing and photography for features (1,400-2,000 words) with photo support. Specific audience is slanted toward eastern Pennsylvania. Contact Executive Editor Kevin Blinkoff, [kevin@onthewater.com](mailto:kevin@onthewater.com)

## In Memoriam

### Dale Miller

POWA member Dale Miller passed away in October – during his favorite season of the year. The lion's share of Dale's writing was spiced and sprinkled with family adventures or hunts with friends. And the bow was his weapon of choice. If he were alive and in his stand, he would probably take his umpteenth deer with a bow.

Dale loved archery hunting so much he

helped form a local archery league just to keep in shape year-round. He taught countless young nimrods the finer points of bow and arrow skills. He even served as the president of the Pennsylvania Bow-hunters Association.

A published outdoor writer for over 30 years, Dale took pride in his POWA membership. But I got the sense that he was in awe of outdoor legends ... that he felt his writing might not measure up. Yet,

the last time I saw Dale, he was picking up the first place plaque for his outdoors column at the Pennsylvania Newspaper Association awards banquet.

Dale was a Methodist minister for two decades but he felt called to work with at-risk youth and spent the remainder of his professional career lifting up young people. He loved family, friends and archery hunting ... in that order.

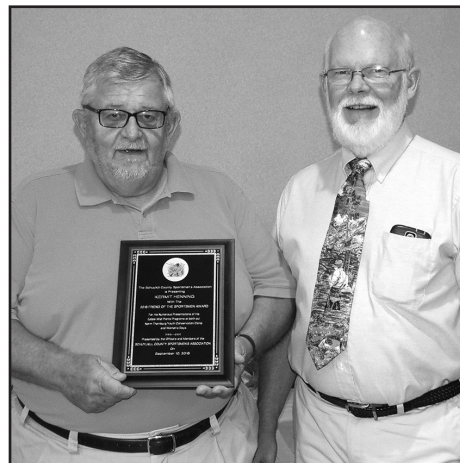
## Member News

# Schuylkill sportsmen honor Henning

Outdoors writer, lecturer and television personality Kermit Henning is the recipient of the 2016 Friend of the Sportsmen Award presented by the Schuylkill County Sportsmen's Association at its banquet held at the Community Fire Company, Landingville.

A retired school teacher, Henning and his wife Jo Ann live in Mechanicsburg and he travels throughout Pennsylvania presenting educational outdoors programs. Most of these are directed to women and youth, and over the years he has often visited Schuylkill County to volunteer his time at such events and has promoted the SCSA with donations and his attendance at the annual banquet.

Henning is an outdoors communicator



Betty Dietz Photo

**Kermit Henning, left, is the recipient of the 2016 Schuylkill County Sportsmen's Association Friend of the Sportsmen Award, which was presented by the SCSA recording secretary Dennis Scharadin at the organization's annual banquet.**

and currently has a program on Channel 7, the Harrisburg ABC affiliate.

A past president of the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association, he currently chairs that organization's committee that awards monetary grants to organizations in support of their outdoors-related educational programs for youth which have benefited both the SCSA as a whole and individual member clubs.

## POWAers named to governor's advisory council

On Oct. 27, Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Wolf announced his choice of 20 people to serve on the Advisory Council for Hunting, Fishing and Conservation.

The council provides a forum in which members can offer recommendations concerning Pennsylvania wildlife, natural resources, and the protection, promotion and enhancement of the cherished outdoor heritage of the Keystone State.

POWA is well-represented among the distinguished council members. Charlie Burchfield, Ben Moyer, Paula Piatt, Michele Kittell and Skip Klinger have been appointed to volunteer in this capacity.

Some council duties include recruiting, screening and recommending nominees for the Fish and Boat Commission and Game Commission boards. Former house member Dan Surra will serve as chair.



## Changes & Corrections

Freddie McKnight has a new email:  
WMOudors31@gmail.com

Todd Puleo has a new email:  
toddpuleo@gmail.com

Ralph Martone has a new email:  
ramartone@comcast.net

Steve Sorensen has a new email:  
steve@everydayhunter.com

## Awards

from page 1

per award is allowed, unless otherwise noted. Edit yourself and only submit your best work. Additional entries will be disqualified.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

envelope or folder.

12. Entries must be postmarked no later than February 18, 2017.

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

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

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

### POWA CORE AWARDS\*

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

**2. Best Newspaper Feature (\$150 and plaque, sponsored by Pennsylvania Hunters Sharing the Harvest)** – Entries must deal with a single topic and be either a single article or a series of not more than 10 articles. *See AWARDS, page 11*

## POWA 65th Anniversary Merchandise



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

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



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

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

Place your orders with  
Executive Director Dennis Scharadin:

P.O. Box 221 / Summit Station, PA 17979  
Phone: 570-739-2085  
Email: [info@paoutdoorwriters.com](mailto:info@paoutdoorwriters.com)

# POWA Craft Award Entry Form

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

Address \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

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. Submit a check or money order made out to "POWA" when submitting the entry form and materials to Brad Isles, awards chairman. Submit THREE copies of each entry unless noted. Call 724-967-2832 with questions.

Send entry form, materials and check/money order made out to "POWA": **Brad Isles**  
147 Swain Hill Road  
Harmony, PA 16037

## CORE AWARDS

### 1. Newspaper Column *(Bob & Linda Steiner)*

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Newspaper Feature *(Pennsylvania Hunters Sharing the Harvest)*

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### 3. Magazine or Regional Newspaper Column *(Gogal Publishing Co.)*

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### 4. Magazine or Regional Newspaper Feature *(Blackpowder Products Inc.)*

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### 7. Best Book Award *(POWA EIC) (Submit one copy.)*

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## SPECIALTY AWARDS

### N/A 1. NRA Best of the Best Award *(National Rifle Association)*

### 2. POWA Pass it on Award *(National Rifle Association)*

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### 3. Wildlife Conservation Partnership Award *(Pennsylvania Game Commission)*

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### 4. Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Raptor Conservation & Eco-Tourism Award *(Hawk Mountain Sanctuary)*

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### 5. Pennsylvania Elk Resource Award *(Keystone Elk Country Alliance)*

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### 6. Action Hunting, Trapping or Fishing Photograph *(POWA EIC) (Submit one original tear sheet or exact photocopy.)*

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

OVER...

Clip and return

Clip and return

**7. Best Conference Related Material Award (POWA EIC)**

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**8. Published Pennsylvania Fishing or Boating Related Newspaper Photo, Color Or Black & White  
(Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission) (Submit one original tear sheet or an exact photocopy.)**

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**9. Don Heckman – Tell the Story Award (Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Foundation)**

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Handloading Promotion for Broadcast Media (Redding Reloading)**

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**11. Handloading Promotion for Electronic Media (Redding Reloading)**

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**12. Handloading Promotion for Print Media (Redding Reloading)**

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**13. Outdoor Blog Entry (POWA EIC)**

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**14. Pennsylvania Trappers Award (Pa. Trappers Association)**

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**15. Trout and the Coldwater Resource (Pa. Council of Trout Unlimited)**

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**16. White-Tailed Deer (POWA EIC)**

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**17. Wildlife Art (Ned Smith Center for Nature and Art) (Submit one entry and it must be present at the spring conference.)**

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**18. Young Trees Habitat (Allegheny Chapter of the Ruffed Grouse Society)**

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**19. Youth Fishing (Expositions, Inc.)**

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**20. Youth and the Hunting/Shooting Sports (National Shooting Sports Foundation)**

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.**

## Awards

from page 8

than five articles about a single topic. The publication frequency example for the Best Newspaper Column applies here as well.

### **3. Best Magazine or Regional Newspaper Column (\$150 and plaque, sponsored by Gogal Publishing Co.)**

– A “regional newspaper” is one such as Pennsylvania Outdoor News, which publishes other than daily or weekly. The subject must be primarily of interest to Pennsylvanians or at least be applicable to Pennsylvania. For example, a column on buck hunting is appropriate even if it doesn’t mention Pennsylvania, as long as it is about white-tailed deer and the reader can relate the article to a comparable experience in Pennsylvania. A similar column on mule deer, however, would not be acceptable. It need not be an outdoor publication, as long as the entry qualifies. To meet the “column” requirement, the author’s work must appear in the same publication at least six times each year.

### **4. Best Magazine or Regional Newspaper Feature (\$150 and plaque, sponsored by Blackpowder Products Inc.)**

– The above definition of a regional newspaper applies here as well. The subject must be of primary interest to Pennsylvanians or at least be applicable to Pennsylvania. The entry may be a single article or a series of not more than three articles dealing with a single subject.

### **5. Best Published Newspaper Photo, Color or Black & White (\$150 and plaque, sponsored by POWA Past Presidents)**

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

### **6. Best Published Magazine Photo, Color or Black & White (\$150 and plaque, sponsored by POWA EIC entries)**

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

### **7. Best Book Award (alternates with Best Radio/TV Program Award) (\$150 and plaque, sponsored by POWA EIC entries)**

– These two awards alternate each year. Entries for each award, when offered, must have been published in the preceding two years (In this case, between Jan. 1, 2015 through Dec. 31, 2016). 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 the National Rifle Association)**

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

appeared as published. Such entries will be disqualified. The entry must include the name of the publication and the title of the story (headline) which was used, if applicable. In addition an explanation of the use of the art to illustrate an article, column, etc., may be included, but is not mandatory. Submit one original tear sheet or an exact photocopy.

## **POWA SPECIALTY AWARDS**

### **1. NRA Best of the Best Award (\$500 and plaque, sponsored by the National Rifle Association)**

– This award will be chosen from the other award-winning entries (article, blog, or TV/Radio program) that promotes the hunting and the shooting sports. Winning entries from the other categories will be automatically entered based on criteria and judges’ decisions.

### **2. POWA Pass it on Award (\$300 and plaque, sponsored by the National Rifle Association)**

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

### **3. Wildlife Conservation Partnership Award (\$250 and plaque, sponsored by the Pennsylvania Game Commission)**

– The award will go to the best entry from any and all media that recognizes difference-making partnerships among conservation organizations –including state or federal agencies. The partnership must demonstrate that together resources and talents can be leveraged to better accomplish conservation goals and initiatives. All entries must be about Pennsylvania projects and must have been published in the preceding year.

### **4. Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Raptor Conservation and Eco-Tourism Award**

**Continued on next page...**

**Continued from previous page...**

**(\$200 and a plaque, sponsored by Hawk Mountain Sanctuary)** – This award goes to the POWA member with the best published piece in any media that promotes the mission of Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, its programs and services, or the Sanctuary as a raptor conservation organization and outdoor eco-tourist destination. All entries must have been published or aired within the past 12 months. Articles may include: subjects featuring the science of raptor migration; features on studies of raptors in Pennsylvania or northeastern North America and using Hawk Mountain scientists as a source expert; any feature on a special programs or service offered at Hawk Mountain Sanctuary; features on the history of Hawk Mountain Sanctuary; or an outdoor travel pieces on the Sanctuary as a destination in any season. The mission of Hawk Mountain Sanctuary is to conserve birds of prey worldwide by providing leadership in raptor conservation science and education, and by maintaining Hawk Mountain Sanctuary as a model observation, research and education facility. [www.hawkmountain.org](http://www.hawkmountain.org).

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

**6. Best Action Hunting, Trapping Or Fishing Photograph (\$150 and plaque, sponsored by POWA EIC entries)** – This award goes to the best published color or black and white photograph that depicts action directly involving hunting or fishing. The photo must include a person,

as well as a game fish, bird or mammal. Examples – a hunter shooting at a flushing grouse or an angler landing or playing a bass. Static trophy or hero shots or photos of a just dog pointing would NOT qualify. Submit one copy of the photograph exactly as it appeared in the publication, or an exact photocopy. Magazine, newspaper, calendar, book or digital publication is acceptable as long as the photographer received remuneration for his or her work or if the photo was donated to a non-profit organization.

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

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

**9. Don Heckman – Tell the Story Award (\$150 and plaque, sponsored the Pennsylvania Chapter of the NWTFF)** – This award recognizes the top print or electronic media story that focuses on wild turkey management.

**10. Handloading Promotion Award for Broadcast Media (\$150 and plaque,**

**sponsored by Redding Reloading)** – The purpose of this award is to assist in the promotion of the benefits of metallic cartridge reloading or handloading. It must be a broadcast work on either commercial television or radio format, not webcast. It will be awarded on the basis of the best communication of the inherent benefits to shooters and hunters presented by the practice of reloading their own ammunition for any shooting sports activity using a metallic cartridge. How-to, general educational and hunting success stories where reloading is a major theme are acceptable.

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

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

**13. Outdoor Blog Entry Award (\$150 and a plaque, sponsored by POWA EIC entries)** – This award goes to the best blog entry about anything that falls under our umbrella of “outdoors.” This includes hunting, fishing, trapping, canoeing, camping, natural history, conservation, or environmental issues. Submit entry as

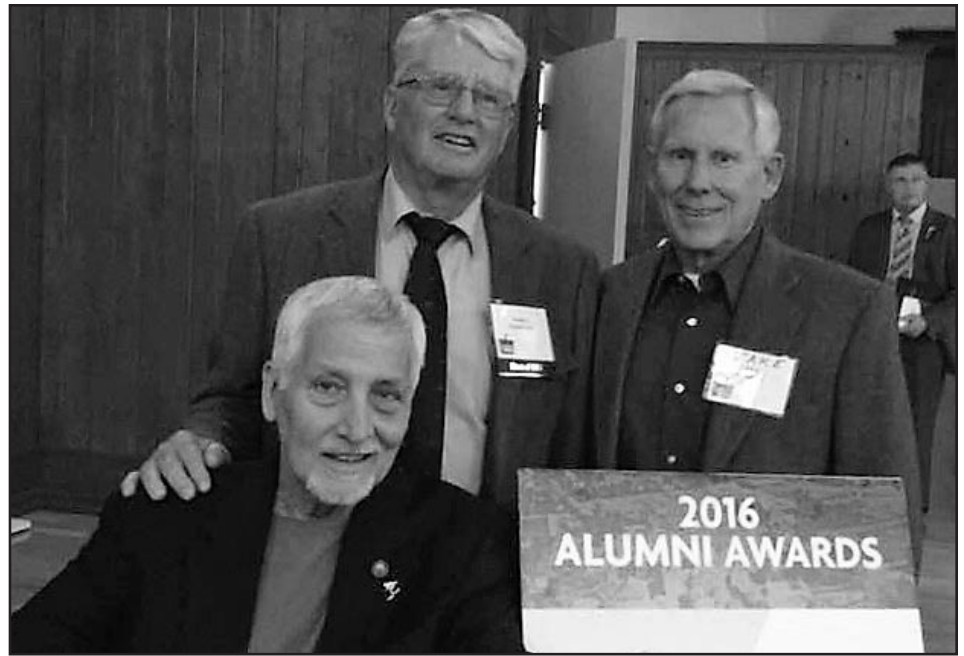
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## Member News



Contributed Photo

POWA members Mike Huff and Linda and Bob Steiner met up at the Sawmill Traditional Archery Festival in Lycoming County in June.



Contributed Photo

Longtime POWA member Bud Cole recently received the Helen G. Brown Honor Award from East Stroudsburg University for lifetime achievement in education and for outdoor writing as an extension to his teaching career. The Brown Award, given annually, recognizes a graduate whose extraordinary accomplishments in life have brought honor to ESU and pride to alumni. Helen G. Brown established the university's first outdoor courses and was instrumental in securing the land that now houses the ESU Nature Center and surrounding property. Also pictured are Cole's fraternity brothers Bob Conklin and Jake Jacobi.

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

a .pdf file (no photographs) with a web address that links to the original source. If public access to the original source is no longer available, the entrant should also provide two additional PDF or screen photographs of the blog on the original web page.

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

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

**16. White-Tailed Deer Award (\$150 and plaque, sponsored by POWA EIC entries)** – This award goes to the best published newspaper article, column or magazine article that captures the spirit of

the white-tailed deer, hunting whitetails, deer management or deer habitat in Pennsylvania. The topic could be as far-ranging as deer habitat improvement, natural history, rattling or even a nostalgic piece about a deer hunting camp.

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

meeting spot for judging. Winners will be announced at the banquet.

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

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

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

# Meeting Minutes

## POWA Membership Meeting

Saturday, May 14, 2016

Sayre Sportsmen's Club

Sayre, PA

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m. by President Don Knaus.

Present: President Don Knaus; 1st VP Ralph Martone; 2nd VP Brad Isles; Executive Director Dennis Scharadin; Directors Ben Moyer, Mark Demko, Doyle Dietz and Paula Piatt; Secretary Mary Hosmer; Treasurer John Allen and Supporting Member Representative Connie Yingling. Absent but excused was Director Bud Cole.

\**Motion* to accept minutes of the December 16, 2015 Board of Directors meeting. Bob Clark/Alex Zidock. Approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** As published on page 5 in the Spring 2016 issue of *PowWow*.

\**Motion* to accept the Treasurer's Report. Bob Clark/Alex Zidock. Approved.

**Executive Director's Report:** The 2016 membership renewal, Active, Associate, and Life, has been completed and the current membership totals 155. We had three members drop their membership due to retirement and eight not reply to the renewal notices. 2016 renewal notices were sent to the membership twice and an email reminder was sent those that had not renewed prior to the cutoff date, February 29.

We had seven new members pass through screening. Five became Active members. One Associate fulfilled his requirements for Active membership. One candidate applied for Associate membership.

The renewal for the Supporting membership is currently taking place. Renewal notices were sent to 87 Supporting members. So far, only 52 have renewed but those who haven't renewed are being contacted. Currently, we have 89 Supporting members.

Since our last May meeting, we've had three new Supporting members. One has become a new Supporting member since the last *PowWow*. Hopefully, we can continue this trend and keep in mind, as of the last Board conference meeting, our new mantra is "Bring in two, and it's good for you – a free membership." Membership brochures, both Supporting and Active are available by contacting me. Applications can be found on the website: [www.paoutdoorwriters.com](http://www.paoutdoorwriters.com).

The auction at the Great American Outdoor Show garnered a net total of \$5,865.34. Thanks have to go to former member Doug Leiby, Charlie Burchfield, Dave Ehrig, Bill Ferris, Don Knaus, Ken Maurer, Mark Nale, B.J. Small, Jeff Woleslagle, John Allen, Wayne Brensinger, Betty

and Doyle Dietz, Jim Fitser, Tyler Frantz, Mike Gogal, Harry Guyer, John and Steven Stoy, and volunteer auctioneer Clyde De Hart, Jr., for making it a success. The proceeds will be distributed as grants amongst organizations who are holding outdoor programs for youth.

A site has been visited and a contract signed for our 2017 conference. The site is the Holiday Inn Harrisburg/Hershey at Grantville. The dates are May 18-21, 2017.

New Supporting member: Kahr Firearms Group, 104 Kahr Avenue, Greeley, PA 18425; Contact: Frank Harris at [frankharris@kahr.com](mailto:frankharris@kahr.com), 845-652-8535. Sponsored by Alex Zidock.

New Active member: Glenn Helgeland, 10459 N. Wauwatosa, Mequon, WI 53097; Contact: [glenn.helgeland@gmail.com](mailto:glenn.helgeland@gmail.com), 262-242-3530. Sponsored by Dennis Scharadin.

New Associate member: Ryan Richard Nych, 535 North Stonebase Road, Mercer, PA 16137; Contact: [ryanmychwrites@gmail.com](mailto:ryanmychwrites@gmail.com), 724-977-3420. Sponsored by Ben Moyer.

**President's Report:** Reflections... As a long time teacher and coach, I used to reflect on each passing school year and each past athletic season. I would ask myself how I might have taught a given concept better. I also felt good about classroom successes – that light in kids' eyes as they "got it." I mulled over sporting events and, no matter how successful my teams had been, I wondered how I might have made them better. I'd smile at the gangly kid who finally "got it" and won a race. And so, as my one-year tenure as the president of POWA nears a close, I reflect on the past year and POWA activities. As I face the end of my tenure as POWA president, I'm a little like that mid-May high school senior. I can't wait for "graduation" but at the same time, I'll miss all the flurry and activity. We kept the ship afloat and made some progress here and there. Our membership is up in most areas. We continued to work on the Board Directives – changing, adding, deleting and streamlining them in order to keep up with the technological explosion. All of this is good for the association.

I worried about following Mark Nale as POWA president. Mark was often ahead of the pack, pulling us along as we faced various administrative hurdles. His shepherding of the review, revision and improvement of the POWA Constitution and By-Laws was exceptional. His quiet and efficient handling of several tough personnel issues spoke to his proficiency with "people skills." So thanks Mark, for leaving the office in such good shape.

I was glad to have Dennis Scharadin as executive director. He brought 40 years' worth of POWA membership and experience to the fore. And this is his second stint as the executive director of our association. He knows the POWA membership, he knows the rules and he knows how things get done. He is a stickler for following proper procedure which is just what the maverick in me needed. Thanks Dennis for your help, your encouragement and your occasional yank on the reins.

So many people help run this organization. Many of those are behind the scenes and, if I try

to list all, I will surely inadvertently miss someone. Just know that POWA has an accomplished professional CPA in treasurer, John Allen. We've had three super secretaries in a row and our current secretary, Mary Hosmer is top notch. Past secretary Mary Linkevich has been a Godsend when it comes to conference-call Board meetings. *PowWow* editor Brad Isles amazes me. Nick Sisley has made hosting a POWA conference a cinch for the last few years. Our remarkable Board members don't get the praise they deserve. Paula Piatt designed our recruiting brochure for both active members and supporting members and they have proven to help with our membership. And, though we seem to be a group of old-timers, I am pleased to welcome some new faces to leadership and service positions. We continue to work on an effective Facebook page. All of this is good for the association.

It has been an honor to head up POWA as president. I was privileged to have been asked to serve. I want to thank all of you who tendered reassurance, help and support this year. It was appreciated more than I can say. Let's make it a goal to improve POWA by recruiting more members. Remember, "Recruit two; it's good for you." Next year's dues are ZERO. I look forward to this year's conference 2016 in Sayre, PA. Nick Sisley and Paula Piatt have worked diligently to make it a success. Nick and Paula did it all and just kept me informed. See you there. It should be noted that Nick says that next year's conference in Grantville will be his last to work as coordinator. That is a MAJOR loss. We all owe Nick a hearty thank you.

At our awards banquet, I will turn the gavel over to Ralph Martone. Ralph has been busy this past year as the president of the Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation. That honor and duty fulfilled, he stands ready to serve POWA as eagerly as he piloted NWTF. And I hope he has as many eager volunteers step up to help as he had at NWTF. I ask the POWA membership to lend a hand to Ralph when needed and offer the same support that was offered to me. Thanks again.

\**Motion* to accept Officers' Reports. Ben Moyer/Tim Flanigan. Approved.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Awards:** Brad Isles – The number of Excellence in Craft award categories increased for the fourth straight year. Members were offered 27 total award categories – eight core awards and 19 specialty awards, which represents an increase from eight and 17 last year. Total number of entries was consistent with last year's numbers. Winners will be announced at the Spring 2016 conference. We lost BassPro as the Pass it On Award sponsor, though the award entry fees will be able to absorb the setback. The major new award this year is the NRA Best of the Best Award.

**Awards Review:** No report.

**Constitution & Bylaws:** James Fitser – Since there have been no requests from the board there

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has been no activity for the committee.

**Craft Improvement:** Ben Moyer – The committee continues to prospect past issues of *PowWow* for craft improvement articles appropriate for re-printing in future issues. Any POWA members are welcomed and encouraged to suggest past articles for re-print. Please submit reprint suggestions to the committee chair or board liaison by email in PDF format.

**Duties Manual:** Don Knaus completed edits to the manual and handed out copies to members. Send comments to Dennis Scharadin. The conference registration fee is set at \$20 in the Board Directives. Supporting member dues are \$100.

**Editorial Review:** Jessica Welshans replaces Mary Hosmer as board liaison.

**Ethics:** John Swinton – There has been no Ethics actions.

**Finance and Budget:** As posted.

**Historical Archives:** Mark Demko will replace Mary Linkevich for 2017.

**Membership Audit:** No report.

**Membership Development:** No report.

**Member Screening:** Dave Ehrig – We have seven new Active members and one new Associate as listed in the Executive Director’s Report.

**Nominating:** We have a full slate of officers, and nominees for the two Board vacancies.

**Outdoor Education:** Thirteen organizations will receive grants this year. Wade Robertson volunteered to contact Case/Zippo for future donations.

**Outdoor Press Outings:** Mark Demko – Since the last meeting, we had a group of five writers attend a steelhead trip courtesy of Visit Erie. A cast and blast is scheduled for late October in New York. As for other trips, we have many feelers out with the possibility of a flathead catfish trip on the Susquehanna sometime this summer and a possible musky outing on the Niagara River in late summer or fall.

**Past President’s Council:** Chair Rich Faler contacted the past presidents to donate money for the Excellence in Craft Award sponsored by the group.

**Publicity:** No report.

**Scholarship:** John Swinton – For the first time we had no students apply for the scholarship at Penn State. I haven’t heard anything from Lenny Lichvar about the Johnstown Campus of the university of Pittsburgh.

**Sports Shows:** Tom Tatum – The Greater Philadelphia Sports Show again provided a complimentary booth for POWA to distribute materials. Many thanks to supporting member Mike Gogal for his invaluable assistance with assembling and helping man the booth. The show was well attended and should return to the Oaks Center again next February. Kermit Henning brought up that the POWA booth is a good spot for outdoor writers to sell their books, showcase magazine articles, etc.

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

**Supporting Member Screening:** Don Knaus

–Keystone Trails Association, Revo Band Primer 180 and Kahr Firearms Group were screened and approved.

**Supporting Member Recruitment:** No report.

**Technology/Website:** Brad Isles – Website updates continue occur based on submissions and relevant press releases provided by members, supporting members and the executive director, though they have been few and far between recently. Recent photos will be accepted by members who would like to contribute. Members who have a website should check to make sure they are listed on the site. Activity on POWA’s social media channels continued to grow. We are over 400 “likes” on Facebook. Utilizing Facebook and Twitter as resources to connect with prospective members and followers, and publicize activities/events of our active and supporting members, is important.

**Ways & Means:** Ralph Scherder – Contacted Supporting members to solicit donations for the 2016 POWA conference banquet. Please thank them personally. The Keystone Elk Country Alliance has donated a tour of the elk range.

\**Motion* to accept Committee Reports. Paula Piatt/Tom Tatum. Approved.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Commemorative Knives & Mugs:** The knives and mugs recognizing POWA’s 65th anniversary will be available for purchase at the banquet.

**Joint Conference:** The proposed joint conference with other outdoor writer organizations will not happen.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Non-Taxable Status for POWA:** Ralph Martone will check into getting the correct forms completed for POWA.

**Life Member:** Don Knaus made a motion to recognize Nick Sisley with Life Member status.

\**Motion* to award Nick Sisley with Honorary Member status. Knaus/Piatt. Approved.

**Board Directives Update:** As discussed.

**Duties Manual Update:** As discussed.

**2017 Spring Conference:** Tyler Frantz – The conference will be in Grantville May 18-21, 2017 at the Holiday Inn. Excellent trout water, turkey hunting, local breweries, a Smith’s Creek outing for eight, potential for float trips down the Juniata River with kayaks, eco-tour of the Susquehanna River, flathead fishing with the Catfish Queen, visit to the Palmyra Sportsmen’s Club, a spouse’s tour in Hershey, and craft improvement seminars.

**Reinvestment of the NW Savings Bank \$20,000:** John Allen – The interest from this investment goes to the Will Johns Scholarship account. A letter was received to rollover or withdraw the money, and the Board decided to let Allen and Scharadin decide what best Santander-like account to put the funds into.

\**Motion* to adjourn. Knaus, 3:45 p.m.

**Treasurer’s Report**

By John Allen, POWA Treasurer / Expenditures as of Aug. 31, 2016

<b>Income Accounts</b>	<b>Budget 15-16</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>% of Budget</b>
Active Members’ Dues	9,000	8,720	97
Supporting Members’ Dues	8,000	6,900	86
Merchandise Sales	100	1,272	1,272
Craft Award Income	2,000	3,310	166
General Contribution	-	115	-
Spring Conference Income (Net)	3,000	6,648	222
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$22,100</b>	<b>\$26,965</b>	<b>122%</b>
<b>Expense Accounts</b>	<b>Budget 15-16</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>% of Budget</b>
Executive Dir. Stipend	9,000	9,249	103
Pow Wow (Print/Edit)	4,500	3,573	79
Member Awards	3,200	5,100	159
Membership Directory	1,800	270	15
Plaque Expenses	600	1,907	318
Office Expenses	750	1,083	144
Postage, General	800	726	91
Insurance	525	502	96
Marketing	500	-	-
Merchandise Expense	-	2,602	-
Credit Card Fees	150	122	81
Professional Fees	100	100	100
Website Expenses	100	-	-
Miscellaneous	75	-	-
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$22,100</b>	<b>\$25,234</b>	<b>114%</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$1,731</b>	

Cash Accounts as of Aug. 31, 2016: General Fund, \$27,687; Youth Education Fund, \$2,255; Scholarship Fund, \$56,173; Jacquelin Knight CD, \$14,369; Emergency Fund, \$9,186; Northwest CD, \$20,000. Total Cash Accounts: \$129,670.

## **Award winner...**



This photo by Harvey Bauer won the Critics' Choice Best of Show Award in the Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation's photography contest this summer. "Raccoon Reflections" was taken at Clear Creek State Park.



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