



POWVOW

Bimonthly newsletter of the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association

April / May 2005

Photo by Tim Flanigan

**A beauty? If you think so,
then the POWA spring
conference is
for you!**



**Join us
May 19 - 22
in the
Poconos**

Double-size your conference ...come early!

Report and invitation by JoAnne and Alex Zidock

I'm not an "I told you so" kind of guy, but I told you so. Way back when, I told you that this year's spring conference was going to be a sell-out and, by the way things look now, we're just hoping to have enough rooms to handle our group. If you have not registered, do it now. The Pocono Manor Golf Resort and Spa does have two other groups there on our weekend, so when it gets down to the wire, rooms may be going at a premium. Register late and, if you get a room, you may have to stay in a building away from the conference center.

Our executive director, **Eileen King**, has invited members of other outdoor writer groups to attend our conference and many supporting members are taking advantage of the opportunities this Pocono conference has to offer.

Here's the way things are shaping up. On Thursday, May 19, the Waltons and the Sows will begin manning the registration desk in the afternoon to accommodate those early arrivals that want to take full advantage of what the Poconos has to offer. We're going to try to open the hospitality room by 4 p.m. so members and spouses will have a place to meet and get together. Later that evening, from 6 p.m. on, we'll begin to put final plans together with area personnel for those who want to turkey hunt, go shad fishing or trout fishing.

John Punola will conduct a shad fishing seminar on Thursday night at 8 p.m. A.J. Shoemaker will be on hand to talk to those interested in going on a mule ride with his **Pocono Adventures on Mules**, and other guides will be available to set up times for the pre-conference activities on Friday. A.J. is offering both members and spouses the opportunity to ride mules on Friday.

On Saturday he's offering a mule-drawn carriage ride for spouses, which includes lunch at the Memorytown Tavern and shopping at the Memorytown stores. After that, spouses can visit the Outlet stores that are just a few minutes away by car. If anyone -- man or woman -- wants to take advantage of the wonderful spa on the property, you'll probably need an advance appointment. For a booklet of services and prices, please contact Alex or JoAnne and they will send you the information.

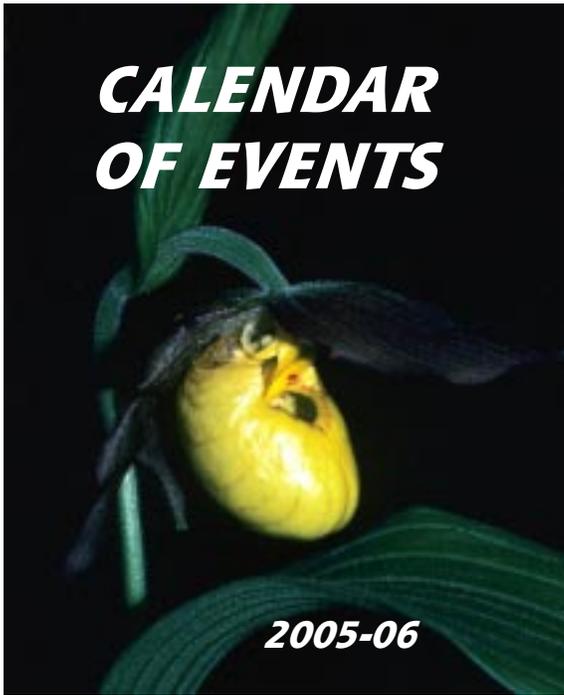
While there will be specific sponsors for each evening of the hospitality room, our good friend of "Nutty Irishman" fame, Ed Matheny, has agreed to be the official "ice breaker" each night in the hospitality room.

Friday's pre-conference activities are set up in such a way that if you want to "officially" sign up for a morning activity, like sporting clays (bring your own gun -- shells will be provided by **Winchester**) or trout fishing, you will also be able to get a mule ride in the afternoon, or catch some late afternoon hours on the Delaware River shad fishing.

From Friday night, when the **Pocono Mountains Vacation Bureau** and Pittsburgh 2005, The CITGO Bassmaster Classic (**ESPN Outdoors / BASS**) will welcome us with an abundant barbecue on the sprawling grounds of the resort, to the final awards night banquet, the cost of all meals is covered, so you'll actually save money on food by coming to the conference that weekend instead of staying home. At the same time, we'll feed your brain with ideas that will make you money. On Saturday

(continued on page 7)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Yellow lady's-slipper – photo by Tim Flanigan, taken at the spring 1999 conference breakout.

2005-06

April 1: Deadline for Nominating Committee to choose candidates for 2005-06 elections. Election petition process begins (details this issue on p. 3 and in POWA Constitution, Article V).

April 22: Woolrich 175th Anniversary Tour for POWAers. Contact Dave Staples, 610-258-5408, for more details.

May 1: Deadline for supporting members to pay their 2005 dues.

May 15: Deadline for 2005-06 election petitions to be mailed to Exec. Director Eileen King.

May 19-22: Spring conference, Pocono Manor. Co-chairs, JoAnne and Alex Zidock. Host hotel – Pocono Manor Golf Resort and Spa.

June 15: Deadline for Treasurer to mail 2005-06 election ballots to all active members.

June 15: Deadline for Ways & Means Chairman Jerry Bush to receive entries in the 2005 "Supporting Members Favorite Photo Contest." Entry information in last two PowWow issues and on page 17.

June 18: Pennsylvania Youth Hunter Education Challenge, Scotia Range, State College. Contact: Keith Snyder, Pennsylvania Game Commission, 717-787-7015.

June 18-21: OWAA Annual Conference, Madison, Wisconsin. Contact: Eileen King, 814-364-9557.

June 30: Deadline for Youth Mentor Award nominations to be mailed to committee chairman Charlie Burchfield. Form in previous two issues and on POWA web site.

July 29-31: 2005 CITGO Bassmaster Classic, Pittsburgh. Contact ESPN Outdoors/BASS at 334-551-2368.

July 31: Deadline for individual members to return 2005-06 election ballots.

August 1: Deadline for 2005 Youth Outdoor Education Fund grant requests to be mailed to committee chairman Kermit Henning.

October 20-23: Fall conference, Johnstown. Co-chairmen, Joe Gorden and Len Lichvar. Host hotel – Holiday Inn. POWA's 55th anniversary.

Spring & Fall 2006: Conference sites open. If you would like to "show off" your area of the state, contact ED Eileen King for details.

Change in POWA Board: Bob Ballantyne will serve the remaining term of director Bob Sopchick, who resigned his seat. The board met Saturday, March 19 for its Winter Interim Meeting, and the minutes will be in the next PowWow. We'll try to get them on the web site prior to the spring meeting for your review; they will also be posted at the conference.

PowWow

APRIL / MAY 2005

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POWA Executive Director

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President - JEFF MULHOLLEM

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1st V.P. - RUSS ENGLEHART

2nd V.P. - LINDA STEINER

Secretary - RON STEFFE

Treasurer - JOHN STREET

Board Chair - DENNIS SCHARADIN

Board of Directors (term ending):

BOB FRYE (2005); RON TUSSEL (2005);

FREDDIE McKNIGHT (2006); JOHN

TAYLOR (2006); CHARLIE BURCHFIELD

(2007); BOB BALLANTYNE (2007).

Sup. Mbr. Rep. - CONNIE YINGLING,

Maryland Office of Tourism Development

Parliamentarian - JOHN SWINTON

POWA Historian - GEORGE DOLNACK

PowWow Editor - LINDA STEINER



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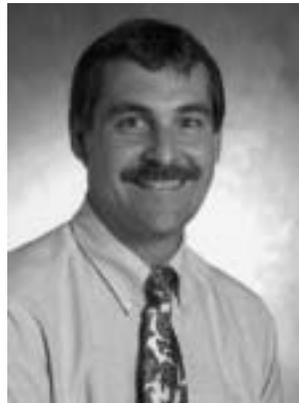
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ballot with quality candidates, but, like his predecessor past president **Mike Bleech**, Tim reports that it is becoming more and more difficult to get POWA members to commit time to serving on the board or as vice president and eventually president.



The reality is that POWA is having more and more trouble getting members to commit to much of anything.

Conference chairman is a

good example. It has always been difficult to persuade members to chair conferences, but it is now so hard that a discussion is slated for the March 19 interim board meeting about a little-known clause in our duties manual that calls for the First Vice President to be conference chairman. We may have to invoke that obscure rule because after the fall 2005 conference, we haven't been able to line up a conference chair.

Another example of member apathy, in my opinion, is the Monroeville outdoors show booth. We finally gave up trying to staff it this year and turned the free booth over to the show promoter, who promptly sold the space. Now I would be the first one to admit that I'm not sure if a booth at that show did the association any good, but regardless, it is likely gone forever now. I have never been able to figure out why the booth works so well in Harrisburg, but not near Pittsburgh.

There are, however, a few good, recent examples of members doing great things for the organization. The group that handles the auction at the Eastern Sports and Outdoor Show under the guidance of **Kermit Henning**, auction chairman, raised a whopping \$8,025.30 in February (see page 18) and the group that handled the auction at the Lehigh Valley Outdoor Show in early March, led by **Mike Watson**, also generated a hefty donation to our education fund of \$3,048.00. Congratulations and thanks to all involved.

The way we are going, we may have to ask Kermit and Mike to be board members and conference chairs, too.

This has been a fairly uneventful winter for the association. Still, in the absence of controversy and upheaval, there have been developments members should be interested in.

First, treasurer **John Street**, who only agreed to serve another year as our main money manager due to my shameless arm twisting, decided his time was better spent caring for his elderly father and reluctantly resigned. Although we hate to see John drop out of POWA leadership for awhile, we concur with his decision. Family has to come first, and there will be time for other presidents later to prevail upon John to bring his considerable talents to bear on our association's finances.

John worked with Executive Director **Eileen King** the past few years to bring POWA's bookkeeping out of the 1950s paper ledger era to modern, computer-driven financial management. I appointed a very competent **Rob Hilliard** of Beaver County to finish out the year as treasurer, and we are convinced that Rob will follow in John's footsteps.

Second, recently-elected Director **Bob Sopchick** resigned from the board due to unexpected demands on his time from a business project. Bob is another respected, talented individual whom I expect to see return to POWA leadership. In his place, I appointed **Bob Ballantyne** of Montgomery County to the board. That was an easy choice — Bob was the best director I ever served with in my two stints on the board. His steady, no-nonsense approach to dealing with issues — should any rear its head — is good for the association. You can always rely on an ex-Marine!

And like the Marines, POWA is looking for a few good men — or women — from within its ranks to step forward and get involved in the leadership of the association. Nominating committee chairman and past president **Tim Flanigan** reports that his panel was able to fill the upcoming officers

Chairman Tim Flanigan announces that the 2004-05 Nominating Committee has completed its work.

Nominee information request forms have been mailed to a slate of four prospective Board members and the candidates for First Vice President, Second Vice President and Treasurer for 2005-06.

Note: The current First Vice President is the President-Elect for next year; the current President moves to the position of Chairman of the Board.

Voting will take place by mail. The Treasurer will mail election ballots to all ACTIVE members by June 15.

Members should also be aware that petition candidates will be accepted beginning April 1 and for 45 days thereafter. For details on the petition process and the POWA election, see Article V, Elections, in the POWA constitution, in your membership directory. -PW-



You are invited to attend Woolrich's 175th Anniversary Tour Friday, April 22

POWAers have been invited to attend Woolrich's 175th anniversary tour on April 22. Please watch your mailboxes for the official invitation. The schedule is:

9:30 - 9:45 a.m. -- Writers arrive at Woolrich.

10 - 11 a.m. -- 175th Anniversary/Product Information Review.

11 - 11:45 a.m. -- Plant Tour of Woolrich's Woolen Mill.

11:45 a.m. -- Reassemble for Presentation of \$50 Woolrich Store Gift Cards and Lunch Ticket at Woolrich Cafe.

-- Members free to leave following lunch and shopping.

For more information, contact Dave Staples, Images Group, 610-258-5408, imagespr@cs.com



One of the hardest steps to good writing is editing. Most of us go through a half dozen or more drafts to produce a finished piece (and those who don't, should). Going through the rewrites, giving our copy a good, critical eye, becomes harder and harder with each read. This is often because we tend to read into the copy more than what's actually there.

The key is to learn how to read our manuscript as if we're reading it for the first time, with a mind-set that we know absolutely nothing else about the subject/story other than the words we're looking at.

Following are some common examples of how we can make our writing a little better if we just sit back and take a fresh look at what our words are really saying. Considering each of these in its own right is great, but they should also get you to thinking about other words and phrases you can eliminate to make your writing more precise.

Let's start with an easy one:

1. Front shoulder

I can't begin to tell you how often I've read about a deer being shot in the front shoulder. I can tell you how often I've read about a deer being shot in the rear shoulder.

2. "A number of"

This phrase shows up everywhere, and it's as useless as any combination of words can be. There literally is no beginning or end to what "a number of" might mean. Use, "a few," "several," "a couple dozen," "scores" "hundreds," even "countless"; whatever is appropriate.

3. Another number problem

"Tommy has been hunting since he was 12, and he had never seen such a buck." Okay. If you're Tommy, you know how old you are. And if you're interviewing Tommy or have a picture of him, you have at least a good idea of what "hunting since he was 12" might mean. But to the poor reader who has only the words to go by, Tommy might be 13 or he may be 83. Makes a difference. Same with, "I've been hunting all my life and" These are the sort of mistakes that

can get by us when we're too close to our copy, reading more into it than is actually there. Give the reader a reference point.

4. Exclamation marks

I'll never be the editor my predecessor **Bob Bell** was. He claims he made it though his entire career without allowing one exclamation point to get into Game News. So far in my career, I think

I've used two. I hope no POWAer would resort to using more than one exclamation point at the end of a sentence!!!

When going over your copy, if you find exclamation points ending every sentence or every paragraph, take a deep breath and start over. To convey excitement, try to do it with words, not exclamation marks. Short sentences, with just nouns and verbs, are often a good way to pick up the pace.



**GIVING
YOUR
COPY THE
CRITICAL EYE**

by Bob Mitchell

5. Using quotes for emphasis

Along with quoting dialog or passages verbatim, quote marks can also be used to introduce a word or phrase not being used in its literal sense. Too often, though, I see quote marks used to suggest emphasis, or as a cop-out for not knowing the right word.

6. "Thing"

Every time you come across this word, try to replace it with one more specific.

7. Heard the sounds of

"Heard" almost always will suffice; much like "in order to" can most often be replaced by "to."

8. Quality. When it comes to writing, I'm a conservative, and one example is how I treat the word, "quality." I feel it's too often used by itself to mean that something is good. And I'll admit, some of the newest dictionaries accept such a use.

To me quality remains a measure of degree. We have good quality, bad quality, poor quality, top quality, all sorts of quality. By my way of thinking, a "quality" product or experience packs the same punch as

saying it's "temperature" outside. Good quality. Bad quality. Hot. Cold.

9. Unique

Another example of my conservatism. I consider "unique" as an absolute term, meaning "only" or "one of a kind." Instead of "most unique," "more unique" or "very unique," come up with a more accurate term, and reserve unique for when it applies — then it's perfect.

10. Were able to

"We were able to climb to the top of the mountain in only 20 minutes" doesn't mean you did. In nearly every instance, "we were able to" is not necessary. Change to, "We climbed the mountain in only 20 minutes."

11. Legal

Legal shooting hours. First legal buck. Sure, when we talk about legal shooting hours, we don't mean to suggest that hunters will be out during illegal shooting hours, but that's what the phrase "legal shooting" suggests. Same with "legal buck" and "honest sportsman." Think about how your words may be interpreted, especially by nonhunters. "Shooting hours" and "first buck" rarely need to be qualified by "legal," nor do "hunter" and "sportsmen" need to be qualified by "honest." If you think they do, replace with "guy" or "individual."

In the same vein, I refrain as much as possible from using the term "successful" as meaning a hunt in which an animal is killed, and the word "weapon" in reference to a hunting arm. I trust we all agree a hunt can be successful without an animal being killed, so let's write that way, and let's reserve "weapon" for military related uses.

12. Harvest

Some critics claim that the word "harvest" is a euphemism to couch what we do. I don't agree. In my writing and editing, I do not have individual hunters harvesting animals. We kill them, shoot them, bag them (if they're small), drop them, whatever.

"Harvest" is a great term, though, for describing what hunters as a group do, or what the Game Commission tries to achieve when settings seasons and bags and license allocations, and that is making the most of those excess numbers of animals Mother Nature produces every year.

I hope these give you an idea of what to watch for on that last look before you seal the envelope or hit the "send" button. Ultimately, our goal as writers should be to convey our thoughts as clearly as possible to our readers, and the best way to do that is to keep our writing as tight and as accurate as possible.

-PW-

"How do I find something to write about?"

Tips for weekly newspaper columnists and others sometimes stumped for words -- by H. Robert Myers

"Wow! I must be getting old." The revelation hit me, as I surveyed the busy writers at the Franklin News-Herald, that I have been associated with the paper longer than anyone in the room. Full-time employees disappeared as transfers, death and firings weeded out their ranks until, with 26 years of writing my outdoor column, I'm at the top of the benefitless seniority heap.

What's the secret of producing over 1,350 weekly columns with over a million words? I'm confident you've heard this before, but it is critical to being published. "Write, write, write" should echo through every would-be newspaper columnist or magazine contributor's consciousness and sometimes even dreams.

Thousands of people have taken writing courses in college and are confident at making sentences and conveying thoughts. I'm sure many of them are better writers than we are, but the problem is they don't, we do. Whether laziness, fear or some other roadblock prevents them from taking quill in hand, so to speak, the fact is they won't be published. In order to be a writer you must continuously write, be rejected and write again.

A columnist with a deadline is not unlike the YMCA member going to the gym routinely. The exercise gets the (creative) blood flowing, toning your (literary) muscles. But how do you come up with something to write about every week?

Over the years I've built up a network of experts (not necessarily professionals) on just about every species of wildlife and outdoor-related subject. I'm an expert on practically nothing, but can contact these people for information and occasionally use their quotes to strengthen an article.

Visit local, state and federal agencies in your area, introducing yourself. Information officers are usually thrilled to find an outlet for their outdoor news items that the mainstream press overlooks. Look for press releases with a local connection and expand on them. Include an opinion from someone who may have a differing view on the subject. Ask the information officer to alert you to anything "newsy" planned in your area, such as otter releases, forest insect trapping or stream shocking.

Business cards, complete with what you do, telephone number, e-mail address, and postal address are invaluable. Leave them at conservation agencies, sporting goods stores and with outdoor enthusiasts. You'll be surprised at the number of calls the cards generate, providing article fodder.

If you are fortunate to get a column, ask to have your photo printed each week with it. Of course it's an ego inflator to have strangers recognize you, but it is a helpful tool in generating more writing ideas. For some reason, strangers are not shy about approaching a writer seen in a paper every week. They will treat you as an old friend, even though you've never met.

Anything making you visible as a writer will draw people having stories, tips and experiences -- some valuable for an article, others less than interesting. The POWA shirts and license plates are a good example. I wear a denim POWA shirt to outdoor-related banquets, and it is quick to spark a conversation. Put the POWA license plate in front of your campsite and neighboring campers passing by will stop, eager to tell you about a local bald eagle nest, their favorite bear dumpster or some other gem that can translate into a column or photo opportunity.

However, not all encounters will yield information or are flattering. Some keep your ego in check, and that's a good thing. When I was introduced to a friend's mother who reads my column, she said, "I thought you would be taller," and walked away without another word. Anytime I get too lofty, I recall those words and laugh back to my 5-foot, 9-inch reality. "Do you get paid to write that stuff" is another humbling exchange.

In my opinion, a column should inform and/or entertain. Some outdoor writers make a career out of cutting down the Game Commission or some other agency every week. Most editors will pick up on an ax grinder and drop a column tailored to such a small readership. Opinions are great and I do them occasionally, but don't forget opinions are like ... well ... noses. Everyone has one.

I try to keep my column tailored to local readers, keeping them informed on what's happening, where to go and how to

do it in our area. Even a press release from Harrisburg can be used by explaining how a decision made there will affect sportsmen and naturalists here. I enjoy mentioning names of local residents, especially youths doing something newsworthy in the outdoors.

So what is the key word in this article? That's WRITE. **-PW-**

www.paoutdoorwriters.com
is waiting for you ...



Have you surfed to the POWA web site recently? If you haven't visited for a while, you may want to check things out. We've added a few worthwhile tools that I hope you'll enjoy.

Did you know that the winning images and credits from our POWA photo contests are displayed on our opening page? You know what they say: "A picture truly is worth a thousand words."

We have expanded the "Writer's Resources" page to include links to helpful web sites such as the Quotations and Sayings Data Base; Outdoor Learning Videos of Earth, Space, Wildlife, and Nature; Word of the Day and Quote of the Week; Proverbs Word Reference; What Are They Saying On-line; 10 Tips For Taking Great Pictures; Photo Learning Center; and more.

Do you need a quick link to a supporting member's web site? Simply click on the "Supporting Members" link, which is located on the home page. It's still under construction, but most organizations and their logos are already listed, with more to soon be displayed. The listing, which includes logos, is quite appealing. These link pages are available to anyone who visits our web site.

Are you an active member with a web site? We have a link page for active members, and we try to display a photo of the active member. Contact me, **Jerry Bush**, joutdoors2@msn.com, to have your web site linked to the POWA site. **-PW-**



Pheasants

Forever seeks high-quality, 300 dpi pheasant-hunting-related photos (digital or film acceptable) for covers, photo essays and

spot use in the Pheasants Forever Journal. Prefers wild birds only. Pay is \$500 for covers, \$700 for essays and \$100 minimum for singles. One-time rights are purchased; previously published images are OK. Contact Pheasants Forever Journal, Editor Mark Herwig, 1783 Buerkle Circle, St. Paul, MN 55110, e-mail herwig@pheasantsforever.org, 877-773-2070.



The National Wild Turkey

Federation (NWTf) seeks freelance writers and photographers willing and able to contribute to its new magazine. Aimed at members of the NWTf's Hunting Heritage Program, this magazine will appeal to people interested in hunting and managing their acres for wildlife.

The magazine, similar in concept to NWTf's "Get in the Game" TV series, will show readers how to improve habitat for wildlife, address hunting strategies, and emphasize the importance of sustainable forestry. Articles would range from tips for locating your tree stand, suggestions on how to improve your soil, how to build a duck blind and more. The 64-page magazine will be published biannually.

NWTf purchases first North American serial rights and, in some cases, all electronic rights. To submit photos and article ideas, contact Tammy Sapp at tsapp@nwtf.net.



"Outdoor Life Radio" seeks

script submissions for possible broadcast on this nationally syndicated program. Subject matter ranges from hunting and fishing to hiking, camping and wildlife. Producer Scott Linden needs five two-minute scripts each week. Pays \$30 each script, upon acceptance. Material previously used in another medium is acceptable. For information and samples, e-mail scottlinden@earthlink.net.

FLW Outdoors Magazine,

published eight times annually, is geared toward serious bass, walleye, kingfish and redfish tournament anglers. The magazine currently seeks queries regarding celebrities and their passions for fishing (any species).

Articles should be 600-1,000 words in addition to a short sidebar. Pay is \$500 to \$1,000 per article and \$50 to \$200 per photo depending on the celebrity. Manuscripts must be original works and previously unpublished. Full print and web rights to manuscripts and photographs are purchased. Submissions are acknowledged upon receipt. Queries will be answered as time permits. Queries should be e-mailed to Associate Editor Chris Eubanks at ceubanks@flwoutdoors.com.



The Pointing Dog Journal and The Retriever Journal

seek state correspondents living in each of the major upland bird and waterfowl hunting destination states to supply where-to-go features about their states. These stories would appear in a new magazine, to be launched in July 2005, called The Traveling Wingshooter, but they could be used in either of the other two magazines.

The thrust of The Traveling Wingshooter is toward public-land hunting or hunting on accessible private lands, such as through state walk-in programs, and is geared toward hunters who do not use outfitter or guide services.

Query with a list of story ideas for your state. Pay is \$400-\$450 inclusive of photos for 1,500-1,750 words (include a minimum of four usable photos). Pays on publication unless the story is slated for publication more than four months after acceptance, at which point pay will be within 30 days of acceptance. First North American serial rights are purchased. Mail queries to Steve Smith, editor, The Traveling Wingshooter, 2779 Aero Park Dr., Traverse City, MI 49686. E-mail queries are preferred: Jason Smith, managing editor, e-mail jake@villagepress.com.

Turkey Call/The Caller need managing editor

The National Wild Turkey Federation is seeking an individual to fill a managing editor position with Turkey Call magazine, a bimonthly publication, and The Caller, the NWTf's quarterly membership publication.

The candidate will have strong editing and writing skills with the ability to plan layouts, help select photographs, work with freelance writers and photographers, and proof finished work. Individual should be computer literate; some knowledge of graphic arts programs is a plus. Applicant should possess leadership and organizational skills, be self-motivated and have an excellent knowledge of hunting and conservation. Some travel will be required. Must be willing to relocate to Edgefield, S.C.

If you're highly motivated and excited about sharing the outdoors with a growing number of turkey hunters, please submit your cover letter and resume to Jason Gilbertson at P.O. Box 530, Edgefield, SC, 29824; fax it to 803-637-0034 or e-mail it to jjgilbertson@nwtf.net.

The Commercial Appeal

seeks outdoors reporter applicants who have an interest in hunting and fishing (and other worthy outdoors pursuits). Responsibilities include producing content for a Sunday package weekly, other outdoors-related reporting, increasing the publication's interactivity through its web site and some general assignment reporting. Pay is DOE. Send a cover letter, resume and clips (mostly outdoors related, but mix in some others) to Gary Robinson, executive sports editor, The Commercial Appeal, 495 Union Ave., Memphis, TN 38103. For more information, contact Robinson at 901-529-2352 or robinson@commercialappeal.com.



Invitation to Media Event

Marketing and public relations professionals in the travel industry in Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Washington, D.C. and West Virginia have banded together to form a group called the Mid-Atlantic Tourism Public Relations Alliance - MATPRA. Their mission is to promote the Mid-Atlantic region as a single destination. The second annual media marketplace will be held in Richmond, VA, May 25-27 (see event details at www.matpra.org). Journalists interested having their names submitted for this event may contact POWA member **Connie Yingling of the Maryland Office of Tourism Development** at 410-767-6329 or cyingling@choosemaryland.org. -PW-



Photo by Tim Flanigan

morning we have gathered an all-star cast who will entertain, educate and send you home full of ideas and information that will make your trip to the Poconos well worthwhile.

First up at 9 a.m. we'll have John Riley, President of the Board of the Pennsylvania Game Commissioners. Mr. Riley will NOT talk about the current deer situation; his main thrust will be some history of the Game Commission and other insights and observations he has made along the way.

Riley has been involved statewide in the outdoors for more than 40 years. He had been a long-time officer of the **Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs** and other outdoors-oriented organizations. He actually grew up and lived as a child at the Pocono Manor Golf Resort and Spa.

At 10 a.m. we'll be delighted to listen to **C. Boyd Pfeiffer**, accomplished wordsmith and photographer. He will talk about how to approach an assignment from the standpoint of supplying photographs with the words. Basically, it's a how-to on marrying photographs to a story, article or book. If he has time, Boyd will talk about his observations and insights on what he's learned since he has become involved in digital photography.

At 11 a.m., Pulitzer Prize winner Howell Raines, who, after retiring from The New York Times, moved to the Poconos to be near some of his most-loved trout streams, will take us on a writing journey. Mr. Raines has been the Times' White House correspondent, London bureau chief, Washington editor, editorial page editor and newspaper's editor before retiring a few years ago. An avid and accomplished fly fisherman, Howell wrote "Fly Fishing Through the Mid-life Crisis," and he has just completed his current book, with the working title, "Catch and Release," which is due out in the fall. Raines will read a little from his new book, talk about the process of writing and will allow time to answer questions.

After lunch on the porch of the Rod and Gun Club at Pocono Manor, an Orvis Pro Lodge, our breakout session will allow members and spouses to visit with supporting members and have the fun of breaking some White Flyer clays at the five-stand.

Now put all of that together with other amenities that this early 1900s Pocono Manor resort offers and you can't come up with anything else except that this conference is going to be a "winner" and you don't want to miss it. If you come on Thursday and don't want to take part in any of the planned activities on Friday, you can always take advantage of other options the resort offers, like the on-site Roman-Tuscan design state-of-the-art spa. Maybe you'd like to take a bicycle ride, golf, go to the fitness rooms, horseback ride, take photographs or just stroll on the many roads and trails that surround this 3,500 acre Manor set in the heart of some of the best panoramas in the Poconos. You don't have to leave it to enjoy life!

For spa and other information, please feel free to contact **Alex** or **JoAnne Zidock** toll free at 1-800-FYI-ALEX or by e-mail (Alex) zdockpub@ptd.net or (JoAnne) jozidock@ptd.net.

HOW TO FIND THE POCONO MANOR GOLF RESORT & SPA

From the east: I-80 west to I-380 North. At first exit (Pocono Exit 3), turn right and follow signs to the Manor.

From the south: I-95 North to the Northeast Extension of the PA Turnpike (I-476). North on Turnpike to Pocono Exit 95 to I-80 East to I-380 North. At the first exit (Pocono Exit 3), east on Route 940 and follow signs to the Manor.

From the west: I-80 East to I-380 North. At the first exit (Pocono Exit 3), east on Route 940 and follow signs to the Manor.

From the north: I-81 South to I-380 South to Pocono Exit 3, then east on Route 940, follow the signs to the Manor.

From the northeast: Route 84 West to Route 380 South to Pocono Exit 3. East on Route 940 and follow signs to the Manor.

Need more direction info? Call the resort at 800-233-8150.

-PW-

Supporting Member News

Connie Yingling, Liaison, Maryland
Office of Tourism Development



Git 'er done!

Blue-collar comedian Larry the Cable Guy has lately become a true and noble hero in my world. His trademark phrase "Git 'er done!" has become my rallying cry as I slay the paper monsters running rampant on my desk and throughout my house.

These mythical creatures have long, curvy claws that click ominously as they scuttle about, pointy teeth that they gnash in demented glee, and an insane high-pitched giggle that taunts me as I leave my office at the end of the day, and greets me as I walk into my home in the evening.

Sure, I know this is a highly fanciful exaggeration, but some days it sure doesn't feel too far from the cold, hard truth.

Upon returning to my office from a two-week-long holiday vacation, I determined to get organized, using one of the very best tools available. So I sat down and typed a comprehensive to-do list that would vanquish the jumble on my desk. The list mapped out what needed to be done for the next few months -- conferences to attend, press releases to write, press trips to schedule, phone calls to make, letters to mail -- all made it onto the glowing screen.

Pressing the print button, I felt the thrill of victory in my fingertips, and happily chanted "Git 'er done!" as I walked over to the printer. My euphoria vanished as I saw that my to-do list totaled six-pages, single-spaced, ten point type!

Once I finished hyperventilating, I bravely dug in and began to check off items one-by-one. My POWA tasks were among the first that I tackled. Out-of-state travel forms submitted. Done. Reserve the state van. Done. Make hotel reservation at the Pocono Manor Resort. Done. Pay for conference registration. Done. Red slash marks danced across the page and the army of wounded paper monsters retreated step by step.

But now it's time to call in reinforcements. The help of my fellow supporting members is needed on the following items on the list:

Finish the E-mail Distribution List of Sup- porting

Members, using the 2004 POWA directory and an Excel file that Executive Director Eileen King sent me (thanks, Eileen).

I input e-mail addresses into my Contacts file on Outlook. There are still a couple missing and a few that bounced back from my first message, so if you have an e-mail address and you did not receive an e-mail from me in February, please send information (name, e-mail, company name and phone number) to cyingling@choosemaryland.org. If there are multiple contacts at an organization and not all were contacted, please let me know that also. Since this is a highly economical and immediate form of communication, I will be using the group e-mail list as my primary means of sharing POWA business with fellow supporting members.

Get Input on Column Subjects for PowWow. The supporting member column in PowWow is ours to use as we see fit. What subjects would you like to see in future editions? What information is important to you and to your company? What will help you maximize the myriad benefits of being a supporting member within POWA? Your thoughts and suggestions are most welcome.

Facilitate Breakout Day at POWA Conference. Breakout day is our prime opportunity to present our products and services to the active members of POWA. The property at the Pocono Manor Resort sounds like an ideal setting to actively demonstrate these and more. Yet supporting members have different methods of getting our message to the journalists.

In my case, I'm pitching the many outdoor recreational activities available in Maryland, so a handful of highway maps, a colorful travel guide, a stack of business cards and some crab-themed giveaways are

all I typically take to breakout day.

Because your company may have completely different needs, I'm asking how to make breakout day better for you. For example, two members have already requested side-by-side tables for their exhibits. Call me at 410-767-6329 or e-mail to the address above and I'll work with conference organizers Alex and Joanne Zidock to make this a most productive event.

Via this column, I've now acted on additional items on my to-do list, which by the way, has diminished to four and a half pages since it was created in January. Thanks in advance for your efforts in reducing the list even further. Creepy paper monsters take that! "Git 'er done!"

-- Connie Yingling

Public Relations Coordinator
Maryland Office of Tourism
Development

The Pennsylvania Deer Farmers Association will hold its annual spring meeting on

May 7. The location of this year's event will be the Levi Esh Farm near Newburg, PA (Franklin County).

Attendees will be able to listen to several speakers who are large players in the industry, talk to the many vendors who will have displays set up during the course of the day, and speak with the officers of the organization about issues facing the association within the state.

More information will be forthcoming in the near future on the organization's web site at www.padfa.com.

-- Freddie McKnight

Walker's Game Ear, Inc. is pleased to announce a part- nership with the National Rifle Association (NRA).

As an official hearing protection products licensee of the NRA, Walker's Game Ear, Inc. will offer three NRA licensed products -- the Original Game Ear, Power Muffs and Walker's Disposable Earplugs.

The NRA specifically selected these three products for its members, as well as the greater shooting and hunting community, to help promote safe shooting.

The Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation is marking its 30th anniversary with a year-long celebration of special events. A couple of offerings include a membership drive called "Each One Reach One," along with a 30th anniversary Pennsylvania print and box call.

"I think the 30th anniversary is very special for the Pennsylvania chapter in many ways," said Carl Mowry, Pennsylvania NWTF Board of Directors chairman and Pennsylvania chapter president. "We have board members from 30 years of service all the way down to two years of service. This brings 21 members on the board together to work on various projects that interest everyone. We have fantastic local chapters, all 74 of them across the state. They are the ones who raise the money that is spent on habitat projects, land acquisition, safety and education, along with JAKES Days, Women in the Outdoor events and Wheelin' Sportsman events. The Pennsylvania Chapter thanks the local chapters for making our 30 years great."

The state chapter, which started in 1975, has introduced the slogan to mark the anniversary of "30 years old and better than ever."

Some of the festivities and special campaigns include:

-- A new membership program to double the adult membership to 30,000 members. Incentives are offered to members attracting new members.

-- A special 30th anniversary print and box call. The print is titled, "Runnin' with the Big Boys" and will be signed by the artist, Melissa Ball of Greencastle. The box call is being crafted by **River Valley Game Calls** from Jersey Shore, and will feature laser-engraved artwork designed by Ball.

-- Special 30th anniversary merchandise like long-sleeve t-shirts, winter and summer caps, money clip, field grade oak handle knives, a matched set of the Collector's and Field Grade knives and limited edition of 30 laser-engraved bone handled knives.

-- Pennsylvania Chapter Wild Turkey registration license plates.

For more information, visit the web site www.panwtf.com, contact your local chapter, or see the POWA directory.

**NORTH AMERICAN BEAR
FOUNDATION NEEDS
DONATIONS**

The North American Bear Foundation needs your help. We are currently working on the education portion of the foundation. Educational aids are needed for our instructors.

Donations are being collected, but the needs are still great. We need hides, skulls, claws, bear mounts, bear photos and a laptop computer to run a slide show and a projector that is compatible. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

All donated items will be used by NABF instructors for presenting educational bear classes to school aged children in schools and other outdoor functions. Send donations to: Mitch Becker, NABF Regional Director, 17011 305th Ave., Pierz MN 56364

The National Shooting Sports Foundation has appointed Christopher C. Dolnack as its new senior vice president.

Dolnack, whose 20-year career includes diverse experience across the hunting and shooting industry -- as well as nine years with NSSF -- now will oversee all NSSF programs, communications, membership and industry services. Previously he served as managing director of program development for NSSF, the trade association for the firearms industry. NSSF hosts an annual trade show (SHOT Show) and manages a variety of safety, participation and public relations programs.

"All healthy organizations cultivate and develop leaders from within their own ranks, and Chris has emerged with an ideal skill set, vision and dedication to help drive our industry in the right directions to meet our future challenges," said Doug Painter, NSSF president.

Dolnack began with NSSF as a communications coordinator, working in media relations and as a staff writer. Responsibilities later included marketing, developing youth shooting sports programs, and directing development for NSSF subsidiaries Hunting & Shooting Sports Heritage Fund and Firearms Safety and Education Foundation. Dolnack has also accumulated extensive experience in corporate sales and marketing.

"I'm excited about this new opportunity and look forward to working with our marketing team to deliver measurable results that will add even more value to NSSF membership," said Dolnack. "NSSF is well positioned to advance hunting and shooting participation by continuing to reduce barriers to entry, increasing opportunities for participation and creating a better public understanding of hunting and shooting traditions and our industry."

Dolnack's work has appeared in numerous magazines, including Outdoor Life and Sports Afield. He is a past board director for the Outdoor Writers Association of America and is a former active member and officer/director of POWA. He is the son of **George Dolnack**.



Want to nurture your business to success?

Attend the spring conference breakout!

Photo by Tim Flanigan

Executive Director's Report

by Eileen King



G i l b e r t
Stockmaking Sup-
plies, Past®Recoil
Shields, Tipton
Gun Cleaning Sup-
plies, Wheeler En-
gineering Gun-
smithing Supplies
and Winchester
Shooting Products.
Sponsor: **Eileen
King**

610-965-1530
FAX: 610-966-7925
fspublic@direcway.com
Contact: G. Jake Laubach
Publishes a monthly outdoor newspaper,
The Outdoor Adventurer.
Sponsor: **Eileen King**

Membership Totals as of 2/28/05

Active 219; Apprentice 8; Honorary 1;
Supporting 147.

Welcome New Members:

JEFF KNAPP (Active)

242 Cedar Drive
Kittanning, PA 16201
Home: 724-548-4875
Work: 724-902-6082

Jeff has been a freelance writer/
photographer for 15 years. His most recent
published works appeared in the Indiana
Gazette, Butler Eagle, Morgantown
Dominion Post, Pa. Angler, Pa. Outdoor
News, etc.

Sponsor: **Eileen King**

RALPH SCHERDER, III (Apprentice)

P.O. Box 97
Herman, PA 16039
724-283-6270
nightanimal@hotmail.com

Ralph has been publishing outdoor articles
since he was 18 years old (7 years ago). His
new book, "The Taxidermist's Son," will
be published Fall 2005.

Sponsor: **Eileen King**

BATTENFIELD TECHNOLOGIES (Supporting)

5885 W. Van Horn Tavern Road
Columbia, MO 65203
Contact: Mike Capps, Account Executive,
Howard Communications, Inc. 289 Hwy.
CC, Elsberry, MO 63343; 573-898-3422;
Fax 573-898-3407; mcapps@inweb.net;
www.howardcommunications.com or
www.battenfeldtechnologies.com.

Battenfield Technologies manufactures a
wide variety of shooting and reloading prod-
ucts, including Adams & Bennett Replace-
ment Rifle Barrels, Caldwell Shooting Sup-
plies, CoreLite and Fajen gunstocks,
Frankford Arsenal Reloading Tools, Miles

BERETTA (Supporting)

17601 Beretta Drive
Accokeek, MD 20607
301-283-2191
cwilliams@berettausa.com
www.berettausa.com

Contact: Cathy Williams
Beretta is a maker of top-quality target and
hunting shotguns, Sako & Tikka rifles,
Beretta handguns, numerous accessories
and top-quality clothing.

Sponsor: **Nick Sisley**

BIRCHWOOD CASEY (Supporting)

7900 Fuller Road
Eden Prairie, MN 55344
Contact: Mike Capps, Account Executive,
Howard Communications, Inc. 289 Hwy.
CC, Elsberry, MO 63343; 573-898-3422;
Fax 573-898-3407; mcapps@inweb.net;
www.howardcommunications.com or
www.birchwoodcasey.com

Manufactures complete line of gun care
and refinishing chemicals designed for the
do-it-yourself market. Manufactures World
of Targets product line of steel targets and
the revolutionary Shoot-N-C target. Sold
worldwide to sporting-goods distributors.

Sponsor: **Eileen King**

FISH HARDER (Supporting)

1104 Bristoldwood St.
Brandon, FL 33510
813-684-5900
lthornhill@msn.com
www.bassboys.net
Contact: Larry Thornhill
Fish Harder manufactures Tru-Tungsten
fishing products.

Sponsor: **Eileen King**

FOREST STREAM PUBLISHING, LLC (Supporting)

6 Cherokee St.
Emmaus, PA 18049

Individual Membership Changes:

Gary Alt, 2530 Reservoir Rd.,
Madison Township, PA 18444-7029; home
570-842-1797, cell 570-499-9467;
garyalt@echoes.net.

Jerry Bush, new website
www.jerrybush.com.

Don Daughenbaugh, new e-mail
dondflyfish@chilitech.net.

Frank Felbaum, new work phone 717-
346-1358.

Tim Herd, add e-mail address
herd@naturenewswatch.com.

Jim Hyland, 167 Heimer Lane, Jersey
Shore, PA 17740; 570-725-3551.

Ron Kuhn has a new website
www.ronkuhn.com.

John Plowman, 6780 Hickory Lane,
Harrisburg, PA 17112; 717-545-1188.

Ken Reinard, new e-mail address
colonialangler@gmail.com.

Dennis Scharadin, new e-mail
ringneck@fastcable.net.

John D. Taylor, 462 Chestnut St.,
Columbia, PA 17512.

Supporting Membership Changes:

**Allegheny National Forest Vacation
Bureau**, new email is info@visitanf.com.

**County of Oswego Promotion/
Tourism**, tourism@oswegocounty.com.

Gander Mountain, 180 E. 5th St.,
Suite. 1300, St. Paul, MN 55101; 651-325-
4300.

Hunters Sharing the Harvest, 6780
Hickory Lane, Harrisburg, PA 17112; 717-
545-1188.

**Northern Alleghenies Vacation
Region**, 2883 Pennsylvania Ave. W. Ext.,
Warren, PA 16365; 800-624-7802;
www.navr.org.

**Pennsylvania Chapter National
Wild Turkey Federation**, Dave Burdge,
1593 Brocius Rd., Brookville, PA 15825;
burdge@alltel.net.

**Pennsylvania Wildlife Habitat
Unlimited**, phone number in directory
should be 814-374-4198.

Plano Molding Company, Tanja
Washburn, 630-552-3111, ext. 9383;
twashburn@planomolding.com.

Quality Deer Management Association, new phone 814-326-4023.

Schwabel Corporation, new contact is Harel Shapiro, 781-541-6900, ext. 33, h a r e l @ t h e r m a c e l l . n e t ; www.thermacell.com.

Withdrawals:

Individual Members: Rance Harmon, Julie Lalo, Carl Richardson, Mark Sosin.

Supporting Members: Bansner's Ultimate Rifles LLC, James Peightal, W.S. Wagner Sporting Goods, Rails-to-Trails Conservancy.

"You're getting a good deal" -- Active member / inn owner comments on conference costs

Dear Eileen:

I read with interest your story in PowWow about the cost of conferences. Goodness knows I have hosted enough outdoor writer gatherings that I know we are all looking for a "good deal."

First of all, Susan and I are lucky in that we are a small property and are able to call on other facilities for the likes of meeting spaces and keep total control, including meals and rooms. This allows us to control conference cost. Furthermore, we host them at the end of our season in September, when an otherwise full house would be rare. Our conferences also fill other properties in Clayton, NY, which is a benefit to them.

Also, our Chamber of Commerce and the 1000 Islands International Tourism Council help out with financial help to provide guides for hunting and fishing, as well as local attractions and meals for the attendees. Unfortunately, NYSOWA has and probably will never get the industry support POWA gets.

What our (PA and NY) members don't realize -- and it certainly is not their responsibility, not being familiar with the business -- is the cost of putting on an organized event, such as a conference or even a small business meeting. With your permission, please allow me to make known some of the things that go in to hosting any organized gathering, no matter how small or large.

While I'm not trying to counter membership concerns, I hope this might make them understand the whys and wherefores a little better.

The easiest thing for a property to do is rent rooms to the public. People make a

reservation and give a deposit to reserve a room. They arrive, check in, and do most everything from then on at their own convenience, perhaps with the help of a concierge. The property has no other responsibility to them other than to clean their room and give incidental assistance. This is all sold through their marketing manager and, if a large place, probably through a good advertising agency, with reservations handled by the front desk or a few reservation "specialists."

Now, let's look at an organized "gathering." These can be anything from a 10 to 12-person business meeting to a convention of up to as many people as the property can accommodate. With the average gathering being in the range of 15 to 30, POWA could be "relatively" large.

For a property to get into the conference business, it must have adequate facilities. These usually include a very large room that can be divided into smaller conference rooms during the day and expanded into a banquet facility in the evening, with full-service kitchen adjacent, over and above the property's common kitchen to serve public dining areas. That's the cheap way. The more expensive is to have totally individual meeting rooms, with a grand ballroom, with kitchen, for the evening. I don't think POWA has hit one of those yet, have they?

Convention facilities cost money to build. Furthermore, they cost money to staff. Since conferences may actually take only half the time of these facilities over the course of the year, they do not generate anywhere as much money per square foot as do rooms, unless they charge for the use of the facilities at an appropriate rate.

Next comes the convention staff. In most professional properties they assign a person to be in charge of the event, often the sales person who was responsible for booking it in the first place. The organization is under her or his wing from arrival to departure and their "can" is on the line to make sure everything goes well in the performance department for the property.

The only thing you haven't gotten into is asking for refunds for nonperformance. That's a big thing today. If they don't perform, you get a credit. That's a bit complicated and probably beyond us right now, as it calls for a formal contract, usually 25-50 pages agreed to and signed by both parties. That is the protection you get for increased costs. Having been involved in

several conferences yourself, I can only guess who the first person you called was if you had a problem that couldn't be solved by the front desk.

Property conference organizers don't work for nothing, any more than you, our members or I do. To make a long story short, in the "old days" and in small properties, quantity purchases earned discounts. They still do today if you want to buy 100 cases of Pepsi from a store, pay cash and carry it out the door, never to be seen again. When you book an organized gathering into a property and require services over and above those of the traveling public, be prepared to pay for them.

In the conference business, quantity service costs money for the additional attention and services. Like it or not, it no longer comes with a quantity discount. As I often say, paradise ain't cheap and the only thing in life that is free is poor advice. The last thing, \$85 a night at the Poconos for a room that otherwise costs \$155-plus a night, if you call them right now as I did, is more than above and beyond the call of discount duty.

Susan and I work all spring, summer and fall running our hotel, but unfortunately seldom get out to "see the trees through the forest." Probably a lot of our members are in the same boat. Costs are going up so businesses can survive and employees can live.

One thing I do know about POWA is the coverage they give places they go to, which could have worth. POWA seems to have outlets where the editors will allow kudos for everything from activities to accommodations. Here in NY, editors cut all references to host facilities and then edit the dickens out of the text. I have come to the conclusion that most newspaper editors up here are either golfers, bureaucrats or crocheters, but definitely not outdoors people.

I hope this helps explain a few things from a perspective that others may not have. Full-time writers expect a raise every year, whether they get it or not. Part-time writers, like me, basically take what the market will pay. Properties have dozens or hundreds of employees that demand regular wages and hundreds of other costs that have to be paid to exist -- or nobody gets anything, everyone gets nothing and the place goes down the drain. I really think you're getting a good deal. ENJOY!

For what it's worth --

Allen Benas

In Memoriam --

RALPH HORTON

1918 - 2005

Ralph Horton, long-time outdoor communicator, avid hunter, fisherman and outdoorsman, died in Florida, January 24, 2005. He lived his last few years in Barefoot Bay, FL, until his death at Sebastian River Medical Center in Roseland.

Horton, who was 86, was born April 13, 1918, in Philadelphia. He lived the greater part of his life in Pennsylvania's then-rural Bucks County. He was a frequent visitor to Cape May County before moving from New Hope, PA, to Erma about two decades ago. In 1995, he relocated to Barefoot Bay in Florida.

Horton was an avid outdoorsman and an expert in hunting, archery and fishing. He started hunting in Bucks County in 1926. He was taught to live off the land and to appreciate the land by his father, who was of Indian heritage.

Horton was classified as an expert by the National Archery Association. He spent many volunteer hours giving seminars to young and old about the power of the bow. He was co-owner of Fieldcrest Archery Shop on Route 202 in New Hope, PA, where he manufactured arrows under the registered trademark of Fieldcrest.

Horton raised American Kennel Club beagle hunting dogs at his kennel in Spring Valley, PA, and became a Field Judge for the AKC. He was a member of the Rosedale Deer Club in Hammonton, NJ, and the Cape Rose Hunting Club in Georgetown, DE. He was also a long-time member of the Mercer County Anglers in New Jersey.

He was editor/owner of Pennsylvania Fishin' Magazine and hosted a radio program on Bucks County station WBUX, where he reported on fishing and hunting and other sports-related news in the Tri-State area.

Horton was a judge in bass fishing tournaments and a member of Mercer County Anglers, Knights of Columbus, Elks, Moose and Orioles organizations. He was an ambassador for the New Jersey State Department of Tourism. He was a member of Mason Dixon Outdoor Writers Association and the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association.

Memorials can be made to the American Cancer Society.

-- Submitted by **Lou Rodia**

Dennis Scharadin receives First Annual Eastern Sports & Outdoor Show Youth Mentor Award

POWA Past President and Board Chairman **Dennis Scharadin** has been awarded the 2005 **Eastern Sports and Outdoor Show**, presented by Field & Stream and Outdoor Life, Youth Mentor Award for his more than 35 years of educating young people about the outdoors.

Scharadin started an Outdoors Club for students at Blue Mountain Middle School in

1971, using outdoors-related projects to teach club members about nature and conservation. Scharadin was the liaison and instructor for a pilot BB gun program at Blue Mountain Middle School, teaching seventh grade students to safely handle firearms and shoot BB gun rifles. He also developed a program in which the students chose an outdoor education subject from a list of nine mini-courses, including bass fishing, big game hunting and management, camping, hiking, small game hunting and management, trapping, trout fishing, wildlife ID, and Introduction to the Outdoors.

Because of his work with youth, in 1979, Scharadin was appointed to the Pennsylvania League of Angling Youth Advisory Committee by then-Pennsylvania Fish Commission Executive Director Ralph Abele. Scharadin was responsible for starting the Schuylkill County Sportsmen's Association's Norm Thornburg Youth Conservation Camp. This three-day, two-night camp instructed young people in all aspects of the outdoors. He was also instrumental in starting the Schuylkill County Youth Field Day. He developed the activities and the programs for both the camp and youth field day.

The Eastern Sports & Outdoor Show Youth Mentor Award will be presented annually to an individual or organization in recognition of demonstrated commitment to using knowledge of the outdoors and outdoor sports to educate and help young people. **-PW-**



Dennis Scharadin is presented the Eastern Sports & Outdoor show Youth Mentor Award by Sandy Pochapin, at the media dinner preceding the start of the annual sports show in Harrisburg.

PA Youth Hunter Ed Challenge invites press to 2005 event

The Pennsylvania Youth Hunter Education Challenge will be held at Scotia Range in State College on June 18, beginning at 8 a.m. Chairman Charles Fox invites members of POWA to attend and report on this event for their newspaper, magazine, radio or TV show.

The goal of Pennsylvania's Youth Hunter Education Challenge is to provide youth the opportunity to build on the foundation provided by the Pennsylvania Game Commission's Hunter Education Program. The program has been designed to simulate hunting situations, thereby further developing the knowledge and skills of safe, responsible hunting and interest in the shooting sports. Competition events are archery, hunter responsibility, wildlife identification, rifle shooting, shotgun shooting and muzzleloading.

Entrants must be 11-18 years old on or before August 1 and a graduate of an accredited hunter/trapper education program. Youth must compete in all categories; be accompanied by a certified HTE instructor, PAYHEC-registered coach or parent/guardian knowledgeable in shooting safety and ethics; abide by all PAYHEC rules; and obey the PAYHEC code of conduct. Visit the website at <http://clubs.bowhunting.net/PAYHEC> or contact Keith Snyder, Pa. Game Commission, 717-787-7015. **-PW-**



MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Joe McDonald has been chosen to take part in the first ICF Pro-Tour of Nature Photography contest, set for spring of 2006. The competition, produced by Images for Conservation and based in Edinburg, Texas, is for well-published professional wildlife photographers. The concept is to develop a professional wildlife photographer tour, with contests spread throughout the United States, Canada and Mexico. Each contest is limited to the first 20 professional photographers who submit a portfolio of published images and meet the criteria for publication.

In the contest, each photographer will be paired with a rancher in the Texas Hill Country and will shoot for one month. Winners will have to submit images in almost all wildlife species classes in order to have a chance of winning the first-place grand prize, which is \$80,000 (to be split with the rancher).

According to the report in *Outdoor Photographer* magazine, "the ICF management hopes this program will become a continuing pro tour similar to golfing pro tours, with the potential for high dollar awards for the photographers and a way to financially compensate landowners for protecting their land rather than developing it."

For more on the tour/contest, visit www.imagesforconservation.org/protour.html.

Ron Tussel and **eMEDIA SOLUTIONS** have now trademarked "The Pennsylvania Sportsman" title and will be launching a new television series in late 2005. The show is intended to be one-of-a-kind, made by Pennsylvania sportsmen for Pennsylvania sportsmen. Produced in magazine format, the show will feature hunting and fishing, wildlife and property management, children and women in the outdoor pursuits, conservation and wild game cooking.

Tussel says, "We will be looking for story ideas across the Commonwealth and invite all POWA members to become involved with the show. Of course we will be looking to our supporting members

during our quest for sponsorships and products to keep the show running."

Tussel had successfully produced "Exploring the Outdoors" since 1994, starting at WYLN-TV in Hazleton, and ending up with a long run on cable and broadcast throughout Pennsylvania and nationwide on the Outdoor Channel. For more information, contact him at rontussel@ltis.net.

Joe Workosky has launched a web site, www.TheGraphicWorksUSA.com for outdoor artwork and multimedia services.

Workosky has combined his photography, video production and wildlife art and multimedia skills and services into a comprehensive web site for his Pennsylvania-based company, which was established in 1973. The company has broadcast and published client marketing, training and comprehensive communications information worldwide.

Workosky reports that he is offering products and services in video, photos, print, web and more. For information, contact joe@TheGraphicWorksUSA.com.



Tom Austin, a 28-year member of POWA and outdoor writer for the Sunday edition of the Bloomsburg Press-Enterprise, and his wife, Mary Lou, were presented a plaque of appreciation by exhibitors this January at the Early Bird Sports Expo at the Bloomsburg Fairgrounds. After operating the show they founded for 17 years, the Austins have sold its rights. — *Contributed by Doyle Dietz*

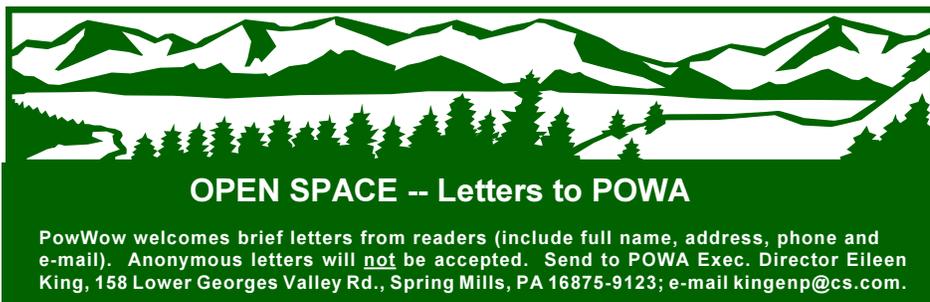
Denise Raum was named to Pennsylvania Governor Edward Rendell's Governor's Advisory Council on Hunting, Fishing and Conservation in January. She joins POWA members **Jeff Mulhollem**, **John Plowman** and **Linda Steiner**, who already sit on the council. The advisory body represents a broad spectrum of backgrounds, interests and experience in the traditional outdoor sports and conservation of natural resources.

Great shots, great kids (and we like their hats, too)



In celebration of their son JohnMichael's sixth birthday, Annette and **Ron Tussel** took their children to North Mountain Outfitters near Eagle's Mere in mid-January. Daughter Cheyenne is now eight years old, and both of the youngsters shoot custom-built Hart .223 rifles with Hornady and Federal Ballistic tips. Tussel writes that "each took their boars, which weighed about 140 pounds each, with one very well placed shot, taking care not to ruin any of the delicious meat." This is the second successful boar hunt for the Tussel kids, and both hunts were videotaped for a future episode of "The Pennsylvania Sportsman" television series.

-PW-



OPEN SPACE -- Letters to POWA

PowWow welcomes brief letters from readers (include full name, address, phone and e-mail). Anonymous letters will not be accepted. Send to POWA Exec. Director Eileen King, 158 Lower Georges Valley Rd., Spring Mills, PA 16875-9123; e-mail kingenp@cs.com.

Treasurer Street resigns

To POWA Pres. **Jeff Mulhollem**:

Back in 2002 when **John Mahn** was our president, I was asked to take on the responsibility of treasurer. What a wonderful experience it has been!

Regretfully, however, I now beg your leave from this position. Please accept -- and extend to the membership -- my heartfelt gratitude for the opportunity that was afforded me to be of service and know that I remain,

Faithful and obliged to POWA,
John C. Street

*ED Note: President Mulhollem has appointed **Rob Hilliard** to serve as treasurer for the remainder of this year.*

apologize for not writing sooner. I was considering remaining a member, but decided it does not make sense being this far from Pennsylvania. Thanks for all the efforts you put into the organization. I wish you, the organization and the membership continued success in the future.

— **Rance Harmon**, 721 S. 15th Ave.,
Bozeman, MT 59715

I won't be renewing my POWA membership. Like Dan Tredinnick, I only had POWA membership because of my employment with the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission. Since the commission is or will be a supporting member soon, there's no reason for me to continue with individual membership.

I've enjoyed being a part of POWA as an individual member and look forward to working with POWA as a supporting member. While it's no testament to the ages of members, it's been a thrill to belong to an organization that claims as its members the authors of those articles I read growing up. And, yes, I guess **Dave Wolf** is that old! Good luck.
— **Carl Richardson**

I joined POWA as a supporting member with the goal to eventually become an outdoor writer. I recently contracted macular degeneration, putting an end to that dream, and so will not be renewing my membership in POWA.

— **Smokey Wagner, W.S. Wagner Sporting Goods**

Please cancel my membership for 2005. I'm cutting back on many of my participation of organizations, due to the increased business in my shop. Unfortunately, I don't have the time to dedicate to help many great causes.

— **Mark Bansner, Owner, Bansner's Ultimate Rifles L.L.C.**

Members not renewing

I'm sad to write you that I won't be renewing my POWA membership at this time. With my position as vice president for communications and advocacy for 10,000 Friends of PA, I haven't been doing any outdoor writing and would surely fail the audit the next time around.

My work is focused on the legislature and on communicating our mission, which is strongly centered on revitalizing Pennsylvania's cities, boroughs and older suburbs. I am lobbying heavily for Growing Greener, again from the community revitalization standpoint (trying to save that portion of the bond).

It's been a wonderful experience to be involved with POWA, and if my communication portfolio changes in the future, I'll definitely reapply for membership. Take good care, Eileen. From the looks of things, you are doing an EXCELLENT job as executive director of POWA! All the best—
Julie Lalo

Thank you for sending the reminder regarding my 2005 dues for POWA. I moved to Montana last summer, and I regretfully resign my membership. I

2nd PA Breeding Bird Atlas welcomes press attention

The purpose of this letter is to let you know that the 2nd Pennsylvania Breeding Bird Atlas is underway and continues through 2008, and that we would appreciate any press coverage you may be able to give the project in the coming seasons. You may already have seen a press release from the Pennsylvania Game Commission and the Carnegie Museum of Natural History that was sent out last July (PGC Release No. 054-04, which can be read at www.pgc.state.pa.us).

During the first field season for the project, more than 1,000 volunteers statewide signed up to help and, with just a fraction of their data submitted so far, we already have records for 182 species in the state, including species never before recorded nesting in Pennsylvania.

But the object of the 2nd atlas isn't just to find and document our most rare and unusual breeding birds, it is to learn as much as we can about all our nesting birds.

If you think your paper might be interested in doing a story on the atlas, contact

us at 724-593-6022 or e-mail us at coordinators@pabirdatlas.org. There is a definite local connection for you in covering the 2nd Pennsylvania Breeding Bird Atlas, because the state is divided into 57 regions, each of which has its own regional coordinator(s) who have recruited local volunteers.



Thank you very much for any help you can offer.

--**Bob Mulvihill**,
Project Coordinator, and
Mike Lanzone, Asst. Project Coordinator.
Main office: Powdermill Nature Reserve,
Rector, PA. For more, please visit the web
site: www.pabirdatlas.org.

He's glad to be a member

I am glad that I joined the POWA. Being a member has helped me better market my work, keeps me up-to-date on the issues, and allows me to learn from some of the best in the field of outdoor communication. Keep a tight line – **Brian Madison**, apprentice member, joined April 2004.

We wish these members good health and a speedy recovery

I'm very behind in correspondence due to recovery limitations on my latest back surgery. The surgery went well according to the doctor. He installed a new vertebrae stabilization system that was just approved for use in Pennsylvania on January 10. He operated on me on the 12th and the manufacturers of the device accompanied him during the surgery.

I am assured that this is a permanent fix. Sure hope so. I have a long list of restrictions that serve to increase the effects of cabin fever. Oh well. I intend to get back out in the woods soon. My dogs are bored.

We didn't get out hunting this year and my young dog is in his prime. What a disservice that was to him. Debbie did get him out for woodcock on five or six occasions and he performed perfectly. I sat in the car and listened to the shooting. I'm two weeks into recovery and will see the doctor on Valentine's Day.

After that I should be able to drive again and regain some freedom. I am certain that you know all about recovery and restrictions and all the attendant emotional stuff. Times like these impress upon us just how important the outdoor world is to our mental and physical well being. All the best.
– **Tim Flanigan**

Eileen, Violet and I appreciate your concern about the condition of our health concerning Lyme disease. After several years of mega-doses of antibiotics and other medication, we are no better. Violet is much worse in many ways, and I have not been able to hunt or do much of anything during that time.

You will not hear this from the general health care profession, but taking antibiotics for long periods of time to eradicate Lyme and its bacterial coinfections can actually drive the spirochetes (Lyme bacteria) into

the bone marrow. So we stopped taking all of our antibiotics, etc. We are also seeing a Kineologist (he is a Christian) for treatment.

These practitioners have helped people's immune systems cure their cancer, shrink tumors, and fight other deadly auto-immune diseases. This person we are seeing for treatment was trained in Texas. President Bush's mother is also seeing one of these practitioners. People are flying in from all over (also, bus loads from New York City; etc.) to see the Kineologist we are seeing, and he is so busy that he has a waiting list, and is turning people away. I don't know if this person will be able to help us or not, but in any case, we will be waiting on the Lord's spirit to give our spirits direction.

Incidentally, there is some good news. People are contacting me from all over about Lyme disease. I have had great success in helping many of them get better by seeing the right Lyme-literate medical doctors and receiving valid diagnoses and the proper treatment. I still believe that if Lyme and its co-infections are caught in time, antibiotics and/or IV Picc Line Therapy is the best treatment.

It's nice to know that there are people like you folks that still take the time, even though they are overworked, to care about the problems of others. God bless you and the family.
– **Doug Stetler**

POWAers will no longer receive complimentary Game News subscriptions

Dear Pennsylvania Game News Readers:

As a long-time subscriber, I have come to enjoy Game News' interesting articles, timely information and wonderful artwork. As the Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Game Commission, I am honored to have such a publication serve as the primary communications tool for our agency's programs and projects, our Commonwealth's hunting and trapping heritage and our shared experiences afield.

We have been pleased to have so many subscribers to this magazine, as well as the many complimentary subscriptions we provide to schools, libraries, outdoor writers, legislators and other government officials, deer processors and landowners enrolled in our public access programs (Farm-Game, Forest-Game and Safety Zone).

Unfortunately, at this point in the Game

Commission's history, we are facing ever-tightening budgets. This fiscal year alone, we already have identified several cost cutting measures, and we need to cut more before the end of June. When the 2005-06 fiscal year begins on July 1, the budget will be even tighter.

Some examples of spending reductions include: eliminating toll-free numbers in our region offices; drastically cutting travel and training budgets; temporarily closing the Pymatuning Wildlife Learning Center; delaying or forgoing the purchase of important equipment; reducing the number of pheasants raised and released by 50 percent of the 2004 level; and reducing services that would have required overtime.

While license sales have remained relatively steady -- and in some cases seen a modest increase -- we have seen a decline in other areas of revenues. Also, we have experienced increases in expenditures that we have little to no control over -- such as utility rates, gasoline prices, in-lieu of tax payments on State Game Lands and personnel costs.

Until the Game Commission receives approval for additional revenues, we must include the complimentary subscriptions to Game News in our cost cutting efforts. Printing and mailing of complimentary issues costs the agency \$168,485 per year. So, this (*April 2005*) is the last complimentary issue that we will be mailing to schools, libraries, **outdoor writers**, legislators and other government officials, and deer processors. For landowners enrolled in our public access programs (Farm-Game, Forest-Game and Safety Zone), the last complimentary magazine will be the May 2005 issue.

It is not an easy decision to include these complimentary subscriptions in our efforts to reduce agency costs. But, I can assure you that once the agency is able to receive either an increase in license fees or some form of alternative funding we will revisit the issue of complimentary subscriptions.

For those who value Pennsylvania Game News as much as I do, I hope that you consider purchasing a subscription. You can do that by going to the Commission's web site (www.pgc.state.pa.us) and clicking on "Subscribe" in "The Outdoor Shop" box, or by completing and mailing the form in Game News issues.

Vernon R. Ross
Executive Director

-PW-

POWA SPRING CONFERENCE 2005 / May 19 - 22, Pocono Manor Resort & Spa

Revised -- Lower Cost

Name _____ Phone _____ () Member

() Supporting Member, Company Name _____ () First POWA conference

() Spouse Name _____ () Guest Name _____

REGISTRATION	Cost x	# persons	= Total Fee
By April 30, \$20 each	\$20.00 x		= \$ _____
After April 30, \$30 each (late fee).....	\$30.00 x		= \$ _____
Supporting Member Breakout Day Display Fee.....	\$45.00		= \$ _____
<u>SUBTOTAL REGISTRATIONS</u>			= \$ _____

**ALL ATTENDEES PAY REGISTRATION FEES, including spouses/guests/breakout participants
(Exception - spouses/guests attending banquet only)**

MEALS*

<u>FILL OUT NUMBER OF PERSONS, even if meal is sponsored — we need a count!</u>	# persons	= Total Fee
Friday BBQ: <i>Co-sponsors, Pittsburgh 2005, The CITGO Bassmaster Classic (ESPN Outdoors/BASS) and Pocono Mountains Vacation Bureau</i>		= N/C
Saturday Breakfast: <i>Sponsor, Maryland Office of Tourism</i>		= N/C
Saturday Lunch: <i>Sponsors, Howard Communications' clients Battenfield Technologies, Birchwood Casey, Browning, Hunter's Specialties, Winchester</i>		= N/C
Saturday Banquet : <i>Co-sponsors National Shooting Sports Foundation and U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance...</i>		= N/C
Sunday Breakfast (<i>on your own; must buy meal ticket by noon on Saturday at the Resort for total cost of \$11</i>)		
<u>SUBTOTAL MEAL FEES:</u>		\$ _____

* Children and guests (not spouses) must pay for sponsored meals — Fri. BBQ \$25; Sat. Breakfast \$15; Sat. Lunch \$22; Sat. dinner \$30.

ACTIVITIES \$20 REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT REQUIRED FOR EACH ACTIVITY

<i>(Attend activity; your fee is returned / Any activity charges will be deducted)</i>	# persons	(x \$20)
Friday -- Sporting Clays (on site)		= \$ _____
Friday -- Trout Fishing (on site).....		= \$ _____
Friday -- Shad Fishing (Delaware River)		= \$ _____
Friday -- Tannersville Bog Tour (members and/or spouses)		= \$ _____
Friday -- Golf (on site; golf cart fee of \$25 will be collected on site before play begins).....		= \$ _____
Friday -- Pocono Adventures on Mules Ride (members and/or spouses)		= \$ _____
Friday -- Turkey Hunting (area State Game Lands; no guides provided)		= \$ _____
Saturday -- Spouse Event -- Carriage Ride and Lunch		= \$ _____
<u>SUBTOTAL ACTIVITY DEPOSITS</u>		\$ _____

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

Make check payable to POWA or send MasterCard/Visa # _____ exp. date _____

Send form and check or credit card info to: Eileen King, 158 Lower Georges Valley Rd., Spring Mills, PA 16875; 814-364-9558 (FAX)

POWA SPRING CONFERENCE 2005 HOTEL RESERVATION FORM

Call to make your room reservations at the Pocono Manor Golf Resort & Spa, Pocono Manor, PA. PHONE 800-233-8150; FAX 570-839-0708. When you call/write, tell them you're with POWA so you can obtain the special rates. A two-night minimum stay is required. Cut-off date for reservations: March 20.

Room rate is \$89 double/single (\$35/child/night) plus sales tax. Room registration must be made by MARCH 20, 2005.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Arrival Date: _____ Departure Date: _____



I would like to encourage active and supporting members to contribute items to the spring conference auction and raffle. Supporting members are just beginning to send in donations, and this year's raffle promises to be one of the best ever. We have already accepted items such as a **Remington 11-87** shotgun and a **CVA muzzleloading rifle** for the active-members-only raffle, and a "most-expenses-paid" Ohio deer hunt has been donated for the auction.

Let me tell you a bit about this exciting deer hunt, because I think you're going to want to break open those piggy banks for this one.

Thanks to the efforts of member **Jeff Frischkorn**, the Outdoor Writers of Ohio (OWO) is going to jump-start its long dormant fall outing program in 2005 with an invitation by the **Horton Manufacturing Company** for a crossbow hunt to the firm's Monroe County camp. That is in southeast Ohio and not far from Marietta. Horton will supply lodging, meals,

ladder treestands, hunting over bait (legal in Ohio), as well as the crossbows. As a POWA spring conference fund-raising auction item, OWO is inviting one POWA member to join them in early November, which is very, very close to the peak of the rut.

To further accommodate POWA, Cleveland-based **Expositions, Inc.** (both a POWA and OWO supporting member) is willing to pick up the license fees for the POWA member. In Ohio, a general hunting license costs \$125 for a nonresident. A single deer tag -- good for either an antlered or antlerless animal -- costs \$24. Also included would be a fall wild turkey tag (also \$24), with Ohio's archery-only fall turkey season running until the end of November.

As you can see -- this will be fine auction item.

Speaking of donated items -- please be a truly appreciative and responsive outdoor communicator. Our supporting members deserve our corroborating the value of their products and services to our audience. Whether you attend the conference or not, pass your knowledge of great items to the general public. You will be doing a great service for your audience and you are certain to please a grateful supporting member.

And if you manage to get items mentioned on the air or published in print, please be certain to send a copy to the supporting member and remind them that you are a POWA member. I have done this often, and a thank-you note is routinely returned. Your audience considers you an expert, and your voice is a valuable tool. That's why supporting members donate. Let's strive to assure they will always desire to contribute to the POWA. **-PW-**

IF YOU SPONSOR THREE, YOURS IS FREE!

Sponsor 3 new POWA members in 1 year and your dues for the next year are covered. POWA membership recruit-ment cards are available for you to give to potential members. Contact E. D. Eileen King for cards and applications, or print member applications on demand from the POWA web site (public side), www.paoutdoorwriters.com.

ANOTHER FRIENDLY WAYS & MEANS REMINDER

The 2005 subject for the "Supporting Members Favorite Photo" contest is "Small Game Hunting."

I will again accept 35mm slides (which I'll convert to .jpeg digital format) or digital images taken with a 3.0 mega pixel or greater camera. Black and white images are welcome. REMEMBER -- I will not accept images submitted by email -- so don't send them! Don't forget to send me a SASE if you send my slides.

The fee is lowered to \$1.00 per entry, and each member may submit up to 5 entries. Any small game image you've ever taken is eligible, so don't be afraid to look through your collection. Our winner will be announced at the fall conference, and the winning image will be displayed on our web site for 4-months. I must receive all entries by June 15, 2005 -- NO EXCEPTIONS.

THANKS ... to all who helped us organize the first PA Deer Classic and who offered to help with the 2nd year of the show. With a great deal of regret I must inform you that we have been unable to sell the show due to the loss of the salesman who was responsible for selling the booths.

With the unexpected departure of this key person, it is not possible to generate enough sales and income to produce the show this year. This is a big disappointment and setback for us, as we had hoped to get to a break-even point with the show this year.

This setback will also make it even more difficult to get the show going at some future time. It generally takes several years of experience to train a salesman and give him enough experience and seasoning to tackle the difficult job of selling a new and unproven show.

So, even though I'd like to try again for 2006, I am concerned that I could have someone ready for the job. Right now I have my hands full with selling and managing our three shows in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Missouri. This time of year we only have a couple of weeks between shows, and I'm so busy I can't do a lot of thinking and planning about other events. I'll be giving it my full attention in April and May.

In the meantime, I'm going to continue to pick up exhibitor cards and try to build my database of exhibitors in the Pennsylvania area. You could help me with that by picking up cards and sending them to me. You could also send me information on other facilities in western Pennsylvania that might work for the show. We'd need a room with at least 30,000 square feet of space.

Regretfully, Hugh Price, Wildlife Heritage Association

LEHIGH VALLEY OUTDOOR EXPO REPORT

by Mike Watson, POWA booth chairman

Another show is over and under our belt. The POWA sporting auction did very well considering we had only a day and a half to contact the exhibitors and gather items. Our auction brought in \$3,048, plus \$156 in "Eastern Trail" book sales.

The biggest thanks should go to all those individuals who donated items for the auction, including our "adopted" tax man Ron Kistler, who gave many items and framed a large print for us at no charge.

Donations from the Pennsylvania Game Commission and many show vendors brought a very good attendance to our annual auction. Our booth and auction were well manned by the following POWA members and friends who gave of their time: Thelma and **Bob Clark**, **Tom** and **Betty Lou Fegely**, **Charles Heidecker**, **Kermit Henning**, **Wally Musser**, **Dave Kimmel**, **Deb** and **Monte Hayes**, **Linda Watson**, **Doyle Dietz**, **Dave Ehrig**, **Jim Fitser**, **Sal Pitera**, **Russ Englehart** and **Dennis Scharadin** (auction chairman).

Bottom line -- once again the kids win!



Jim Fitser (right), Dennis Scharadin (center) and other POWAers at the Lehigh Valley sport show. Thanks to Charlie Heidecker for this "caught in the act" view.

EASTERN SPORTS & OUTDOOR SHOW

Report by Kermit Henning, POWA booth chairman

The Eastern Sports and Outdoor Show in Harrisburg has come and gone, and POWA again had a very successful show. First and foremost is the POWA sportsman's auction. This was our 22nd year and thanks to the generosity of many members and friends, including exhibitors at the show, we raised \$8,025.30. Add to this a \$2,000 donation from **Reed Exhibitions, Inc.**, and we were able to add \$10,025.30 to the POWA Education Fund.

As always, the highlight this year was an original acrylic painting donated by **Gerald Putt**. This year Gerry sat in the booth during the show and painted a beautiful male bluebird on a branch of dogwoods. His painting brought \$1,700 toward the total. Thanks also to other POWA artists **Jack Paluh**, **George Lavanish** and **Ken Hunter** for donating fine art, as well as the Pennsylvania Game Commission, the **Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission**, and the **Ned Smith Center for Nature & Art**.

Several outfitters donated trips to our auction, highlighted by a one-week bear hunting trip in Quebec, donated by long-time friend and member **Le Domaine Shannon**. They have given a hunt to the auction every year.

To date we have raised \$171,032, and it has all been given away to support youth educational opportunities. And this doesn't count the additional monies raised at the **Lehigh Valley Expo** in Allentown (*see accompanying article*).

It was good to see so many POWAers take advantage of the booth at the show or just visit and say hello. I always appreciate those who help out with the auction -- either giving or getting donations, helping set up, being runners and clerks or whatever else.

Finally, thanks to **Doug Leiby** for always helping to set up and tear down the booth.

-PW-



Above, Kermit Henning (left) presents a POWA Education Fund grant check for \$1,000 to David Krieger, President of the Capital City Bassmasters, at their recent banquet. Krieger presented POWA a plaque for its support of the Bassmasters' programs introducing youngsters to the outdoors.

UPDATE: FALL CONFERENCE '05

It may seem a long way off, but keep **October 20-23** in mind so you can plan to take full advantage of all that the fall POWA conference in Johnstown has to offer.

Of course, we'll shoot targets and we'll fish in rivers and lakes for trout and warmwater species. But the planning committee also is taking advantage of the time of year to put together some interesting hunting opportunities.

And we'll have informative seminars, with Area Fisheries Manager Rick Lorson talking about the wondrous recovery western Pennsylvania rivers are making from the insults of our industrial past; Penn State professor **Bill Sharpe** discussing his research into acid precipitation's effects on forests; and **Jerry Bush** letting us in on ways we can improve our bottom line by buying supplies and selling our products on eBay.

There is so much more to our area that we can't cram it all into one conference. So we hope you will come a day early or plan to stay an extra day to take in some of the non-conference trips we suggest. All are enjoyable in their own right, but some also offer great story material.

We know that pre-conference planning will help you make the most of your trip, so we are building a conference web site to provide more information on what we can offer, and what else is available, this fall in Johnstown. The first version is up now at <http://www.visitjohnstownpa.com/powa.html>, but you'll want to check back on a regular basis for updates.

If we've whetted your appetite and you want an early look at the Johnstown area, consider coming in April with whitewater

enthusiasts from all over the country for the annual Stonycreek Rendezvous. Below, the Greater Johnstown Convention and Visitors Bureau announces a special writer's trip during the annual celebration of our local waters. It can be an unforgettable experience.

-- *Joe Gorden, co-chairman*



The Greater Johnstown Convention and Visitors Bureau, host of the 2005 fall conference, invites POWA members to the Stonycreek Rendezvous, a weekend of whitewater fun.

The festival takes place on April 22, 23 and 24, 2005, and offers a downriver race, flatwater race, amateur rodeo and plenty of opportunities for rafters, canoeists and kayakers to enjoy the Stonycreek River, an award-winning river that has seen a revival of its fish inhabitants as a result of the clean-up of abandoned mine drainage upstream.

The festival will take place at Greenhouse Park in Tire Hill, just outside of Johnstown. Space is available for four to six writers on Saturday, and rafts will be provided. To learn more about the festival, future plans for the Stonycreek White Water Park, or to sign up for the media excursion, phone event organizers at the Benscreek Canoe Club at 814-266-4276 and ask for contact Steve Podratsky, club president, or visit their website at www.benscreekcanoeclub.com

Thanks again. Please let me know if you need anything further.

-- *Lisa Lybarger, Johnstown CVB, 814-266-7415 (home)*

POWA MERCHANDISE ...

ITEM#	DESCRIPTION	QTY	SIZE*	COLOR	UNIT PRICE*	NAME** (Add \$6)	TOTAL PRICE
4662	Sweatshirt				\$23.00		
440	Sport Shirt				\$24.00		
71098	Denim Shirt, Short Sleeve (Men's)				\$28.00		
51098	Denim Shirt, Short Sleeve (Ladies')				\$28.00		
71098	Denim Shirt, Long Sleeve (Men's)				\$28.00		
51098	Denim Shirt, Long Sleeve (Ladies')				\$29.00		
6308	Pro Cap, Twill				\$15.00		
	License Plates				\$ 5.00		
	Embroidered Patches				\$ 3.00		
	Membership Directories				\$ 5.00		
	50th Anniversary History Book				\$ 5.00		
	"The Eastern Trail" Book, Edited by L. James Bashline			N/A	\$10.00		
* Price is for S,M,L,XL					Shipping & Handling Fees: First Item - \$4.95 Additional items, add \$1.00 each		
2XL, add \$2							
3XL, add \$3							
					Subtotal		
					Shipping/Handling		
					TOTAL		



All orders and payments should be sent directly to:
Eileen King, POWA Executive Director
 158 Lower Georges Valley Road
 Spring Mills, PA 16875-9123
 814-364-9557
 814-364-9558 FAX
kingenp@cs.com

** Please PRINT name clearly below as it should appear on left chest (1 line only; \$6 per clothing item):



THANKS TO THE SPONSORS OF THE SPRING 2005 POWA CONFERENCE ...

POWA would like to thank all the supporting members who have come forward to sponsor meals and the hospitality room for the Spring conference at Pocono Manor.

Hospitality Room :

Friday night: **Therma-Cell**; Saturday night: **Bushnell Sport Optics.**

Meal Sponsors:

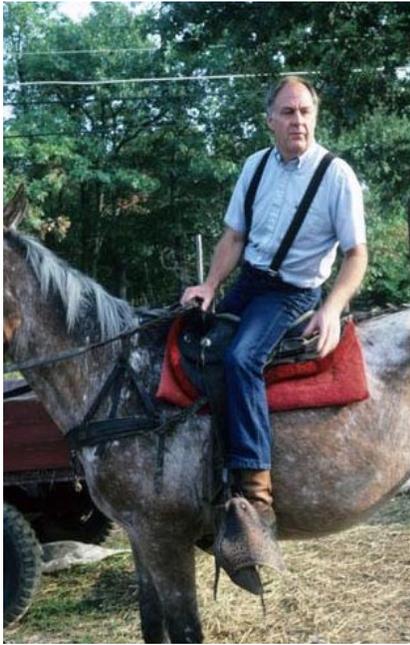
Friday BBQ: Pittsburgh 2005, The CITGO Bassmaster Classic (ESPN Outdoors / BASS) and Pocono Mountains Vacation Bureau.

Saturday Breakfast:

Maryland Office of Tourism Development.

Saturday Luncheon: **Battenfeld Technologies, Birchwood Casey, Browning, Hunter's Specialties and Winchester**

Saturday Dinner: **National Shooting Sports Foundation and U.S. Sportsman's Alliance**



A.J. Shoemaker, above, will host a mule ride through the Pocono countryside during the spring convention. Sign up today! Thanks to Tim Flanigan for providing photos for this issue of PowWow.

Bass Pro Shops Pass It On Award

The second annual **Bass Pro Shops Pass It On Award** wants to recognize and praise a POWA active member in good standing 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 Bass Pro Shop Pass It On Award will be awarded to an active POWA member in good standing that shall be given for the best: 1. Published newspaper or magazine article; 2. Broadcast radio or television program; 3. Commercially marketed video; OR 4. Black and white or color photo or art; that most effectively promotes passing on the love and appreciation for the outdoors, natural resources and pursuits such as hunting, fishing, trapping, hiking, camping, boating, birdwatching, and nature appreciation.

The contest shall be judged by a panel of three judges selected by the POWA President. There will be only one winner for this award. The winner will receive a \$300 check and a plaque. The entry must have been published and paid for between July 1, 2004 and June 30, 2005. Three copies must be submitted. Publication and date must be on the entry. Please remove your byline from two copies of the entry, but leave all identification on the original. Entries must be received by August 31, 2005.

Send entries to **P.J. Reilly** (address in POWA directory). Please include SASE for return of materials, if wanted. The award will be presented at the fall POWA conference.



**158 Lower Georges Valley Rd.
Spring Mills, PA 16875-9123**

**JUNE / JULY
PowWow Deadline
May 1, 2005
Please Be On Time**