



PENNSYLVANIA STATE CHAPTER THE NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION

ORGANIZED 1975

PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

October 11, 1997

Warriors Mark, Pennsylvania

Following a Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag, the October 1997 Board of Directors meeting of the Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation was called to order by Board Chairman Tim Holtz at 9:05 a.m., on Saturday, October 11, 1997. It was then noted that a quorum was present, and the Pennsylvania Chapter could conduct the business to come before it.

Board Chairman Tim Holtz welcomed everyone to the meeting. Ground rules for our meeting were posted on the flip chart and explained by Chairman Holtz. The floor was then turned over to Regional Director Larry Holjencin.

RD Holjencin introduced wildlife artist George LaVanish to the Board. It was noted that George was interested in working with the Chapter on a print/patch program and was seeking the Board's approval for his proposal. LaVanish presented two optional proposals to the Board for their consideration and the floor was then open for questions. Much discussion took place and a few Board members had some other very good ideas on how the program might work for the benefit of George LaVanish and our Chapter. It was also noted that the Chapter would need to get approval from National before our membership list could be used for promotional purposes.

Board Chairman Tim Holtz thanked George for his proposal and presentation to the Board. It was mentioned that the Board would take George LaVanish's proposal under consideration and would get back to him concerning the Board's decision. At that time, a call for officer reports was then made by Board Chairman Tim Holtz.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Chapter President Gary Beatty reported that he has had a very busy summer in taking care of Chapter business. It was mentioned that the paperwork for some Super Fund proposals had been misplaced and/or lost somewhere between the Chapter and National. President Beatty assured the Board that he would work towards getting the problem corrected. In concluding his report, Chapter President Gary Beatty informed the Board that he would report on the NWTF Turkey Hunter Safety Task Force and other matters under other categories of the agenda.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Secretary Rick Moroney asked if there were any corrections or additions to be made to the August 1997 Minutes. In reference to the Treasurer's Report on Page 2 of the August '97 Minutes, Don Heckman requested that the record should show that instead of "...baking in the sun on some beach...." that Don Heckman was basking or maybe basking in the sun on the Outer Banks....

It was also noted that the June '97 Minutes were referred to as the August '97 Minutes. Corrections were made accordingly. On page 7, under Target 2000 Funds, paragraph 3- ...the Governor's Sportsmen's Coalition may be able to influence some change. This was corrected to read ...**the Governor's Sportsmen's Advisory Council may be able to influence**.... For the record, on page 9, under Home Page, it was noted that Don Heckman is not just the...Chief Administrative Assistant to the Web Master....but rather the **CIO, CIA and AA to the Web Master**. Also for the record, let the Minutes show that **only Don Heckman**, in his infinite wisdom, knows what that means.

There being no other additions or corrections made, **a motion to accept the August '97 Minutes as corrected was made by Ron Sandrus, seconded by Don O'Brien. Motion carried.**

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Don Heckman presented the Treasurer's Report for the period ending August 31, 1997 as follows: Total assets were \$7584.96 with no liabilities, leaving a total fund balance of \$7584.96. Total revenue for the quarter was \$18,359.41, with a year-to-date total revenue of \$61,426.90. Total operating expenses for the quarter were \$16,117.06, with total expenses year-to-date of \$62,150.45, leaving a total expense deficit of \$723.55. Treasurer Don Heckman mentioned that the Chapter's year-ending Treasurer's Report was submitted to National before the September 20, 1997 deadline. **A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented was made by Boyd Enos, seconded by Mark Davis. Motion carried.**

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: No report.

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD REPORT: No report.

NWTF REGIONAL REPORT: Regional Director Larry Holjencin reported that the Chapter's total membership (adult and JAKES members) was 12,023 to date. He also noted that Wisconsin's total membership stood at 11,928. The membership race continues! Regional Director Holjencin acknowledged that our local chapters have done an excellent job in recruiting members through their fundraising banquets. Larry also mentioned the Lakeland Longbeards and Nittany Valley Longbeards chapters as examples of how our local chapters have been doing a good job of recruiting JAKES through various programs. A tip of the camo hat is extended to all our local chapters for helping us to reach the goals and objectives of our organization.

Super Fund: Regional Director Larry Holjencin reported that, to date, the Chapter has deposited \$156,225.00 into the Super Fund account for 1997, while spending \$191,280.00 on wild turkey projects, leaving a Super Fund balance of \$77,493.00. It should be noted that a Super Fund balance is usually carried over from year to year, and that these figures do not reflect Super Fund dollars raised at most of the '97 fall banquets, since reports from these banquets had not been received and/or compiled as yet. For the record, Chapter Super Fund requests are approved for funding based on the current Super Fund balance and projected Super Fund income among other factors taken under consideration.

Outdoor Women: RD Holjencin reported that National hired Carol Jordan of South Carolina on September 16, 1997. Carol will serve as coordinator for the NWTF's Outdoor Women's program. According to Larry, Carol is a hunter, angler and shooter with extensive experience in the outdoors. She is also a South Carolina Hunter/Safety Education Instructor, and has been an instructor for South Carolina's "Becoming an Outdoor Woman" program. It was suggested that Chapter President Gary Beatty should write a letter to Carol, welcoming her into the flock on behalf of the Chapter.

Porter Wagner JAKES Days: Regional Director Larry Holjencin reported that the Porter Wagner JAKES Days would be held on June 25 - 28, 1998. Due to corporate support the cost for a JAKE member to attend this program has been reduced from \$1000.00 to \$500.00. Larry mentioned that the program would be limited to 65 spots and that a spot would be held for each state chapter until October 24, at which time spots would be available on a first-come-first-served basis.

Youth Art Contest: Regional Director Larry Holjencin informed the Board that National would be conducting a youth art competition in conjunction with the NWTf convention. As reported, there will be three age group categories (six to nine, 10 to 13, and 14 to 17 years old) for the art competition. Larry mentioned that he had more information and details about the youth art competition for anyone who is interested or might know of a youth who is artistically gifted and may want to enter the competition.

NWTf Staff: RD Holjencin reported that National has hired a Regional Director for Arkansas. Of more significance, this hiring represents the first woman who has been hired by the NWTf for a Regional Director position. However, as mentioned, she is not the First Lady, Hillary Clinton.

Closer to home, Larry mentioned that Pennsylvania will be split next year between him and Regional Supervisor Jerry Zimmerman. According to RD Holjencin, RS Zimmerman will be giving up Delaware, New Jersey and Maryland. The NWTf will begin to interview candidates for a Regional Director position for those three states beginning in May, with a projected hiring date of June. It was also mentioned that the new RD would need to relocate in Delaware, if not already living there. Good News!

More Good News: It was reported that Dr. James Earl Kenamer, NWTf Vice President for Conservation Programs, was the recipient of the C.W. Watson Award. According to RD Holjencin, this is the most prestigious award given in the Southeast. This award is presented to the career individual who, in the opinion of the award committee, has made the greatest contribution to wildlife or fisheries conservation during the previous year or years. I think that (the award) says alot for James Earl's accomplishments, and also says alot for our organization, Larry said. It was suggested that Chapter President Gary Beatty should send a letter of congratulations to Dr. James Earl on behalf of the Chapter.

Turkey Hunter Education: It was reported by RD Holjencin that the NWTf Turkey Hunter Safety Task Force had developed a Turkey Hunter Education course, which could possibly be used here in Pennsylvania. According to Larry, RS Jerry Zimmerman is planning to meet with Dr. James Earl Kenamer in December to discuss possible ways to implement this educational course in Pennsylvania. For the record, our Chapter has had several meetings with the PA Game Commission staff members about this very subject. It is our desire to develop a comprehensive turkey hunting safety education course for use in Pennsylvania. More importantly, it would appear as though we are about to take a giant step towards that end.

NWTf TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT: PGC Wildlife Biologist Bill Drake provided the Chapter Board with a copy of the WCO Summer Turkey Sighting Survey. As noted, the 1997 statewide summer turkey sighting index value (16.5 turkeys seen/1000 miles traveled) was the same as the 1996 index value (16.4 turkeys seen/1000 miles traveled). According to Wildlife Biologist Drake, this data indicates that the fall 1997 turkey populations and harvests should be similar to those of the 1996 fall season statewide, and that 1997's recruitment was probably about average. Bill informed the Board that the WCO summer sighting survey has been, over the past five - seven years, a good indicator of what the fall turkey harvest will be. If we would realize a 20 percent increase in the statewide summer sighting survey, then we would probably see a 20 percent increase in the statewide turkey harvest for that fall season, Bill said.

Other Activities: As reported, Biologist Bill Drake attended the Northeast Wild Turkey Technical Committee meeting at Hagerstown, MD in September, and the Michaux State Forest Wild Turkey Task Force meeting in Franklin County on October 1. According to Bill, both meetings were productive and informative.

Of Special Interest: Wildlife Biologist Bill Drake spoke very highly and candidly about the Michaux State Forest Wild Turkey Task Force. For the record, this task force is somewhat unique in that the group was formed to address a turkey management problem on the Michaux State Forest. That's Bill Drake's job and the primary responsibility of the PGC. Therefore, Bill acknowledged that he was, at first, somewhat concerned

about this task force and the possibility of receiving too much input and having others telling Bill and the PGC how to do their job. I think we (the PGC) had seen problems there (on the Michaux State Forest), Bill said. I think we (the PGC) had taken some initial action to make a correction. But Don (Heckman) took the initiative to get all the people...the agency, the professionals, people in the turkey federation, local sportsmen and others together to try to jointly address the problem and to discuss the issues. And it has been great, Bill exclaimed. It has worked exactly that way. I don't think that we still agree entirely. But, before the meeting, in my opinion, I think we had more of a difference of opinions. But we,ve (MSFWTTF) had good communication. Everyone has been able to voice their opinion, and everyone knows where everybody else is coming from. And I think the group is focused on seeing that the problem is addressed and, hopefully, corrected, Bill stated.

I think the group has been nothing but productive. I'm looking forward to more of these (meetings). But, hopefully, not too many more (meetings), because I want to see that thing (the problem with the turkey population on Michaux State Forest) turned around. And I think it will be. And I think this group (MSFWTTF) will be a big part of that correction, Bill concluded.

Bottom Line: We need to tip our camo hat and salute Don Heckman for having the interest, making the time, and for taking the initiative to assemble this task force. And for having the foresighted vision and where-for-all to assemble a group of people with a collective mindset of interest and drive to get the task before them accomplished in a professional manner - without having to deal with the criticism and bickering so often associated within the deer hunting management circle.

NWTF Hiring: Biologist Bill Drake informed the Board that National hired Biologist Brian Burns, formerly with the Florida Fish and Game Department. Biologist Burns will be working out of the NWTF Conservation Department under Dr. James Earl Kennamer. In addition, it was mentioned that Chuck Peoples, from Georgia, was hired by the NWTF to work on southern pine plantation management. Further, it was noted that National is looking to hire a third individual for the Conservation Department.

At the conclusion of Bill Drake's report, Board Chairman Tim Holtz opened the floor for questions. Don Heckman expressed his concern for PGC management policy as it relates to the wild turkey, and as that management policy relates to the lack of funding and personnel as a result of the license increase not being approved. Don was concerned that the PGC might consider making a decision that, since the turkey population was doing well on a statewide basis, would render the wild turkey a low priority based on its current status and a lack of funding and personnel. The wild turkey is in first place. What happens when the wild turkey is in last place? Don asked. It's our job (the Chapter's) to work with the PGC, Bureau of Forestry and the NWTF to see that that doesn't happen. If someone is not in the field doing some kind of wild turkey research project, I would be concerned, Don said. Because that tells me that somebody is making a decision that, since the wild turkey is doing okay, there is no need to do anything else. And I don't agree with that. Or else we wouldn't be in the situation that we're in down on 7B, Don concluded.

Don's concerns were certainly legitimate ones that may have also been seeded in the minds of other Board members in facing the reality of the PGC's limited funding due to the legislature's failure and/or reluctance to approve a hunting license increase. However, Biologist Drake assured the Board that, despite limited funds and limited personnel, all is not doom and gloom regarding PGC's wild turkey management policy. Because things are going so well (in regards to statewide wild turkey populations), why put alot of money and effort into it? Because we,ve (the PGC) got alot of other things that aren't going well, and we (the PGC) have a limited amount of money and manpower, Bill stated. So, to me, it makes sense to put money into deer management and I.& E. programs. We're trying to place our direction and priorities where they are needed most, Bill explained.

In continuing, Bill stated: If we (the PGC) do our job, with the limited amount of money and manpower that we are putting into turkey management right now, the best impact is good harvest management. First, with good harvest management data, we can detect if we are having a turkey population problem. We may not know what is happening or why it's happening, but we can detect that it's happening. And, in my opinion, we can probably assure that we won't get into trouble with wild turkey populations, if we keep good, accurate

turkey population and harvest management data. In general, that's where it's at, as far as the Game Commission and wild turkey research...Population Management. If we do a good job there, we're not going to get turkeys into problems. I agree that we're (the PGC) not doing much with turkeys. Maybe we don't need to do much. But for what we are doing, we're working where it counts, and it's working. And I think it will continue to work in the future, Bill stated.

There's a lot of things I would like to know (about the wild turkey). West Virginia and Virginia just got through spending a lot of money on turkey research. It's good information, and I think we should know that in Pennsylvania. But if we knew that, could we do a better job? Could we do better with wild turkeys? And I have to answer: well, there's probably a good chance that we could...some...maybe...and maybe we wouldn't do a dang bit better, Biologist Drake exclaimed. But we'd know more about them. But that doesn't say we would do anything. Even if we knew all that West Virginia and Virginia knows, after all the time, effort and the money that they put into it down there. Because, as far as I'm concerned, we're doing one heck of a job right now here in Pennsylvania with an almost minimal amount of effort that we're putting into wild turkeys. That's the way I look at it, Bill concluded.

More Questions: In noting that Regional Supervisor Jerry Zimmerman did not make the meeting, and that Don Heckman's Treasury Report was uncharacteristically brief, Biologist Bill Drake made a gallant effort to keep his report brief and to the point. That was accomplished. But the Board would not let Bill off the hook, and kept baiting him with some tough, but good, questions.

In reference to the WCO Summer Sighting Survey Report, Chapter President Gary Beatty said: I know it's important to keep this information. But when do you get to the point where you have to react to the findings? For example, in Management Area 3, turkey sightings reached a high point of 37.1 in 1994 and a low of 17.8 sightings in 1997. That's the lowest number of sightings since 1990 (17.9), when the number of sightings began a gradual increase to a high (37.1) in 1994. At which time, a downward trend began from 37.1 (1994) to 35.7 (1995) to 20.9 (1996) and now 17.8 (1997). Are we seeing a problem there in Area 3 and, if so, when do we react to the problem? What can we do? Gary asked.

In reply, Biologist Drake said that he had to make a decision on his recommendations for the 1998 fall season before the third week in December. We have to make a decision in Area 7B on whether to have a one week fall season or to close the season. But this Management Area 3 is an area where maybe we should be recommending a two week fall season (traditionally, MA 3 has had a three week fall season).

President Beatty interjected do we know that the population is down (in MA 3) because of over harvesting, spring recruitment or lack of habitat?

We don't know that. And, if we did know that, what difference would it make? Drake replied.

What do we need to do there? Should we have been improving the habitat so that the turkey population didn't fall off? Beatty asked.

You can't do that, Biologist Bill Drake stated. That's something the (Board) needs to understand. You can spend all your money and energy on improving habitat in MA 3, and still won't increase turkey populations in Area 3 by 10 percent. And, if you did, it would take 30 to 40 years to get there. That's the point with habitat. You're pretty well locked in for the most part. You can improve it some, but not much. That's why you have to manage turkeys with harvest management. And, if you've got a problem, you have to address that problem. If it's habitat, you do what you can...predators...weather...you do what you can. But the thing that we can change to make a difference from one year to the next is reducing the fall harvest by reducing the length of the fall season, Biologist Drake stated.

In noting that there is a problem in Management Area 3, but not a major problem, Biologist Drake acknowledged that a tough decision needs to be made. As noted, a political outburst from area hunters could circumvent efforts to correct the problem. To the point, most area hunters are probably not even aware that there is a turkey population problem in Management Area 3 and, therefore, would probably be outraged over any consideration given to reducing the fall season in Area 3 from three weeks to two weeks.

Habitat: Joe Krug expressed his concern over Bill Drake's comments regarding the effectiveness of habitat improvement. We, as hunters, know that, when we get into good habitat, there's lots of game. When

we get into areas where the habitat is poor, the game is poor. No amount of harvest manipulation is going to change that, Joe Krug said.

That's the point I'm trying to make, Biologist Bill Drake replied. The things that we can manipulate are not habitat. We can manipulate harvest. Habitat is something that we've worked at for years. We have limited resources. There is only so much we can do. If I could give you triple the money and manpower to do habitat, you might make an impact. But you can't do that, Bill said.

I can agree that habitat work is intensive, and it's costly, Joe Krug replied. But I have seen areas where there were huge strip mines and, just because there were a few hedge rows of autumn olive and asiatic crabapple planted, that instead of being a wildlife desert, ended up being a very productive area. And I don't think we can turn our back on habitat just because it is labor intensive and costly. Because no amount of harvest control can make up for poor habitat, Joe said.

You're misinterpreting the point I am trying to make, Biologist Bill Drake countered. Every wildlife species depends on one thing...one thing, only...not harvest...not population control...it's habitat. That's what dictates everything...everything. The point I am trying to make is that we cannot control habitat much. We can't impact habitat very much. Our ability, our money and manpower, to make a substantial change has never...has never been able to make much of a change in any wildlife species.

Much more discussion took place on this subject. We heard additional comments from Board Chairman Tim Holtz and Board members Joe Krug, Ron Sandrus, Dennis Strawbridge and Bill Mackereth. **Bottom Line:** Biologist Bill Drake does not want anyone to get the impression that he doesn't think habitat and habitat enhancement is not an important management tool. If we can make habitat enhancement more effective in any way, then we should do that, Bill said. But we should not expect habitat enhancement to substantially increase our wildlife populations. It's not realistic to think that way. There are too many constraints beyond our control for habitat to have a substantial impact.

Game Lands Projects: Regional Director Larry Holjencin questioned Biologist Bill Drake about the November 31 deadline for submitting Super Fund requests for projects being done on State Game Lands. Bill stated that any Super Fund project being done on State Game Lands needs to be reviewed by Greg Grabowicz, PGC Bureau Director of Land Management, before the February meeting of the Habitat Committee and, therefore, projects need to be cleared and a copy of the proposal sent to land managers before the November 31 deadline.

Red Flags: Don Heckman alerted the Board to the "red flags" that flew up during Biologist Drake's report. As noted, Bill Drake will be retiring in about two years. Biologists Arnie Hayden and Jerry Wunz were not replaced by a wild turkey biologist when they retired. What will happen when Bill retires? Our wild turkey population is doing well on a statewide basis, but there are problems in some Management Areas. What will the situation be three years from now? We don't want the wild turkey to go the way of the deer, woodcock and pheasant. The Chapter needs to make sure that that doesn't happen. Education and communication is the key, and our Chapter Board is charged with that mission, Don Heckman said. In turn, Chairman Tim Holtz charged Don Heckman with the responsibility of keeping the Board focused on the situation.

Biologist Bill Drake mentioned that population management and education is the PGC's job. But the way this thing has to work is the way Management Area 7B has worked, Bill said. I need to bring these things to your attention and, then, you need to support us...whether politically, with I&E or what not. That has always happened, and I hope it will continue to happen. But I think we (the PGC) need to take the lead on it, bring it to your attention and, then, you (the Chapter) can give us whatever help you can.

COMMUNICATIONS: The first item of communications was a letter from Bruce Smith of the House Game and Fisheries Committee concerning HB 350, which would require the PGC to have at least one day of bear season on Saturday. Chapter President Gary Beatty thought that this was something the Board would not want to become involved in and, therefore, did not act upon it.

Received a letter from NWTf Executive Vice President & CEO Rob Keck about the NWTf's five year strategic plan. It was noted that all local chapter presidents had been copied on the letter.

Received a letter from Carol Jordan, NWTF Outdoor Woman Program Coordinator, regarding the NWTF's Outdoor Woman Program. Carol was seeking input for a name, logo and mission statement for the new program.

Received a letter from PGC Executive Director Don Madl about Super Fund requests for projects on State Game Lands to be completed by November 31.

Received a letter from NWTF Board Member Dick Kirby asking for our support for his election to the NWTF Board of Directors. As noted, ballots will be included in an upcoming issue of "Turkey Call."

Received a letter from PGC Bureau Director of Information & Education Lantz Hoffman, regarding the PGC's active involvement in youth programs and activities. It was noted that a listing of those activities was distributed at our August Board meeting.

Received a copy of the letter which NWTF Executive Vice President and CEO Rob Keck had sent to Pennsylvania Governor Tom Ridge, requesting Governor Ridge's support for the PGC's hunting license increase.

Received a press release from NWTF, listing shooter's names and events which took place at the National shoot held in Augusta, Georgia.

Chapter President Gary Beatty sent a letter to Vern Ross, Chairman of the Governor's Sportsmen's Advisory Council, stating that our Board supports the decision of the Governor's Sportsmen's Advisory Council, as it relates to candidate recommendations for appointment to the PGC's Board of Commissioners.

Received a thank you letter from YHEC for our support of the Pennsylvania youth shooting at the YHEC National Event, in Raton, New Mexico. As noted, Pennsylvania Senior Teams placed 1st and 2nd over-all in the Nation for 1997. It was also noteworthy that two of the young shooters had written personal thank yous.

Received a thank you letter from the PGC for our support of their "Becoming an Outdoor Woman" program.

Received a thank you letter from Pennsylvania Sportsmen Magazine Editor Ben Moyer for our sponsorship of the POWA wild turkey writing award, which Ben had received.

Received a thank you letter from NWTF Executive Vice President and CEO Rob Keck for our Chapter's contribution in memory of Dave Harrelson.

Received a reminder from the Wildlife Legislative Fund that our supporting membership fee will soon be due.

Ron Sandrus agreed to write a letter of congratulations, on behalf of the Chapter, to Betty Lou Fegley for her being elected to President of the OWAA.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Dennis Strawbridge reported on behalf of Skip Sanderson, Chairman of the Promotional Committee. Dennis mentioned that Skip would like the Promotional Committee and the Safety Education Committee to review the idea of having a promo ruler considered for a Super Fund project. According to Skip's written report, this would be a six inch ruler with a safety and ethics message printed on one side and the NWTF scoring system on the other side. Cost would be approximately \$.34 each for an order of 5000 rulers. It was suggested that the rulers could be used as free hand-outs at shows.

In his written report, Skip informed the Board that he has not forgotten about the trucks, money clips, lighters, etc. As noted, Skip believes that timing will be essential for selling these items, and would prefer to wait another year before ordering any 25th anniversary items. As reported, Skip has a photographer working on producing photos of the promo items for use in "Turkey Talk" and on the Web Site. Skip also wrote a letter to "Turkey Talk" Editor Larry Smail, regarding a promo ad in "Turkey Talk." According to Skip's report, he and Larry played phone tag but never talked. However, when the promo photos are done, the ad details can be worked out more aggressively.

Skip mentioned in his report that there are a few watches and plenty of 20th Anniversary pins remaining and, of course, there are always plenty of mugs, patches, decals, T-Shirts, embroidered and camo hats for sale.

First Bird Certificate: Dennis Strawbridge, Chairman of the Paper Supplies Committee, informed the

Board that he had a rough draft copy of the First Bird Certificate available for the Board's review and approval.

Gun Raffle: Chairman Ed Kemp expressed some concern over the number of tickets which are unaccounted for - not being returned either sold or unsold. Some discussion took place regarding this subject, and several Board members expressed their opinions. **Bottom Line:** It's important that our Gun Raffle Chairman has all tickets and/or stubs returned for accountability purposes - even if the raffle is already over.

Art Committee: Chairman Reed Johnson reported that 50 some "Apprentice" prints are in Mark Twain Noe's hands right now. The committee is waiting to get those prints back for distribution into our fundraising banquet system. In addition, Reed reported that a trailer was rented to get all of the print boxes delivered to his home in Clearfield.

Land Acquisition Committee: Chairman Boyd Enos submitted a written report of his committee's activities. To date, the LAC has funded three land acquisition projects for a total of \$26,200.00, leaving approximately \$16,300.00 in the LAC budget, with no new requests being acted upon at this time.

District Directors: District Directors Mark Davis, Don O'Brien, and Bill Laird submitted written reports of their activities to the Board. Some of the many varied activities of our District Directors included:

- *Met with Pennsylvania House and Senate representatives

- *Attended and worked at local chapter fundraising banquets

- *Toured habitat projects and worked on habitat improvement.

- *Manned booths for local chapters at sport shows

- *Attended Local Chapter meetings, Fundraising Banquet meetings, JAKES meetings and Chapter Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings.

- *Represented Local Chapter in the donation of a 10 foot seed drill to the PGC

- *Met with PGC staff

- *Attended meeting of the Michaux State Forest Wild Turkey Task Force

More importantly, our District Directors continued to assist Regional Supervisor Jerry Zimmerman and District Director Larry Holjencin in carrying out the goals and objectives of our Chapter and the NWTF organization.

OLD BUSINESS: Under the first item of Old Business, Ron Sandrus updated the Board concerning our sponsorship of POWA awards. As noted, there was discussion by the Board on this subject during our August Board meeting. Some discussion did take place, however, which was basically a rehash of matters already visited. There being no further ado, a motion to sponsor the POWA turkey hunting writer's award for the next three years was made by Bill Mackereth, seconded by Dennis Strawbridge. Motion carried.

Convention '98: Chairman Bill Laird updated the Board on where his committee was at in regards to the Chapter's '98 Convention. According to Bill's report, their committee is still in need of help from our local chapters to help provide manpower and to provide some financial assistance to help offset some costs. For room reservations call the Radisson Hotel in Camp Hill at (717) 763-7117.

Roger Latham Award: Chapter President Gary Beatty reminded the Board that the Chapter had nominated Joe Krug for the NWTF Roger Latham Sportsmen's Award, and that Joe would need letters of support from board members to include in his resume.

NWTF Certificate of Achievement: President Beatty announced that the Chapter had been presented with a Certificate of Achievement from NWTF for having spent over \$500,000.00 on Super Fund projects.

Youth Field Days: Bill Laird asked if the Chapter would be providing prints for the Youth Field Days events again in 1998. Art Committee Chairman Reed Johnson assured Bill and the Board that the prints were available and would be distributed to the PGC Regional Offices for use in the Youth Field Days Program.

For the Record: Don Heckman referred to page 2 of the Chapter's August '97 Minutes in regards to a promotion done by "PA Afield." As mentioned, the Chapter received \$830.00 for the "PA Afield" subscription promotion and \$308.00 for the "PA Afield" survey of Chapter members. And not, as recorded...approximately \$1100.00 from "PA Afield" as a result of a subscription promotion which targeted Chapter members. **Bottom Line:** The money received from "PA Afield" came from two separate promotional avenues and not the same street. Along those same lines, Don Heckman informed the Board that "PA Afield" changed its name to "Pennsylvania Outdoor Times."

Home Page: Don Heckman distributed copies of the information and contents contained on the Chapter's Home Page. Don outlined what was happening with the Chapter's Home Page, and asked for positive input from the Board - what does the Board like about the Home Page contents; what don't they like; and how can the Home Page be improved?

Spring Gobbler: Don Heckman met with PGC Executive Director Don Madl to set the wheels in motion for a two bird limit in the spring season. Details of the two bird limit for spring gobbler season have not been worked out, yet, but Don did explain some of the procedure steps which need to be taken in order to get a two bird limit for spring.

Interactive Video: Don Heckman referred to page 11, of the August '97 Minutes, under Interactive Video, paragraph 6, where it is recorded: If we want to use the interactive video for the Harrisburg Show and our state convention, we're going to have to purchase a unit. For the record, Don stated that an agreement had been reached with Dr. James Earl Kennamer to have the interactive video shipped from Edgefield to the Harrisburg Show. Don had other information to share with the Board, regarding some possible changes being made to the interactive video system. Based on that information, it was a consensus of the Board to table any action on the interactive video until the January Board meeting. At which time, it is hoped that more information and an update status report of the interactive video will be available.

Press Release: In nothing that the Chapter has spent over \$1 million for Super Fund projects, Don Heckman expressed a strong opinion that the Chapter needs to put out a press release on the Chapter having reached this \$1 million milestone. Some discussion took place, and it was mentioned that Board Chairman Tim Holtz sent the necessary information to PR Chairman Ron Tussel. Further, BC Holtz assured the Board that he would see to it that a press release was put out.

Michaux State Forest Wild Turkey Task Force: Don Heckman informed the Board that, in his opinion, the cooperation demonstrated by the parties involved with the Task Force has been exemplary. It was also noted that some of the action plans have been acted upon and are bearing fruit. As reported, fines have been levied for the unauthorized use of vehicles on the MSF. Along those same lines, it was suggested that Management Area 7B should be closed to fall turkey hunting, based on research data collected over the past three years. This data has shown a steady decline of the turkey population on Management Area 7B and, presently, shows the turkey population to be at a low point...a very low point.

House Bill 1200: According to Don Heckman, HB 1200 (hunting license increase) has been put on hold until after the November '98 election. **Bottom Line:** Our elected politicians in Harrisburg are holding the PGC hostage...

Pennsylvania Wild Turkey Management Plan: Don Heckman asked Biologist Bill Drake when he expects the Wild Turkey Management Plan to be completed. To the obvious chagrin of Don Heckman, Bill was unable to guarantee a deadline date for completion. Don suggested that the Chapter should write a letter to PGC Bureau Director of Wildlife Management Cal DuBrock, in an effort to express the Chapter's desire for completion of the Management Plan. Board Chairman Tim Holtz interjected that Don's suggestion would be taken under consideration by the Executive Committee, and that the Board would be updated on the status of the Management Plan during the January Board meeting.

Youth Activities: Don Heckman referred to the PGC document which outlines youth activities and programs that the PGC is actively involved with. It was suggested that the Chapter's Youth Committee should review this document in an effort to determine what youth activities/programs that our Chapter could support and/or become actively involved with. Along those lines, it was decided that this matter would be taken under consideration by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee was charged with the responsibility of reviewing the PGC youth document and making a recommendation to the Youth Committee.

First Bird Certificate: Having had the opportunity to review Dennis Strawbridge's rough draft of a new First Bird Certificate, the Board approved Strawbridge's recommendation, and charged Dennis with the responsibility of getting the job completed before the January Board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: Under the first item of New Business, the Chapter's Art Committee recommended that the Board should approve George LaVanish's proposal to work with the Chapter on a print/patch program. A motion to work with George LaVanish on a print/patch program as outlined under Option 2 with details to be worked out by the Chapter Art Committee and Wildlife Artist George LaVanish was made by Reed Johnson, seconded by Bill Mackereth. Motion carried.

DCNR Bureau of Forestry: As reported the Bureau of Forestry has proposed rule changes which govern management and law enforcement on state forest lands. This proposal was reviewed by the Chapter's Executive Committee and a recommendation was made to the Board. A motion directing the Chapter President to write a letter to the DCNR Bureau of Forestry in support for their proposed rule changes, and to highlight the six rule changes which pertain to the wild turkey resource, was made by Don Heckman, seconded by Reed Johnson. Motion carried.

Seedling Program: As reported, Musser's Nursery in Indiana County is scheduled to be dug up for the purpose of building a state prison on the property. As a result, the Bureau of Forestry has listed 575,312 trees/shrubs which will become available for planting by the citizens of Pennsylvania. Along those lines, a motion to have the Chapter work with PGC Conservation Organization Liaison John Plowman to secure trees/shrubs from Musser's Nursery for planting was made by Don Heckman, seconded by Reed Johnson. Motion carried.

Porter Wagner JAKES Days: A motion for the Chapter to provide sponsorship for two (2) JAKES to attend the Porter Wagner JAKES Days event at a cost of \$500.00/JAKE was made by Bill Mackereth, seconded by Reed Johnson. Motion carried.

Wildlife Legislative Fund: A motion to have the Chapter renew their membership with the Wildlife Legislative Fund was made by Don Heckman, seconded by Don O'Brien. Motion carried.

Safety Task Force: Chapter President Gary Beatty updated the Board on what took place at the NWTF Wild Turkey Safety Task Force meeting in Edgefield. As noted, there was a lot of interaction and discussion relative to wild turkey hunting accidents. Of more importance, it was reported that the Safety Task Force has taken steps to develop a comprehensive Wild Turkey Hunting Safety and Education course.

Safety Hologram: Ron Sandrus asked if anyone had any safety holograms left over from an earlier program. It was noted that an individual out West was interested in obtaining some of the holograms.

Robot Decoy: It was reported that Local Chapter #1 President Alan Hoke had a contact in Ohio who could provide a fully operational wild turkey robot decoy, at a cost of \$600.00. As noted, the Chapter has expressed interest in purchasing some of these decoys and donating them to the law enforcement branch of the PGC. Chapter President Gary Beatty agreed to contact Alan Hoke to set the wheels in motion.

GOOD OF THE ORDER: Board Chairman Tim Holtz informed the Board that the Executive Committee would be meeting at his home in God's Country for their annual hunt/meeting on November 14-15. An invitation to the hunt/meeting was extended to the Board.

Internet: Bill Laird mentioned that the PGC and www . com Heckman worked together to put out an interesting article on the internet. Along those lines, it was suggested that the Chapter should write a letter of appreciation to the PGC. Further, it was suggested that the Chapter should extend our appreciation and thanks to Don Heckman for all he has done in setting up the Chapter's Home Page.

Announcement: It was announced by Board Chairman Tim Holtz that our January Board meeting would be held at the Greenwood Lodge in Clearfield County during the second weekend of January.

Governor's Symposium: Don Heckman mentioned that the Governor's Symposium would be held August 12 - 16, 1998. Don also said that he plans to make a proposal at the January Board meeting to establish a committee which would work with the PGC and Sportsmen's Advisory Council on setting up a wild turkey display at the Governor's Symposium.

Press Release: Don Heckman thanked the Susquehanna Chapter for the great job that they are doing in getting press releases out to the public.

Photo Recognition: Don Heckman informed the Board that another celebrity was among our ranks. As mentioned, Board Chairman Tim Holtz had a photograph of his published on the front cover of Pennsylvania Forest magazine.

Board Meeting Attendance: The following Board members did not attend the October Board meeting:

Dan Roessner, Sam Truxel, Skip Sanderson, Dave Blakley, Rudy Kovacina and Dale Rohm.

There being no further business to come before the Board, **a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ron Sandrus, seconded by Bill Mackereth. Motion carried.** The Pennsylvania Chapter's October 1997 Board of Directors meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m. (in plenty of time for the Penn State versus Ohio kickoff.)

Respectfully submitted,

Richard E. Moroney, Secretary
Pennsylvania Chapter
National Wild Turkey Federation



PENNSYLVANIA STATE CHAPTER THE NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION

ORGANIZED 1975

August 28, 1997

TO: ALL OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, LOCAL CHAPTER PRESIDENTS, TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
AND MEMBERS OF THE LOYAL ORDER OF THE SILVER SPURS.

Enclosed, for your review and reference, please find a copy of the August 1997 Minutes of our Board of Directors meeting held at Warriors Mark. The next meeting of our Chapter Board will be held on **October 11, 1997** at Warriors Mark in Centre County. The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m., on Saturday.

Executive Committee: Executive Committee members will meet on October 10, 1997 at the Frost Camp in Huntingdon County. The meeting will begin at 8:00 p.m., on Friday.

Directions to Warriors Mark: From State College take Route 26 south to Route 45 west, continue straight through flashing yellow light in Pine Grove Mills. Go 6.5 miles and turn right toward Pennsylvania Furnace. Go 3 miles and turn left onto Dry Hollow Road. Go 3 miles to Warriors Mark Shooting Preserve.

From Altoona take 220 north to Tyrone exit. Follow Route 453 south for 1/2 mile and turn left onto Route 550 north. Go 6 miles to Village of Warriors Mark. Continue on Route 550 for 1.25 miles and bear right off of Route 550 at Y. Go 2 miles to Warriors Mark Shooting Preserve.

Directions to Frost Camp: From State College take Route 26 south. Turn left on Route 26 south at flashing yellow light in Pine Grove Mills. Follow Route 26 south up over Tussey Mountain and down the other side. Near the bottom of the mountain, turn right off of Route 26 south and onto RD Road towards Stone Valley Recreation Area. Travel approximately 1 mile. Where road bears left and heads down hill, turn right onto camp driveway. Bear left alongside building with grey/brown siding and follow lane back into camp.

From Southwest: Take Route 22 east towards Huntingdon (do not go to Huntingdon). Shortly after passing Route 45 where it meets Route 22 in Water Street (less than 1 mile), turn left onto Route 305 towards Alexandria. Follow Route 305 through Petersburg. Continue on Route 305 to Neffs Mills. At Neffs Mills, bear left onto RD Road (Route 305 goes right towards McAlevys Fort). Follow RD Road passing Stone Valley Recreation Area. Follow RD Road to intersection with Route 26. Turn around 180 degrees and back onto RD Road. Follow highlighted directions above.

Looking forward to seeing all of you on October 11, 1997...

Yours for good conservation,

Richard E. Moroney, Secretary
Pennsylvania Chapter, NWTf

ENCLOSURE:



PENNSYLVANIA STATE CHAPTER THE NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION

ORGANIZED 1975

PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER
NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
August 2, 1997
Warriors Mark, Pennsylvania

Following a Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag, the August 1997 Board of Directors meeting of the Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation was called to order by Board Chairman Tim Holtz at 9:05 a.m., on Saturday, August 2, 1997. It was then noted that a quorum was present, and the Pennsylvania Chapter could conduct the business to come before it.

Board Chairman Tim Holtz welcomed everyone to the meeting. Ground rules for our meeting were established by BC Holtz. He reminded the Board that only one speaker has the floor, and any interruptions of that speaker would be declared out of order by the Board Chairman. A call for officer reports was then made by Board Chairman Holtz.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Chapter President Gary Beatty reported that he had attended the Chapter shoot, NWTF Chapter Presidents' meeting in Edgefield and the Chapter's Presidents' meeting in State College. It was noted that President Beatty has been receiving a lot of Super Fund requests and Chapter communications/correspondence.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Secretary Rick Moroney apologized to the Board for being so late in getting the Minutes to them. It was noted that Secretary Moroney had experienced problems both technical and beyond his control, and that he would do a better job of getting the Minutes out on a more timely basis in the future. Secretary Moroney also apologized to the Board for not using his better judgment in stating personal opinions in the Minutes, particularly his own opinion as it relates to organizational direction.

Additions and corrections were made to the August '97 Minutes as follows: ^{JUNE} It was noted that a couple of items were omitted from the August '97 Minutes in an effort to save a tree and save the Chapter some postage. As reported, it is the responsibility of the Secretary to list Board members who were absent. For the record, Dan Roessner, Sam Truxel and Rich Weaver did not attend the August ^{JUNE} '97 Board of Directors Meeting.

Another item omitted from the Minutes was brought to the floor under the Good of the Order. For the record, Secretary Rick Moroney informed the Board about a suggestion made by Dick Kirby to have the Chapter conduct a Master of the Masters

calling contest for our 25th anniversary convention. It was thought that this would be a good idea and would be taken under consideration by the Masters' Committee.

Other corrections made to the '97 August Minutes were: On page one, first paragraph, ...the June 1997 Board of Directors meeting...was called to order by Board Chairman Tim Holtz at 9:10 p.m.,... This was corrected to read: ...was called to order by Board Chairman Tim Holtz at 9:10 a.m.,...

Page 5, Chapter Shoot: It was also noted that a steel target shoot would take place at Hillside. This was corrected to read: It was also noted that a still target shoot would take place at Hillside.

There being no further ^{June} corrections or additions made to the '97 ^{June} August Minutes, a motion to accept the August '97 Minutes as corrected was made by Dave Blakley, seconded by Don O'Brien. Motion carried.

*Set Record Straight \$830 Sub. *308 Survey*
In other business, Rick informed the Board that he had spoke with Past President Howard Meyers prior to our meeting. According to Howard, the Chapter has received approximately \$1100.00 from "PA Afield" as a result of a subscription promotion conducted by "PA Afield" which targeted Chapter members. Howard also provided the Board with "PA Afield's" August 1997 issue of its newspaper. It was noted that this issue of "PA Afield" contained two articles of special interest to the Chapter. A letter to the Editor by Don Heckman was published on page 4. On page 25, Charlie Burchfield published an article about habitat improvement and other events being conducted by the Susquehanna Chapter.

Secretary Moroney addressed the District Directors who were present, regarding the recording of their written reports in the Minutes. Rick felt that it would be redundant to record each individual report since the District Directors' activities and responsibilities are so similar and repetitive in nature. He did assure the District Directors that their names would be recorded as having submitted a report, and that their activities would be summarized. As noted, District Directors were asked to submit written reports of their activities for the benefit of the Executive Committee.

In concluding his report, Secretary Moroney stated that the "Lines for Longbeards" column written by Pete Bromley for the NWT "Caller" should be suggested reading for the Board, for the Chapter and for everyone else involved in the NWT.

 **TREASURER'S REPORT:** It was duly noted that our good friend Don Heckman was basking or maybe baking in the sun on ~~some~~ beach in North Carolina while other Board members were dedicating their weekend to conducting business of the Chapter. In the absence of our Treasurer, Chapter President Gary Beatty presented the Chapter Treasurer's report as follows: Our checking account balance as of July 31, 1997 was \$7276.98. All bills are paid, with nothing outstanding. Postage for the summer issue of "Turkey Talk" has been paid (\$1250.00). Expected expenses for the period August to October will be approximately \$4950.00. Fund balance at the end of the fiscal year will be approximately \$3000.00.

Gun Raffle: Expenses for the guns will be \$10,000.00. Treasurer Heckman would like to pay this bill in full after October Board meeting. Heckman needs a list of the guns and the cost of same sent to him as soon as Gun Raffle Committee

Chairman Ed Kemp gets his copy.

Special Note: Any bills submitted at the August Board meeting should either be sent directly to Don Heckman for payment or held over for payment until the October Board meeting.

A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented was made by Ron Sandrus, seconded by Mark Davis. Motion carried.

See Notes!
It was requested by Dan Roessner that the Minutes should reflect that the Treasurer's Report was the shortest, most direct report given in Dan's 15 year association with the Chapter. (This request was made with only the slightest implication that our Treasurer Don Heckman was not present.)

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: VP Dave Blakley reported that he had attended the Chapter shoot, the NWTF Chapter Presidents' meeting in Edgefield and the Chapter Presidents' meeting in State College.

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD REPORT: No report. However, BC Tim Holtz mentioned that he had several items to report under Committee, New and Old Business.

NWTF REGIONAL REPORT: Regional Supervisor Jerry Zimmerman updated the Board on the NWTF Chapter Presidents' meeting held at the Wild Turkey Center in Edgefield, SC. To begin, Jerry mentioned his appreciation for those who were able to attend the meeting in Edgefield. According to RS Zimmerman, it was a very good meeting and alot of information was disseminated to approximately 200 people in attendance. Jerry mentioned how this meeting affords an opportunity for our volunteers to visit NWTF headquarters, and to see, firsthand, how our building fund dollars have been well spent. It's a very nice building and, yet, not guady and not over spent, Jerry said. I think our Building Fund dollars have been well spent. It's a very adequate building, but everything is not all plush which, I think, is reflective of our organization, Jerry concluded.

Chapter President's Meeting: According to Jerry, he and Regional Director Larry Holjencin came away from that meeting with a feeling that it had been an excellent meeting. Unfortunately, some disappointment was noted in the fact that only 15 of our 40 local chapters were represented at the meeting. In looking forward to next year's Chapter Presidents' meeting, Jerry was hoping for 100 percent participation. He mentioned that the meeting was not long in duration (only about two hours), but alot of important information was disseminated. In talking to some of the guys, who were there for the first time, they came away from the meeting with a better understanding of how the Chapter operates, and a better understanding of how the NWTF operates, Jerry said.

NWTF/Chapter Information of Interest: '97 Milestones - NWTF surpasses 142,000 members (soon to top 150,000). Conducted 831 Super Fund banquets, netting over \$7,553,718.00. Pennsylvania and Wisconsin top 11,000 members. For the period January to June 1997, 851 wild turkey projects were funded for \$6,430,167.00. Thus far in 1997, Pennsylvania has deposited \$155,823.49 into its SF account, while funding 62 projects for \$148,272.20. Since 1986, Pennsylvania has deposited \$1,099,263.86 into the SF account, funding 469 projects at a cost of \$979,163.51, leaving a SF balance of \$120,100.33. **BIG NUMBERS!**

Along those same lines, Super Fund and cooperator dollars have accounted for 6352 wild turkey projects being funded for \$68,736,816.92 nationally since 1985.

Bottom Line: Pennsylvania chapters and chapters throughout the NWTF organization have done an exemplary job of raising and spending money for the wild turkey resource. Of special note, some of our chapter leaders have gone the extra mile to achieve **Golden Gobbler** status for their banquets. Our appreciation and a tip of the camo hat is extended to the following chapters who are Honored members of the **Golden Gobblers:**

Stony Valley, Northwest Thunderin' Toms, Mill Creek, Peters Creek Trail, Lakeland Longbeards, Allegheny Plateau, Moshannon, Endless Mountain, Whitehorse Mountain Longbeards, Lake Region Longbeards, Allegheny Sultans, Juniata Gobblers Association, Michaux Yellow Breeches, Blue Mountain, Fort Chambers, and Appalachian Trail.

Chapter Membership: It was reported that, as of the May/June issue of "Turkey Call," the Pennsylvania Chapter has dropped to second place behind Wisconsin in total members. Pennsylvania currently has 11,308 members, while Wisconsin has 11,749 members. A breakdown of members shows Pennsylvania with 8534 adult members (321 sponsors) and 2774 JAKES. On the other hand, Wisconsin has 8409 adult members (445 sponsors) and 3340 JAKES.

NWTF Convention: Regional Supervisor Jerry Zimmerman reminded the Board that the host hotel has been sold out. Those planning to attend the NWTF convention must make their room reservations now by contacting the Hyatt Hotel at 800-233-1234.

Chapter Convention: RS Jerry Zimmerman mentioned that the '98 Chapter convention will be at the Radisson Penn Harris Hotel and Convention Center in Camp Hill (near Harrisburg), on March 20-22, 1998. For room reservations contact the Radisson at 717-763-7117. As noted, we should not encounter any problems with room reservations as was the case last year at our convention in the Poconos.

Outdoor Women: RS Zimmerman updated the Board on the status of the NWTF's Outdoor Women's program. Jerry indicated that NWTF VP of Operations Carl Brown would be conducting interviews to fill that position during the month of August. As noted, this is a very good and timely program for our organization to become involved in. The woman hired to fill this position will have the responsibility of getting the program up and running, which will involve a lot of traveling. Jerry echoed the wishes of Chapter President Gary Beatty in that Pennsylvania wants to be the first state to conduct an NWTF Outdoor Women's program. It was also mentioned that we have some very qualified women in this state who could head up this program and help our Chapter to meet its goal.

NWTF REGIONAL REPORT: Regional Director Larry Holjencin had some information to add to Jerry's report on the NWTF convention. Larry mentioned that the Chapter Presidents' meeting would be held on Thursday, and that those planning to attend this meeting should arrive at the convention Wednesday evening. As reported, the Chapter Presidents' meeting will be conducted on site. RD Holjencin shared some other good news with the Board by reporting that Wild Turkey Bourbon has pledged \$100,000.00 over the next three years to sponsor the NWTF Grand National Calling Contest, which is held each year in conjunction with the NWTF convention.

Chapter Shoot: RD Holjencin reported that the Chapter shoot took place on June 29,

at Hillside. According to Larry, 74 shooters participated in this year's event, which was somewhat disappointing in that 73 shooters participated in the shoot the previous year. Larry mentioned some problems which may have resulted in not reaching our projected goal of surpassing 100 shooters at this year's event. However, Larry did indicate that those problems could be fixed, and that overall the Chapter shoot was a success. RD Holjencin acknowledged the winners of each division, and he informed the Board of those who were planning to attend the NWTF shoot in Atlanta. Larry also extended his appreciation and a tip of the camo hat to individual members of the Board and to individual members of the Somerset Chapter for their generous help and assistance at the Chapter shoot.

As discussed at the Chapter Presidents' meeting, RD Holjencin encouraged other local chapters to conduct a shoot at the local level, and to utilize this local shoot as a qualifier for the state shoot, whereby the local chapter would pay the entrance fee for division winners to attend the state shoot.

Porter Wagner JAKES Day: According to RD Larry Holjencin, the Porter Wagner JAKES day went quite well at Edgefield. Although there wasn't as much participation as hoped for, it was noted that some additional sponsorship was generated for this year's event. Larry reported that the NWTF is looking to reduce the cost a significant amount for next year's Porter Wagner JAKES day. Currently the cost to attend is \$1000.00 per individual, with a proposed reduction of anywhere from \$500.00 to a possible low of \$250.00 for an individual JAKES member to attend. Along those same lines, Larry reported that plans are being made to move the site of the Porter Wagner JAKES day to Hickory Knob State Park, which is about 45 minutes from Edgefield. It was mentioned that Larry and Jerry Zimmerman had attended a Regional Directors' meeting at this site, and both agreed that the site would be perfect for a JAKES event.

When a call for questions was made relative to Larry's report, RS Jerry Zimmerman interjected that a video of the Porter Wagner JAKES Days was being developed and would be made available to chapters interested in conducting a JAKES event. There being no further questions to come from the floor, Board Chairman Tim Holtz thanked Larry and Jerry for their reports, and acknowledged their efforts in putting together and conducting a Chapter shoot and Chapter Presidents' meeting.

NWTF TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT: PGC Wildlife Biologist Bill Darke reported that the Game Commission estimates Pennsylvania's turkey population at about 275,000. Bill indicated that this was a very conservative figure, which would change every six months based on the most recent harvest data. According to WB Drake, estimated turkey population figures are based on a three year trend of total harvest, assuming 25 percent of the total population was harvested. This estimated figure could also be reached by taking a three year average of the fall harvest, assuming 15 percent of the total population was harvested. However, as Bill stated, the niche in this estimated turkey population figure is whether or not hunters are actually reaching the assumed harvest percentages of the total population.

Continuing his report, Biologist Bill Drake informed the Board that Spring 1996 recruitment was about average, while turkey survival was excellent during the Winter of 1996-97. Although not at the record levels of 1995 or 1996, Spring 1997 breeding densities were also very good. Assuming that the summer turkey sighting survey data

shows a near average recruitment, the PGC anticipates a very good 1997 Fall wild turkey population.

Harvest Management: Pennsylvania's 1996 spring and fall wild turkey harvest were the second and third highest ever recorded, Biologist Bill Drake reported. For the record, the 1996 spring harvest (33,726) was seven percent below the record 1995 spring harvest. The 1996 fall turkey harvest (35,787) was 28 percent below the record 1995 fall harvest. As Bill mentioned, it is interesting to note that the statewide WCO summer turkey sightings also declined 28 percent from 1995 to 1996. The total harvest for the 1995 hunting license year (83,474) was 11 percent above the 1994 hunting license year total harvest.

Bill enlightened the Board by stating that hunting is not a major factor in turkey population trends. According to Bill, seasons and bag limits are set conservatively and, therefore, the primary factors which influence wild turkey populations are spring weather and habitat. That being the case, we probably aren't maximizing our hunting recreation. Ideally, we would maximize our recreation, which would effectively stabilize our turkey population. However, the PGC prefers to take a conservative approach in regards to recreational opportunities. Thereby, allowing turkey populations to continue to increase in order to meet the carrying capacity of available habitat, Bill said.

Several questions were raised from the floor by Board members concerned about spring weather, turkey populations and carrying capacity of available habitat. Some discussion took place which was general in nature and, with the bottom line being, that on a statewide basis our turkey population is in excellent shape. This discussion did, however, lead to another item of Chapter interest - a two gobbler limit for the spring season.

Spring Season: As noted by PGC Biologist Bill Drake, the Chapter has, for a number of years, advanced dialogue with PGC personnel about the possibility of a two bird spring season. During the Chapter's annual meeting with the PGC in June, this concept was, again, an item to be discussed on the agenda. Along those lines, Bill Drake indicated that the turkey population and hunter harvest rates appear to justify a two gobbler limit during the spring season. We've got the birds to have a second bird in the spring. But we don't want the second bird to be a bonus bird, because we believe this would encourage non-reporting of the fall harvest, Bill said. According to Bill, the PGC's hang-up is with the licensing agents. Bill questioned whether the license issuing agents would agree to a concept where hunters must choose upfront to hunt for one turkey in the fall and one gobbler in the spring or two gobblers in the spring. Bill felt that the way to overcome this obstacle would be to initiate a computerized system of issuing licenses. Some discussion took place relative to Bill's concern about negative feedback from license issuing agents. It was the opinion of the Board, however, that the details could be worked out, and that license issuing agents wouldn't pose that much of a problem.

Restoration Activities: Bill Drake informed the Board that, due to the limited number of gobblers transferred to SGL #242 and Codorus State Park release sites in York County this past winter, the PGC may have to transfer additional birds to these release sites again this coming winter - depending upon field observations of release results. After filling those needs, the PGC is prepared to participate in the NWTTF's Target 2000 program again this winter, if requested, Bill said.

Research and Management Activities: According to PGC Biologist Bill Drake, the PGC continues to collect fall and spring harvest and participation data by Turkey Management Area. Although the PGC has elected to base its management policy of the wild turkey on long term trends, the PGC will continue to collect data from the statewide WCO summer turkey sighting surveys. Bill expressed his concern that field officers may question the need to collect data from the summer turkey sighting surveys, if that data is not being used. However, this data will be available for use in the future, if the PGC determines that data taken from the summer turkey sighting surveys is important information that will help to prevent over harvest, Bill said.

Comprehensive Wild Turkey Management Plan for Pennsylvania: Bill Drake informed the Board that he is continuing to work on the Turkey Management Plan. Bill mentioned that he is waiting to get a draft back from Bill Shoupe, with his comments, to try to get somewhat of a final draft of the Turkey Management Plan completed.

PGC Target 2000 Funds: According to Bill Drake, 300 wild turkey sex and age criteria posters were purchased from the Maryland Chapter of the NWF (\$3.00/poster) for PGC WCOs and 75 "Managing openings for wild turkeys & other wildlife - a planting guide" pamphlets were purchased from the NWF (\$4.00/copy) for PGC Land Management Officers. With the purchase of these posters and pamphlets, all remaining Target 2000 funds earmarked for PGC use have been expended, Bill said.

In concluding his report, Bill informed the Board that he would be attending the Northeast Wild Turkey Technical Committee meeting in Maryland in September. Bill also mentioned that he would be attending the Michaux State Forest Wild Turkey Task Force meeting in Franklin County on October 1, 1997.

At the conclusion of Bill Drake's report, a question was raised on the floor by Don O'Brien. In noting that some hunters use up their allotment of report cards during the fall turkey and deer seasons, Don O'Brien asked for Bill Drake's thoughts on how that might affect the reporting rate of spring gobbler hunters. Bill Drake replied by stating that the fall turkey reporting rate is approximately 30 percent, while the most recent spring reporting rate was 15 percent. Part of the difference in reporting rates is attributed to a lack of report cards, if a spring gobbler hunter was successful in harvesting a fall turkey and a deer, Bill said. Bill indicated that the PGC's Wildlife Bureau is aware of the problem and continues to express its concerns. Apparently, however, the PGC's Licensing Bureau doesn't believe that reporting rates are important enough to justify the cost of additional report cards. Discussion continued on the matter, and it was determined that the Chapter and, possibly, the Governor's Sportsmens Coalition may be able to influence some change. *Council*

Bottom Line: The question remains on whether or not the current reporting rates for spring and fall turkey season are accurate. If these reporting rates are accurate, then the cost of providing additional report cards and/or other changes to the current system would not be justified. However, if the reporting rates are not accurate, it would probably be in the best interest of the Chapter to advance dialogue with the PGC for some sort of change to the current system of reporting.

COMMUNICATIONS: The first item of communications was a letter from the Wildlife Legislative Fund of America (WLFA). As noted, the WLFA will be conducting a two day workshop at the Padisson Penn Harris Hotel in Camp Hill on August 23-24, 1997. Following a brief discussion, a motion to fund the registration cost for two Board *R*

members to attend the WLFA workshop in Camp Hill was made by Dan Roessner, seconded by Dennis Strawbridge. Motion carried.

A letter from the NWTF informed the Board that Ron Brennemen is no longer employed by the NWTF, and that the NWTF is currently looking for his replacement. Other personnel changes mentioned in the letter included the addition of two individuals to the NWTF staff.

Received a letter from the NWTF relation to the Chapter's SF rebate.

Received a letter from the Kit-Han-Ne Chapter in Armstrong County, informing the Board that monies were transferred from the defunct Fort Armstrong Chapter to the newly organized Kit-Han-Ne Chapter.

Received a letter of resignation from Rich Weaver.

Received a letter from the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association (POWA). This letter was relative to the Chapter's sponsorship of the POWA's wild turkey award.

Received a letter from NWTF Board Member Gene Denton, requesting information on the Chapter's Hall of Fame Award. According to Gene, the NWTF is interested in establishing an NWTF Hall of Fame Award.

Received a letter from Jim Clay of Perfection Calls, thanking the Chapter for his induction into the Chapter's Hall of Fame.

Ron Sandrus informed the Board that he had sent a card/letter to Past Board Member Paul Heivly. It was noted that Paul is fighting cancer, and words of encouragement coming from Board/Chapter members would be appreciated.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Board Chairman Tim Holtz reported that he has been in contact with Ron Tussel, concerning Ron's involvement with the Chapter's Public Relations Committee. BC Holtz informed the Board that he would be working with Ron Tussel on Chapter public relation matters. It was also mentioned that Tim would take on the responsibility of getting PR information to Ron Tussel for possible publication.

Nomination Committee: Board Chairman Tim Holtz informed the Board that he had sent letters to Local Chapter Presidents, relative to Chapter nominations for Board members. It was noted that Tim had received resumes from two individuals who were interested in serving on the Chapter Board. Tim also mentioned that he would be contacting those Board members whose term expires in March 1998 about their interest in seeking another term.

Land Acquisition Committee: LA Chairman Boyd Enos submitted a written report of his committee's activities. To date, the LAC has funded three land acquisitions projects for a total of \$26,200.00, leaving approximately \$16,300.00 in the LAC budget.

District Directors: District Directors Mark Davis, Bill Laird, Don O'Brien and Dave Blakley submitted written reports of their activities to the Board. Some of the many varied activities of our District Directors included:

- *Attended the NWTF Chapter Presidents' meeting in Edgefield
- *Attended the Chapter Presidents' meeting in State College
- *Attended meeting with Game Commission staff personnel
- *Attended meeting with state legislators
- *Conducted safety seminars and judged calling contests
- *Attended SF banquet meetings, providing valuable information and input to Local Chapter Banquet Chairmen

*Participated and worked at the Chapter shoot

*Attended Chapter Board meetings

More importantly, our District Directors continued to assist Regional Supervisor Jerry Zimmerman and District Director Larry Holjencin in carrying out the goals and objectives of our Chapter and the NWTIF organization.

OLD BUSINESS: The first item of Old Business was relative to the Executive Committee's review of recommendations submitted by the Awards Committee. It was reported that the Executive Committee had approved the recommendations of the Awards Committee, as those recommendations pertain to criteria/guidelines/requirements for Chapter awards. However, the EC was unable to agree about recommended changes which were proposed for the Sandrus Local Chapter Awards. Along those lines, it was a consensus of opinion that members of the EC, Awards and Portfolio Committee need to get together to further discuss and decide on direction to be taken regarding the Sandrus Local Chapter Award recommendations. In the meantime, the Awards Committee was directed to survey Local Chapters to get their opinions/input on whether or not they would participate in a portfolio-type system for determining Sandrus Local Chapter Award recipients.

In other related business, AC Dennis Strawbridge expressed his concern about the Chapter's inability to get sponsors for our Chapter awards. Some discussion took place, however, a definitive answer to solving our problem was not made.

Before moving on to another item of business, Board Chairman Tim Holtz expressed the EC's appreciation and thanks to AC Dennis Strawbridge, and his committee members, for their efforts in providing criteria and recommended changes for the Chapter awards.

First Bird Certificate: In other business, Ron Sandrus requested an update regarding the status of the Chapter's first bird certificate - what's being done. Dennis Strawbridge informed the Board that he had been working on the certificate, but was having a problem getting the overlay for the background from Eric Bowman, who had moved to Michigan. It was noted that the overlay and certificate in question were in the possession of Chapter President Gary Beatty.

* **Spring Accident Report:** Ron Sandrus asked if there was any information about the '97 spring turkey hunting accidents. Following a brief discussion, it was determined that the PGC's accident report was not completed and, therefore, unavailable at the time.

'98 Chapter Convention: Convention Chairman Bill Laird gave a brief report to update the Board on the status of the '98 Chapter Convention.

2 Titles - CIA
AA
Home Page: Chapter President Gary Beatty reported on behalf of the Chief (Administrative) Assistant to the Web Master (Don Heckman) that habitat information and Chapter history information has been added to the Chapter's Home Page, thanks to the efforts of www.con.heckman. It was also noted that our good friend, Don Heckman, had a few of his turkey hunting pictures put on the home page. The Board has no idea why this was done, but we suspect that Don just wanted others to see him smiling like a butcher's dog with a long bearded, sharp spurred gobbler draped over his shoulder. For the record, a Board member, who shall not be named, mentioned that the gobbler in Don Heckman's picture looked like Dan Sullivan's bird.

*
For the record - IT was NOT! (9)

OFF the record - CIA & AA Function much like Editor Larry Smail
Line item veto & Approval of content

H.B. 1200: As reported, the Chapter still supports H.B. 1200 (the hunting license increase bill). Presently, however, we are in a wait and see what happens mode. We need to see what the politicians are going to do with H.B. 1200 this fall, before the Chapter can take any further action.

1978
2 Bnd
25

Spring Gobbler: Chapter President Gary Beatty informed the Board that Representative Bruce Smith said he would be willing to attach an amendment to a House Bill which would provide for an additional \$5.00 tag to take a second gobbler in the spring, if the Chapter wanted to pursue it. Much discussion took place, and it appeared to be a consensus of the Board that management of the wild turkey should be left to the professionals of the Game Commission. Moreover, although the Chapter is very much interested in advancing dialogue for a two gobbler option in the spring season, it was felt that the Chapter should be more prudent in how we advance that dialogue. **Bottom Line:** The Chapter will work internally with the PGC to determine what concerns the PGC might have and what direction the PGC might want to take in regards to a two gobbler option for the spring season. When and if an agreement for a two gobbler option is reached with the PGC, the Chapter will support legislation which is, first, advanced by the PGC.

PGC, Legislatives, Conservation Organizations, ^{Organized} Turkey Hunters, Rest of the ^{Hunting} License ^{Buyers}

NEW BUSINESS: Under the first item of New Business, President Beatty informed the Board that the PGC was planning to send John Plowman to the NWTF Safety Task Force meeting in place of Jim Filkosky, who could not attend the meeting due to other obligations. During the discussion which followed, the Board appeared to be somewhat bewildered by the PGC's selection of John Plowman, noting that there were others more qualified to represent the PGC at this meeting. Along those lines, Board Chairman Tim Holtz directed Jerry Zimmerman and Gary Beatty to work with the PGC and NWTF in an effort to get someone who worked in the safety/education division of the PGC to represent the PGC at the NWTF's Safety Task Force meeting.

Set
Record
Straight

NWTF Roger Latham Award: A brief description and the criteria for this award was read before the Board. Following that, Board Chairman Tim Holtz opened the floor for nominations for the NWTF Roger Latham Award. **A motion to nominate Joe Krug for the NWTF Roger Latham Award was made by Mark Davis, seconded by Don O'Brien.** There being no other nominations to come from the floor, **a motion to close nominations for the NWTF Roger Latham Award was made by Dan Roessner, seconded by Ron Sandrus.** Motion carried. BC Tim Holtz informed the Board that Joe Krug would be the Chapter's nomination for the NWTF Roger Latham Award. It was also mentioned that Joe Krug will need letters of support from Chapter board members, which need to be addressed to Dr. James Earl Kennamer and mailed to Joe Krug **before October 15, 1997.**

Henry Mosby Award: A motion to nominate Bill Drake for the Henry Mosby Award was made by Dan Roessner, seconded by Boyd Enos. There being no other nominations to come from the floor, **a motion to close nominations for the Henry Mosby Award was made by Boyd Enos, seconded by Mark Davis.** Motion carried.

Cash Raffle: In noting the increase in the Chapter's budget, it was determined that another fund raising program would need to be adopted in order to keep the Chapter afloat. Chapter President Gary Beatty presented a proposal to the Board which would entail the selling of a cash raffle ticket to raise much needed funds. Following a brief discussion, **a motion permitting the Board to move forward with a second raffle, with the details to be worked out by the fund raising committee, was made by Dave Blakley, seconded by Mark Davis.** Motion carried.

Chapter Budget: Copies of the Chapter budget were distributed to the Board. Chapter President Gary Beatty informed the Board that the Executive Committee had reviewed and approved the Chapter's budget for the '97 - '98 fiscal year.

Interactive Video: Regional Supervisor Jerry Zimmerman reported that the NWTF has experienced alot of problems with shipping the interactive video via common carriers. It was noted that the interactive video did not work properly and/or at all after being shipped by common carrier. Therefore, a decision was made to no longer ship the interactive video from Edgefield. If someone wants to use the interactive video, and can get to Edgefield with a truck, they can use it. Otherwise, the interactive video will be unavailable for use, Jerry said.

Noting that we have discussed it before, Jerry suggested that the Chapter might want to give more consideration to purchasing an interactive video, especially since we no longer have the option of having the interactive video shipped from Edgefield. Logistic problems would have to be worked out - where do we house the video, who will be responsible for it and how will it be shipped from one place to another. According to Jerry, total cost of the unit would be approximately \$55,000.00 to \$60,000.00.

As noted, our Chapter has used the interactive video at the Harrisburg Outdoor Show and our state convention. Jerry also indicated that he has had alot of requests from local chapters who were interested in using the interactive video for their events. Unfortunately, however, the interactive video has not been available for local chapter use, due to the many demands for its use by other chapters throughout the NWTF organization.

Much discussion took place regarding Jerry's suggestion that the Chapter might want to consider purchasing an interactive video. In noting the problems associated with the interactive video - it doesn't work after being shipped, where will it be kept, who will be responsible for it - Dan Roessner also expressed his concern over getting the "biggest bang for our buck." How many people get to use the video? Wouldn't our \$60,000.00 be put to better use by purchasing CD Roms for use in our schools, which would provide the same type of education except that students would use a computer mouse rather than a shotgun, Dan stated. The interactive video is a high tech system. It's great. It's fun if you have a chance to use it. But the logistics, the shipping, the insurance, the operator qualifications and so on and so forth, I don't know that we derive that much benefit for our \$60,000.00 expenditure, Dan said, in stating his opinion.

Set Record Straight
In rebuttal, Jerry Zimmerman said, the amount of use that the interactive video gets at the Harrisburg Show is phenomenal, and the amount of memberships it generates is phenomenal. I just think we'll get alot of bang for our buck out of that system. If we want to use the interactive video for the Harrisburg Show and our state covention, we're going to have to purchase a unit. I also get alot of requests for the system from our local chapters. So the unit would be put to good use, and I think we would get a big bang for our buck, Jerry stated. As far as shipping, we haven't experienced any problems when the unit was shipped by personal means. We've only had problems with the unit when it was shipped by common carrier, Jerry said.

In amongst the informative, friendly debates between Jerry Zimmerman and Dan Roessner on the pros and cons of purchasing an interactive video for the Chapter, other members of the Board interjected their opinions and viewpoints. However, in the

end, nothing was resolved, and Jerry's suggestion was referred to committee for further review.

Super Fund Budget: It was brought to the attention of the Board that the habitat committee under the leadership of Rudy Kovacina had reached its projected budget expenditures and, yet, had other project requests for more funding. It was noted that the Super Fund committee budget is based on projected income of Super Fund monies for the calendar year. The habitat committee is allotted 50 percent of that projected income, with 25 percent going to the land acquisition committee and another 25 percent going to the safety/education/youth committee. However, the Super Fund budget is setup as a general guideline, and is designed to allow for additional income and/or income carried over from the previous year. Generally, allotment is based more on need and available funds rather than the projected Super Fund budget. Along those lines, it was reported that additional funds were available and, therefore, the habitat committee would be able to fund its other project requests.

POWA: Ron Sandrus referred to the Chapter's support of the POWA's turkey award. Ron informed the Board that a decision needs to be made on whether or not we want to continue to sponsor this award at a cost of \$150.00. Ron indicated that he felt that we should continue to sponsor this award and, in having spoke with our Treasurer, Don Heckman, Ron assured the Board that the cost was within our budget. Along those same lines, Ron mentioned that the POWA also has a safety award. The POWA's safety award was being sponsored by Penns Woods Products but, according to Ron, Penns Woods withdrew their sponsorship. Based on that information, Ron asked the Board if they would be willing to consider sponsoring POWA's safety award or POWA's turkey award and/or both awards, providing sponsorship for those awards was still available.

Some discussion took place with a concern expressed by Larry Holjencin and others that the Chapter would have no say in setting criteria or determining who wins the award. What happens if the award is given based on someone writing an article which advocates blaze orange clothing for turkey hunting, and we our listed as a sponsor of that award? Larry asked. Several suggestions were made relative to having a representative of our Chapter involved in the selection process of determining a recipient for the award. With that in mind, Ron Sandrus was directed to take our suggestions before the POWA and to report on that matter at the October Board meeting, so that the Board will be better prepared to make a final decision.

NWTF Membership: Relative to the NWTF's hat and video membership program, Ron Sandrus queried the Board as to whether or not it would be feasible and productive to include hat/video membership information in "Turkey Talk." Several concerns were expressed in the discussion which followed. Larry Holjencin mentioned that the program is for new members only, and he wondered aloud how many of those would have access to "Turkey Talk." Ron Sandrus rebutted that the information in "Turkey Talk" could be used by a current member as a selling point in recruiting a prospective new member. Jerry Zimmerman mentioned that, since this program is for new members only, it sometimes makes it difficult to explain to members who are recruited under different membership programs as to why they are not entitled to a hat and video. Some other related discussion took place but, in the end, no action was taken by the Board concerning Ron's suggestion.

GOOD OF THE ORDER: Chapter President Gary Beatty referred the Board to a letter from the PGC, asking for our Chapter's support of the PGC's Becoming an Outdoor Woman

program. After a brief discussion, a motion to sponsor the cost for one woman to participate in the PGC's Becoming an Outdoor Woman program, and to provide box calls for every woman who participates in the wild turkey seminar portion of the program was made by Ron Sandrus, seconded by Dave Blakley. Motion carried.

NWTF at a glance: Bill Laird requested permission from the Board to send copies of the "NWTF At A Glance" pamphlet to members of the House Game and Fisheries Committee and to PGC Commissioners. It was a consensus of the Board to grant permission for Bill's request. Board Chairman Tim Holtz also directed Bill Laird to copy Chapter President Gary Beatty on the information/letter that he plans to send as proposed.

Board Meeting Date: Some discussion took place pertaining to the scheduled date of our next Board meeting. It was determined that the Board would meet again on October 4, 1997 at Warriors Mark.

SPECIAL NOTICE of meeting date: The date for our next Board meeting has been changed from October 4, 1997 to the weekend of **October 11, 1997, at Warriors Mark.** Due to matters beyond our immediate control, the date for our October meeting was changed to **October 11, 1997, at Warriors Mark,** following adjournment of the August Board meeting. Executive Committee members should plan to meet at the Frost Camp on Friday, October 10, 1997.

Public Relations: It was reported that Ron Tussel is producing his own TV show to be aired on the Fox Network. One of the shows to be aired will be about a hunt and time spent with NWTF CEO Rob Keck.

November Hunt/EC Meeting: BC Tim Holtz informed the Board and extended his invitation to anyone who wanted to attend the Executive Committee meeting and turkey hunt which is scheduled for November at Tim's house in God's Country (Potter County).

There being no other business to come before the Board, a motion to adjourn the August 1997 Board meeting of the Pennsylvania Chapter was made by Dave Blakley, seconded by Mark Davis. Motion Carried. The August 1997 Board meeting of the Pennsylvania Chapter was adjourned at 2:01 p.m.

Board members who did not attend the August 1997 Board meeting of the Pennsylvania Chapter were: Don Heckman, Ed Kemp, Reed Johnson, Bill Mackereth and Sam Truxel

Respectfully submitted,

Rick

Richard E. Moroney, Secretary
Pennsylvania Chapter
National Wild Turkey Federation



PENNSYLVANIA STATE CHAPTER THE NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION

July 10, 1997

ORGANIZED 1975

TO: ALL OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, LOCAL CHAPTER PRESIDENTS, TECHNICAL COMMITTEE,
AND MEMBERS OF THE LOYAL ORDER OF THE SILVER SPURS.

Enclosed, for your review and reference, please find a copy of the June 1997 Minutes of our Board of Directors meeting held at Warriors Mark. The next meeting of our Chapter Board will be held on August 2, 1997 at Warriors Mark in Centre County. The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m., on Saturday.

Executive Committee: Executive Committee members will meet on August 1, 1997 at the Frost Camp in Centre County. The meeting will begin at 8:00 p.m., on Friday.

Directions to Warriors Mark: From State College take Route 26 south to Route 45 west, continue straight through flashing yellow light in Pine Grove Mills. Go 6.5 miles and turn right toward Pennsylvania Furnace. Go 3 miles and turn left onto Dry Hollow Road. Go 3 miles to Warriors Mark Shooting Preserve.

From Altoona take Route 220 north to Tyrone exit. Follow Route 453 south for 1/2 mile and turn left onto Route 550 north. Go 6 miles to Village of Warriors Mark. Continue on Route 550 for 1.25 miles and bear right off of Route 550 at Y. Go 2 miles to Warriors Mark Shooting Preserve.

Directions to Frost Camp: From State College take Route 26 south. Turn right on Route 26 south at flashing yellow light in Pine Grove Mills. Follow Route 26 south up over Tussey Mountain and down the other side. Near the bottom of the mountain, turn right off of Route 26 south and onto RD Road towards Stone Valley Recreation Area. Travel approximately 1 mile. Where road bears left and heads down hill; turn right onto camp driveway. Bear left alongside block building and follow lane back into camp.

From Southwest: Take Route 22 east towards Huntingdon (do not go to Huntingdon). Shortly after passing Route 45 where it meets Route 22 in Water Street (less than 1 mile), turn left onto Route 305 towards Alexandria. Follow Route 305 through Petersburg. Continue on Route 305 to Neffs Mills. At Neffs Mills, bear left onto a paved RD Road (Route 305 goes right towards McAlevys Fort). Follow RD Road passing Stone Valley Recreation Area. Follow RD Road to intersection with Route 25. Turn around 180 degrees and back onto RD road. Follow highlighted directions above.

Looking forward to seeing all of you on August 2, 1997...

Yours for good conservation,

Rick

Richard E. Moroney, Secretary
Pennsylvania Chapter, NWTF

ENCLOSURE:



PENNSYLVANIA STATE CHAPTER THE NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION

ORGANIZED 1975

PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

June 7, 1997

Warriors Mark, PA

Following a Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag, the June 1997 Board of Directors meeting of the Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation was called to order by Board Chairman Tim Holtz at 9:10 p.m., on Saturday, June 7, 1997. It was then noted that a quorum was present, and the Pennsylvania Chapter could conduct the business to come before it.

Chairman Holtz welcomed everyone to the meeting, and he extended a special welcome to our newly elected board members Dave Blakley, Mark Davis, Bill Mackereth and Don O'Brien. Chairman Holtz recognized Greg Dreibelbis of the Nittany Valley Longbeards Chapter located in the State College area, while extending a welcome and appreciation for his attendance at our meeting.

Ground rules were established for our board meetings by Chairman Holtz, and it was noted that certain members of the Board may require the use of a super-sized gavel in order to regain their focus on the business at hand. Aptly named the "Don Heckman" gavel - "**Nuff Said.**"

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: President Gary Beatty thanked our Past President Tim Holtz for helping him to get "jump-started" in undertaking the responsibilities of guiding and leading our Chapter into the future. Having gotten his feet wet, President Beatty expressed his appreciation for the work and leadership performed by Tim and our other past presidents, stating that he was not aware of just how much work was involved in the overall operation of our Chapter.

President Beatty extended a special thanks and appreciation to Regional Supervisor Jerry Zimmerman and Regional Director Larry Holjencin for all their effort and work in helping our Chapter to reach its goals and objectives. It was brought to the attention of the Board that Jerry and Larry have done an excellent job in getting new chapters organized and establishing new banquets to help raise more Super Fund dollars for our wild turkey resource.

President Beatty thanked Rick Moroney and the Board for their work on the Long Range Plan. It was noted that the task before the Board was to

implement the Long Range Plan into the every day operation of our Chapter and to carry out the goals and objectives set forth within the LRP.

In regards to our '97 Convention, Beatty thanked Don Good for all his work, and he extended a special thanks and appreciation to our '97 Convention Chairperson Roseann Good for all her hard work and effort in making this year's convention such a huge success. It was also noted that the Appalachian Trail Chapter greatly deserved a thank you for having hosted the '97 Convention and for having served as members on the various convention committees. Special thanks was extended to Brice Good for his work on the convention survey. As noted, information gathered from the convention survey will be of great value in helping to determine the operation of future conventions.

At the close of President Beatty's report, Chairman Holtz commended Gary for the way he has gotten out of the blocks, stating that Gary is off to a great start and that he has handled Chapter business in an admirable way. In looking forward to the next two year's under the leadership of President Beatty, Chairman Holtz assured the Board that our Chapter would continue to move in a forward direction and, following Gary's lead, would do some things that will make others stand up and take notice.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Additions and corrections were made to the March '97 Minutes as follows: Page 8 - Symposium NWTF James Earl Ray will be present. This was corrected to read NWTF James Earl Kennamer will be present.

Page 4 - NWTF Report by Larry Holjencin The State shoot was originally scheduled for August but the National Shoot was changed to August and we are going to change ours to June 19 at Hillside. This was corrected to read ...we are going to change ours to June 29 at Hillside.

Page 4 - NWTF Report by Larry Holjencin The Nittany Valley Longbeards is established in the State College area and we have an April 5, 1997 banquet booked. This was corrected to read ...we have a June 5, 1997 banquet booked.

There being no other additions or corrections to be made to the March '97 Minutes, a motion to accept the March '97 Minutes as corrected was made by Don O'Brien and seconded by Dave Blakley. Motion Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Don Heckman presented his report to the Board as follows: Total assets as of May 31, 1997 were \$5342,41, with no liabilities at this point in time. Total income for the three month period ending May 31, 1997 was \$8046.83, with a total year-to-date income of \$43,067.49. Total expenses for the three month period ending May 31, 1997 was \$10,971.71, with total year-to-date expenses of \$46,033.39. Treasurer Heckman informed the Board that we have excess expenses in the amount of \$2965.90, so far this year.

A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented was made by Ron Sandrus and seconded by Boyd Enos. Motion Carried.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: No Report.

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD REPORT: Chairman Tim Holtz presented Ed Kemp with a Certificate of Appreciation for all the hard work he had done during the period between our '95 and '96 convention. Chairman Holtz apologized to Ed and the Board for having overlooked this award, which had been discovered among his files during the change of office. Another award was also discovered during the transfer of

Chapter documents. Again, an apology was made, and this award was presented to Reed Johnson in recognition of the Susquehanna Chapter's entry into the 10 year banquet club. Rudy Kovacina was presented the 1997 Roger Latham Award in recognition for his work as a member of the Chapter Board. The Board showed its appreciation for the work being done by these individuals and the Susquehanna Chapter by giving each of the recipients a round of applause as they received their awards.

NWTF REGIONAL REPORT: Regional Supervisor Jerry Zimmerman thanked Past President Tim Holtz for his leadership of the Chapter over the last two years, stating that Tim had done a great job during his term as president and that the Chapter has come a long way during that time. In mentioning that he was looking forward to the next two year's under President Beatty's leadership, Supervisor Zimmerman thanked the Board and stated that the Regional Directors and NWTF staff understand and appreciate the fact that the volunteer structure of our organization makes the NWTF what it is today.

In reflection over the past few years, Zimmerman indicated that it was becoming somewhat scary to look at where we were and where we are headed in regards to Super Fund projections and accomplishments. Jerry recalled a time when we were establishing SF projections and goals for the LRP in August '93 for the years '95, '96 and '97. As noted some of our Board members were awed by the projections and showed signs of disbelief in our ability to accomplish those projections. However, as stated for the record, those projections have been met and surpassed for the most part. As reported, \$132,401.00 has been deposited into the '97 Super Fund account and, as stated, that's just spring banquets. Thus far in '97, the Chapter has spent \$132,126.22 on 54 wild turkey resource projects, leaving a Super Fund balance of \$112,824.25 which would include \$1200.00 in committed funds for the Target 2000 program.

SPECIAL NOTE: Local Chapters are reminded that project proposals scheduled for the spring should be sent to the Chapter by January, and that project requests scheduled for the fall should be received by June.

Membership: As of the March/April issue of "Turkey Call," membership within the Chapter was 11,048. Of interest, the Wisconsin Chapter had 10,156 members. The membership gap widens and, as noted, retaining our membership lead over Wisconsin is something to be savored.

Chapter Presidents' Meeting: As reported a Chapter Presidents' meeting will be held in Edgefield at the Wild Turkey Center on July 11-13, 1997. As a result of limited accommodations in Edgefield, the number of representatives from PA and other state chapters who are invited to attend this meeting is also limited.

PA Chapter Presidents' Meeting: The Pennsylvania Chapter will conduct a Chapter Presidents' meeting at State College on July 25-26, 1997. The Chapter will provide lodging for Friday night at the Ramada in State College. The meeting will be held at the Ramada on Saturday morning. Following the meeting, those who attend will be invited to Warrior's Mark to shoot a round of sporting clays.

Porter Wagner Field Days: As reported, the Porter Wagner Field Days will be held in June. Sponsorship for four youths from PA was provided by the Chapter and the Mason Dixon Chapter (two youths were sponsored by each Chapter at a \$1000.00 cost for each one attending.)

'97 Jakes' Hunt: As reported by Regional Supervisor Zimmerman, the '97 Jakes' Hunt of a Lifetime was held at the Kunzler Camp in Clearfield County. Jerry reported that it was a very good weekend - a good weekend to hunt. Unfortunately, the kids did not use their wild turkey tags. However, they were into turkeys and heard gobblers. According to Jerry, the group was also very fortunate to have seen five black bears during the weekend. The Chapter's appreciation was extended to Chris Kunzler for being the perfect host and for providing the perfect setting for our Chapter's first Jakes' of a Lifetime Hunt-not to mention the tremendous meals which Chris provided for the group. A salute of the camo hat was also extended to Robby Rohm and Doug Toaston for serving as guides for the group and, in addition, Robby outfitted the kids with everything they needed in the way of turkey calls. Furthermore, it was noted that Chris Kunzler also took the group on air boat rides and provided clay targets and ammo for trap shooting. **Bottom Line:** The group had a great and an enjoyable time during the weekend, and the Chapter certainly appreciates the efforts of all those involved in helping to make this, our first Hunt of a Lifetime, such a huge success. On the down side, it was mentioned that Matt Morrett had failed to uphold his promise and commitment to provide the kids with camo clothing. However, Jerry informed the Board that Dale Rohm had generously volunteered his service to acquire camo clothing for the kids. Moreover, the Board was assured that the kids would get free camo clothing - one way or another. In closing his report, Jerry thanked the Chapter for providing the kids with 1300 Winchester shotguns.

At the conclusion of Jerry's report, several questions were raised on the floor. In regards to projections and goals relative to Super Fund banquets, Skip Sanderson asked Jerry where we stood in terms of the number of banquets being conducted when compared to the number projected in the LRP. In reply, Jerry stated that we are slightly behind our objective of 50 banquets for '97, with 42 banquets being held this year. However, it was noted that SF banquets are, on an average, raising more SF dollars than projected. **Bottom Line:** The Chapter is putting more SF dollars back into the ground for the wild turkey resource than was previously expected. More importantly, the local chapters are doing a much better job of controlling the gross to net income of their banquets which, in turn, makes more SF dollars available for wild turkey projects and programs.

Concerning the Jakes' Hunt, Skip Sanderson asked if pictures were taken and, if so, would they be made available for use in "Turkey Talk." Zimmerman assured Skip and the Board that pictures would be sent to Editor Larry Smail along with an article about the hunt.

NWTF REGIONAL REPORT: In referring to the growth of our Chapter, Regional Director Larry Holjencin spoke about our latest addition to the flock, the Nittany Valley Longbeards Chapter located in the State College area. As reported, RD Holjencin mentioned that our Chapter has been looking to have a local chapter in the State College area for quite some time. Larry said that he personally felt really good about this chapter...that the chapter has strong leadership, as attested by the success of their first SF banquet. This chapter drew its first round of applause from the Chapter Board following RD Holjencin's report on their banquet - 240 people, 150 members of which over 100 were brand new members, 10 sponsor members, and over 13,000 net dollars were raised for the wild turkey. Greg Dreibelbis of the Nittany Valley Longbeards Chapter was in attendance at our meeting, and he was recognized as the chairman of his chapter's SF banquet.

Chapter Shoot: RD Larry Holjencin reported that the state shoot would take place on June 29, 1997 at Hillside. According to Larry, things are going real well. Jerry Zimmerman and Larry took care of the merchandise for the silent auction and, as reported, Black Timber has been doing a "bang-up-job" in getting donations from their suppliers. Station sponsors were given the option of donating \$100.00 or merchandise valued at \$150.00. Larry also mentioned that Hillside had donated a hunt to be used in the raffle. In view of all of that, Larry was confident that we would have a good raffle for the state shoot. In regards to man power, Larry reported that the Somerset Chapter had volunteered their service to help run the shoot. It was also noted that a steel target shoot would take place at Hillside. And Larry encouraged the Board to support this event, in the belief that a steel target competition would be a first step in peaking the interest of the die-in-the-wool hunters to become more interested in sporting clays and other shooting events.

NWTF Shoot: RD Holjencin reported that the NWTF shoot would be held on August 22 to 24, 1997 at Wolf Creek in Atlanta, Georgia. Of special note, the Chapter will send a team of shooters to this event, based on the shooters having won their respective division at the state shoot.

Truck Raffle: As reported by Larry, a generous supporter of the NWTF has, once again, donated a truck to the NWTF for fundraising purposes. Larry mentioned that the RDs have raffle tickets available for \$100.00. It was noted that a state chapter won the truck last year and then sold it to a dealership.

NWTF Convention: NWTF will be celebrating its 25th anniversary at the '98 convention in Indianapolis. As noted, the first hotel has been sold out. Those interested in attending the '98 NWTF Convention are encourage to make their room reservations now by contacting the Hyatt Hotel at 800-233-1234.

In concluding his report, RD Holjencin thanked Don O'Brien for his efforts in getting a SF banquet scheduled for August 23, 1997 in the Lockhaven area.

NWTF TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT: Bob Boyd of the PGC reported that there will be a change in procedures for the fall turkey season this year. As noted, seasons and bag limits are normally established at the PGC Commissioners' meeting in January and then finalized in April. Unlike other game species, wild turkey data is collected in the summer which has, in the past, allowed the PGC biologists to modify the fall turkey season based on that data. In an effort to avoid the confusion that some hunters have in knowing whether or not the fall turkey season has been extended in their area, the PGC Commissioners took action in January and finalized their decision in April that there would be no turkey season extensions this year. Therefore, the fall turkey season by Management Area is as follows for the '97 season:

- Management Areas 1A, 1B and 7B - November 1-8 (one week)
- Management Areas 2, 6, 7A and 8 - November 1-15 (two weeks)
- Management Areas 3, 4 and 5 - November 1-22 (three weeks)
- Management Area 9B - November 3-7 (five days)
- Management Area 9A - will remain CLOSED.

Bob Boyd indicated that much discussion took place in regards to this change of procedures. Bob mentioned that he thought the people in his department were at least pleased that the seasons were set in a conservative manner. It was also

reported that the PGC will continue to collect summer data and harvest data of the wild turkey. However, the PGC will, in the future, base its management decisions of the wild turkey on long term trends rather than reacting or responding to current trends.

At the conclusion of Bob Boyd's report, several questions were raised from the floor. Gary Beatty asked if the PGC was looking at population trends, harvest rates and hunting pressure in Management Area 1A. Gary noted that in his travels through the area that he had witnessed very little hunting pressure and, as a result, was wondering if the PGC was considering an extension of the fall season in Management Area 1A to two weeks. In reply, Bill Drake of the PGC appeared to agree with Gary that hunting pressure in this area was down, and that population trends and harvest rate data indicates that an extension of the fall season would be justified. Bill Drake continued by stating that it doesn't appear as though the one week fall season is impacting upon the turkey population in Management Area 1A or in Management Area 1B. However, according to Bill, the PGC would prefer to take more of a management approach, to allow more time to evaluate the data. Let's allow three years to evaluate the data and to get a better management footing and, then, go from there, Bill said. Bill Drake acknowledged that this management position may not be maximizing the recreation at this point. But if a mistake is made, let's make the mistake in favor of the resource, Bill stated. Bob Boyd interjected that it is certainly the intent of the PGC to maximize recreational opportunities when and where it is warranted. If the population continues to remain high, and if we don't see an adverse affect, we will continue to increase the season, Bob Boyd said.

NWTF TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT: Bill Drake of the PGC informed the Board that NWTF Executive Vice President & CEO Rob Keck had taken the time to write letters of support for the PGC's deer management policy. As reported, CEO Keck wrote to PA Governor Tom Ridge and PGC Commissioner Bob Gilford, asking them for their support in maintaining sound deer management practices and reasonable deer populations in PA. Bill stated that, as a biologist, he was personally appreciative of Rob's efforts. In the midst of all the license increase turmoil and deer hunter complaints, it was nice to see someone on our side...especially someone of Rob Keck's stature and conservation importance, Bill said.

Along those same lines, Bill Drake extended his thanks and appreciation to President Gary Beatty for having written letters of support for a license increase to PA Senator Bruce Smith. Bill also informed the Board about Don Hackman's efforts and his initiative to get people together to discuss turkey population concerns as they relate to Management Area 7B. In relating to his past experiences with deer management, Bill Drake mentioned his appreciation of the difference between deer and turkey management. It's nice to work in an atmosphere where you can agree to disagree and to lend support when it is warranted and justified, Bill said. And for that reason, Bill expressed his appreciation and thanks to the Board.

Trap and Transfer: As reported by Bill Darke, PGC Regional wild turkey trap and transfer crews captured 62 wild turkeys during the winter of 1997. These turkeys were then transferred to release sites at Muddy Run in Lancaster County and to State Game Lands 242 and Codorus State Park in York County. Although the numbers of turkeys released at each site were adequate, Bill expressed some concern that the

number of gobblers released may have been less than desired. However, Bill assured the Board that the PGC would maintain a watchful eye on the progress at each release site. Depending upon results from the release site reports, additional transfers to some of these release sites may be necessary during the winter of 1998, if we don't verify any reproduction at those sites, Bill said.

It was noted that the Target 2000 program was impacted last year because the PGC was involved with an in state trap and transfer project. Therefore, Bill Drake indicated that, if the PGC finds it necessary to do another in state trap and transfer project in '98, it may impact upon the Target 2000 program once again.

Winter Feeding: Bill Drake referred the Board to a handout on "Winter Feeding of Deer and Turkeys," which was prepared by Raymond L. Hixon. It should be understood and noted that this particular document was prepared based upon over 50 years of scientific research relative to winter feeding. It is also important to understand and note that this document describes the position of the NWTF and the PGC in regards to winter feeding. **NWTF Policy:** Long-term turkey population trends will be controlled by the quality and quantity of habitat for turkeys. Therefore, funds used for supplemental feeding would be better expended on wild turkey habitat enhancement to provide far more long-term benefits to wild turkey populations (Kenamer 1994). **PGC Policy:** In 1977 the Game Commission developed a winter feeding policy of discouraging routine feeding and encouraging self-sustaining wildlife populations. This policy, still in effect, is based on experience and evidence that winter feeding is ineffective and inefficient. It stresses the necessity for population controls and habitat management, rather than regular use of winter feeding (Pennsylvania Game Commission 1995).

Along these same lines, Bill Drake brought to the attention of the Board that the NWTF had developed a "Position Statement" on winter feeding. This statement was brought before the NWTF Technical Committee during their meeting at the '97 NWTF Covention in Columbus, Ohio. **NWTF Position Statement:** It is the National Wild Turkey Federation's position that artificial feeding is not the best use of State Super Fund dollars for accomplishing long-term conservation and management of the wild turkey. Wild Turkey State Super Fund dollars cannot be used to artificially feed wild turkeys and other wildlife. However, the NWTF recognizes exceptional local conditions when the NWTF may provide non-Super Fund support.

Bill Darke expressed his concerns regarding the last sentence of the NWTF's Position Statement. As noted, this staement is wishy-washy and undermines the efforts of wildlife biologists to educate the public against winter feeding. However, as Bill pointed out, it must also be understood, although unfortunately, that politics play a huge part in controversial issues such as winter feeding. And, more unfortunately, compromises are made as a result.

The floor was then turned over to Regional Supervisor Jerry Zimmerman to allow him an opportunity to clarify the NWTF's Position Statement. To begin, Jerry informed the Board that this last sentence was included in the statement following alot of consternation by Dr. James Earl Kenamer. Quite frankly, James Earl did not want to include this sentence in the statement, Jerry said. As reported, this sentence was included following field trips to Wisconsin, Michigan and New Hamshere. It was mentioned that the NWTF was losing chapters and members in these three states as a result of their position on winter feeding. To make sure that everyone understood,

Jerry emphasized that, although this sentence was included in the NWTF Position Statement, the NWTF still **does not** approve Super Fund dollars for winter feeding. **We do not.** According to Jerry, non-Super Fund support would simply be technical advise, suggesting other methods such as habitat enhancement, standing crops, etc., it **does not** involve using Super Fund dollars.

Bottom Line: Winter feeding has and, unfortunately, probably will continue to be a controversial issue. It should not, however, be a controversial issue among our ranks. As a Board, we need to support education of the public against winter feeding, and encourage more use of standing crops and habitat enhancement. Biologically speaking, if habitat will not support a species, should that species be there?

At the conclusion of Bill Drake's report, a question was raised on the floor by Gary Beatty. Beatty expressed his concern about the recent outbreak of avian influenza among chickens in Lancaster County, and whether or not this disease could effect wild turkeys. In reply, Bill Drake said avian influenza is very contagious and that it has the potential to be spread among wild populations. Bill said that he is hoping that it will not be spread among any wild populations. Bill also stated that he is not aware of any disease that has ever had substantial impact on any county, let alone Management Area turkey populations. He cautioned the Board, however, that it has the potential to be a major catastrophe. Bill did feel, however, that maybe the contact between flocks and individual wild turkeys isn't that great and maybe that limits the spread of black head, avian influenza or whatever. According to Bill, it's just a guess on his part, he really doesn't know, and maybe we'll be surprised by an outbreak in the future.

Along those same lines, George Airing of the Mason Dixon Chapter expressed his concern about the possibility of privately raised turkeys being released into the wild and spreading avian influenza among wild flocks. As expected, much discussion took place with the mere mention of game farm turkeys. It was noted that the unlawful release of game farm turkeys in Pennsylvania is a serious problem. Moreover, it was suggested that the game farm issue is a fight that needs to be fought, and that the Chapter should be spearheading action on that issue. The Board was also made aware that taking a position on this issue would receive strong opposition from propagators and would, possibly, involve us in a battle that we couldn't win. A decision on which direction the Chapter should take was not made. It did appear, however, that the Board would agree to test the waters to find out how much resistance is out there regarding the game farm issue and, then, go from there.

NWTF BOARD OF DIRECTORS: No Report.

COMMUNICATIONS: The first item of communications concerned a thank you letter from the Pennsylvania Forestry Association to our Chapter for having donated a Chapter print to them for their fundraising purposes.

A letter of information was received from the Delaware Chapter in regards to a calling contest being conducted by their chapter.

A letter of information was received from Dr. James Earl Kennamer relative to the NWTF Turkey Hunting Safety Task Force meeting.

A letter was received from the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, thanking the Chapter for our donation and participation on a habitat enhancement project in Elk and Cameron counties. It was brought to the attention of the Board that funds for this project came from the Target 2000 program.

A letter of information was received from Pennsylvanians for the Responsible Use of Animals, pertaining to a golf outing they were conducting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Chapter President Gary Beatty informed the Board of their committee assignments. It was noted that some changes would be made to the committee assignment list and, therefore, an updated copy of this listing would be provided for the Board in the Chapter President's Update Report.

HABITAT COMMITTEE: HC Chairman Rudy Kovacina thanked Habitat Committee members Joe Krug, Dale Rohm, Bob Boyd, Bill Drake, Jay Frye and Tim Holtz for their support, expertise and help in getting the project proposals through procedures. As directed by the Board, the Habitat Committee wrote a letter on behalf of the Chapter, which stated our position on autumn olive. For the record, President Beatty presented this letter to the PGC during our annual meeting with the PGC in June.

Special Note: Once again, a reminder to local chapters. Spring project requests need to be submitted to the Chapter prior to our January Board Meeting. Fall project proposals need to be submitted to the Chapter prior to our June Board Meeting.

As reported, the Chapter Habitat Committee met to review Super Fund requests for habitat improvement projects on Saturday, February 8, 1997. The following is a list of how Super Fund dollars were distributed:

Pennsylvania Game Commission	\$35,869.72
DCNR Bureau of Forestry	13,599.00
Local Chapter Seedlings	15,200.00
Allegheny National Forest	6,000.00
Local Chapters	<u>4,203.66</u>

TOTAL: \$74,872.38

For the Record: It should be noted and understood that this list represents a direct deposit of Super Fund dollars (who receives the check). Henceforth, our distribution of Super Fund dollars to our local chapters appears to be a small portion of the pie. However, in reality, many of the projects being done by the Pennsylvania Game Commission, Bureau of Forestry and the Allegheny National Forest are being completed under a joint venture with our local chapters.

Bottom Line: It has been and will continue to be a policy of this Chapter to make every effort to put Super Fund dollars back into the hands that raised those dollars - our local chapters.

In closing, HC Chairman Kovacina thanked the Executive Committee and the Board for reappointing him to the Board, and for giving him an opportunity to serve for three more years as the Habitat Committee Chairman. Rudy also thanked the Board for its consideration and support in having made him a recipient of the Roger Latham Award.

Following the conclusion of Rudy's report, a question was raised on the floor by

Vice President Dave Blakley. VP Blakley informed the Board that he had been in contact with the Enchanted Mountain Chapter of New York. According to VP Blakley, the Enchanted Mountain Chapter is interested in doing a cooperative program with our Chapter. This joint venture would entail the use of Chapter Super Fund dollars and Enchanted Mountain Super Fund dollars to complete a proposed habitat enhancement project on the Allegheny National Forest. As reported, the Enchanted Mountain Chapter wanted to know what steps needed to be taken to have action taken on their suggestion.

After some discussion, it was determined that the Chapter would certainly be in favor of working with the Enchanted Mountain Chapter on this project. Further, it was suggested that the Enchanted Mountain Chapter should contact Mary Hosmer of the ANF and to work with her on getting things started.

In other business, President Beatty mentioned some problems that he has experienced with Super Fund requests being submitted too late by our local chapters. As expected, Gary was most concerned about receiving Super Fund requests after the project was already completed. (Please See Special Notes). Along those same lines, Joe Krug stated that Gary's concerns have been an ongoing problem. As a possible solution to, at least, curtail the leak before the dam breaks, Joe suggested submitting an article on Super Fund guidelines for inclusion in "Turkey Talk."

Another question was raised on the floor by Regional Director Larry Holjencin. Larry questioned why the Chapter's name did not appear along with the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation's name on a sign posted near Winslow Hill in Elk county. As noted, Larry's concern was based on the knowledge that our Chapter was a partner with the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and the Pennsylvania Game Commission on a habitat improvement project in that area.

The floor was then turned over to Joe Krug so that he could address RD Holjencin's concern. Joe informed the Board that the original request for funds submitted by the RMEF was for the building of a parking lot and a viewing area for elk. As reported, the Chapter was concerned about the politics of this SF request. At the time, the Chapter felt that our local chapters, in general, and turkey hunters, in particular, would not appreciate the Chapter spending SF dollars on a parking lot and viewing area for elk. Therefore, the Chapter stipulated that our \$5000.00 donation towards this project was to be spent on habitat enhancement only. Since our Chapter chose to be excluded from the parking lot/viewing area portion of the project, our Chapter name was not included on the sign at that site. However, as reported, our Chapter name does appear on a sign along with the names of our partners who participated on this project. More importantly, this sign is located at a site which directs more attention towards the habitat work that was done.

There being no further questions for the Habitat Committee, Board Chairman Tim Holtz thanked HC Chairman Rudy Kovacina and his committee members for all their hard work and efforts on that committee. As stated by Tim, the Chapter is blessed to have a number of experts and dedicated individuals serving on the Habitat Committee. It was mentioned that BC Holtz has, in the past, sat in on a number of Habitat Committee meetings. It's a learning experience and an impressive one, and I'm not sure that the people who have not experienced that can fully appreciate the work and dedication that that committee is doing. But, believe me, are Super Fund money is being well spent, BC Tim Holtz said. Again, Tim thanked the committee for that, and thanked HC Chairman Rudy Kovacina for his leadership.

AWARDS COMMITTEE: AC Chairman Dennis Strawbridge reported that the Awards Committee had met in May at Bill Laird's camp to discuss the criteria and guidelines for determining award recipients. According to Strawbridge, himself, Bill Laird and Skip Sanderson had attended this meeting. A document which detailed the efforts and recommendations of the Awards Committee was distributed to the Board. As reported, it was the committee's desire to establish permanent guidelines by the Fall issue of "Turkey Talk." This, then, would allow some time for the Awards Committee to solicit nominations through an article which would define what is needed for a nomination and cover the entire membership to help with considerations.

Because of its importance and the involvement required to review the Awards Committee's recommendations, it was suggested that Executive Committee and Awards Committee members should work together in an effort to accomplish the task before them.

GUN RAFFLE: GR Chairman Ed Kemp informed the Board that the gun raffle tickets were available for distribution. Relative to the Chapter's fundraising efforts, some discussion took place, and it was suggested that any remaining gun raffle tickets should be evenly distributed among our local chapters along with a letter asking for their assistance.

TARGET 2000: Bill Drake informed the Board that the NWF video on Project Target 2000 would be available for viewing during the Board's break for lunch. Bill also mentioned that the PGC was attempting to acquire 12 copies of the video for distribution to the PGC Regional Offices. As noted, the PGC plans to make the Target 2000 video available to the public in order to help educate local hunters about Project Target 2000.

LAND ACQUISITION COMMITTEE: LAC Chairman Boyd Enos reported that his committee had reviewed and approved for funding the following project proposals:

1.) The Susquehanna Longbeards Chapter submitted a request for \$1200.00 for two (2) acres in Lycoming Co., Lewis Twp. This tract will connect two larger parcels of Penn-Dot land given to the PGC. The connecting gated road will be planted with seed and used as a food plot, and a parking area will be installed. This was a cooperative project with the Ruffed Grouse Society and Trout Unlimited.

2.) The PGC submitted a request for \$20,000.00 for 55.5 acres along Bear Creek in the Bruin area of Butler County. This tract will adjoin SGL #95. The project was a joint venture with the Environmentally Concerned of Zelienople.

3.) The Stony Valley Chapter submitted a request for \$5000.00 for a 1093 acre parcel in Lancaster County. This tract connects SGL #156 and #46 which are part of the Middle Creek Wildlife Management Area. The Coleman tract dates the Revolutionary War (Elizabeth Furnace) adding 6254 acres to the MCWMA. The purchase was made in co-op with the Wildlands Conservancy.

ART COMMITTEE: AC Chairman Reed Johnson reported that he needs more people to serve on his committee. Anyone interested in serving on the Art Committee should see Reed Johnson and/or call him at: (814) 765-7264. According to AC Chairman Johnson, the art inventory of donated prints is low and that more art prints will be needed for the '98 convention. As reported, the Art Committee is planning for a new Chapter print in the near future. An inventory list of Chapter art was submitted.

DISTRICT DIRECTORS: District Directors David Blakley, Don O'Brien and Mark Davis submitted written reports of their activities to the Board. It should be noted that our District Directors are of great value to our Chapter and, more importantly, to Regional Supervisor Jerry Zimmerman and Regional Director Larry Holjencin. Some of the many varied activities of our District Directors included:

- *Attending local chapter meetings.
- *Conducting Super Fund banquets in place of a Regional Director.
- *Assisting Regional Directors with Super Fund banquets.
- *Assist Regional Directors in getting new local chapters, banquets and members.
- *Participate on habitat enhancement projects, planting trees and shrubs.
- *Manning booths at sport shows.
- *Organize and conduct JAKES events.
- *Represent the Chapter at other conservation organizational events.

Bottom Line: Our District Directors are doing an outstanding job in helping our Chapter to meet its goals and objectives. We tip our camo hat in appreciation of their efforts.

OLD BUSINESS: The first item under Old Business was the Chapter's '97 convention. Don Heckman presented the '97 convention report on behalf of Convention Chairperson Roseann Good and Convention Treasurer Don Good. It was duly noted that the '97 convention report submitted and prepared by Don Good was certainly impressive, detailed and the best ever—a 16 page document itemizing every receipt, expense and profit of the convention.

In looking at receipts, expenses and profit of the convention, Don Heckman directed the Board's attention to bottom line figures. As reported, total receipts were \$54,274.35 with \$38,290.47 in expenses and a convention profit of \$15,983.88. Attention was then given to the convention gun raffle which had total receipts of \$10,535.00, with expenses of \$1369.00 and a total profit of \$9166.00. Income for the gun raffle was approximately \$4000.00 less than expected. This reduction in expected income was due to outside forces beyond the control of the Chapter.

In other areas, it was reported that the Masters Calling Contest had realized a \$3000.00 deficit due to a lack of sponsorship. As Heckman stated, the remainder of the '97 convention report was self-explanatory, with the bottom line being that the convention was a success.

Questions raised from the floor included a clarification of the listed expense of \$7958.40 for advertising. It was noted that this expense was broke down in detail on pages 12-16 of Don Good's report. Moreover, it was noted that this expense also included the cost of mailing/printing the Chapter's appeal letter, convention information and raffle tickets. The expenses for real advertising (newspaper, magazine, radio and TV) amounted to approximately \$3500.00.

Convention Survey: Don Heckman informed the Board that Brice Good had prepared a survey questionnaire for the convention. The survey results contained comments of those in attendance both pro and con. These results were reviewed by the Executive Committee and recommendations of that committee will be passed on to the '98 convention committee. Relative to the EC's review of survey results, the lack of Board member participation and local chapter support of our convention was

duly noted as an area requiring vast improvement. The following local chapters are to be commended for their support of our state convention:

Allegheny Sultans, Michaux-Yellow Breeches, Red Rock, Moraine, Allegheny Mountain, Lakeland Longbeards, Endless Mountains and Susquehanna.

At the conclusion of the '97 convention report, Board Chairman Tim Holtz informed the Board that Convention Treasurer Don Good had met with the Executive Committee to share the convention information with members of the EC. Moreover, it was noted that Don's local chapter was conducting a JAKES event on Saturday, whereby Don had traveled a long way to meet with the EC for a short period of time so that he could cover the details of the convention report. A tip of the camo hat is extended to Don Good for the excellent job he did in preparing the '97 convention report and, certainly, for his efforts and dedicated commitment to meet with the EC on Friday.

HOUSE BILL 1200: Don Heckman reported that there was a flurry of activity on HB 1200 during the periods of March and April. Dating back to the June Board meeting, HB 1200 had been sitting in the House Appropriations Committee since April and had not come out onto the House floor for a vote. At the time, it was thought that HB 1200 would come out of Appropriations and onto the House floor with 24 amendments attached to it on Monday. Since HB 1200 needed to be passed by June 17, in order for the Game Commission to get their much needed license increase, the question of the day was: If HB 1200 is approved by the House will the Senate do its job? As reported, the Chapter supports HB 1200 as amended by the House Game and Fisheries Committee. At the conclusion of Don's report, BC Tim Holtz recognized Don Heckman, Bill Laird and others for their hard work and persistent efforts to get HB 1200 passed.

SUNDAY HUNTING: The matter of Sunday Hunting was brought to the Board by Don Heckman during our March Board meeting. As reported, the Governor's Sportsmen's Advisory Council has directed a committee to review the possibility of Sunday hunting in PA. This committee was directed by the GSAC to move slowly, and to look at all aspects involved-traditions, agricultural interests, landowners, religions, impact on wildlife, etc.,-before Sunday hunting would be considered for adoption. It was predicted that this research would take at least two years before Sunday hunting could be introduced into the legislative process.

For the record, the Chapter has not taken a position nor has it issued a policy statement on Sunday hunting. The Chapter is interested in what the outcome of the GSAC's direction will be. Moreover, the Chapter is interested in getting comments from the PGC, DCNR and other state-wide conservation organizations on this issue. At this point, the Chapter has endorsed the GSAC's direction to pursue the issue of Sunday hunting and await further information and direction.

HOME PAGE: Smiling like a butcher's dog, Don Heckman mentioned that it was brought to the floor and approved by the Board to set up a Pennsylvania Chapter Home Page on the World Wide Web. As reported, progress has proceeded slowly. Currently, the Chapter has five pages on line, representing about 20 percent completion. Heckman estimated that it would take about 6 months to get 100 percent on line. It was recommended by Heckman to keep the Chapter's home page at approximately 15 pages of exciting, informative information. Further, it was recommended to develop a \$1000.00 budget for the Chapter's home page.

SPORTSMEN'S COALITION: Don Heckman asked the Board where we stood in relation to the Pennsylvania Sportsmen's Coalition--do we maintain our involvement or do we withdraw our support. After some discussion, it was a consensus of the Board to empower the Executive Committee to make any decisions regarding our involvement with the coalition. For the record, the Pennsylvania Sportsmen's Coalition was established to get representatives of sportsmen's groups and conservation organizations working together in an effort to get HB 1200 adopted (the Bill for a license increase for the PGC).

PA AFIELD: Don Heckman reported that "PA Afield" had used the Chapter's membership list to send a complimentary issue to our members. This was done under an agreement that the Chapter would receive a \$5.00 rebate for every member who subscribed to "PA Afield." As a result of that agreement, Don informed the Board that the Chapter has received approximately \$500.00 thus far from "PA Afield."

GOVERNOR'S SYMPOSIUM: Don Heckman reported that the Governor's Symposium will be held in Pennsylvania at the Hershey Convention Center in August 1998. It is estimated that 600-700 of the outdoor, wildlife management and conservation leaders in the country will come to Pennsylvania to attend. According to Don, all nationwide and statewide organizations will be permitted to man a booth at this event.

NEW BUSINESS: Before the first item of New Business was brought to the floor, it was suggested that maybe, just maybe, Don Heckman would relinquish the floor to another Board member. It was thought by the Board that Don might need a rest, especially since he not only serves as the Chapter Treasurer but, now, Don also serves as the **Chief Administrative Assistant to the Web Master.**

YHEC: Continuing with business, Chapter President Gary Beatty informed the Board about the Youth Hunter Education Challenge program. For the record, the YHEC program is sponsored by the Game Commission, with the Deer Association serving as a main supporter of that program. The YHEC program was developed to get our youth involved in hunter education and the shooting sports. As reported, the Friends of the NWA Banquet withdrew their \$10,000.00 pledge of support for this year's YHEC program.

Due to a lack of funding, the Deer Association sent President Beatty a letter asking for the Chapter's support of the YHEC program. After some discussion, a **motion was made by Don Heckman to donate \$2000.00 from our Chapter Super Fund in support of the YHEC program, seconded by Ron Sandrus. Motion Carried.** Along those same lines, a motion was made by Don Heckman to provide two framed prints and approximately 20 hats for the YHEC program, with an expense of this motion not to exceed \$300.00, seconded by Bill Mackereth. **Motion Carried.**

MICHAUX STATE FOREST MA-7B: Being as brief as usual--**Not Brief**, Don Heckman enlightened the Board about the history and geography surrounding the Michaux State Forest. Just for the record, the Michaux State Forest derived its name from an early French explorer. And let the record show that this French explorer never met Don Heckman.

Moving slowly forward with the business at hand, Don Heckman informed the Board that he had arranged a meeting to get representatives of the PGC, Bureau of Forestry

and local chapters of that region together. The purpose of this meeting was to develop dialogue and focus attention on the problems/factors which may be effecting the declining turkey population on South Mountain. According to Don, 22 people attended the meeting. Approximately 11 subject matters were discussed and debated as suggestions for possible action to include:

(1) Recruitment issues, (2) Rainfall statistics, (3) Brood reporting methods, (4) Unlawful killing of wild turkeys, (5) General public awareness of the wild turkey on South Mountain, (6) Human intrusion on wildlife, (7) Closing of roads, (8) Fall turkey harvests, (9) Unlawful use of ATVs, (10) Education of hunters related to one week fall season, and (11) Orchard spraying.

Some action items agreed to were: a) Improve communications between PGC and Bureau of Forestry relative to the existing problem on South Mountain. (b) Bureau of Forestry made a commitment to improve enforcement of the laws governing ATVs on the Michaux State Forest. (c) PGC made a commitment to improve enforcement of the laws as those laws pertain to the illegal killing of wild turkeys. (d) PGC WCOs in the region will enhance their communication with sportsmens' clubs and recreational users. (e) The PGC WCOs and Bureau of Forestry staff will work more closely together in a cooperative effort to help solve the problems of a declining turkey population on South Mountain. (f) If there does not appear to be any improvement with the turkey population on South Mountain, serious consideration will be given to closing the fall turkey hunting season in Management Area 7B. (g) Close more roads to vehicular traffic. (h) Increase the use of NWTF Super Fund dollars for habitat enhancement projects, the purchase of habitat enhancement-type equipment and land management projects of the Bureau of Forestry. (i) Improve cooperative efforts between our Chapter and the PGC in regards to educating the general public about the problems surrounding the turkey population on South Mountain. (j) And, if justifiably necessary, consider trapping and transferring wild turkeys for release on South Mountain.

Several questions were raised on the floor relative to recreational use on state forest lands. This issue was considered by many to be a major factor in the erosion and destruction of habitat on state forest lands. It was also determined that this issue would need to be addressed in the very near future. As noted, one of the first results to come forth from Don's meeting was the closing of County Ridge road on the Michaux State Forest. In mentioning that the Bureau of Forestry has received complaints from the public for having closed this road, Don Heckman encouraged local chapters in the region to write letters of support to the Bureau. Further, it was noted that PGC Biologist Bill Drake and Don had already done so.

A question was raised on the floor by Secretary Rick Moroney concerning the proposed action of a trap and transfer of wild turkeys for release on Management Area 7B of the South Mountain. Since we are aware that a problem with the turkey population does exist on South Mountain, but we don't know what that problem is, why would we even consider transferring turkeys to correct the problem when we don't know what is causing the problem? Rick asked. As expected, it was noted that Bill Drake and the PGC were not in favor of this proposed action. Bill Drake stated that he and PGC Assistant Director of Wildlife Management Bob Boyd were confident and optimistic that the turkey population on South Mountain would recover. As noted, some of the problems have been identified and, with a focused attention on solving those problems, the turkey population should have a better chance of recovering.

OUTDOOR WOMEN: NWTF Regional Director Larry Holjencin informed the Board that the NWTF was working towards hiring an individual to run the Outdoor Women's Program. It was also mentioned that the NWTF was interested in attaching a catchy-name to the program. Chapter President Gary Beatty indicated that he would like Pennsylvania to be the first state to conduct an NWTF Outdoor Women's Program. Beatty directed the Youth/Ladies Committee to keep this in mind so the Chapter is prepared to act once the NWTF initiates the program.

1998 CHAPTER CONVENTION: Don Heckman reported that the 1998 Chapter Convention will be held March 20-22, 1998, at the Radisson Penn Harris Hotel and Convention Center in Camp Hill (near Harrisburg). It was noted that Bill Laird had agreed to serve as Convention Chairman, and Mark Bailey, president Michaux-Yellow Breeches Chapter, was considering the possibility of serving as Co-Chairman.

CHAPTER GOALS: President Gary Beatty presented the Board with a list of goals that he would like the Chapter to accomplish during his term of office.

- 1.) Need to work on getting our local chapters more involved with the Chapter. We need to communicate with local chapter presidents about why the Chapter needs their help and support in order to meet our goals and objectives.
- 2.) Need to return "Turkey Talk" to a more informative publication. We need to increase "Turkey Talk's" budget in order to print more pages and provide more information.
- 3.) Increase attendance, participation and activities of our state convention.
- 4.) Conduct an Outdoor Women's Program in PA and increase the number of JAKES events being held.
- 5.) Implement action items of the Long Range Plan.
- 6.) Increase and improve our public relations.
- 7.) Develop and initiate additional fundraising projects.

GAME COMMISSION BIENNIAL REPORT: Don Heckman informed the Board that our Chapter was mentioned several times in the PGC's Biannual Report of March 1997. Each board member received a copy of this report which provides information on PGC activities. It was noted that the PGC has been more supportive and has cooperated more with conservation groups than in the past. Moreover, it was mentioned that, under the leadership of PGC Executive Director Don Madl, the PGC has been more receptive and more generous in publicly acknowledging support received by conservation groups. Furthermore, it was duly noted that the PGC's cooperation has extended beyond Harrisburg and into the field, where our local chapters are experiencing much improved cooperation with PGC land managers and WCOs.

PGC OVERVIEW OF 1997 YOUTH ACTIVITIES: Board members received a copy of the PGC Overview of 1997 Youth Activities which lists programs, projects and events sponsored by the PGC. As mentioned by Don Heckman, the PGC sponsors over 30 youth activities each year. Along those lines, Heckman challenged our Chapter's Youth Committee to review the PGC's Youth Report and to bring back to the Board some recommendations for youth events/projects that the Chapter could become involved with. In conclusion, youth education and their involvement in outdoor activities is very important. The PGC has been doing a tremendous job in educating and getting young people to participate in outdoor programs, events and projects. This is an area, however, where our Chapter can expand its role in support, sponsorship and participation, Heckman said.

TARGET 2000 ARTICLE/RELEASE: Don Heckman mentioned the "Game News" article and press release put out by the PGC concerning the NWTF Target 2000 program. It was suggested to the Board that Chapter members should extend their thanks and appreciation to Bob Mitchell and Bruce Whitman of the PGC. It was through their efforts that an article and a press release on Target 2000 was done. Moreover, this action not only provided the NWTF and our Chapter with some excellent public relations, but it also aided in the education of the public about Target 2000. According to Don, Bruce Whitman and Bob Mitchell really didn't have to write an article or press release about Target 2000. It is not something that is on their agenda-to publicise that type of information, Heckman said.

Bottom Line: The action taken in favor of our organization by Bob Mitchell and Bruce Whitman reinforces the fact that leadership in the PGC is changing for the better. The PGC is listening to conservation groups and beginning to realize there is a partnership there that needs to be nurtured-a partnership that can benefit the PGC, conservation groups, Pennsylvania hunters and our wildlife resources.

SUPER FUND: Don Heckman reported to the Board he had written letters for publication to the editors of "PA Afield," "Pennsylvania Sportsmen" and the "Patriot News." These letters contained information pertaining to our Chapter's Super Fund projects and expenditures during the last ten years (1987-1996). It was noted that this information would be put on the Chapter's home page. Don suggested that this same information should be put into the form of a press release and sent to publications/newspapers throughout the commonwealth. Along those same lines, Jerry Zimmerman suggested using this type of information for a flyer insert in Super Fund banquet programs.

STATE CALLING CHAMPIONSHIP: Don Heckman informed the Board he had received a phone call from an individual who wanted to know if there was going to be a contest this year. After some discussion, it was determined that the Stony Valley Chapter was looking for a site to conduct the contest this fall. Reed Johnson indicated that the Susquehanna Chapter might be interested in taking over the Pennsylvania State Calling Championship, if the Stony Valley Chapter does not take it.

PA AFIELD TRUCK: As reported in the March 1997 Minutes, Past Chapter President Howard Meyers suggested that the Chapter should consider doing a 25th anniversary truck, similar to the truck done by "PA Afield." Some discussion took place and it was noted that this suggestion was awaiting recommendations from the Promotional Committee.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER: With deep regret, Chairman Tim Holtz informed the Board that past Board Member Ed Peterson had passed away in March.

Junior Calling Contest: Dale Rohm asked if the Chapter was planning a junior calling contest for the '98 convention. It was noted that the Chapter would have a junior calling contest, and it was an oversight that that information was not included in the convention report.

Chapter Banners/Memberships: In noting that the Chapter meets at Warriors Mark on a regular basis, Ron Perry suggested displaying a Chapter banner at the site and placing NWTF membership applications on some of the tables. Board Chairman Tim Holtz assured Ron that the Chapter would follow-up on his suggestion.

Chapter Focus/Vision: Don Heckman had sent a letter to all board members about HB 1200. As noted, Don reserved the last two pages of this letter to critique the

ineffectiveness of our Chapter in dealing with politicians in Harrisburg and securing the support of other conservation groups on issues that effect our Chapter's goals and objectives.

Our Chapter-its Board, committees and members, both past and present-has accomplished much over the years for the wild turkey resource and our organization. We have a lot of local chapters spending their time, effort and resources doing good things for the wild turkey, for our Chapter and for the good of the organization as a whole. I think the Pennsylvania Chapter is recognized by other conservation groups as a resource first organization, Heckman said. We are an organization that spends its time, efforts, energy and money on the wild turkey. Whatever our future holds, we never want to deviate from being a resource first-type of an organization. That's why we are here. It's the foundation of our organization, Heckman stated.

However, I do believe we have to channel the energies of our Chapter, our vision and focus on how we deal with professionals (PGC, Bureau of Forestry, ANF), other conservation groups, politicians, sportsmen in general and our own members, Don said. According to Heckman, other conservation groups and, particularly, the United Bowhunters and Federation of Sportsmens Clubs believe that our Chapter does not have the support of the sporting public or even our own members when it comes to issues that our Chapter is trying to advance in Harrisburg. In the past six years, the Federation of Sportsmens Clubs has not supported the Chapter on a single issue (seven issues of Chapter concern). As a result of non-support from outside our Chapter, our energies and efforts spent on issues that need to go through the legislative process have all been for not. It's very evident and extremely important for that to change, Heckman exclaimed.

Should our Chapter become more involved in the political arena, or should we stay clear of legislative issues? Heckman asked. Because, as it is now, our Chapter is just spinning its wheels in Harrisburg. We are spending a lot of energy and time on legislative issues with absolutely zero results to show for our efforts. We need to do a better job of communicating our concerns on issues that affect this Chapter, our organization and the wild turkey resource. There are over 300,000 turkey hunters in this state, and we can't get a turkey license or hunting license increase. That's a disgrace to our Chapter, Heckman explained.

Continuing, Don spoke about unethical practices that have been taking place during turkey season-shooting birds off roost, illegal killing of wild turkeys, exceeding seasonal bag limits, etc. In Don's opinion, turkey hunting has become the most unethical hunting sport. Should the Chapter be doing something to ebb the tide of unethical and unlawful activities occurring during turkey season? Heckman asked. I just think the Chapter should be looking at the legislative side of the coin. A decision needs to be made on whether or not the Chapter should expend our energy and time on legislative matters. If we decide to get involved on the legislative side of the coin, then we should do something about it. If not, we should stay clear of legislative issues, because we are only wasting our time in Harrisburg, Heckman said, in stating his opinion.

In reply to Don Heckman's critique of the Chapter, board members were given an opportunity to state their views and opinions. First, however, Board Chairman Tim Holtz informed the Board that Don's concerns were addressed in the Chapter's Long Range Plan. We need to be looking to our Long Range Plan to decide what our

direction is going to be. That document is there to be used, and it's the place to start in addressing the issues before us, BC Holtz stated.

In reply to Don's critique of the Chapter, Joe Krug had several opinions and observations of his own. I'm in agreement with most of what Don had to say, but a couple of things I don't agree with, Joe stated. First, in regards to turkey hunting being the most unethical sport in the state, I've been involved in turkey hunting, bow hunting and rifle hunting for deer. And it has been my observation of the other two that there's a lot more unethical players in those sports than there are among the ranks of turkey hunters. Furthermore, I don't want to see the organization take responsibility for those type of people out there, Joe said. They are out there. They do exist. But as far as us taking responsibility or having to apologize for them being there, which is something we didn't do, I'm not willing to see our organization take that responsibility, Joe commented.

Continuing, Joe said: I don't know what the answers are, quite honestly. But I think Ed Wentzler (President of United Bow Hunters) hit the nail on the head when he said that there's a certain percentage of people in this state who simply refuse to self-educate themselves. And how you make people educate themselves, I don't know. On a voluntary basis, most of the people who want to be educated are somewhat educated. The ones that aren't, I don't know if you can educate them unless you put an enforced education program in the process. We do not have the ability to do that. The Game Commission may have that ability, but we don't. Quite honestly, I think the day is coming when you're going to have enforced mandatory education of all hunters on the management of wildlife resources. Most people do not know anything about that, and that's what's causing us the majority of the problems we are having today. People simply do not understand the nuts and bolts when it comes to managing resources. But as far as us having to accept responsibility for people being that way, we shouldn't have to do that, Joe Krug stated, in conclusion of his comments.

Following Joe's comments, Board Chairman Tim Holtz gave the floor to NWTF Regional Supervisor Jerry Zimmerman. Voicing his opinion as it relates to Heckman's critique of the Chapter, Zimmerman said: I read Don's letter, and talked to him about it. It upset me a lot to learn that our efforts were not recognized by other conservation groups. I know the effort this Chapter put forth to get the word out on issues in general and the license increase in particular. For us to be told (by other conservation groups) that we don't have an impact. What we say really doesn't mean anything. We react all the time. We are not pro-active. We are reactive. That really bothers me (statements made by other conservation groups). And I think that's what prompted Don to write these things more than anything else. To be told that this organization, for all the time and effort it has put into doing what we do, really, in essence, they were telling us we don't mean too much. That really offends me as it should everyone, Jerry said. Seeing, firsthand, all the volunteer time that is generated by this organization throughout the state to accomplish what we do and, since, we don't have the luxury of having a paid lobbyist in Harrisburg like the Unified Sportsmen and Federation of Sportsmen have, I think all the volunteer time that is spent trying to inform the legislators on the issues and educating the public should be recognized. Because those efforts are not being recognized by the United Bowhunters and Federation of Sportsmens Clubs, it really offends me, Zimmerman said.

Continuing with his comments, Jerry Zimmerman stated: One of the things we can all do to really help the organization is anytime any local chapter does anything get the

media involved. Get an article in the local newspaper. Contact your outdoor writer. And, if you have problems-if your outdoor writer doesn't want to cooperate, try to get someone else involved to get your story told. There might be other avenues to take. I know a lot of you do that. But everyone isn't doing it, and we need to do it on a more frequent basis. Anytime you do anything the media should be involved. I mean simply as advertising your banquet, or advertising a tree planting, or asking your outdoor writer to come and be involved in a habitat project to take photos...to take photos of the outdoor writer planting a tree or throwing some seed out. Anytime kids are involved, the media should be there. Those are the kinds of things that are going to get our story told to the people we're not reaching. We do a good job of telling our members what we do. But we're preaching to the choir.

Continuing Jerry Zimmerman said: We miss too many opportunities to tell our story. I read Don's letter, and I strongly feel exacting like Don does-that we really do so much, but we're not blowing our own horn enough. I think this matter should be and will be an item on the agenda for our Chapter Presidents' meeting. We need to begin there to make it a priority with all local chapters.

In reference to Joe Krug's comments, Zimmerman stated: I agree with Joe, also. I think the day is coming when the Game Commission is going to have to look at some type of mandatory education course. I know the PGC doesn't want to hear it. But I think it is something that we should push and continue to push. But we need to go into it with a plan, instead of just saying that we should have mandatory education. I think we should get off our collective behinds, and get a program together. There's one already in place. All we have to do is adapt it to Pennsylvania, get off our behinds and make a presentation. Instead of just saying that we ought to have education, we need to go in with a planned program and a feasible way to implement that program. That's something we have to do. It's been in the Long Range Plan. It's been talked about. And I just think its time we need to do it, Jerry stated, in conclusion of his comments.

At The Crossroad: After assuring the Board this was his last item under the Good of the Order, the floor was given to Don Heckman, once again. In beginning his comments, Don Heckman reminded the Board that the Pennsylvania Chapter did not get even one of the top three L.A. Dixon Chapter awards presented at the NWTF convention. Don stated: I said we were at a crossroads. And I really believe that crossroads is like a step program. I think the state chapter has come up to a certain level. We have maintained that level for probably three, four or five years now. And I really think whatever catalyst we need - whatever that's going to come out to be five years from now when we take a look back and see - what took us to that next step - what was the overriding factor that drove us here, I think the Pennsylvania Chapter seriously needs to take a look at our portfolio system. We need to take a look at the events that we do. You know I take a lot of pride...I've taken a lot of pride in 23 years in this Chapter in being one of the top Chapters in the NWTF. Now, all of a sudden, we've dropped to fourth place. To me, that puts a crimp in my pride. Whatever we have to do, if we're going to try to do something to get that back, I know it's about membership and dollars. In my opinion, that's all the NWTF looks at in the portfolio. I may be wrong. But, if we're serious about this, we need to work within the NWTF agenda. Their portfolio system agenda tells us what needs to be done in order to be the top Chapter. We need to get more of our local chapters working with the NWTF agenda to secure the memberships that Pennsylvania should have. I

think we'll find that, when we go to bat on some of these issues that we believe in, the other organizations would have more to look at and a better chance of approving the things we do. So, besides that crossroads where we're at, I think we need to figure out how we're going to get to the next level. If we want to get to the next level. Maybe people sitting here are satisfied with being at the level we're at. I am not that way. We have come a long way in the last 23 years. But I see us in the last three, four or five years now, at reaching a level and we haven't figured out what that catalyst is going to be to take us to the next level. Maybe we don't want to get there. Maybe we don't want to go there. And maybe what we're doing on that agenda is enough. Maybe we've all been involved to the point where we have enough on our agenda and that's all we're going to do. And we don't want to go any further. But I think that's a decision that I shouldn't make, that the Executive Committee shouldn't make, but one that should be made by the Board, Heckman stated, in conclusion of his comments.

In reply to Don Heckman's comments, Secretary Rick Moroney stated: I like to be number one myself. And I know most of the people in this room feel that way too. But being from Pittsburgh, I've seen two things happen there to change the field of play. One was with the Steelers when they were winning all those Super Bowls. The NFL changed the rules so that other teams would have a chance to beat the Steelers. The other change occurred when Mario Lemieux came on the scene. Pittsburgh has a Dapper Dan Award which honors the year's best sports figure. Because of Mario, they made a change in the award rules whereby an individual couldn't win the award two years in a row. They knew Mario was the best athlete and would probably always win the Dapper Dan Award. As far as our Chapter status goes, and what we accomplish now, today, as compared to before, in regards to the resource I still think we're number one. But the rules were changed at National to get the things accomplished that they wanted done. It's mostly based on sponsor members and things like that. But this organization and this Chapter still does for the resource what we've always done. And we're doing a better job than we ever did. We're spending more money. We're putting more stuff in the ground. And what I'm sitting here for, to me, that's number one. That's why I joined this organization. I'm not the kind of person who feels comfortable around people who are sponsor-type people. So that doesn't affect me. I know why the organization does it - which is fine. I agree with that, and support that direction. But my main concern is the resource. And I think we're doing a good job there. And I'm proud of that. And I don't care where we place in Chapter competition, because I believe if the resource was the soul criteria, like it used to be, we would still be number one, Rick Moroney stated, in conclusion of his comments.

The floor was then given to Dale Rohm who was given an opportunity to express his opinion in regards to earlier comments made by Don Heckman. Dale stated: I feel that what the Pennsylvania Chapter has done so far has really helped the NWTFF in Edgefield. We have set a lot of standards and goals here that other state chapters are trying to follow. And that's why they are getting better. I think we've done a good deal there and a good job with habitat for the resource, Dale concluded.

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Dennis Strawbridge, seconded by Bill Mackereth. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick

Richard E. Moroney, Secretary PA Chapter, NWTFF



PENNSYLVANIA STATE CHAPTER THE NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION

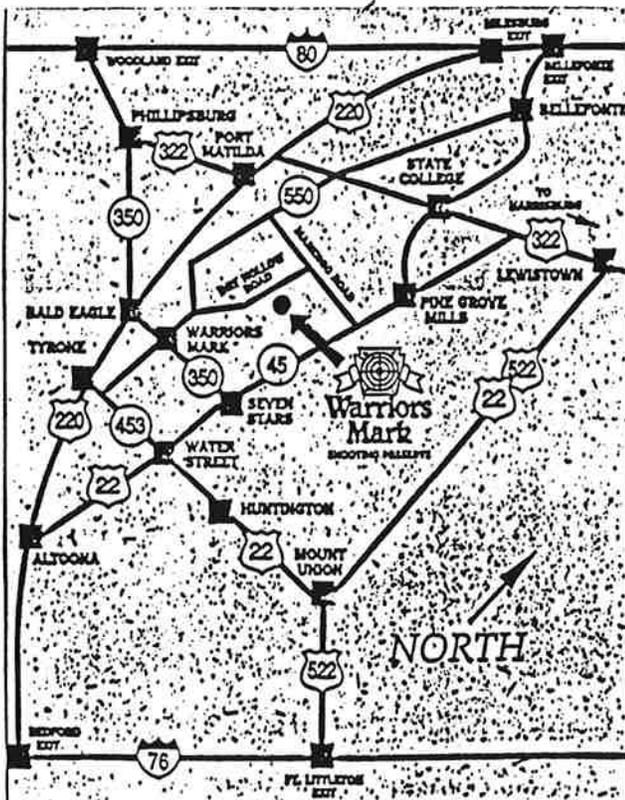
ORGANIZED 1975

TO: Pennsylvania Chapter Board of Directors, Local Chapter Presidents,
Technical Committee, and Loyal Order of Silver Spurs

From: Bill Laird, Secretary

ATTENTION: The next meeting of the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania Chapter is scheduled for June 7, 1997 in the State College area. The Frost Camp welcomes us on Friday night. The Saturday session will be held at Warriors Mark and will begin promptly at 9:00 AM on June 7, 1997.

FROST CAMP: RT 322 TO 655 TO 305 TO 26. MAKE A LEFT
TO FROST CAMP.



HOW DO YOU GET TO WARRIORS MARK SHOOTING PRESERVE?

Located in the heart of Central Pennsylvania's Appalachian Mountains, we are only minutes from Penn State University, Spruce Creek Valley, and historic Altoona.

Directions from State College:

Route 26 south to Route 45 west, continue straight through flashing yellow light in Pine Grove Mills, go 6.5 miles. Turn right toward Pennsylvania Furnace. Go 3 miles. Turn left on Dry Hollow Road, go 3 miles to Warriors Mark Shooting Preserve.

Directions from Altoona:

Route 220 north, to Tyrone exit. Follow Route 453 south for 1/2 mile. Turn left onto Route 550 north, go 6 miles to Village of Warriors Mark. Continue on Route 550 for 1.25 miles. Bear right off of Route 550 at Y. Go 2 miles to Warriors Mark Shooting Preserve.

PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER NWTF
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MARCH 16, 1997
SPLIT ROCK RESORT
POCONO PA

CALL TO ORDER: The March 16, 1997 meeting of the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania Chapter, National Wild Turkey Federation was called to order by Chairman of the Board Rick Moroney at 8:00 A.M. 24 Members were Present. A quorum was present and the Board could conduct business.

Board Members not present were: Directors at large not present:

OFFICER REPORTS

PRESIDENTS: President Tim Holtz report:

THANK YOU'S Opportunity to serve as President, support of the Board and the work and dedication of the Board, Executive Committee, Jerry Zimmerman and Larry Holjencin, District Directors: Dave Blakely, Mark Davis, Lyle Gillespie, Bill Laird and Don O'Brien, All the Local Chapter Presidents, Outgoing Directors Matt Freidman, John Szeferksi, and Mark Wills, Bill Drake for his attendance to our meetings, Gary Beatty for the work on the portfolio, Rick Moroney for the work on the LRP, Super Fund Committee: Boyd Enos, Rudy Kovacina, Dan Roessner, Convention Committee: Roseann Good, Ron Tussell(Public Relations) and Ed Kemp for stepping in with the Gun raffle.

RECOGNITION Local Chapter #1 who was the winner of the PA Ron Sandrus Local Chapter Competition and 1st Runner-up in L.A. Dixon Competition. Reed Johnson for the receiving the Roger Latham Sportsmens Service Award. Gil Shaffer and Skip Sanderson for taking 3rd place in the gobbling contest at the National Convention in Columbus.

CHAPTER BUSINESS We provided testimony to PGC on Seasons and Bag limits in January 1997. We continued to stay on top of the Hunting License Increase and I think Don Heckman has done an excellent job as to informing us as to where this issue stands. The Habitat Committee Met on February 8, 1997 to review projects for the year.

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT: First Vice-President Gary Beatty:

Have been working on location of next years convention. Possible @ Sheraton North in Mars PA, North of Pittsburg. Attended Lakeland Longbeards annual Game dinner, they had 350 people in attendance and netted over \$4700.00. Attended National Convention in Columbus. Attended PGC hunter refresher course. Met with Representative Rod Wilt to discuss Hunting License Increase. Talked to Senator Robbins about License increase.

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT: Second Vice-President Ron Sandrus:

January 97: Convention Meeting with Deborah Pensyl Reasy for Altoona Area possible convention site.

February 97: Participated in the presentation of the interactive safety video

for 9 days at the Harrisburg Sport and Outdoor Show. Attended meeting with the Blair County Federation of Sportsmen Clubs. Gave Turkey Hunting and Safety Seminar in Raven Gap Rod and Gun Club Participated in the Jaffa Sports Show for 3 days with the Allegheny Mountain Local Chapter.

March 97: Attended the Blair County PA Game Commission Hunter-Trapper education instructor dinner in Altoona PA.

I also would like to express my thanks for all of you have helped with the Inter-active video at the Harrisburg Outdoor show. I have talk with Jack Hubley (Call-of-Outdoors) and he is interested in doing a show on the inter-active video. He will discussing the matter with myself and Ron Brenneman.

SECRETARY:

Dan Roessner made motion to accept the secretary report and Boyd Enos second the motion. Motion Carried.

TREASURER: Treasurer Don Heckman report:

ASSETS

Checking	\$ 3,891.52	
Inventory (Fair Market Value)	4,375.80	
TOTAL ASSETS		\$ 8,267.32

LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE

TOTAL LIABILITIES		.00
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FUND BALANCE

Fund Balance - Prior	8,308.51	
Fund Balance - Current Year	(41.19)	
TOTAL FUND BALANCE		\$ 8,267.32
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE		\$ 8,267.32

Ron Sandrus made motion to accept the treasurer report and Mark Davis second the motion. Motion Carried

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD: Chairman of the Board Rick Moroney:

I would like to thank the Board for letting me serv in this capacity and thank all of you for the cooperation in conducting these meetings in a business manner.

NWTF BOARD: Carl Brown:

I would like to thank you all as to how well everything is being ran, including the meetings and the organization of the convention. I would like to remind you of the National Chapter Presidents meeting in Edgefield and the Board will have to make a decision as to how to select because the delegate system will be one in every five chapters. I encourage this to done asap. We will be responsible for the lodging and food while they are there. the transportation will be either there own or the chapters expense. I would like to invite you to next years convention in Indianapolis IN and I would like to remind you that those motels are going to fill-up very quickly. We had a special visitor show up at our gobbling contest by the name of John Michael Montgomery. He has offered to do the entertainment in Indianapolis. General Swartzkoff will also be there with us. I ask you to keep up the good work.

State Board Member: Don Heckman:

I would like to thank the staff of Edgefield SC for all the hard work they do. I would like to present Carl Brown with a fine custom crafted Dale Rhom Box Call in our appreciation for your support in the State of Penna.

NWTF: NWTF Regional Director Jerry Zimmerman report:

Superfund Balance as of March 14, 1997 we had \$104,622.80. There is still \$12,983.00 of Project 2000 in the Superfund. Our balance is \$91,630 for approval for Super Fund projects. I would like to remind you of the Porter Wagner Youth Field days on June 21-22. I would like you to consider sending two children down to Porter Wagner Field days. The Turkey Shoot in August in Atlanta. There will again be a truck raffle.

Motion passed to have two children attend the Porter Wagner Field days at a cost of \$1,000.00 each. Dennis Strawbridge made motion to accept and Gary Beatty second the motion. Motion Carried.

NWTF: NWTF Regional Director Larry Holjencin report:

The State shoot was originally scheduled for August but the National Shoot was changed to August and we are going to change ours to June 19 at Hillside. The local chapter should be able to help us out quite a bit. We are going to have a Hunter division this year and the top two winners of the hunter division will have their entry fee paid. In the open division will be the top four will have their entry fee paid. The top entries in both division will be the Pa State Champion. We will have a still target competition and we will have the same rules that are enforced in Atlanta and the top person will have his entry fee paid and he will bypass the preliminaries and will advance to the final round down in Atlanta. A short article will be placed in the Caller and an article will be placed in Turkey Talk. Black Timber will be helping us out quite a bit. I think we have more time to organize and it should be bigger and better than last year.

New Chapters: The Tamarack Turkey Talkers have reactivated and have kept the same name as before. They are going to do a spring 1998 banquet. The Nittany Valley Longbeards is established in the State College area and we have an April 5, 1997 banquet booked.

Convention Information: New convention center in State College is large enough but I have not gotten any final confirmations on prices and dates. We may have to consider this area maybe in 1999 or 2000 with this Chapter being a new Chapter and having no experience.

I would like to thank Don O'Brien for helping with a couple of banquets which I have prior commitments and he is also trying to get a chapter in Lock Haven.

I would like to thank Dave Blakely for helping out with several banquets for me.

COMMUNICATIONS:

HOWARD MYERS: SPORTS AFIELD

I would like you to know that we did get the names for everyone to receive the April Turkey Hunting Issue. In the year 2000, this will be the 25th year of the Chapter and PA Afield has put together a winross truck and I urge you

to consider you to do a PA Chapter 25th Anniversary truck. You need a logo put together for this truck and this will be no expense to the chapter just the use of the logos. Every truck which is sold, the Chapter will receive \$5 back so that you do 2000 limited edition then the chapter will receive \$10,000. These trucks sell for \$52.95 plus \$6.00 S&H. It is a contract put together .

NWTF: Bill Drake report:

Harvest Management:

Preliminary fall 1996 harvest data from harvest report cards submitted by successful hunters suggest lower harvests and populations in 1996 than in 1995. The fall 1996 report cards returned were 31 percent below those of our record 1995 fall harvest. The official fall 1996 harvest estimate, from the Game Take Survey, will be available by September 1997.

The apparent reduction in wild turkey populations in 1996 is probably weather related. The 1996 WCO summer turkey sightings declined by 27 percent - likely the result of below normal recruitment from extended cool, wet spring weather. Thus far, harvest trends in YMA's 1A, 1B, and 9B show no indications of population suppression from fall hunting.

Fall 1997 wild turkey hunting seasons proposed at the January Commission Meeting were similar to those for fall 1996.

Areas 1A and 1B-November 1-8(7 days)

Areas 2,3,4,5,6,7A and 8-Nov 1-15(2 weeks)

Areas 7B-Nov 1-8(7 days)

Area 9A-closed

Area 9B-Nov 3-8(6 days)

These proposed seasons will be considered for adoption at the April Commission Meeting. Recommendations for extensions to these seasons will be considered at the September Commission Meeting.

Winter 1997 Turkey Trap and Transfer:

Fifty-three wild turkeys have been transferred in-state so far this winter to release sites in Lancaster and York counties. An additional 10-12 gobblers are needed to satisfactorily complete these releases at SGL #242 and Codorus State park in York County and Muddy Run in Lancaster County.

Annual Convention at Columbus

We wish to thank the Pa Chapter for Super Fund support to permit Executive Director Don Madl, Roger Lehman in charge of Game Lands Land Management, Bob Boyd, and Bill Drake to represent the Pennsylvania Game Commission at the National Convention in Columbus, OH. Because of our present financial situation, your assistance was particularly helpful. For Don and Roger, this National Convention was their first and resulted in a better appreciation of the NWTF's mission and level of dedication. Thanks again for allowing us to be involved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

CONVENTION COMMITTEE: Ed Kemp Report:

We need more help with the Junior Calling Contest. \$350.00 for Masters,

purchased 6 bowls for \$150.00 each.

ART COMMITTEE: Reed Johnson report:

Prints for youth and jakes events for the upcoming year, I have talked to Dan Crist has offered to donate the older prints which have not sold for such events. Maybe just matting and shrink wrapping these prints. We need Board approval for 55 events for 1997 to at least go ahead of matting and framing. We may have a few Jakes events which may not be in this count of 55.

Ron Sandrus made motion to provide prints for field days for the upcoming year and Bill Mackreth second motion. Motion carried.

Carl Brown has left the offer for State Stamp Prints to be used in the case of Dan Crist not being able to help.

Chop Express may also give us a reasonable price on framing and matting for these prints and Jerry Zimmerman feels that these events are worth going the extra dollars.

Dan Roessner:

Youth Field Days events in 1996 were 47 and hope to have it up to 55 in 1997. These are very successful events. I appreciate Reed Johnson help in coordinating the shipment of art all over the state.. The involvement of local chapters are very important in each one of these field events. Any Chapter who has not been involved in field day events, I urge you to contact the your local infor. educational supervisor in the regional game commission office. If there is no program in your county currently, again I would like to urge you to considering to organize a program in your county. I would like to say that I hear this across the State of Pa on how much the NWF is committed to youth field days and I think this says a lot for you folks committment as volunteers.

Superfund

Three projects to approved and considered by the committee for superfunding at this meeting. Two projects are for Michaux Yellow Chapter (eastern outdoor show and \$500 contribution to Veteran County Youth Field days).

DISTRICT DIRECTORS: Bill Laird report: No report

DISTRICT DIRECTORS: Mark S. Davis report:

January 1997-attended Pa State Board Meeting

attended L.R.L. monthly meeting

February 1997-attended Harrisburg Show, Interactive Video

attended Superfund Banquet meeting with Jerry Zimmerman. L.R.L.

Banquet Chairm:n.

attended National Convention Columbus, OH

March 1997-Spoke with Redrock Chapter President about current events

Manned booth at George Klucky Films in Scranton Pa

Manned booth at Wayne County Sportsmen Rendezvous in Honesdale

Attended Pa State Convention in Splitrock Pa

LAND ACQUISITION COMMITTEE:

The following project proposals have been acted upon by the Land Acquisition committee and moneys allocated for:

1. \$5,000 for 437 acres in Lebanon County for a contribution to the Wildlands Conservancy through the Stony Valley Chapter. tract add to Pa Game Lands
2. \$4,000 for 198 acres in Schuylkill Co., West Penn Twp for contribution to the Wildlands Conservancy through the Schuylkill Spurs Chapter. tract add to the SGL #217.
3. \$1,000 for 110 acres in Schuylkill Co., Pine Grove twp for contribution to the Wildlands Trust Funds through the Schuylkill Spurs Chapter. tract add to the SGL #80.
4. Information was received about the Brantana property in Armstrong do.. No green sheet received. Armstrong Conservancy were negotiating for the acquisition. No farther action done a this time.
5. Up to \$20,000 for 55.5 acres in Butler Co.. Requested through the PGC. due to funding shortcomings. Under farther investigation.

OLD BUSINESS

Dan Roessner made motion to accept the Long Range Plan and Don Heckman second the motion. Motion Carried.

N.W.T.F. Ladies Program

Purpose to create a program that would give all women the opportunity to learn about hunting, shooting and other related outdoor skills. this program would provide the NWTF an opportunity to positively impact the attitude of many women about the outdoors.

Objective: Conduct a minimum of one program per state chapter of the NWTF in the first year. Goal to reach minimum 5000 women in the first year. Increase over the next 5 year to over 200 events nationwide that would reach more than 20,000 women. Create an outdoor women advisory council of volunteers from around the nation. The committee would help develop the program, and serve as the force behind the expansion of the outreach program. Create an outdoor women column in The Caller newspaper, with regular reports on our committee's success.

Pa Game Commission License Increase: Everything that was discussed in 1995 or 1996 is totally dead. We are starting over. Bruce Smith (Chairman of the House Game and Fish) told the committee in January that his committee will have a new draft. In quick summary, the Adult license goes up \$5.00 and the non-resident goes up \$30.00 in this proposed draft. Several stamps goes up and several does not. The new item on this proposal is a conservation stamp. There is some good items in this proposal which makes good sense. The coalition came up with another draft and they do not have a conservation stamp. When you purchase a license, have a habitat fee. As you see, in both of these proposals, a turkey stamp is not included. The PA chapter has done a very poor job when requesting a turkey stamp. We have a done a poor job on educating the turkey hunters. This is very evident feelings in these meetings. The House are suppose to take the coalition proposals and have meetings in April in different areas. We need the NWTF at these meetings to support our feelings if we are really sincere about a hunting license

increase and a turkey stamp.

NEW BUSINESS

Mark Davis and Don O'Brien appointed to the Executive Committee:

Don Heckman made the motion and Dale Rhom second the motion. Motion carried.

Sunday hunting, future events from Advisory Council

State Shoot needs \$2500.00 to cover event

Don Roessner made motion and Boyd Enos second the motion. Motion carried.

United Bow Hunters of Pa to help to Educate Hunters

General symposium on hunting. NWTf James Earl Ray will be present. Vern Ross and Advisory Council to take the lead in this event, this will be in Harrisburg. event will be a 4 day event in August 93. The question is, what role do we want to play??? June meeting will be a committee appointed.

Donald Heckman made the motion and Bill Mackreth second the motion. Motion carried.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

ADJOURN: Motion made to adjourn by Ron Sandrus and Second by Bill Mackreth

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM.

Bill Laird

Secretary



PENNSYLVANIA STATE CHAPTER THE NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION

ORGANIZED 1975

TO: Pennsylvania Chapter Board of Directors, Local Chapter Presidents,
Technical Committee, and Loyal Order of Silver Spurs

From: Bill Laird, Secretary

ATTENTION: The next meeting of the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania Chapter is scheduled for March 15, 1997 at the State Convention at the Split Rock Resort.

NOTE: Remember to review the Long Range Plan before the March Meeting at the State Convention.

**PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER NWTF
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
JANUARY 4, 1997
GREENWOOD LODGE
MOSHANNON STATE FOREST**

CALL TO ORDER: The January 4, 1997 meeting of the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania Chapter, National Wild Turkey Federation was called to order by Chairman of the Board Rick Moroney at 9:20 A.M. 26 Members were Present. A quorum was present and the Board could conduct business.

Board Members not present were: Boyd Enos, Rich Weaver, Ron Perry, Dan Roessner, Bud Wills. Directors at large not present: Larry Snail, Dan Sullivan.

OFFICER REPORTS

PRESIDENTS: President Tim Holtz report:

I would like to thank Ed Kemp for the fine job on 1996 gun raffle and also like to thank the Greenwood Camp - Fred Diehl - Susquehanna Chapter for sharing their facilities with us.

I would like to remind Group B for their Turkey Talk Assignments which the deadline is March 15. Group B consists of: Gary Beatty, Reed Johnson, Dale Rohm, and Rich Weaver.

I would like to point out that Bud Wills is resigning from the Board and if there is anybody interested in becoming a board member, please let someone on the Executive Committee know, and we will keep you in mind if we fill this vacancy in the future with the election in March.

I would like to thank Jerry Zimmerman and Larry Holjencin for the 1996 Superfund numbers. Also thanks to the Banquet Chairmen and the State Board Members.

I would like to share my thoughts for the 1997 direction based on the Long Range Plan. We have goals of \$174,000 for the Super Fund Deposits and 13,000 members. Focus for these goals will come from the Long Range Plan. The Long Range Plan is very important to be focused on now because at the March Meeting we intend to adopt the Long Range Plan. Focus additional attention on Public Relations by putting our name out in front of the public and telling the story of what we are doing. Further develop partnerships with the PGC, DCNR, USFS. Focus our attention on Safety and Education through the Super Fund Projects. We need to focus our attention on developing some new chapter leaders. We need to support 1997 Convention Committee. We need to very soon focus on the 1998 Convention Site and Committee.

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT: First Vice-President Gary Beatty: No report.

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT: Second Vice-President Ron Sandrus: No report.

SECRETARY: Correction to the October Minutes are a list of those Board Members not present: Bill Laird, Rich Weaver, Ed Kemp, Sam Truxel, Rudy Kovacina, Bud Wills, Dan Roessner, Dale Rohm, John Szefernski. Directors at

Large were: Larry Small, Dan Sullivan.

Matt Friedman made motion to accept the secretary report and Ron Sandrus second the motion. Motion Carried.

TREASURER: Treasurer Don Heckman report:

ASSETS

Checking	\$11,313.01	
Inventory (Fair Market Value)	4,375.00	
TOTAL ASSETS		\$15,688.81

LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE

TOTAL LIABILITIES		.00
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FUND BALANCE

Fund Balance - Prior	8,308.51	
Fund Balance - Current Year	7,394.05	
TOTAL FUND BALANCE		\$15,688.81
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE		\$15,688.81

Dennis Strawbridge made motion to accept the treasurer report and Bill Laird second the motion. Motion Carried

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD: Chairman of the Board Rick Moroney: No report.

NWTF: NWTF Regional Director Jerry Zimmerman report:

Thru November 1996, 3.1 million dollars has been deposited into the Superfund. This is the greatest year we have had. We had 2.8 million dollars in expenditure which is the most that we have spent. We put 2.8 million back into the resource. We had 1,250 Superfund projects in 1996. There were over 3/4 million dollars spent on habitat which was over 33,000 acres throughout the country. With the dollars spent on land there is now over 4400 acres open to public hunting which were not open before. We spent over 62 million since operation of the Superfund. 51 million of state Superfund and 11 million is National projects. Pennsylvania, 1996, we deposited \$220,194.20. \$73,500.00 were turkey dollars. We did 136 projects in 1996 and spent \$284,177.23. In that \$284,000 is all the Target 2000 projects. This leaves us with a balance of \$110,565.43. There is still \$11,783.54 in the Target 2000 Dollars. \$98,781.59 is the final balance in the Superfund.

American Hunting Heritage Fund: Since the inception of the fund in 1993, we have donated \$153,000 dollars. The State NWTF has spent between 10,000 and 12,000 dollar since the inception of this fund

National Convention: Chapter Presidents meeting will be held thursday morning, followed with lunch, and possible shooting in afternoon and this will be held off premise. Please plan to arrive Wednesday night if you are planning to attend the Chapter Presidents meeting. VIP party on Wednesday night.

We are now required to collect sales tax at the Banquets. It is only based on the live and silent auction pieces. This will be starting with the 1997 banquets.

Reminder to those people who are responsible for Turkey Talk articles.

Membership right now is 10732 members, Wisconsin has 10668 members. We are still ahead about 64 members, so lets keep on pushing. This count is as of January 3, 1997.

We are going to be having the Porter Wagner youth field days again this year. The dates will be June 19-22 down at Edgefield and this will be on a first come first serve basis and open to anyone to pay the fee for their kid to attend. Limited to 75 children. The cost is \$1000.00 per person.

Jakes hunt of a lifetime for 1998, is suggested to pick from each banquet.

I do have the computer for the next secretary.

I would like to suggest that the State chapter does something similar as NWTF at a glance so that it will be available to the local chapters to be used at the various events.

NWTF: NWTF Regional Director Larry Holjencin report:

National Convention: Sponsor Member Breakfast, Local Chapter President or Banquet Chairman are invited free of charge. 40 booths are still available.

Kansas Governors Hunt: This is an Essay contest, April 10-12, all expenses are paid and the deadline is January 16, 1997. The theme is what you and your family have done to benefit conservation. Ages between 12-17.

PA Shoot, in conjunction with Blacktimber Outfitters, is scheduled for Sunday, August 17, 1997 at Hillside in Berlin PA. I will send Larry Smal information to be put in Turkey Talk.

Pennsylvania Afield will supply all banquets with 200 magazines and also give two one-year subscriptions to be given away at the banquet. We have 1/2 page advertising page left. We will use 1/4 of the advertising page to advertise the PA Shoot.

Local Chapter News: The Allegheny Plateau Chapter in Johnstown Pa made the 70% Club. They made 72%. This makes them the third Club to make the 70% Club. This Summer we will also have the Local Chapter Presidents meeting in Edgefield which will be held July 10-13 and going home on July 13, 1997.

COMMUNICATIONS:

NWTF: Bill Drake report

HARVEST MANAGEMENT: Preliminary fall 1996 harvest report card data suggest that PA's wild turkey harvests declined from the record levels of 1995. Fall 1996 harvest report cards received as of 10 December 1996 were running 30 percent below those received at the same time in 1995. Final fall 1996 reported harvest data will be available by February 1997. Official spring and fall 1996 wild turkey harvest data (from the Game Take Survey) will not be available until September 1997.

A decline in the fall 1996 harvest was anticipated since 1996 WCO summer turkey sightings declined 27 percent from 1995. Poorer than normal spring recruitment due to extended cool, wet weather in spring 1996 is most likely responsible.

The preliminary spring 1996 reported harvest declined by about 3 percent from the all-time high spring harvest in 1995. While this decline may reflect limited winter 1995-96 losses, cool, wet weather during the spring

hunt may have also influenced spring hunting success. Preliminary spring 1996 reported harvests in TMAs 1 and 9 declined about 2 percent and increased about 40 percent, respectively, suggesting little or no suppression of wild turkey populations in these TMAs as a result of 1995 fall hunting.

PGC staff recommendations for 1997 wild turkey hunting seasons lengths and dates are the same as for 1996.

Fall 1997 Wild Turkey

Area 1 and 7b - 7 days	Nov. 1-Nov 8
Areas 2,3,4,5,6,7l, and 8 - 13 days	Nov. 1-Nov 15
Area 9a - Closed to fall hunting	
Area 9b - 5 days	Nov. 3-Nov 7

Spring 1998 Gobbler Season

Statewide May 2-30, 1998

These recommendations are subject to change by Commission action at the January 13-14 1997 Commission Meeting.

Winter 1997 Turkey Trap and Transfer

The PGC will attempt to transfer 20 turkeys to each of two sites in York County and an additional 20 turkeys to the Muddy Run Area in Lancaster County. If additional birds can be captured, 35 birds will be transferred to Delaware in cooperation with the NWTF's Target 2000 Program. Any additional turkeys available, up to 40 birds, will be transferred to Rhode Island to assist them with completion of their range expansion program.

PGC PA Chapter of the NWTF Super Fund Project Proposals:

Super Fund Project proposals submitted through various PGC Regions and Bureaus will be finalized soon and submitted to President Holtz for funding consideration by the PA Chapter. To date, nine habitat enhancement proposals totaling about \$40,000 and one land acquisition proposal for \$20,000 have been received for review. Autumn Olive will no longer be available for State Game Lands. State Chapter would push to keep Autumn Olive. Japanese Barberry is a minimal value for habitat.

1997 NWTF Convention-Columbus, Ohio

PGC Executive Director Don Madl, Deputy Executive Director Mike Schmit, Bureau of Wildlife Management Director Cal DuBrock, and PGC-NWTF Technical Committee Representatives Bob Boyd, and Bill Drake are looking forward to attending the 1997 NWTF Convention in Columbus, Ohio on February 27-March 2, 1997 pending no work scheduling conflicts and the availability of travel expense funding.

COMMUNICATIONS: PA Sportsmen for the disabled July - November, Wildlife legislative fund are always asking for donations. Received a letter addressed to Mr. Don Heckman thanking him for the 2500.00 check which completes the 5000.00 pledge from the State Chapter for the phase three expansion fund for the wild turkey center. We will be proud to hang the plaque at the information system center indicating that it was donated by the PA State Chapter. The conservation and communication program have moved into their new facility last month and we look forward to hosting you and your

chapter at the dedication some time next summer.

We get a magazine from the Western PA Conservative, they have put out that the Clarion River has been designated as the National Wild and Scenic River

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

GUN RAFFLE COMMITTEE: Committee Chairman Ed Kamp Report:

The Gun Raffle for 1996 has profited a little over 4,000 dollars. If anybody has any sold or unsold, please return them to me so I keep track of where everything is. Hope to distribute the tickets a little earlier this year.

On February 8, 1997 there will be a convention meeting at the Split Rock Resort at LPM if anybody is interested in coming.

HABITAT COMMITTEE: Committee Chairman Rudy Novacina Report:

February 8, 1997 Habitat meeting at Cougar State Park and Dale Rhom and Joe are proceeding with the seedling order for this spring.

CONVENTION COMMITTEE: Report:

We are going to meet with WNEP TV 16 to work out the advertising and time spots they will be giving us during the PA Outdoor Life Program. Don Jacobs is also looking into what kind of prime spots they can give us free of charge. There is still time and room for exhibitor spaces if anybody knows of anybody who wants to put up a booth, you can contact anybody on the committee and you can get this information from the Turkey Talk.

PROMOTIONAL COMMITTEE: Chairman Skip Sanderson:

Ordered new hats and hope to have at outdoor show

ART COMMITTEE: Reed Johnson report:

#1 print from us to Ned Smith foundation on Loan only. We do not know where the #1 print by Feaser is at, and if anybody has any knowledge as to where it is, please contact any Board member. The Apprentice art prints, about 10 pieces, to be returned to be redone. We ended with about 50 over-runs and Mark Twain Noe is willing to add to the conservation edition, maybe we can work out a deal with him and give to the R.D.'s to distribute to the local chapters to be used in their banquet program. Don Heckman and Reed Johnson is to check into the price of getting them matted and framed.

Garry Beatty made motion to get conservation edition numbered and to be distributed to local chapters for use as fund raisers. The Local Chapter will pickup the cost of framing and shipping. Don Heckman second the motion. Motion carried.

DISTRICT DIRECTORS: Bill Laird report: No report

DISTRICT DIRECTORS: Mark S. Davis report:

October 19 96: Attended PA State Chapter Board Meeting Warriors Mark, Pa
Spoke with Gerry Sheard about forming a chapter in Equinuk, PA
Attended Lake Region Long Beards monthly meeting
Attended meeting for new chapter in Stroudsburg, Pa with Jerry

Zimmerman

November 1996: Attended organization meeting for the Western Wayne school District Discovery Day on May 16
Attended Lake Region Long beards Chapter monthly meeting

Spoke with John Shutcufski N.E. Land Management Officer about Spring Plantings.

PUBLICATIONS REPORT: Larry Smail report: Typed-up and submitted in his absence: I was pleased that TURKEY TALK has been finally recognized as to what it is..OUR STATE CHAPTER PUBLICATION. I, and others, argued for several years or more that Turkey Talk was the best choice. I read the LFAP with deep interest. However, I need to mention that many of the recommendations have always been there to be used. Many times, in my reports, I begged for material but, still had to go in search. Things have been changing for the best.

Many will remember that after I became editor how I contacted a number of outdoor oriented groups for write-up material for Turkey Talk. Some that supplied material were: PA Wildlife Federation, PA Deer Association, Wildlands Conservancy, Western PA Conservancy, PA Cleanways, PA Sportsman for the Disabled, Hawk Mountain Sanctuary and many others. We are all in this outdoor thing together, so I like the idea about the partner groups.

As for advertising in Turkey TALK, I will need more information as to why ads were stopped earlier.

A James Page, Poster and essays ideas are great ones! I'll work on some thoughts on this. Legislative reports were once part of Turkey Talk. This option was ALWAYS available, as were press releases, announcements, Super Fund Banquet listings, etc.

One item that I wish to address deals with the banquets. I occasionally receive an article on an "upcoming banquet". Except for the listing mentioned above, I currently am not using them, unless a lot of space is in need of filler. Reason: The banquets are primarily localized and for the most part have a returning group of patrons. Local chapter newsletters should cover their banquets in depth and not a State Chapter newsletter. The Caller gives a listing also. The follow-up results may be of some interest with the projects completed through Super Fund monies being of most importance. Rewards, awards are ALWAYS newsworthy. Committee heads need to supply reports regularly.

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE:Gary Beatty: I received more this year than the past but it still less than portfolios received by me. That is about 20% of the local chapters which submitted potofolios. We need more of a response.

HUNTER SAFETY COMMITTEE

PGC Turkey Hunting Accident Report.

1995 Hunting Season

Spring 1995	16 accidents	0 fatalities
Fall 1995	14 accidents	0 fatalities
1995 Total:	30 accidents	0 fatalities
1996 Hunting Season (Preliminary)		
Spring 1996	12 accidents	0 fatalities
Fall 1996	11 accidents	1 fatality
1996 Totals	23 accidents	1 fatality

Breakdown for Fall 1996:

- 1 accidental discharge
- 6 shot in mistake for game (1 fatality)
- 3 self-inflicted (fell with gun)
- 1 hunter dropped gun, shot someone else

AWARDS COMMITTEE: Dennis Strawbridge report: I need the awards nominations asap. Any local chapters would like any certificates of appreciation, please let me know also asap.

OLD BUSINESS

Youth Hunters first bird certificate, need a Jakes Committee activated and a Jakes Chairman. Dennis Strawbridge to take care of getting the certificates prepared and getting about 50 made. Executive committee will appoint someone to Jakes Chairman.

Hunting License Increase. There is a reduced license increase recommendations in the works now and it is recommended by different sportsman groups. Bruce Smith will receive this recommendation and the house comes back in session the last week of January for 8 legislative days and then they break and come back in session and go to the budget hearings. If it does not happen in these 8 legislative days, then they will go with the 1996 fees in 1997. The question was asked, what's the possibility since the dollar amount is going to be cut in half, roughly 15 million a year back to the 7 million, possibilities of getting a turkey license, and we were told that the PA Chapter should support that request that we have out on the table. We spent time with Bruce Smith and he said nothing is going to happen for 3-4 years. If they pass something in February, it will only be 4 years and they have to go back to the sportsmen to get another license increase. So with this thought in mind, maybe we want to just drop the Turkey License issue and come together as sportsmen that want a license increase. We should start pushing now for a Turkey License to be started in 4 years even though the PGC did have Turkey License proposed this year. It was the Legislators that dropped the License. It will be up to us, as a State Organization, to go to Capital Hill to get this done if we are really sincere about this. Executive Committee to discuss this with the PGC and make this a sure thing

NEW BUSINESS

Carl and Tammy Mowry, long term residual opportunity for the chapter to make money, we represent a company which is called American Communication Network with the carrier being LCI, and we have a way which the Chapter can get money month after month on the long distance phone calls. If we had a 1000 members sign up for the program and each member had a \$25 monthly long distance phone bill which amounted to \$25,000 dollars, the chapter would get 7% of this money or \$1,750.00 a month or \$21,000.00 a year. The Executive Committee with take this under advisement.

Super Fund Repair monies to be redeposited back into the Super Fund. This will be \$2000.00.

Ron Sandrus made the motion to redeposit the money. Reed Johnson second the motion. Motion Carried.

Building Fund Donation, we would like to be empowered to make a pledge, the President, of no more than \$5000.00 .

Dennis Strawbridge made the motion. Matt Freidman second the motion. Motion Carried.

Support the Teaming with Wildlife proposal.

Don Heckman made the motion. Garry Beatty second the motion. Motion Carried.

Home Page.WWW This is to develop our own Home Page on the Internet. This will cost \$600.00 fee to set this up and we will have additional \$500.00 budgeted money to keep this home page current. This could include who we are, what we do, calendar of events, anything we prefer to put on this Home Page. We will be able to link into the National Headquarters for information regarding membership.

Don Heckman made the motion. Matt Freidman second the motion. Motion Carried. Nominating Committee had 108 ballots, which is about 1%, and the membership nominated Garry Beatty, Ed Kemp, Bill Mackareth, and Bill Laird for the Board. The following people are interested in coming on the Board, Mark Davis and Bill Hoover.

Officers are the following: Chairman of the Board: Tim Holtz
President: Garry Beatty
Vice-President: Dave Blakely
Treasurer: Don Heckman
Secretary:

Due to the Long Range Plan, we eliminated the 2nd-Vice-President, Membership Secretary, and we would like to keep a 7 member Executive Committee so we need 2 to be nominated from the floor. Bill Laird, Rick Moroney, Mark Davis, Ed Kemp, Don O'Brian was nominated from the floor.

Hall of Fame Award: A Board to be developed to display all members elected. This board will be designed similar to the Silver Spurs Awards. To have this board ready for this years Convention.

Bill Laird made a motion to develop this board. Ron Sandrus second the motion. Motion carried.

George Klucke Films in Dubois, Thompsonstown. This will only cost the Chapters a donation for a door prize.

Turkey Releases in York and Lancaster Counties. We should get some media to these releases.

PA State Calling Champions. Stoney Valley is interested in doing this calling championship. The Central County Sportsman Club is interested in doing a calling contest. Fort Chambers is also showing some interest in having this calling champions back in their area.

Support Bill Laird for the Southern Game Commission Seat. Letter to be done from the State Chapter.

Don Heckman made motion for this support. Reed Johnson second the motion. Motion Carried.

PA State Chapter needs to look at their time of the January Meeting to be held the 2nd weekend thru 2001.

Don Heckman Made motion to move to the 2nd weekend. Ron Sandrus second the motion. Motion Carried.

Local Chapter President Meeting to be held this summer in PA for PA presidents funded from the general fund the third weekend in August.

Survey membership committee: Place a survey in our Turkey Talk with at least 6-8 questions. This is in a letter for the Long Range Plan.

State Chapter needs a 1998 treasurer with new visions and goals. We need to bring new faces and new blood into our chapter. We have about 25 action items in the Long Range plan. We would like to stress that this Long Range Plan be looked over carefully for the March convention meeting.

P.T.A. has a convention every year and they give awards, and one of these awards is Pa Chapter NWTF Best Turkey Mount Award given to a taxidermist. They would like a Turkey member to present this award and to attend their banquet. They call this award Pa Chapter NWTF Best Turkey Mount Award and they don't ask us to pay for this award.

Garry Beatty made motion for State chapter to sponsor this award. Matt Freidman second this motion. Motion Carried.

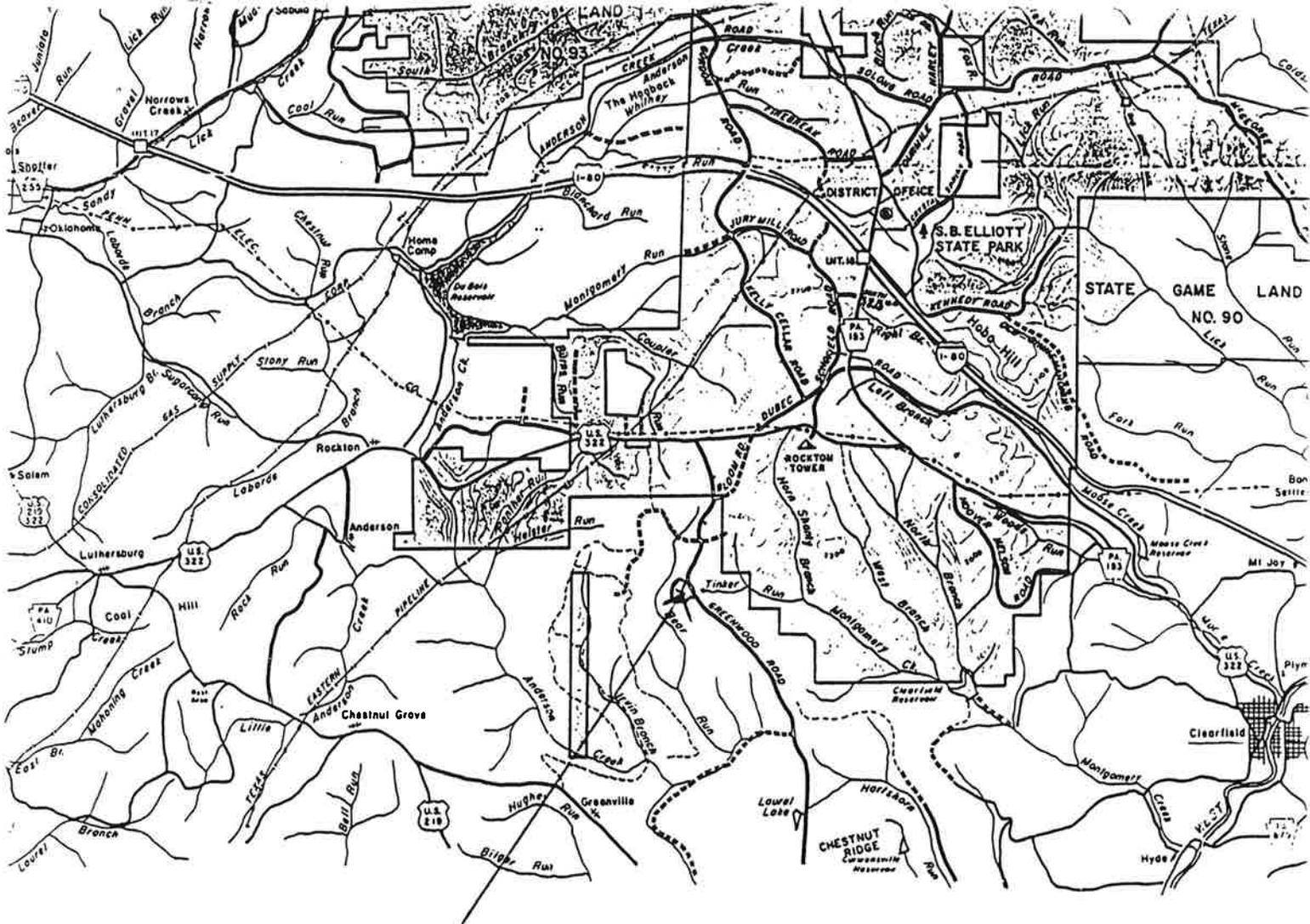
GOOD OF THE ORDER: NWTF report is available for review. Thank yous for the Cards and Prayers for Roxann Laird's recovery, they were very much appreciated. A 14 year old jakes member from the western part of the state, died from the flu. Any suggestions for awards is very much needed.

ADJOURN: Motion made to adjourn by Skip Sanderson and Second by Ed Kemp

Meeting adjourned at 3:45 PM.

Bill Laird
Secretary





GREENWOOD LODGE
MOSHANNON STATE FOREST

TO: Pennsylvania Chapter Board of Directors, Local Chapter Presidents,
Technical Committee, and Loyal Order of Silver Spurs

From: Bill Laird, Secretary

ATTENTION: The next meeting of the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania Chapter is scheduled for January 4, 1997 at Greenwood Lodge. The Greenwood Lodge welcomes us on Friday night. The Saturday session will begin promptly at 9:00 AM on January 4, 1997.

DIRECTIONS: I-80 Exit 18 South to 322 West towards Rockton/Luthersburg 2½ miles. Turn left Greenwood road 2 miles to Greenwood Lodge.