



PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION

ORGANIZED 1975

Dedicated to the Conservation of the Wild Turkey and
Preservation of the Turkey Hunting Tradition

Pa. Chapter NWTF home page www.go2pa.com/panwtf E-mail: panwtf@go2pa.com

PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING October 2, 1999 Warriors Mark, Pennsylvania

Following the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag, the October 1999 Board of Directors meeting of the Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation was called to order by Board Chairman Gary Beatty at 9:06 a.m., on Saturday, October 2, 1999. It was then noted that a quorum was present, and the Pennsylvania Chapter could conduct the business to come before it.

Board Chairman Gary Beatty welcomed everyone to the meeting. Chairman Beatty reviewed and explained the ground rules for our meeting. The floor was then opened for officer reports.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Chapter President Don O'Brien provided the Board with a written report of his activities. President O'Brien mentioned that he would cover the remainder of his activities under various reports to be given later in the meeting.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Chapter Vice President Carl Mowry reported that our upper gun raffle had generated \$18,090.00 in gross receipts. As reported, this raffle was mailed to our Chapter members, along with an appeal letter asking for their support. Board Chairman Gary Beatty expressed his thanks and appreciation, on behalf of the Chapter Board, to all those members who supported this fundraising effort. Chairman Beatty also extended thanks to Carl and Tammy Mowry for their efforts in helping to make this fundraiser a success. As was reported, Vice President Mowry also assisted Youth Chairman Bill MacKereth with the state chapter's JAKES event held at the PGC Scotia Range in Centre County.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Secretary Rick Moroney asked the Board if there were any additions or corrections to be made to the October 1999 Minutes. Corrections to the October 1999 Minutes were made as follows: Under NWTF Regional Report, on the top of page three, it was recorded: The **steel** target event also went very well, according to RFS Larry Holjencin. This was corrected to read: The **still** target event also went very well... As duly noted, it was pointed out that the Chapter Secretary has been derelict in his duties by not following the proper procedures of accurately recording the Chapter Minutes under Old and New Business. It would appear that a certain Board member felt slighted and somewhat offended by the Secretary's decision to use terminology such as: **it was reported, as reported, it was mentioned and/or it was suggested...** It was mentioned, suggested, and reported that this nomenclatural system should not be used. Moreover, it was mentioned, suggested, and reported that credit should be given to the individual who brings valuable information to the Board by recording the proper name of that individual in lieu of generic terminology. Therefore, under the powers granted to the Chapter Secretary, it shall be declared that any and all past, present, and future references using generic terminology shall, forevermore, be credited to **Mr. Donald C. Heckman**.

There being no further additions or corrections to the Minutes, **a motion to accept the October 1999 Minutes, as corrected, was made by Boyd Enos, seconded by Bill MacKereth. Motion carried.**

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Don Heckman gave a year-ending report for the period ending August 31, 1999. As reported, our checking account balance for the period was \$2877.60. We had a fair market value inventory of \$4375.80. Total net assets for the period was \$7253.40, with no outstanding liabilities. Total revenue for the period was \$13,712.70, with a total year-to-date revenue of \$82,140.67. Total expenses for the period were \$13,252.86, with total year-to-date expenses of \$84,145.42. Don also reported that our revenue for the period September 1 to September 30, 1999 was \$21,885.17. Expenses for the same period were \$9363.61, leaving a checkbook balance for the period at \$15,399.16. **A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented was made by Boyd Enos, seconded by Skip Sanderson. Motion carried.**

Budget Report: Treasurer Don Heckman reported on the Chapter's 2000 budget, which was approved by the Executive Committee at approximately \$97,000.00. It was mentioned that eight new line items were added to the budget for 2000. In noting that our budget was nearing the six-figure mark, Don suggested that the Executive Committee should consider periodic reviews of our financial statements on a line item basis to assure that our money is being spent wisely and appropriately.

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD: No report.

NWTF REGIONAL REPORT: Regional Field Supervisor Larry Holjencin reported that the NWTF had hired four new regional coordinators for the Women In the Outdoors program. Larry reported that Liz Rhinehart from New York would replace Sally Jones, and would cover Pennsylvania as part of her region. It was mentioned that three more Regional Directors were also hired by the NWTF.

Super Fund: RFS Larry Holjencin reported that our Super Fund account balance was \$21,104.00 as of October 1, 1999.

Membership: NWTF membership in Pennsylvania was reported to be 14,270. As reported, Illinois leads the membership race with 14,907, followed by Wisconsin with 14,357 members.

Local Chapters: RFS Larry Holjencin reported that two new chapters have been organized. These new local chapters are located in the Charleroi and Barnesboro areas, which brings our total to 60 local chapters in Pennsylvania.

Art Print: RFS Holjencin informed the Board that he had spoke with Wildlife Artist George LaVanish about the 3rd print. Larry mentioned that the Board's suggestion about a fall scene with turkeys scratching in the leaves and other turkeys standing alert was well received by George.

JAKES Membership: RFS Larry Holjencin mentioned that he and Jerry Zimmerman had been kicking around an idea to establish a mega gun ticket fundraiser and to seek corporate sponsorships to help increase JAKES membership outside of our normal organizational reach.

Sponsor Membership Program: RFS Larry Holjencin reported that he and Jerry Zimmerman were working with Dale Rohm to provide box calls to Pennsylvania sponsor members in 2000. Along those same lines, Board Chairman Gary Beatty thanked Dale Rohm for all the support that he has given the Chapter over the years by donating calls for fundraising efforts and organizational programs.

COMMUNICATIONS: No communications.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Youth Committee Chairman Bill MacKereth distributed a sample of the newly revised First Bird patch to members of the Board. Bill also reported on the Chapter's JAKES event held at the PGC Scotia Range near State College. Bill provided members of the Board with a written report of the JAKES event. It was suggested that invitation letters should be sent directly to JAKES members rather than local chapter presidents. It was also suggested that future JAKES programs should have more hands-on type stations as opposed to lecture/seminar type stations.

2000 State Convention: Mary DeArmitt, state convention chairperson and president of the Nittany Mountain Longbeards Chapter, gave an updated report on our state convention. As reported, the Pennsylvania Chapter will be celebrating its 25th anniversary at the state convention in State College on March 10-12, 2000. Based on Mary's report, it would appear that Mary and her committee members have been doing an excellent job in preparing for the upcoming convention. During the give and take of information between Mary and Chapter Board members several concerns were addressed and a few suggestions were made. In short, some of the topics which were addressed included: VIP invitations, Masters Invitational, Sportsmen's Raffle, Special Gun Raffle, Artwork, etc. Overall, areas of concern were of a typical nature for our annual convention. **Bottom Line:** Under the leadership of Mary DeArmitt, the state convention appears to be in good hands.

Fall Gun Raffle: Chairman Ed Kemp reported that he had 36 tickets that had not been sold for the fall gun raffle. According to Ed, the gun raffle was in pretty good shape compared to last year's raffle. However, Ed mentioned that he couldn't guarantee that there wouldn't be more unsold tickets returned. Along those same lines, Chapter President Don O'Brien expressed his disappointment that more Chapter board members did not support the upper level gun raffle which was mailed to the membership.

Art Committee: Chairman Reed Johnson reported that he had the final draft of the contract signed by Dan Crist for our 25th anniversary print. Reed indicated that his committee would have some really nice, strong pieces of art for the state convention. Reed did mention that his committee was lacking some Ned Smith artwork, but was working on picking up a few more prints. Reed suggested that he would like to see all the Number One state prints displayed at the Chapter booth.

Relative to our contract with Dan Crist, Larry Holjencin pointed out that the contract did not contain agreement terms to have five artist proofs remarqued by Wildlife Artist Dan Crist and given to the Chapter. Reed stated that he had received a verbal agreement from Dan, and that he would talk to Dan about having the agreement included in the terms of the contract.

Promotional Committee: Chairman Skip Sanderson mentioned that he was still waiting for the artwork to begin producing 25th anniversary promo items. Skip had contacted the Montana Silver Smith Company about producing a silver belt buckle for our 25th anniversary. Cost of the buckle to the Chapter would be approximately \$60.00. Following some discussion, it was suggested that Skip should only order 25 buckles. In addition, Skip reported that photos for the website promo page had been turned over to the webmaster. Relative to the Chapter license plate, Skip had decided not to proceed with this suggestion, as a result of comments he received through the website and email discussions with Larry Holjencin. Based on Skip's report, it would appear that the license plate was ugly, and problems arose during attempts to get a nicer looking plate.

Make A Wish: Chairman Skip Sanderson reported that the preliminary letter for the Make A Wish donation was ready for review. As reported, we will seek to become a Wish Partner and make a donation of \$3400.00 to sponsor an entire wish. In addition, we will also strive to make a \$500.00 donation to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation in the name of NWTB Board Member Ron Frett's granddaughter.

Habitat: Chairman Rudy Kovacina provided the Board with a written report. According to Rudy's report, 42 projects were funded for Spring 1999 as follows:

Allegheny National Forest	\$15,000.00
Local Chapter Seedlings	20,700.00
Local Chapters	22,800.47
DCNR B.O.F.	32,971.00
PGC B.L.M.	64,558.47
Total	\$156,029.94

As reported, 16 habitat improvement projects were funded for Fall 1999 as follows:

Local Chapters	\$10,336.98
DCNR B.O.F.	10,026.85
PGC B.L.M.	30,159.97
Total	\$50,523.80

Grand total: In 1999, there were 58 habitat improvements projects funded for **\$206,553.80**.

NWTF TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT: As reported, preliminary harvest report card counts from spring 1999 were four percent higher than spring 1998. With a four percent harvest increase, statewide spring 1999 harvest count may reach between 32,500 - 34,000. However, the final Game Take Survey results for spring 1999 will not be available until August 2000. It was mentioned that, since 1995, spring harvest counts have remained above 30,000 gobblers. PGC Wildlife Biologist Mary Jo Casalena was pleased to report that Pennsylvania turkey hunters are experiencing the best spring turkey hunting in our history!

Relative to the PGC Commission meeting scheduled for October 3-4, 1999 in St. Marys, our Chapter Board was informed that the fall 1999 turkey season lengths would be a topic of discussion. Further, it was learned that a proposal may be made to extend the season in some TMAs from a two-week season to a three-week season.

Turkey Management Area 7B Study: PGC Wildlife Biologist Mary Jo Casalena reported that field work for the wild turkey radio-telemetry study in TMA 7B began in August 1999. As reported, the purpose of this study is to determine survival rates, cause specific mortality rates, and reproductive rates of female wild turkeys in this suppressed population. PGC Wildlife Biologist Casalena acknowledged our Chapter's financial support of this two-year study by extending her appreciation to the Chapter for providing \$26,500.00 from the Super Fund during each year of the study.

According to Mary Jo, the research team began trapping turkeys on September 3, 1999, with the assistance of Bryan Burhans from NWTF's Edgefield, SC office. (Bryan is a native of Pottstown, PA and has three years experience with fall turkey trapping.) As reported, the research team is attaching back-pack style radio transmitters to female hens and female poults. **Special Note: ALL turkeys trapped on TMA 7B will REMAIN ON TMA 7B. TURKEYS WILL NOT BE TRANSFERRED OFF TMA 7B.** The PGC research team and our Chapter is only interested in studying the current population on TMA 7B and, therefore, will not be transferring turkeys **into nor out of** the area.

To date, the PGC research team has trapped 37 turkeys and has put transmitters on 28 turkeys. Eight of the remaining nine turkeys that were not transmittered were male poults, and one female poult that was too small for a transmitter. Turkeys must weigh three pounds to receive a back-pack style transmitter. All turkeys, males and females, are leg-banded prior to release. All turkeys are released together at the trapping site.

The research team extended its appreciation for the tremendous amount of help with trapping, especially from PA NWTF members Roger "Catfish" Miller and Spencer Miller, and the local Wildlife Conservation Officers and their deputies.

According to PGC Wildlife Biologist Mary Jo Casalena, fall turkey trapping ended on Friday, October 1, 1999, for two reasons. First, our state baiting laws prohibit the placement of bait 30 days prior to hunting season. Second, trapping success had decreased substantially during the last two weeks because of the abundance of natural food items present in the woods, especially acorns. The wind and rain during this period allowed most acorns to fall from trees and become available in quantity for turkeys.

As reported, the research team had discovered two mortalities of transmittered turkeys. One poult was killed by an owl, and one hen was killed illegally. The illegal kill is being investigated by the local WCO. Results of the investigation, and hopeful prosecution, will be reported in January 2000. Winter trapping will begin in mid-January 2000 and will continue until spring nesting season. The research team welcomes volunteers. Please call Mary Jo Casalena at 814-624-0020, or maryjoe@bedford.net for information on volunteering.

Michaux State Forest Summer Sighting Survey: The second year of summer sighting survey data on the Michaux State Forest is currently being analyzed to provide an index to its turkey population trends in addition to harvest and hunting success trend data for TMA 7B. Six routes (approx. 30 miles each) were conducted in June, July, and August. Each route was surveyed 12 times (weekly) each summer, and the miles driven and the number of turkeys seen were recorded. The PA Chapter (Spencer Miller and Alan Emlet), the Michaux State Forest (2), and the Southcentral Region of the PGC (2) conducted routes. Analyses will be presented at the Michaux Wild Turkey Task Force meeting on October 12, 1999.

Wild Turkey Management Plan: As reported at the Chapter's August Board meeting, a cooperative meeting between our Chapter and the PGC was held on Thursday, August 4, 1999 to begin discussions regarding implementation of the management plan. From a rough first look at the plan's objectives, accomplishing the objectives within the specified time frame will require at least one additional full-time turkey biologist, according to PGC Wildlife Biologist Mary Jo Casalena. Currently, a second turkey biologist is not in the Bureau's budget request. We have, however, requested regional wildlife biologists, Mary Jo stated. As mentioned, some objectives could be completed at the regional biologist level. Future discussions between the PA Chapter and the PGC regarding implementation of the wild turkey management plan would be beneficial.

NWTF Technical Meeting/Convention: Following some discussion, a motion to approve funding for three PGC staff members and two PGC Commissioners to attend the NWTF Convention and Technical Committee meeting was made by Bill MacKereth, seconded by Ron Sandrus. Motion carried.

Along those same lines, a motion to approve funding for DCNR Biologist Merlin Benner to attend the NWTF Convention and Technical Committee meeting was made by Dennis Strawbridge, seconded by Bill MacKereth. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS: Under the first item of Old Business, Reed Johnson introduced DCNR District Forester Bob Merrill to the group. District Forester Bob Merrill spoke to the group about the DCNR's interest in purchasing an 1100 acre parcel of land which is located in the Moshannon State Forest, at the headwaters of Medix Run, near State Game Lands #34. District Forester Merrill was looking to our Chapter for support and financial assistance to help purchase this property. Following some discussion, a motion to support the purchase of this property and to work within our financial means to help DCNR with the purchase was made by Skip Sanderson, seconded by Dennis Strawbridge. Motion carried.

Public Relations Representative: The Chapter Board was informed that the Executive Committee had received eight resumes for the P.R. position. Upon review and discussion, the Executive Committee chose Marcus Schneck to represent the Chapter. It should be noted, however, that the Executive Committee did notice one glaring fault with Marcus Schneck's resume. Marcus made the mistake of using Don Heckman's name for a reference, which resulted in a difficult decision for the Executive Committee in choosing Marcus over the other fine candidates. The Executive Committee is confident, however, that Marcus can overcome this short-term indiscretion in character judgement, and will do an excellent job for the Chapter.

Patch/Pin: Past Chapter President Howard Meyers reported that there would be 300 pins and 600 patches available for the state convention.

NRA: Howard Meyers informed the Board that since our Chapter was a previous member of the NRA that it would not be necessary to pay the \$10.00 initial signing fee. Rick Moroney said he would get the application filled-out and provide a set of Chapter bylaws in order to renew the Chapter's NRA membership and bring our dues up to date.

NEW BUSINESS: Under the first item of New Business, some discussion took place relative to our support of the Game Commission's Becoming an Outdoor Women program. Along those lines, a motion to provide the PGC with turkey calls and a sponsorship for the BOW program was made by Don Heckman, seconded by Boyd Enos. Motion carried.

YHEC Council: Chapter President Don O'Brien spoke to the Board about having met with members of the YHEC Council. This committee was being formed to help relieve the Game Commission with some of its responsibilities to the YHEC program. Following some discussion, a motion to have a Chapter representative seated on the YHEC Council was made by Don Heckman, seconded by Skip Sanderson. Motion carried. Bill MacKereth agreed to represent the Chapter as a member of the YHEC Council and to attend the meetings.

YHEC Essay Contest: In noting our support in the past of the YHEC Essay Contest, a motion to provide \$500.00 each to the senior and junior contest winner, with this money to be used to send the senior winner to the Penn State advanced hunter/conservation school, and the junior winner to the NWTF Porter Wagner Youth Field Days, was made by Bill MacKereth, seconded by Dale Rohm. Motion carried.

Habitat Working Group: It was brought to the attention of the Board that the Unified Sportsmens organization was in favor of not having the Game Commission represented on this committee. It must be noted that the PGC formed this group to assist and provide recommendations on how the PGC should manage and spend budgeted funds on State Game Lands. It would appear that the Unified Sportsmens representatives believe that the sportsmen of Pennsylvania are better equipped to make these decisions on their own, without the help and knowledge of PGC professionals. As reported, our Chapter will be prepared to support the Game Commission's active involvement with this group, and will not be a party to such an ill-conceived notion.

Roger Latham Sportsman's Service Award: A motion to nominate Gary Beatty as a candidate for the NWTF Roger Latham Award was made by Boyd Enos. There being no other nominations forthcoming from the Board, a motion to close nominations was made by Bill Mackereth, seconded by Boyd Enos. Motion carried. Gary Beatty received the Chapter's endorsement as a candidate for the NWTF Roger Latham Award.

Governor's Award: After some discussion, it was a general consensus of the Board to present Governor Tom Ridge with a Chapter President's Award, during our 25th Anniversary Convention.

Hunting in PA: Don Heckman reported that there is a website on hunting in Pennsylvania. As reported, this website does not feature wild turkey hunting, as of yet. According to Don, the Chapter was invited to provide information for this website. Although Eric Baker was not present at the meeting, it was mentioned that Eric was interested in representing the Chapter on this website. It appeared to be a general consensus of the Board to allow Eric Baker to represent the Chapter on this bulletin board.

Heritage Wildlife: Don Heckman reported that the Chapter was invited to participate in the Heritage Wildlife 2000 program. To make a long story short, this program will not begin until 2001. According to Don, the committee is still conducting meetings, but their deadlines for getting things done have been extended. It was a general consensus of the Board to continue our participation in this program.

PA Sportsman's Coalition: Don Heckman reported that he will be renewing our dues at the next Coalition meeting. According to Don, the Coalition will recommend that the orange regulations remain the same, with the possible exception of increasing the required amount of orange for groundhog hunting.

Super Fund News Release: Don Heckman asked the NWTF to write a news release, covering the last 15 years of Super Fund expenditures in Pennsylvania. As mentioned, the Chapter would like to have this done before our January meeting with the Game Commission. When completed, this news release will be distributed throughout Pennsylvania.

GOOD OF THE ORDER: Past President Howard Meyers informed the Board that grants for NRA funds must be in by October 31, 1999.

Turkey Poster: Ron Sandrus asked whether or not the posters were sent to the PGC regional offices. At the time, it didn't appear as though anyone could give Ron an answer. President Don O'Brien said that he would check with Safety Chairman Mark Davis about the status of those posters.

Frost Camp: Rick Moroney reported that the Frost Camp would no longer be available to the Chapter for meetings after the October 1999 meeting. Rick assured the Board that this decision was not a result of anything the Chapter did and/or did not do.

DART System: Dennis Strawbridge expressed his opinion that the turkey disc which comes with the system does not have difficult, decision-making type shooting sequences, whereby the shooter must decide whether or not to shoot. According to Dennis, the program is too simple. He asked if the program could be upgraded to include more safety-type shooting situations.

Meeting Sites: Reed Johnson mentioned that the District State Office, which is located just off of Exit 18 on Interstate 80, could be made available for Chapter meetings. According to Reed, the meeting area is large, heated, and will have a kitchen attached. This site is approximately 10 miles from Greenwood Lodge.

There being no further business to come before the Board, **a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ron Sandrus, seconded by Boyd Enos. Motion carried.** The Pennsylvania Chapter's October 1999 Board of Directors meeting was adjourned at 3:17 p.m., on Saturday, October 2, 1999.

Respectfully submitted,



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



PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION

ORGANIZED 1975

Dedicated to the Conservation of the Wild Turkey and
Preservation of the Turkey Hunting Tradition

Pa. Chapter NWTf home page www.go2pa.com/panwtf E-mail: panwtf@go2pa.com

August 20, 1999

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

Enclosed, for your review and reference, please find a copy of the August 1999 Minutes of our Board of Directors meeting held at Warrior's Mark, Pennsylvania. The next meeting of our Chapter Board will be held October 2, 1999 at Warrior's Mark in Centre County. The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m., on Saturday. **Executive Committee:** Executive Committee members will meet October 1, 1999 at the Frost Camp in Huntingdon County. The meeting will begin at 8:00 p.m., on Friday.

Special Note: The Pennsylvania Chapter is seeking candidates to serve on the Chapter Board of Directors. We have not received any nominations from our local chapters. There are, at least, two Board seats which need to be filled. A three year term of office for this position will begin at the close of our March 2000 convention. However, we need prospective candidates to contact us ASAP, in case a membership election becomes necessary. Anyone interested in serving as a board member of the Pennsylvania Chapter should contact Gary Beatty at (724) 588-3342 or Email - gebe@pathway.net.

Directions to Warrior's 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 towards Pennsylvania Furnace. Go 3 miles and turn left onto Dry Hollow Road. Go 3 miles to Warrior's 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 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. Continue on 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 one mile. When road bends towards the left and heads downhill, turn right onto camp road. Bear left alongside three-car garage 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 two miles), 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 McAleveys 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. (Frost Camp is opened to anyone who wants to attend the Executive Committee meeting and/or sleep over.)

Looking forward to seeing all of you on October 2, 1999....

Yours for good conservation,

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

ENCLOSURE:



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PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING August 7, 1999 Warriors Mark, Pennsylvania

Following the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag, the August 1999 Board of Directors meeting of the Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation was called to order by Board Chairman Gary Beatty at 9:05 a.m., on Saturday, August 7, 1999. It was then noted that a quorum was present, and the Pennsylvania Chapter could conduct the business to come before it.

Board Chairman Gary Beatty welcomed everyone to the meeting. Chairman Beatty reviewed and explained the ground rules for our meeting. The floor was then opened for officer reports.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Chapter President Don O'Brien provided a written report of his activities. President O'Brien welcomed PGC Wildlife Biologist Mary Jo Casalena to our meeting, and as a new member of the NWTf Technical Committee. The Board was encouraged to bring in press clippings of activities occurring in their area to be posted on a bulletin board during our Board meetings. In concluding his report, Don thanked several Board members for their help and assistance during the past couple months.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Secretary Rick Moroney asked the Board if there were any additions or corrections to be made to the June 1999 Minutes. Corrections to the June 1999 Minutes were made as follows: On page one, first paragraph, it was recorded: "...was called to order...on Saturday, March 5, 1999." This was corrected to read: "...was called to order...on Saturday, June 5, 1999.

Under Art Committee, on page 5, under 25th Anniversary Print, it was recorded: "...Wildlife Artist Dan Crist agreed to do...." This was corrected to read: "...Wildlife Artist Dan Christ agreed to do...."

There being no further additions or corrections to the Minutes, a motion to accept the June 1999 Minutes, as corrected, was made by Bill MacKereth, seconded by Carl Mowry. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Don Heckman reported for the period ending July 31, 1999. As reported, our checking account balance was \$2417.76, and our fair market value was \$4375.80. Total net assets for the period was \$6793.56, with no outstanding liabilities. Total revenue for the two month period ending July 31, 1999 was \$10,978.39, with total revenue, year-to-date, of \$68,427.97. Total expenses for the two month period ending July 31, 1999 was \$11,348.58, with total expenses, year-to-date, of \$70,892.56. As of August 7, 1999, the Chapter realized an income of \$4341.03, with expenses of \$3357.97, leaving a checkbook balance of \$2968.82. A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, as presented, was made by Boyd Enox, seconded by Bill Laird. Motion carried.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Vice President Carl Mowry reported that the upper level gun raffle was mailed about a week before our Board meeting. It was mentioned that Carl, Tammy, his wife, and his family had worked together stuffing about 10,000 envelopes to be mailed for the gun raffle.

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD: Board Chairman Gary Beatty began his report by thanking Carl and Tammy Mowry, and their family, for all their help with the gun raffle. Chairman Beatty expressed his appreciation for the great job that Chapter President Don O'Brien has been doing since taking office. Chairman Beatty gave a brief update on the Chapter's DART system. The DART system was brought to our meeting, with plans to have a demonstration following the Board meeting and, again, during the President's meeting on Sunday.

NWTF REGIONAL WITO REPORT: It was reported that Sally Jones had resigned as the NWTF Regional Women's Coordinator, effective August 16, 1999. Tammy Mowry, state coordinator Women In The Outdoors, reported that 10 events were scheduled for Pennsylvania this year. It was noted that two events had already been held. As reported, two state coordinator positions have been filled - Tammy Mowry, western half of Pennsylvania; and Becky Martinell, eastern half of the state. Rhonda Henry was also appointed to serve in one of six regional positions in Pennsylvania.

Board Chairman Gary Beatty mentioned that the WITO program was asking for an increase in their budget from \$500.00 to \$2000.00. WITO program would also require a full page in the January issue of "Turkey Talk" to advertise upcoming events and provide other information about the WITO programs. These and other suggestions were to be considered by the Executive Committee. **Special Note:** The Executive Committee did not meet after our Board meeting and, therefore, these and other business-related issues were not resolved.

NWTF REGIONAL REPORT: Senior Regional Field Supervisor Jerry Zimmerman reported that this has been the best year in NWTF history with over \$15 million in net dollars raised. It is expected that Pennsylvania will have raised over \$1 million net dollars by year's end.

Membership: As reported, Pennsylvania has dropped to third place in the membership race, with over 13,000 members. Illinois is in first place, and Wisconsin is in second. This represents a temporary setback, which should and will be rectified before year's end.

Super Fund: Our Super Fund balance, as of August 7, 1999, was \$23,320.00. It is expected that about another \$100,000.00 will be raised for the Super Fund by year's end.

Regional Directors: The NWTF has 53 Regional Directors, having hired seven over the last 3 months.

Local Chapters: Pennsylvania has 58 local chapters. This year's President's meeting should be the best ever. About 34 local chapters will be represented - the most ever. Over 70 local chapter leaders will attend - the most ever.

NWTF Promotion: Following some reorganization at NWTF headquarters, Carl Brown was promoted to the position of Chief Operating Officer of the NWTF.

NWTF REGIONAL REPORT: Regional Field Supervisor Larry Holjencin reported that the state shoot was the best ever. Although the "Field Day - Fun Event" did not go as well as planned - due to a lack of participation, the Sunday, "PA Chapter Black Timber Classic," shoot went very well, with 74 shooters participating. As reported, seven of the eight winners are planning to take advantage of their opportunity to attend the NWTF shoot in Georgia.

The steel target event also went very well, according to RFS Larry Holjencin. RFS Holjencin thanked Don O'Brien and members of the White Horse Mountain Chapter for their help and assistance at the state shoot. Larry expressed some disappointment over the lack of Board member support from the state chapter. Next year's shoot will be held on Sunday, June 25, 2000. This event will, again, be co-sponsored by Black Timber. The Saturday "Field Day-Fun Event" will not be continued next year due, in part, to the lack of participation at this year's fun event activities.

NWTF Convention: The NWTF convention will be held February 24-27, 2000 at the Opryland Hotel in Nashville, Tenn. Larry spoke briefly about the line up of guest stars and entertainment planned for this gala event. It was mentioned that those planning to attend the NWTF convention in 2000 should make their reservations now, as rooms are going fast. **Special note:** For more information about the NWTF convention, please refer to upcoming issues of "Turkey Call" and "The Caller."

Local Chapter Loans: In an effort to help new local chapters get their wings, the Pennsylvania Chapter provides a start-up loan to help the local chapters get things rolling. As reported, four local chapters were in arrears of paying back this loan within the one year time frame. Regional Field Supervisor Larry Holjencin indicated that he expects that these loans will all be repaid before our October meeting.

NWTF Communications: Over the last year, NWTF has upgraded its communication services. The NWTF Turkey Call television program was aired on TNN Outdoors, Saturday mornings, at 9:00 a.m., EST. This 14-slot series will rerun on TNN Outdoors, beginning October 2, 1999, on Saturday mornings, at 10:30 a.m., EST. It was rumored that the show featuring our own, Don Heckman, received the lowest rating and, therefore, may be replaced with a Roland Martin fishing show. On a more serious note, this NWTF television program is a don't-want-to-miss show of some great turkey hunting adventures in the outdoors.

Radio Ads: The NWTF has developed radio service announcements which can be used by local chapters to advertise their membership banquets. The voice of NWTF CEO Rob Keck is heard at the beginning of the advertisement, and local chapters can add their own personal touch to the end of the announcement.

NWTF Web Site: According to Regional Field Supervisor Larry Holjencin, the NWTF will be upgrading their web site in the year 2000 to include E-mail, bulletin board, and a calendar of events.

Conservation Seed Program: RFS Larry Holjencin reported that 5 million pounds of seed was distributed to 26 states across the country in 1999. Pennsylvania received 7 tractor trailer loads of seed or, approximately 300,000 pounds for distribution throughout the state. As noted, the Clearfield chapters took four tractor trailer loads, and coordinated efforts to have this seed distributed. Three tractor trailer loads were shipped to the eastern half of the state. Larry extended his thanks and appreciation to the Clearfield chapters and to Grice's Gun Shop. It was mentioned that shipping costs for the seed varies from \$900.00 to \$1800.00, depending on where the seed is shipped from in the United States. Shipment may originate as close as Ohio or as far away as Kansas. In view of that, some local chapters are charging \$3.00 per bag to cover the cost of shipping and to save Super Fund dollars. Farmers who purchase seed at market value pay approximately \$100.00 or more per bag. Just as a reminder, this is a not-for-profit program. Local chapters may charge enough to cover the costs of shipping, but will not be permitted to profit from this program.

Super Fund Manual: The NWTF Super Fund manual has been updated, revised, and will be shipped to local chapter presidents in the near future.

Conservation Print: RFS Larry Holjencin mentioned that Wildlife Artist George LaVanish was looking for suggestions on how the turkeys should be posed in a fall scene setting for our third print in the series. It was suggested that some should be scratching for food, with one or two other turkeys standing alert and looking for possible danger.

At the conclusion of Larry's report, Board Chairman Gary Beatty thanked Larry for all the work and effort that he puts into the state shoot. Gary also expressed disappointment with the lack of Chapter support.

NWTF TECHNICAL COMMITTEE: PGC Assistant Director Bureau of Wildlife Management Bob Boyd extended greetings to our Board from the Pennsylvania Game Commission. It was noted that PGC Wildlife Biologist Bill Drake had officially retired from the Game Commission on June 25, 1999. Assistant Director Bob Boyd mentioned that Bill was, presently, enjoying his retirement while fly fishing on one of his favorite streams in Montana. Bob stated that Bill had made some major contributions to the PGC during his many years of service, and that he would be missed. But, as reported, the PGC has gotten a very good replacement for Bill, with their appointment of Wildlife Biologist Mary Jo Casalena to that position. In providing a brief introduction of Wildlife Biologist Mary Jo Casalena, Bob mentioned that she had received her master's degree from Penn State, and had worked as a habitat manager in Arizona, before being hired by the PGC. As a wildlife biologist for the PGC, Mary Jo worked on the sischuan pheasant program and with waterfowl, before her recent appointment to oversee wild turkey management in Pennsylvania.

DH **Wild Turkey Management Plan:** PGC Assistant Director Bob Boyd described our Chapter's meeting with PGC staff personnel on the Wild Turkey Management Plan as nothing short of a "top level meeting." This meeting was held Thursday evening, August 5, 1999, at PGC headquarters in Harrisburg. As reported, the purpose of this meeting was to prioritize the management plan, and to determine how much it would cost to implement the action plans contained in the management plan.

Harvest Management: PGC Wildlife Biologist Mary Jo Casalena reported that the final 1998 Game Take Survey, spring and fall harvests and hunting participation data, showed that the fall harvest was 33,600 turkeys. This is 10 percent below 1997's fall harvest. However, the spring '98 harvest of 34,100 was 10 percent above that of spring 1997, and the second highest on record. Overall harvest was still below that of 1997 because of the lower fall harvest. Preliminary harvest report card reports from spring 1999 are four percent higher than spring 1998. Final Game Take Survey results for spring 1999 will not be available until this time next year.

DH **Turkey Management Area 7B:** According to Wildlife Biologist Mary Jo Casalena, field work for the wild turkey radio-telemetry study in TMA 7B officially begins this month (August 1999). The purpose of this study is to determine survival rates, cause specific mortality rates, and reproductive rates of wild turkey hens in this suppressed population. A computer and radio-telemetry equipment for the study were purchased through our Chapter Super Fund (\$26,500.00). Two Biologist-Aides, Doug Little and Mike Neibauer, begin on Monday, August 9, to assist with the field work and data entry.

Mike is a Juniata College alumnus who recently returned from Kansas, where he was trapping and tracking rio-grande/eastern turkey hybrids. Doug, originally from New York, is returning from Mississippi State University. Doug is completing his master's degree on eastern turkeys under the leadership of world-renowed turkey researcher Dr. George Hurst. As Mary Jo stated, we are fortunate to have such well qualified and enthusiastic field researchers.

Also, a doctoral degree candidate student with the PA Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit at Penn State will be involved with Geographic Information System analysis of wild turkey habitat in TMA 7B. This aspect of the study will begin next year. Baiting turkeys will begin immediately. And as reported, trapping and attaching radio transmitters of turkeys will begin in September 1999, under the supervision of PGC Wildlife Biologist Mary Jo Casalena.

Summer Sightings: Summer sighting surveys currently are being conducted for the second-year on the Michaux State Forest to provide an index to its turkey population trends, in addition to PGC harvest and hunting success trend data for TMA 7B. Six routes (approx. 30 miles each) are being conducted in June, July and August. Each route is surveyed 12-times (weekly) each summer, and the miles driven and number of turkeys seen recorded. The PA Chapter's Spencer Miller and Alan Emlet survey/travel two routes. MSF personnel survey/travel two routes. And PGC Southcentral Region personnel survey/travel two routes.

Just For The Record: The record harvest for wild turkey, in Pennsylvania, was established in 1995. This was due, in part, to a successful reproductive season and a relatively dry spring and summer. According to PGC Wildlife Biologist Mary Jo Casalena, "we really hammered 'em that year - both spring and fall." (Now that's the kind of scientific jargon we can all relate to.)

COMMUNICATIONS: The first item of communications was a confirmation letter from NWTF CEO Rob Keck, stating that he would be honored and pleased to accept our invitation to give the keynote address at our banquet during the March 10-12, 2000 convention.

Received a thank you letter from JAKES member Craig Jaquith, for providing his sponsorship to attend the Porter Wagner Conservation Field Days for JAKES in Edgefield.

Received notification of the Pennsylvania Deer Association's convention and banquet.

Received a thank you letter from POWA Awards Chairman John Mahn for our Chapter's support of the POWA Awards Program. It was noted that Betty Lou Fegely was the recipient of the 1998 Wild Turkey Award.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Bill MacKereth, Youth Committee Chairman, reported that everything was proceeding well with the state JAKES event, scheduled for September 18, 1999, at Scotia Range in Centre County. As reported, it's going to be a full-day with many exciting activities planned. Cost is \$10.00.

State Convention: Eric Baker reported that Mary DeArmitt, President Nittany Valley Longbeards, had been appointed Convention Chairperson. She can be reached at (814) 353-1712. Our Chapter's 25th anniversary will be celebrated at the state convention and awards banquet, to be held March 10-12, 2000, at the Penn Stater Conference Center in State College, PA. The first convention meeting was held July 28, 1999. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 30, 1999, at 7:30 p.m., at the Penn Stater. NWTF CEO Rob Keck will be attending. Will Primos, President Primos Calls, will be a featured seminar speaker on Saturday afternoon, during the convention.

Promotional Items: Chairman Skip Sanderson reported that he had give our Chapter Treasurer \$807.70 for deposit into the general fund. This money was generated through the sale of promotional items, and included \$599.50 from the state convention. Received a new order of safety rulers (6250), which are being distributed as orders come in. So far, 1000 rulers have already been distributed to Women In The Outdoors and JAKES programs throughout the state. With the completion of the 25th Anniversary Print, Skip is prepared to move forward with the process of getting 25th anniversary promotional items to include: a silver belt buckle, Ertl trucks, money clip, glass turkey call, T-shirts and hats. Along those lines, Skip has contacted the Montana Silver Smith Company about producing a silver belt buckle for our 25th anniversary. Howard Meyers and Skip are working together in an effort to get limited edition Ertl trucks. Skip mentioned that he has a meeting scheduled with a photographer on August 16, and should have promo item photos available soon for publication on the Chapter website.

License Plate: It was suggested that the Chapter should consider ordering organizational license plates. Following some discussion, a motion to use the NWTF logo on the license plate was made by Carl Mowry, seconded by Bill MacKereth. Motion carried. It was further suggested that the Pennsylvania Chapter, NWTF should be printed on the bottom of the license plate. A motion to proceed with the process of getting organizational license plates for the Chapter was made by Bill MacKereth, seconded by Dennis Straybridge. Motion carried. An application for the organizational license plate will be published in "Turkey Talk." It will require a pre-order of 300 plates before the state DOT will agree to make the license plates.

Make A Wish Foundation: Last year our Chapter appealed to local chapters about making a donation in support of the Make A Wish Foundation. This program was very well received. It has also been suggested that the Chapter may want to consider supporting the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. As noted, a very prominate member of the NWTF has a very close, and dear relative who has cystic fibrosis, a disease which affects mostly young children. Following some discussion, it was decided that our appeal letter to local chapters would allow for support of both Foundations.

Public Relations: Chairman Skip Sanderson reported that he has had contact with a company about distributing our news releases through electronic media to their media contacts. The costs and other details still need to be worked out. Skip was given Board permission to gather information from POWA members to determine the best means of having our news releases published.

OLD BUSINESS: Under the first item of Old Business, Chapter President Don O'Brien updated the Board on our efforts to acquire the services of a public relations representative for the Chapter. It was reported that two individuals had been contacted, but they did not seem willing to take on that responsibility. It was mentioned that an ad for that position would be included in the next issue of the POWA publication.

DH **House Bill 1393:** Legislation has been introduced into the House Game and Fisheries Committee which would allow for the use of blinds for turkey hunting. It was reported that Representative David Levdansky attached amendments to this Bill which were not acceptable to the Representatives who sponsored the Bill. Therefore, HB 1393 was tabled, in committee, and no further action was taken. Don Heckman suggested that our Chapter should support legislation to legalize the use of blinds for turkey hunting with some reservations - How will legislative wording be used to determine the construction and use of blinds? What amendments will be attached to this Bill? Does this legislation have the support of our membership and the general turkey hunting public? Following much discussion, a motion to support the use of blinds for turkey hunting was made by Don Heckman, seconded by Skip Sanderson. Motion carried, with three no votes recorded.

Turkey Hunting License: Don Heckman updated the Board on the status of the turkey hunting license. According to Don, the thought process, among a select group of state representatives, would be to introduce a legislative bill that supports a \$10.00 turkey hunting license. The legislative process would run its course over a two year period before this bill would be brought to the floor for a vote. This two year period is intended to allow enough time to get information about a turkey hunting license into the proper hands, and to gain support of the general turkey hunting public for the passage of this legislation.

Pin/Patch: During our June Board meeting a motion was passed to allow J.F. Graphics to develop and sale state convention pins and patches, with the understanding that three suggested changes would be met and included in our contract agreement with J.F. Graphics. Following some discussion, it was determined that these changes have been made. A motion to accept the revised J.F. Graphics contract with the PA Chapter, relative to the production, sale and royalty agreements, for convention pins and patches was made by Ron Sandrus, seconded by Rick Moroney. Motion carried, with one no vote recorded.

25th Anniversary Print: Art Committee Chairman Reed Johnson went over the contract agreement that our Chapter has with Wildlife Artist Dan Christ. Several revisions were made to this contract and agreed to by our Chapter and Dan Christ. A motion to approve our Chapter's contract with Wildlife Artist Dan Christ, as revised and related to our 25th anniversary print and patch program, was made by Dennis Strawbridge, seconded by Boyd Enos. Motion carried. Along those lines, it was mentioned that our Chapter would need photo-ready art of the 25th anniversary print, ASAP, for use on promotional items. In addition, it was suggested that the Chapter should seek agreement with Dan Christ to provide the Chapter with five artist proofs which are remarqued - preferably APs numbered one through five.

DH **Wild Turkey Management Plan:** It was reported that our Chapter representatives asked the Game Commission to commit to spending \$2.25 million to implement goals and objectives of the Wild Turkey Management Plan over the next five years. Further, it was suggested by our Chapter that the top priority of the management plan should be the hiring of a second wild turkey biologist for the Game Commission.

DH **Bureau of Forestry:** Chapter representatives will meet with Secretary John Oliver, DCNR Bureau of Forestry, and other Bureau of Forestry personnel on Monday, September 27, 1999, in Harrisburg. The purpose of this meeting is to create a formal session to improve communications and cooperative efforts between our organizations. As reported, we already meet at local levels across the Commonwealth, and would appreciate opportunities to expand our common goals by reaching other State Forest Districts and understanding Bureau of Forestry programs. Along those same lines, it is not known by our Chapter leadership if we have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the DCNR Bureau of Forestry. As suggested, this meeting should provide an excellent opportunity to advance such an agreement of cooperation between the NWTF, our Chapter, and DCNR Bureau of Forestry.

DH

PA Sportsmen's Coalition: The PA Sportsmen's Coalition met about one week after our Chapter's Board meeting to review and recommend orange requirements for hunting in Pennsylvania. As reported, the Coalition added a seventh criteria to their list of six proposals under consideration. This 7th criteria would require turkey hunters and groundhog hunters to wear 250 sq. inches of orange, at all times. The Coalition is scheduled to meet on August 10, 1999, and will probably vote on which three orange requirement proposals will be put on the table for the Game Commission's review and consideration.

2000 Convention: It was decided that our Chapter would provide the 2000 Convention Committee with \$5000.00 in start-up funds, following our Board meeting in October.

Chapter Website: According to Don Heckman, the Chapter website has been redesigned and upgraded to include WITO information, press releases and some errors on the website were corrected. Don reported that our website contains 140 pages of material and information. Chapter history information will be updated for the years covering 1985 to 2000.

Chapter Budget: As reported, the Executive Committee approved our 1999-2000 budget at \$89,550.00. Chapter Treasurer Don Heckman revised the budget, following approval by the Executive Committee, and was seeking Executive Committee approval for the revisions, which would establish our 1999-2000 budget at \$97,550.00. **Note:** The Executive Committee did not meet and, therefore, will have to review all unfinished business prior to our October Board meeting.

Chapter Booth: Lyle Gillespie was asked about the status of the Chapter booth being ordered through some of Lyle's contacts. Lyle reported that the offer which was made to our Chapter had expired before our order was placed. Lyle indicated that, if we waited, the manufacturer of the booth would probably offer special prices again. It appeared to be a consensus of the Board to wait and resubmit our order for a booth when special prices were offered by the booth manufacturer, again.

DH

NEW BUSINESS: Under the first item of New Business, it was reported that Jim Brett was selected to succeed Vern Ross as the Sportsmen's Advisor. In other business, Jim Brett's seat on the Sportsmen's Advisory Council will have to be filled. The Council will also be making it's recommendation to fill the Region Three position on the PGC's Board of Commissioners, and a Fish Commission seat on the Board later in the year.

DH

PGC Meeting: Our Chapter plans to make two check presentations during the PGC's Commissioners meeting in August. A check for \$26,500.00 will be presented as part of our supportive commitment to the wild turkey research project being conducted on Turkey Management Area 7B. Another check will be presented to show Super Fund dollars being spent in 1999 on Game Commission projects and programs.

DH

Chapter Involvement: It was mentioned and suggested that our Chapter should have representative(s) attend various other conservation group activities/events such as: PA Deer Association convention, PA Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs convention and POWA convention and break-out conferences.

Board Nominations: Chairman Gary Beatty reported that he did not receive any nominations for the Board from our local chapters. At least two Board seats will need to be filled in the coming year, to replace those members who are leaving.

NWTF Regional Wildlife Biologist: It was reported that the NWTF is considering the possibility of hiring an NWTF Regional Wildlife Biologist. Steve Trupes contacted Ron Sandrus to seek Chapter support for him as a candidate for this position. As mentioned, it is not a policy of our Chapter to give organizational support/endorsement to any candidate(s) for any position(s). However, we encourage anyone to write letters of reference/support for Steve to the following address: Steve Trupes, 727 South 13th Street, Columbia, PA 17512. Phone or Fax -(717)684-2230 or Email -Strupe@desuper.net.

Brochures: Dennis Strawbridge was asked to upgrade and reorder Chapter brochures and pamphlets before our 2000 convention. Dennis asked the Board for some direction to determine the type of information that we wanted to be included in this material, in particular habitat related information. Dennis was asked to gather information from PA Chapter and NWTf at-a-glance material and to work with Habitat Committee Chairman Rudy Kovacina.

Women In The Outdoors: In noting the absence of Mark Davis at our meeting, Tammy Mowry, state coordinator WITO, gave a brief report of the WITO goals and objectives for the upcoming year. In short, a WITO program is being planned for our 2000 convention, and it is projected that 15 WITO events will be held in Pennsylvania next year, among other exciting, aggressive, proactive-type goals and objectives.

NRA: It was reported that our Chapter has not been a supporting member of the NRA for a number of years. Following the initial shock to this information, a motion to rejoin the NRA, as a supporting member organization, and to continue our membership with the NRA was made by Ron Sandrus, seconded by Eric Baker. Motion carried.

GOOD OF THE ORDER: Howard Meyers mentioned that Local Chapter #One had gun tickets for sale.

Next Board Meeting: Our next Board meeting will be held at Warrior's Mark on October 2, 1999. Our Executive Committee meeting will be held at the Frost Camp on October 1, 1999.

January Board Meeting: Our January meeting will be held at the Greenwood Lodge in Clearfield County on January 8, 2000. The Executive Committee will meet at the lodge on Friday, January 7, 2000.

Upper Level Gun Ticket: Carl Mowry mentioned that more tickets are available.

Fall Gun Raffle: It was noted that the cost of firearms increased 10 percent across the board. Tickets were available for distribution, and Board members were encouraged to support this fundraising activity by helping to sell tickets.

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ron Sandrus, seconded by Bill Laird. Motion carried. The Pennsylvania Chapter's August 1999 Board of Directors meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m., on Saturday, August 7, 1999.

Respectfully submitted,



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



PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION

ORGANIZED 1975

Dedicated to the Conservation of the Wild Turkey and
Preservation of the Turkey Hunting Tradition

Pa. Chapter NWTf home page www.go2pa.com/panwtf E-mail: panwtf@go2pa.com

July 7, 1999

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

Enclosed, for your review and reference, please find a copy of the June 1999 Minutes of our Board of Directors meeting held at Warriors Mark, Pennsylvania. The next meeting of our Chapter Board will be held August 7, 1999 at Warriors Mark in Centre County. The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m., on Saturday. **Executive Committee:** Executive Committee members will meet August 6, 1999 at the Frost Camp in Huntingdon County. The meeting will begin at 8:00 p.m., on Friday.

SPECIAL NOTICE - Local Chapter Nominations: In accordance with Chapter Bylaws, under Article VII, Chapter Board, Section 4 - Election of the Board, election procedures allow that on or before August 1, each local chapter may submit, in writing to the Nominating Committee, the name of one candidate for nomination to the Chapter Board. This written nomination must be signed by no fewer than fifteen (15) members of the local chapter, and should include the resume of their nominee which outline's the nominee's background, qualifications and contributions to the wild turkey on the state and local level. **Nomination information should be mailed to:** Gary Beatty, 65 Donation Road, Greenville, PA 16125 or E-mail - gebe@pathway.net.

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 towards 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 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. Continue on 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 bends towards the left and heads downhill, turn right onto camp road. Bear left alongside three-car garage and follow lane back into camp.

From the 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 two miles), 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 McAleveys 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. (Frost Camp is opened to anyone who wants to attend the Executive Committee meeting and/or sleep over.)

Looking forward to seeing all of you on August 7, 1999....

Yours for good conservation,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rick".

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



PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION

ORGANIZED 1975

Dedicated to the Conservation of the Wild Turkey and
Preservation of the Turkey Hunting Tradition

Pa. Chapter NWTF home page www.go2pa.com/panwtf E-mail: panwtf@go2pa.com

PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING June 5, 1999 Warriors Mark, Pennsylvania

Following the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag, the June 1999 Board of Directors meeting of the Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation was called to order by Board Chairman Gary Beatty at 9:05 a.m., on Saturday, March 5, 1999. It was then noted that a quorum was present, and the Pennsylvania Chapter could conduct the business to come before it.

Board Chairman Gary Beatty welcomed everyone to the meeting. Chairman Beatty recognized the presence of past NWTF Board member and past Chapter President Howard Meyers. Ground rules for our meeting were reviewed and explained by Chairman Beatty.

The floor was then turned over to Don Heckman. Heckman informed the Board that past Board Member and past Local Chapter President Skip Schaich had passed away following complications from a liver transplant operation. The memory of Skip was honored by the Board in silent prayer.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Chapter President Don O'Brien provided the Board with a written report of his activities. President O'Brien provided the Board with an updated directory of the Board. A copy of Director guidelines were also issued. President O'Brien encouraged the Board to review the guidelines and to reevaluate their personal effectiveness and performance as a member of the Chapter Board. In concluding his report, President O'Brien thanked the Board for helping him to get through the first couple months of his term in office.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Chapter Secretary Rick Moroney asked the Board if there were any additions or corrections to be made to the March 1999 Minutes. Corrections to the March 1999 Minutes were made as follows: Under President's Report, on page two, second paragraph, it was recorded: "...our Local Chapters and our Chapter donated \$2050.00 to the "Make A Wish Foundation." This was corrected to read: "...our Local Chapters and Chapter donated \$2000.00 to the "Make A Wish Foundation."

Under NWTF Regional Women's Report, on page seven, reference was made throughout this report to **Kim Mowry**. These various references were corrected to read: **Tammy Mowry**. It was duly noted that Carl Mowry, Tammy's husband, was somewhat bewildered about who Kim Mowry was related to.

There being no further corrections or additions to the Minutes, a motion to accept the March 1999 Minutes, as corrected, was made by **Bill MacKereth**, seconded by **Ron Sandrus**. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Chapter Treasurer Don Heckman gave a report for the four month period ending May 31, 1999. As reported, our checking account balance was \$2787.97. Our fair market value of assets was reported at \$4375.80, with no liabilities. Total fund balance was reported at \$7163.75. Total revenue for the period January 1 to May 31, 1999 was \$19,089.88. Total operating expenses for the period was \$22,304.91. Total income for the fiscal year was \$62,331.93, with total expenses for the same period of \$59,543.98, leaving an account balance of \$2787.95.

It should be noted that, in concluding his report, Don extended a personal apology to NWTF Regional Women's Coordinator Sally Jones for referring to her as Sally Ross in a letter to the Executive Committee.

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

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Chapter Vice President Carl Mowry provided the Board with a written report of his activities. It was noted that Vice President Mowry represented the Chapter by attending the retirement party of PGC Executive Director Don Madl. Carl presented PGC Executive Director Don Madl with a framed print on behalf of the Chapter.

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD REPORT: Board Chairman Gary Beatty commended Chapter President Don O'Brien for the great job he has been doing thus far as Chapter President. It was noted that President O'Brien has initiated some administrative changes which, according to Chairman Beatty, were probably long overdue.

Board Chairman Gary Beatty expressed his appreciation to those Board members who made the effort and commitment to attend our meeting. In noting that some Board members had valid reasons for not being able to attend the meeting, it was pointed out that other Board members did not. It was also diplomatically mentioned that some Board members may not be fulfilling their responsibilities and commitment to serving on the Chapter Board of Directors. Chairman Beatty encouraged the Board to review and evaluate their effectiveness and commitment, as outlined in the Chapter guidelines for the Board.

Bottom Line: Our Chapter has a very aggressive agenda of things that need to be accomplished. A handful of people can not get the job done. It will require a commitment and a concerted effort of **every** seated Board member. We need active members, not those who just belong. If a commitment cannot be made, for whatever reason, then resigning as a Board member should be given serious consideration. Wherever self-evaluation may lead, please advise Chapter President Don O'Brien of any decisions made.

NWTF REGIONAL WOMEN'S REPORT: NWTF Regional Women's Coordinator Sally Jones provided the Board with a written report. As reported, there are nine Women in the Outdoors events scheduled, thus far, in 1999 for Pennsylvania. It was mentioned that Tammy Mowry and Becky Martinell had accepted leadership positions as "volunteer PA state coordinators for Women in the Outdoors." According to Sally, they are in the process of organizing their committee for the state.

Regional Women's Coordinator Sally Jones reported that Tammy Mowry, Becky Martinell, Rhonda Henry and Chris Sokoloski had been invited to NWTF headquarters for the June 17-20, 1999 WIO Leadership Seminar. WIO Regional Coordinator Sally Jones asked the Board to consider providing transportation expense funding for this WIO leadership seminar. It was noted that New York was considering an allotment of \$200.00 to \$250.00 per person.

As reported, NWTF RWC Sally Jones, Tammy and Becky have been discussing the possibilities of conducting a Pennsylvania Chapter event for the WIO this year. One consideration is to have a one-day Delaware River canoe trip, with optional overnights at Promise Land State Park in Pike County. According to RWC Jones, this trip could be put together very easily, as Sally has led numerous canoe excursions for groups through her previous positions with the National Park Service and the Conservation Districts. As mentioned, Sally wanted the Board to finalize its decision, in regards to the canoe trip proposal, at the June meeting. If approved, Sally was hoping to include information about the trip in the summer issue of "Turkey Talk."

NWTF REGIONAL REPORT: Senior Regional Field Supervisor Jerry Zimmerman reported that our Super Fund balance, as of May 28, 1999, was \$68,685.00. SRFS Zimmerman indicated that some of the spring banquets had not been included in the SF balance figures, since banquet reports were not finalized.

Membership: Membership in the Chapter was reported to be 12,768. We are still the leading membership Chapter in the NWTF. Wisconsin is second, with Illinois at third and Georgia in fourth.

President's Meeting: The Chapter President's meeting will be held August 8, 1999 at the Ramada Inn in State College. This is an important meeting, and we would like to see every local chapter represented. Some topics of discussion will include the "Five Star Program," and the "Women in the Outdoors." Local chapter presidents and representatives are invited to come in Saturday to attend the Chapter Board meeting and to shoot sporting clays in the afternoon at Warriors Mark.

New Local Chapters: SRFS Zimmerman reported that five new local chapters have been chartered in Pennsylvania. They are the Armenia Mountain Spurs, Lehigh Valley Longbeards, Lower Bucks Longbeards, Lykens Valley and Terrace Mountain chapters. We now have 58 local chapters in Pennsylvania.

Porter Wagner Youth Field Days: As reported, the Porter Wagner Youth Field Days event was being conducted in South Carolina at the time of our meeting. It was reported to be very hot and humid in South Carolina, at the time, but the kids were still enjoying themselves.

Chapter Shoot: The Black Timber Classic will be a two-day event this year - Saturday and Sunday, June 26-27, 1999. The Saturday event will be a field day, fun-type event with little or no charge to participate in the planned events. Sunday will be the sporting clays and still target shoots. Top shooters of these events will receive their entry fee to the NWTF shoot. A barbecue, silent auction and other exciting events are planned.

Fall Gun Raffle: Some suggestions were made to upgrade the quality of guns used in the gun raffle. It was decided to allow the gun raffle committee to make changes to the raffle as deemed necessary.

Banquet Announcements: SRFS Jerry Zimmerman informed the Board of local chapter banquet dates. Those who live near upcoming banquets were encouraged to attend.

Women in the Outdoors: Don Heckman spoke briefly to the Board about the possibility of providing start-up funds for WIO programs. Chapter general funds would be used to help NWTF RWC Sally Jones get the ball rolling before Super Fund monies are released. Following some discussion, **a motion to provide WIO start-up funds from the Chapter's general fund, with this loan to be repayed on a timely basis, was made by Don Heckman, seconded by Mark Davis. Motion carried.**

NWTF TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT: Wildlife Biologist Bill Drake reported that spring harvest report cards were 12 percent above the spring 1997 harvest report cards received. The fall 1998 harvest report cards were one percent below the 1997 fall harvest report cards received. As reported, official 1998 Game Take Survey spring and fall harvests and hunting participation data will be available in September.

Turkey Management Area 7B: Preparation continues for initiation of a wild turkey radio-telemetry study in Turkey Management Area 7B. The purpose of the study is to determine survival rates, cause specific mortality rates, and reproductive rates of wild turkey hens in this suppressed population. A computer and radio-telemetry equipment for the study has been ordered with funds provided through the Pennsylvania Super Fund (\$26,500.00). Interviews to hire two Biologist-Aides to assist with the field work will be conducted in late June. A doctoral degree candidate student with the PA Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit at Penn State will be involved with Geographic Information System analysis of wild turkey habitat in TMA 7B. Field work will begin in September 1999 under the supervision of PGC Wildlife Biologist Mary Jo Casalena.

MSF Summer Sighting Survey: Summer sighting surveys will be conducted for the second year on the Michaux State Forest to provide an index to its turkey population trends in addition to harvest and hunting success trend data for TMA 7B. Six routes (approx. 30 miles each) are conducted annually in June, July and August. Each route is surveyed 12 times (weekly) each summer and the miles driven and number of turkeys seen recorded. The PA Chapter (Spencer Miller and Alan Emlet), the Michaux State Forest (2), and the Southcentral Region of the PGC (2) will conduct routes.

Wild Turkey Management Plan: The Wild Turkey Management Plan was completed and signed by Executive Director Donald C. Madl on April 29, 1999. It was noted that it will require manpower and money to implement the action plans of the Management Plan. Biologist Drake encouraged the Board to work in cooperation with the PGC to help insure implementation of the Plan's goals and objectives.

COMMUNICATIONS: The first item of communication was a thank you letter from PGC Executive Director Don Madl for the framed print which Chapter Vice President Carl Mowry presented to Don during his retirement party.

Received an apology letter from Dixie Game Calls, explaining their sorrow and why they were unable to attend our state convention. It was noted that Dixie Game Calls would like to be considered as an exhibitor at next year's convention.

Received a thank you letter from Senior Regional Field Supervisor Jerry Zimmerman and Regional Field Supervisor Larry Holjencin for the Chapter's support of our JAKES Hunt of a Lifetime.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Bill MacKereth, Chairman of the Youth Committee, reported that everything was proceeding well with the State JAKES event, scheduled for September 18, 1999 at Scotia Range in Centre County. Along those lines, a motion to have the Chapter donate a framed print ("Spring Quartet") as a door prize for the state JAKES event was made by Bill MacKereth, seconded by Don Heckman. Motion carried.

Make a Wish: Chairman Skip Sanderson provided a written report. However, on Skip's behalf, Don Heckman mentioned that Skip would like Board approval to send out a request letter to local chapters during the August/September time frame. It was mentioned that the pictures taken, during our state convention, were of poor quality and not suitable for publication purposes. Along those lines, it was suggested that our Board may want to consider purchasing a quality camera for taking promotional pictures at designated Chapter events.

Promotional Items: Chairman Skip Sanderson reported that 10,000 safety message rulers have been distributed. A new order of rulers was initiated through the Safety Committee, and was awaiting approval. Skip reported that a few items had been ordered through our "Turkey Talk" ad. Skip indicated that we have an adequate supply of our standard promo items. It was mentioned that Skip is still waiting for the 25th Anniversary artwork, to use a cameo from the print as the artwork for a 25th Anniversary logo. It was suggested that the Executive Committee should compile a list of promotion items to be sold in conjunction with our 25th Anniversary.

Public Relations: Chairman Skip Sanderson reported that a list of names and addresses of outdoor writers was entered into the database on Skip's computer. Skip also prepared a set of labels for mailing out news releases. A news release for our donation to Make A Wish Foundation was sent to "The Caller" and to "Turkey Talk."

Skip asked for Board permission to mail a questionnaire to POWA members to determine how he could meet their needs to have Chapter news releases better accepted and published.

Art Committee: Chairman Reed Johnson reported that 75 framed prints were shipped to PGC regional offices for use at youth field day events. Relative to artwork owned by the Chapter, a motion to

purchase insurance for the artwork on a home owner's rider policy was made by Carl Mowry, seconded by Bill MacKereth. Motion carried. Chairman Reed Johnson provided the Board with a complete list of the Chapter's print inventory.

Ned Smith Foundation: It was reported that the Ned Smith Foundation has, in the past, donated prints to our Chapter to be auctioned at our state convention. Following some discussion, a motion to donate four prints (Feaser, Toschik, Apprentice and Spring Quartet) to the Ned Smith Foundation to be used in their auction to raise funds for the Ned Smith Museum was made by Don Heckman, seconded by Boyd Enos. Motion carried.

Apprentice Print: Chairman Reed Johnson reported that 60 "Apprentice Prints" were signed by Wildlife Artist Mark Twain Noe to be used at membership banquets in a conservation edition series. Reed indicated that he had a \$60.00 bid for framing. It was mentioned that Chopp Express would frame and ship the prints for \$50.00. A final decision was not made relative to having the prints framed.

25th Anniversary Print: As reported, Wildlife Artist Dan Crist agreed to do a 25th Anniversary print for the Chapter. As agreed, the artist would receive 70 percent and our Chapter 30 percent from the sale of prints. Print edition would be established at 250 regular edition with a patch, 50 artist proof with patch, and 75 conservation with patch. Following some discussion, a motion to provide a \$3000.00 loan for start-up funding of the 25th Anniversary print and patch program, with this money to be paid back to the Chapter ASAP, was made by Ron Sandrus, seconded by Bill MacKereth. Motion carried.

Habitat Committee: Chairman Rudy Kovacina reported that 42 projects were funded for Spring 1999. A breakdown of funding is as follows:

Allegheny National Forest.....	\$15,000.00
Local Chapter Seedlings.....	20,700.00
Local Chapters.....	22,800.47
DCNR Bureau of Forestry.....	32,971.00
PGC Bureau of Land Management.....	64,558.47
Total:	\$156,029.94

It should be noted that local chapters were involved with many of the Bureau of Forestry, National Forest and Game Commission projects.

Seedling Program: Some local chapters have mentioned that they have been experiencing some difficulty in receiving permission to plant barberry and/or autumn olive on State Game Lands. In answer to local chapter concerns, the Habitat Committee will be adding crabapple to the seedling program. Distribution of crabapple seedlings will be determined by the amount that can be reserved, and the amount of response received from local chapters.

Following some discussion, a motion to approve funding (@\$36,000.00) for additional habitat projects was made by Rick Moroney, seconded by Mark Davis. Motion carried. It must be understood that the Chapter Board, rather than the Super Fund Committee, was asked to make this decision because the Habitat Committee was requesting funds beyond its approved budget for 1999.

Go Wild: Kelly Cooper and Merlin Benner had a slide presentation and spoke to the Board about becoming involved with the Go Wild program. This program is designed to directly involve sportsmen and conservationist in wildlife habitat projects on DCNR lands - state forests and state parks. Our Chapter will be meeting with DCNR personnel to determine how we can become more involved as active participants of the Go Wild program. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

Safety Education: Chairman Mark Davis reported that more safety message rulers had been ordered. It was also reported that funding was approved to purchase a DART system for the Chapter. A letter will be sent to all Local Chapter Presidents to schedule use of the DART system. The Chapter was expecting to have the DART system in Pennsylvania within two - three weeks after our June Board meeting.

State Convention: Board Chairman Gary Beatty gave a brief overview of the March 1999 convention. Gary expressed his thanks and appreciation to those local chapters who helped to financially support our convention. It was mentioned that the response from local chapters had doubled over last year's convention.

Land Acquisition: Chairman Boyd Enos reported that his committee had approved funding for the following land purchases:

\$10,000.00 towards the acquisition of 1100 acres within the Moshannon State Forest. Other project contributors were The Conservation Fund and DCNR through the Susquehanna Chapter. As reported, the sale was still pending as of 6-1-99.

\$10,000.00 towards the acquisition of 236.22 acres near Elk Grove in Sullivan County. This purchase is to be added to State Game Lands #13. Other contributors to the project were the Wildlands Conservancy and the Game Commission through the Red Rock Chapter. Sale was still pending at the time of our meeting.

\$10,000.00 was approved for a land purchase project submitted by the Susquehanna Long Beards Chapter in Williamsport. Sale was still pending at the time of our meeting.

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

- *Attended PGC Commissioners meeting
- *Attended PGC signing of the Wild Turkey Management Plan
- *Attended Women in the Outdoors meeting
- *Conducted and attended membership Super Fund banquets
- *Conducted and helped with local chapter JAKES events
- *Attended DCNR Habitat Alliance meeting
- *Conducted wild turkey biology program for 6th grade school students
- *Conducted turkey hunting, safety and education programs

OLD BUSINESS: Under the first item of Old Business, Board Chairman Gary Beatty updated the Board on the status of the DART system. It was decided that the Chapter Safety and Education Committee under Chairman Mark Davis would be responsible for maintaining a usage schedule of the Dart system.

PA Sportsmen Coalition: Don Heckman reported that the PGC approached the PSC about providing recommendations in an effort to make current fluorescent orange regulations in Pennsylvania more uniform. During the May 4, 1999 meeting of the Sportsmens Coalition, six orange requirement options were developed for consideration. Representatives of the PSC were asked to take these six options back to their respective organizations to help determine future direction and recommendations by the PSC. A prepared handout was distributed to our Chapter Board which clearly showed the six orange requirement options under consideration. The six options as proposed, and under consideration, by the Pennsylvania Sportsmens Coalition were as follows:

Option One - Would require 250 sq. inches of fluorescent orange to be worn **at all times**. Option One would change current regulations for the spring and fall turkey season, and during the overlapping archery season for deer.

Option Two - Would require 100 sq. inches of fluorescent orange while moving, which may be removed when stationary. Option Two would change current regulations for the fall turkey season, and the overlapping archery season for deer.

Option Three - Would require 250 sq. inches of fluorescent orange while moving, which may be removed when stationary, but must post 100 sq. inches of fluorescent orange within 15 feet of position. Option Three would change current regulations for TMA 1A, 1B and 9B during the fall turkey season.

Option Four - Would keep current fluorescent orange regulations as they are - no changes.

Option Five - Would keep current fluorescent orange regulations for the spring turkey season, but recommendations for the fall turkey season, and during the overlapping archery season for deer may change.

Option Six - Would require no fluorescent orange during the spring and fall turkey seasons, but other current fluorescent orange regulations may change.

Much discussion on this controversial subject took place. We heard from Gary Beatty, Ron Sandrus, Howard Meyers, Don Heckman and Rick Moroney. Following this discussion, a motion to support Option Six of the proposed recommendations was made by Bill MacKereth, seconded by Reed Johnson. Motion carried. It should be noted and understood that the Pennsylvania Sportsmens Coalition has not made any final decisions on their recommendation to the Game Commission. These options were made for consideration purposes only, and to generate feedback from respective organizations. The PSC will probably make a decision on these options and their recommendation(s) to the Game Commission sometime in August.

Chapter Bylaws: Chairman Rick Moroney explained proposed amendment changes to the Chapter Bylaws. Each board member had received a copy of the proposed amendment changes prior to our scheduled Board meeting. A motion to accept the proposed amendments to the Chapter Bylaws, as presented, and for each Board member to receive a copy of the revised Bylaws was made by Bill MacKereth, seconded by Mark Davis. Motion carried.

Wild Turkey Management Plan: It was mentioned that the Chapter needed an individual to help coordinate efforts with the Game Commission in implementing action plans of the Wild Turkey Management Plan - where and how can our Chapter help and/or assist the PGC with the Management Plan. Along those lines, a motion was made to volunteer the services of Don Heckman for that position by Rick Moroney, seconded by Bill Laird. Motion carried. It was duly noted that, when the Wild Turkey Management Plan was signed by PGC Executive Director Don Madl, the lights at PGC headquarters were turned off, because the radiant smile on Don Heckman's face emersed PGC headquarters in resplendent light.

Gun Raffle: In an effort to raise much needed revenue for the Chapter, it was decided to conduct a high quality gun raffle. It was further decided that the Executive Committee would work out the details.

Turkey Decoy: As mentioned, the Chapter did not have an opportunity to meet with the PGC to discuss their interest in turkey decoys. The subject matter was, again, tabled until our Chapter could meet with PGC personnel.

Public Relations: Some discussion took place relative to the Chapter's need to have an individual undertake the responsibilities of a public relations representative. A motion to advertise for this position in the POWA publication was made by Ron Sandrus, seconded by Reed Johnson. Motion carried with seven no votes recorded. Some other suggestions were made, individual names were placed before the Board for consideration but, in the end, it still appeared that the Board was undecided about which direction to take.

Rifle Statement: Since there has been much confusion, over the years, relative to our Chapter's position in regards to the use and/or non-use of the rifle during the fall turkey season for wild turkey in Pennsylvania, a Position Statement was developed in an effort to help clarify matters for all those concerned. Our Chapter's Position Statement on the rifle was presented to the Board for consideration as follows:

The Pennsylvania Chapter does not advocate the use of the rifle for turkey hunting during the fall season. Further, the Pennsylvania Chapter will not support action to eliminate the rifle for turkey hunting during the fall season. Any status change of the rifle, relative to turkey hunting, shall remain a Pennsylvania Game Commission decision, and a Pennsylvania Game Commission issue - and not an issue of the Pennsylvania Chapter.

A motion to accept the Chapter's Position Statement on the rifle, as presented, was made by Ron Sandrus, seconded by Mark Davis. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS: Under the first item of New Business, it was suggested that the Board should consider doing a 25th anniversary truck, complete with logos. Following some discussion, a motion to proceed with having a limited edition (500) of trucks made with Chapter logos for our 25th anniversary was made by Reed Johnson, seconded by Boyd Enos. Motion carried.

Cystic Fibrosis: Past Chapter President Howard Meyers suggested that the Chapter may want to consider raising donations for cystic fibrosis - a genetic disease that takes the lives of young people, half before the age of 30. It was mentioned that NWTFF Board Member Ron Fretts has a grand-daughter who was born with cystic fibrosis. It was decided that Howard's suggestion would be given serious consideration, but a final decision had not been made.

House Bill 1393 and House Bill 1237: The Board was informed that the Pennsylvania House Game and Fisheries Committee were considering two hunting-related Bills. House Bill 1393 would allow the use of artificial blinds for turkey hunting. House Bill 1237 would allow Sunday hunting during the firearms season for antlered deer. Somewhere down the road, our Chapter will be asked to take a position on these issues. Presently, our membership and the general hunting public appear to be divided on the issues. Much discussion took place, as we heard from Don Heckman, Gary Beatty, Jerry Zimmerman, Bill Drake, Don O'Brien, Eric Baker, Dale Rohm, Boyd Enos, and Rick Moroney. Following this discussion, it was a general consensus of the Board to table this subject matter until our August meeting.

Women in the Outdoors: Following a suggestion by Howard Meyers, a motion to provide one unframed "Spring Quartet" print to each Women in the Outdoors event held, this year, in Pennsylvania was made by Don Heckman, seconded by Bill MacKereth. Motion carried.

Pin/Patch: Past Chapter President Howard Meyers presented several option proposals to the Board for consideration to have state convention pins and patches made. A motion to accept proposal #2, based on the approval of three suggested changes - \$1.00 rebate for patches, 500 piece edition, and numbered pins - was made by Bill MacKereth, seconded by Carl Mowry. Motion carried.

PGC Habitat Committee: The Board was informed that the Game Commission was working towards establishing a habitat committee to help make recommendations and provide input on how, when and where PGC money should be spent on habitat enhancement projects. In preparation for getting a seat on this committee, Chapter President Don O'Brien and SRFS Jerry Zimmerman agreed to represent the Chapter when and if a seat was made available to the Chapter.

YHEC Program: A motion to donate \$1000.00 to the 1999 YHEC program was made by Don Heckman, seconded by Ron Sandrus. Motion carried. It was reported that our Chapter had received an invitation to attend an open house event of the YHEC program in Harrisburg. At the time of our meeting, it was undecided who would represent the Chapter at this event.

GOOD OF THE ORDER: It was reported that local chapters in the Clearfield/Dubois/St. Mary's area had secured six safety and habitat-related ads on local T.V. stations.

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 June 1999 Board of Directors meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m., on Saturday, June 5, 1999.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick

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



PENNSYLVANIA STATE CHAPTER THE NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION

ORGANIZED 1975

April 16, 1999

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

Enclosed, for your review and reference, please find a copy of the March 1999 Minutes of our Board of Directors and Annual Membership meetings held at Mars, Pennsylvania. The next meeting of our Chapter Board will be held June 5, 1999 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 June 4, 1999 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 towards 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 left on Route 26 south at flashing yellow light in Pine Grove Mills. Continue on 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 bends towards the left and heads downhill, turn right onto camp driveway. Bear left alongside three-car garage 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 2 miles), 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 McAleveys 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. **(Frost Camp is opened to anyone who wants to attend the Executive Committee meeting and/or sleep over.)**

Looking forward to seeing all of you on June 5, 1999....

Yours for good conservation,

Rich

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

ENCLOSURE:



PENNSYLVANIA STATE CHAPTER THE NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION

ORGANIZED 1975

**PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER
NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
March 20, 1999
Sheraton Inn Pittsburgh North, Mars, Pennsylvania**

Following the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag, the March 1999 Annual Membership Meeting of the Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation was called to order by Chapter President Gary Beatty at 8:05 a.m., on Saturday, March 20, 1999. It was then noted that a quorum was present, and the Pennsylvania Chapter could conduct the business to come before it.

Chapter President Gary Beatty welcomed everyone to our annual membership meeting and state convention. Special recognition was given to the presence of Ron Fretts, NWTF Board of Directors; and Dick Rosenlieb, NWTF Director of Field Operations.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Don Heckman provided a fiscal year-end report for the period ending August 31, 1998. As reported, the beginning balance was \$3209.16, with total cash receipts of \$68,468.67, and cash available at \$71,677.83. Total disbursements were \$66,795.48, with cash in the bank being \$4882.35 as of August 31, 1998. **A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented was made by Don O'Brien, seconded by Dennis Strawbridge. Motion carried.**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Chapter President Gary Beatty reported that 1998 was a banner year for the Pennsylvania Chapter. Super Fund expenditures for wild turkey projects in Pennsylvania reached an all time high. NWTF membership in Pennsylvania went over the 14,000 mark for the first time in our history. Local Chapters did a fantastic job at their Super Fund banquets, with 21 of our Local Chapters celebrating "Golden Gobbler" status. The Stony Valley Chapter set the benchmark for future banquets by attaining an 80 percent net to gross income from their banquet - the first chapter to accomplish this feat in NWTF history.

It was announced that the Pennsylvania Chapter had received the first runner up in the L.A. Dixon Outstanding Chapter Awards competition. Chapter President Gary Beatty thanked the Board and all of our Local Chapters for their assistance in helping the Chapter to achieve this award. Special thanks was extended to Senior Regional Field Supervisor Jerry Zimmerman and Regional Field Supervisor Larry Holjencin for the excellent job they have done in working with our Chapter Board and Local Chapters to assure that the goals and objectives of our organization are being reached and, in most cases, surpassed. Special thanks was also extended to all Local Chapter Presidents, Membership Banquet Chairmen, and Chapter Members for all their work, dedication and commitment to the wild turkey resource and our organizational goals and objectives.

Chapter President Gary Beatty reported that, under the leadership and guidance of Sally Jones, Pennsylvania's pilot event for the NWTF Women in the Outdoors program was recognized by the NWTF, and received an award for the "Best First Time Event." Special thanks was extended to Sally Jones for all her efforts in helping to make this event such a huge success. It should also be noted that Sally Jones has been hired to serve on the NWTF staff as the NWTF's Regional Women's Coordinator for the NWTF's Women in the Outdoors program. Sally will be representing the NWTF in the Northeastern United States and Ontario, Canada region.

President Beatty reported that, under the leadership of Skip Sanderson, our Local Chapters and our Chapter donated \$2050.00 to the "Make A Wish Foundation." This effort to raise funds for the "Make A Wish Foundation" was well received and supported by our Local Chapters. Special thanks was extended to those Local Chapters who contributed to this program.

NWTF REPORT: NWTF Director of Field Operations Dick Rosenlieb commended Senior Regional Field Supervisor Jerry Zimmerman and Regional Field Supervisor Larry Holjencin for all their work and effort in furthering the goals and objectives of our organization. Dick recognized our Pennsylvania volunteers, noting that the accomplishments of the NWTF and our Pennsylvania chapters are a direct result of that volunteer spirit.

It was announced that approximately 28,500 people attended the NWTF convention in Charlotte, NC. Along those same lines, the NWTF has reserved 2000 rooms for next year's NWTF convention in Nashville. As reported, the rooms are going fast, so those planning to attend next year's convention were encouraged to make their reservations as soon as possible.

Turkey Call Magazine TV: Director Rosenlieb reported that the NWTF's TV series on TNN has been going very well, and the ratings for this series has been very good. However, it was rumored that the February 20, 1999 program received the lowest ratings. This program featured Don Heckman - 'Nuff Said!

Five Star Program: Director of Field Operations Dick Rosenlieb thanked our Chapter for its support and commitment to the NWTF's Five Star Program. Dick also extended a challenge to our Local Chapters, encouraging their support and commitment for this program. As noted, this program is designed to give something back to ourselves and our communities, involve families in wildlife conservation, protect our right to hunt, develop a stronger relationship between the state and local chapters, create a positive image for our organization, and to build a better future. **Bottom Line:** This is a great program which provides a vehicle for Super Fund expenditures on projects and programs which are embedded in the foundation of our NWTF organizational goals and objectives, and embraced within our NWTF Mission Statement - it's what we are all about. Our Chapter Board encourages all of our Local Chapters to become active participants in the NWTF Five Star Program, and to give this program their support and commitment.

NWTF Shoot: Dick Rosenlieb reported that the NWTF shoot will be held August 20-22, 1999. The site of this shoot was moved from Wolf Creek to the Meadows, which is located approximately 45 minutes from Atlanta.

WOMEN IN THE OUTDOORS: NWTF Regional Women's Coordinator Sally Jones reported that she will be responsible for coordinating Women in the Outdoors events in 15 Northeastern states and Ontario, Canada. Sally mentioned that the October 1998 pilot event held in Pennsylvania was credited with being the largest attended pilot event in the nation in 1998. It was mentioned that Sally was hired by the NWTF in December 1998. She has worked as a local chapter volunteer for the past six years, and has been a hunter for over 20 years.

Regional Women's Coordinator Sally Jones reported that the NWTF plans to conduct 150 Women in the Outdoors events within the chapter system in 1999. Sally is planning on conducting 12 such events in Pennsylvania during 1999.

NWTF REGIONAL DIRECTOR REPORT: Senior Regional Field Supervisor Jerry Zimmerman thanked chapter leaders and members for their time, effort, and work in helping the NWTF and our Chapter to reach our goals and objectives.

Super Fund: As reported, we have deposited \$1,387,199.57 and spent over \$1,250,000.00 on 626 projects in Pennsylvania since 1985. In 1998, Pennsylvania chapters deposited \$251,164.68 and spent over \$190,000.00 on 114 projects.

Membership: SRFS Jerry Zimmerman reported that Pennsylvania held onto its crown as the top membership chapter in the NWTF system. As noted, Pennsylvania had 13,140 NWTF members. Membership in Pennsylvania continues to grow, but we are always seeking more members, and looking to organize more local chapters.

Chapter Presidents' Meeting: SRFS Jerry Zimmerman reported that our Chapter President's Meeting will be held on Sunday, August 8, 1999 at the Ramada Inn in State College. Jerry stressed the importance of having good attendance and local chapter representation at this meeting. He encouraged all local chapters to send one or two representatives.

Five Star Program: SRFS Jerry Zimmerman expressed his excitement about this program, and mentioned that he was especially excited about the scholarship fund portion of the program.

NWTF REGIONAL REPORT: NWTF Regional Field Supervisor Larry Holjencin reported that our state chapter convention will be held in State College, during March 10-12, 2000. It was mentioned that Will Primos has been confirmed as a seminar speaker for next year's state convention. As reported, our Chapter is looking for a convention site for 2001.

State Shoot: RFS Larry Holjencin reported that the Pennsylvania Chapter shoot will be a two-day event this year. Saturday, June 26, 1999 will be set-up as a fun day, with a family-atmosphere-type, gathering to participate in non-competitive shooting sports. Sunday, June 27, 1999 will be established as a competitive shooting event with Open and Hunter divisions. As mentioned, this is not a money-making event for our Chapter, but it's an important event for attracting people to the NWTF. Larry indicated that he would like to see more participation in this event from the Chapter Board and Local Chapter members.

In concluding his report, RFS Larry Holjencin extended his thanks and appreciation to all chapter leaders and members. As noted, we can't travel on the road of success without the vehicle and fuel supplied by our volunteers.

Welcome: At that point in the meeting, Chapter President Gary Beatty acknowledged the presence of PGC Commissioner Bob Gilford, and welcomed him to our meeting and state convention.

IN OTHER BUSINESS: Past Chapter Board Member Gil Shaffer, who is also a member of Local Chapter #1, reported that he is coordinating air travel to the NWTF convention in Nashville for the year 2000. Gil indicated that he was coordinating flights out of Pittsburgh and Harrisburg. Currently, the rates are round-trip fares for two from Pittsburgh - \$253.00, and from Harrisburg - \$165.00. As reported, Gil was looking for some kind of indication on what the interest might be in booking these flights. As noted, rates are dependent upon numbers, and may be lowered if alot of interest is shown.

Make A Wish Foundation: Skip Sanderson reported that a photo shoot would take place at the Chapter booth in the Exhibit Hall for representatives of those local chapters who contributed to the Make A Wish Foundation. Special thanks and appreciation was extended to those local chapters who showed their support.

There being no further business to be conducted at the Annual Membership Meeting, **a motion to adjourn the March 1999 Annual Membership Meeting of the Pennsylvania Chapter was made by Mark Davis, seconded by Don O'Brien. Motion carried.** The March 1999 Annual Membership Meeting was adjourned at 8:54 a.m., on Saturday, March 20, 1999.

Respectfully submitted,



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

**PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER
NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
March 20, 1999
Sheraton Inn Pittsburgh North, Mars, Pennsylvania**

A special session of the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation was called to order by Board Chairman Tim Holtz at 9:00 a.m., on Saturday, March 1999. It was then noted that a quorum was present, and the Pennsylvania Chapter could conduct the business to come before it.

This special session of the Board was called to order so that officers of the Chapter could be duly elected. Whereby an announcement of the Chapter's new slate of officers could be made during the Annual Awards Banquet to be held Saturday evening, prior to the Sunday, March 21, 1999 Board of Directors Meeting.

Moving forward with the business at hand, Nominating Committee Chairman Tim Holtz read the slate of officers as presented by the Chapter's Nominating Committee at the January 1999 Board of Directors Meeting as follows:

President.....Don O'Brien
Vice President.....Open
Secretary.....Rick Moroney
Treasurer.....Don Heckman
Chairman of the Board.....Gary Beatty

In noting the open seat for Chapter Vice President, Nominating Committee Chairman Tim Holtz stated that the Nominating Committee would recommend Carl Mowry for the Board's consideration as Chapter Vice President. **A motion to nominate Carl Mowry for the Chapter Vice President seat was made by Ron Sandrus, seconded by Don O'Brien.**

At that time, Nominating Committee Chairman Tim Holtz opened the floor for any additional nominations for Chapter officers. There being no further nominations to come from the floor, **a motion to close nominations was made by Dennis Strawbridge, seconded by Bill MacKereth.**

A motion to accept the slate of Chapter officers as presented by the Chapter's Nominating Committee and duly elected by the Chapter Board was made by Mark Davis, seconded by Bill MacKereth. Motion carried. The newly elected slate of Chapter officers for the period March 1999 to March 2000 are as follows:

President.....Don O'Brien
Vice President.....Carl Mowry
Secretary.....Rick Moroney
Treasurer.....Don Heckman
Chairman of the Board.....Gary Beatty

There being no further business to be conducted by this special session of the Chapter Board of Directors, Board Chairman Tim Holtz recessed the meeting at 9:23 a.m., on Saturday, March 1999, and directed the Board to reconvene at 8:00 a.m., on Sunday, March 21, 1999.

**PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER
NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
March 21, 1999
Sheraton Inn Pittsburgh North, Mars, Pennsylvania**

Following the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag, the March 1999 Board of Directors Meeting of the Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation was called to order by Board Chairman Tim Holtz at 8:13 a.m., on Sunday, March 21, 1999. 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 reviewed and explained by Chairman Holtz. The floor was then opened for reports.

CONVENTION REPORT: Judy and Ralph Radell gave a preliminary convention report on the proceeds accounted for thus far. As reported, \$28,775.00 had been collected as of Saturday evening. The convention checking account showed a balance of \$13,020.16. Total income for the convention was \$41,795.16. It should be noted that this report does not represent a final and complete accounting of convention proceeds, nor does it consider convention expenses. A final report of our state convention will be presented at the June Board meeting, and that report will be included in the June Minutes of that meeting.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Chapter President Gary Beatty extended the Chapter Board's appreciation and thanks to Judy and Ralph Radell, and to all of those members who served on the convention committee, for their hard work and effort in helping to make our state convention a successful one.

In noting that this meeting represented his last official duty as Chapter President, Gary thanked the Chapter Board for all their help in getting things accomplished over the last two years. President Beatty expressed his hope that the Board would work as well with our new Chapter President, Don O'Brien, as it had under his leadership. It was mentioned that incoming Chapter President Don O'Brien was already on the way towards making the transition a smooth one, and was already working with committee chairman in outlining their duties and responsibilities.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Chapter Secretary Rick Moroney apologized to the Board for getting the Minutes out so late. He also apologized for being late to arrive for the Annual Membership meeting, but thought it should be noted that he was on time for the Chapter Board meeting, but our Chapter President was late.

It was noted that everyone had received their Minutes, and no additions or corrections to the Minutes were forthcoming. **A motion to accept the January 1999 Minutes, as presented, was made by Ron Sandrus, seconded by Mark Davis. Motion carried.**

Chapter Secretary Rick Moroney received permission from Board Chairman Tim Holtz for two more minutes on the floor. In noting that he wasn't present for the Annual Membership meeting, Secretary Moroney made the following comments: Gary, I would just like to say that it was an honor for me to serve under your leadership. I think you can go away from this Board being proud of your accomplishments. As mentioned yesterday, I don't feel that our partnership or cooperation with the Pennsylvania Game Commission has ever been better. That was taken care of under your leadership. I also think that, although our record with the legislators has not improved, we certainly got their attention and, in some cases, even their respect. That was done under your leadership, also. I think that's just two of the many things that you can really hang your hat on, and it was a pleasure for me to serve under you.

I also would like to welcome Mr. Don O'Brien to the Chapter President's seat. And I'm looking forward to working under his leadership. I know you'll be able to do the job, Don.

Mr. Carl Mowry, I have to tip my hat to you. I think it speaks a lot for your character to come in here as a rookie Board member and, in one year, to sit in the Vice President's seat. As a member of the Executive Committee, I certainly want to welcome you to the Executive Committee.

To my good friend, Mr. Tim Holtz, it's been a pleasure - a real pleasure. Seventeen years of distinguished service...under your leadership and input this Chapter has really moved forward. We're going to miss you. Thanks!

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Don Heckman reported that our checking account balance was \$1337.53, and we had about \$500.00 in bills that needed to be paid. As a result, and as reported, Don was extremely happy about the convention report, and was smiling like a butcher's dog. We have a couple other items of income to report, but I do not have a complete Treasurer's Report. We will have a complete Treasurer's Report for the June Board meeting, and I think the Chapter treasury is in good shape going into the June Board meeting, Don stated.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Vice President Don O'Brien provided the Board with a written report of his activities. He did report before the Board, however, that the committee assignments were made, but were not cast in stone. Vice President O'Brien mentioned that there was no "I" in "Team." We all need to work together and help each other. There will be some adjustments...some changes. Of course, I'll need to learn as I go. My intent is not to offend anybody. If you were a chairman or served on a particular committee last year, and you're not on that committee this year, we just want to involve more new people, and give them some more responsibility where they may not have had that opportunity in the past, and where others have done more than their fair share over the years, Don stated.

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD: In noting that he was stepping down from the Chapter Board at the close of our convention, Board Chairman Tim Holtz thanked everybody for all their support and cooperation over the past two years. I'm pleased with the meetings that we've had. I think we addressed a lot of issues, and I would like to think that we did so in a fairly efficient manner. It's been a privilege. It's been an honor to serve as President and Chairman of the Board. And I sincerely thank you for providing me with an opportunity to do that, Tim said.

Gary, I think the last two years have been great years for this organization. I think it's been a breath of fresh air for the organization. You brought a lot of energy to the Chapter President's seat. In terms of service, you're a little bit younger than some of the others sitting in this room. And I think that was good for the organization. And I expect that's going to be the same case with our next President, Don O'Brien.

I'm really pleased to see that he's (Don O'Brien) out of the blocks. He's got committee assignments taken care of. And we had an Executive Committee meeting a couple of weeks ago, and I know that got him started and heading down the right road, Tim stated.

Rick, excellent job as Secretary. We almost take the job that Rick does for granted anymore. He's done it for a number of years...he has set the benchmark for that position, Chairman Holtz said.

Carl, I can't say it any better than Rick has said it. But, congratulations on being Vice President. And I look forward to sitting back and watching you younger guys move this Chapter ahead. Thank you! Tim said, in conclusion of his personal comments.

NWTF REGIONAL WOMEN'S REPORT: NWTF Regional Women's Coordinator Sally Jones thanked Board Chairman Tim Holtz for his 17 years of distinguished service to the Chapter. I would also like to thank Carl's wife, Kim Mowry, and the ladies on the convention committee for putting together a really dynamite ladies raffle. I think they did a great job on that, and it was a real credit to Kim and the other ladies on that committee. As a result, we came up with 60 women memberships during last night's Awards Banquet, Sally stated. I hope these women are really thrilled and excited about the support and commitment of Local Chapters in Pennsylvania for the NWTF's Women in the Outdoors program. I know I'm excited about it, and I think the NWTF could hire a coordinator just for Pennsylvania, because they are really keeping me busy.

I would like to particularly thank Jerry (Zimmerman) and Larry (Holjencin) for their support of the women's program. I know they have a lot of responsibility in putting on membership banquets, and now we're adding to that responsibility the signing of women's memberships at those banquets. I know they are both working very hard, and I really appreciate it, very much so, Sally said.

Regional Women's Coordinator Sally Jones reported that the key to success in the women's program is identifying women within the local chapter system who are interested in the outdoors. Most of the local chapters have been doing just that. And they have women who are really going to town on the program. And that's what really makes me excited about being a part of the Women in the Outdoors program, Sally said.

Sally updated the Chapter Board by naming the Local Chapters and dates at which they have committed to in scheduling a Women in the Outdoors program in their area.

RWC Sally Jones introduced Becky Martinell of the Pocono Mountain Chapter to the Board. It was mentioned that Becky Martinell, in the East, and Kim Mowry, in the West, were two women who attended Pennsylvania's pilot event, and were excited about becoming active participants in the women's program. RWC Sally Jones reported that Becky Martinell and Kim Mowry were working together to form a Pennsylvania Women's Committee to assist Sally in coordinating Women in the Outdoors events in Pennsylvania.

NWTF STAFF REPORT: Director of Field Operations Dick Rosenlieb was presented with a **special** gift from SRFS Jerry Zimmerman and RFS Larry Holjencin to commemorate his attendance at our state convention. Chapter President Gary Beatty also presented Dick with a personalized box call made by Dale Rohm.

NWTF Turkey Call TV: Director of Field Operations Dick Rosenlieb reported that the NWTF TV show has been a real homerun for the NWTF. We've only had one show with poor ratings, and I think you all can figure out which one that was, Dick remarked, while stifling some laughter.

Kind Words: When I attended my first Pennsylvania convention, three years ago, I was impressed with this group. Things looked real good, and I thought you really had your act together, Dick Rosenlieb said. I genuinely want to congratulate you for what you have done as a group. It's not just Gary Beatty or Tim Holtz, it's every one of you working together as a unit. Because, what I see, is, indeed, a good team here in PA. I see a healthier chapter, today, than I saw three years ago. And there wasn't anything wrong with it, three years ago. I really do. This is one of the healthiest chapters....and as long as you keep making it fun...as long as you keep doing things like you're doing - making a difference for your kids and grandkids ...as long as you keep giving money to the "Make A Wish" foundation...as long as you keep providing scholarships...supporting 4H programs...teaching women how to finally enjoy the outdoors on their own...

and doing all these neat things you're doing - helping the land...seeing more turkeys on the landscape - you're going to continue to have a growing chapter that will be helping to make a difference here in Pennsylvania. And I congratulate you, for a variety of reasons. ...People in Pennsylvania seem to take their job pretty seriously. They devote themselves to their committee and to their responsibilities...and it shows. And I really want to congratulate you. I want to thank you for embracing the programs (of the NWTF) - the Five Star program...I want to thank you for adopting Five Star. Five Star was an innovative, creative, organizational changing concept to invest back to yourself. It's not us (the NWTF) asking for your money. It's us asking you to spend money on yourself, so that you'll create a network to build on.... And I honestly believe that, when we spend money in our communities with groups such as the 4H Club, it will lead us to places where we haven't been before - a great opportunity for investing into our future. And I would just like to close by saying thank you very much.... Director of Field Operations Dick Rosenlieb concluded his report/comments by assuring Regional Women's Coordinator Sally Jones that things would get better...you just have to close your eyes and dream a little bit - because if you look at our history, you'll be able to see our future, Dick Rosenlieb said.

NWTF REGIONAL REPORT: Senior Regional Field Supervisor Jerry Zimmerman echoed Rosenlieb's comments in stating that Pennsylvania has the most dedicated group of volunteers that he has ever had the pleasure of working with...

Membership: SRFS Jerry Zimmerman reported that Pennsylvania membership in the NWTF was 13,140. Wisconsin has 11,800, and Georgia is beginning to close the gap with approximately 11,000. Jerry mentioned that two more chapters were organized in Pennsylvania in the last 30 days. Jerry and RFS Larry Holjencin have between five and seven more meetings scheduled for new chapters in the next 30 to 60 days.

Super Fund: SRFS Zimmerman reported that our Super Fund balance was \$185,170.00. It was noted that approximately \$160,000.00 for habitat enhancement projects had been approved by the Habitat Committee in March. Those approved funds have not been deducted from our Super Fund balance. However, as reported, our Super Fund balance only reflects income from two or three spring banquets.

Chapter Presidents Meeting: As reported, the Chapter Presidents meeting is scheduled for Sunday, August 8, 1999 at the Ramada Inn in State College. A sporting clays shoot is scheduled for Saturday afternoon, following the Chapter Board meeting. Rooms will be available at the Ramada on Saturday night for those coming in early. Jerry encouraged all local chapters to send one or two representatives to attend the meeting on Sunday.

Local Chapters: SRFS Jerry Zimmerman reported that the Armenia Mountain Chapter was organized in the eastern part of the state near Canton, Pennsylvania. Jerry also mentioned that RFS Larry Holjencin organized the Terrace Mountain Chapter in Huntingdon County. As reported, we now have 55 local chapters in Pennsylvania.

Edgefield Bus Trip: Past President Howard Meyers suggested that the Chapter should consider coordinating a bus trip to the NWTF Wild Turkey Center in Edgefield, SC. In reply, SRFS Jerry Zimmerman stated that our Chapter has been trying to organize a bus trip with the Game Commission and Bureau of Forestry. In short, the Chapter is very much interested in organizing a bus trip to Edgefield, but hasn't been successful so far. We are, however, still working on it.

NWTF REGIONAL REPORT: Regional Field Supervisor Larry Holjencin reported that our state shoot would be a two-day event this year. (Please refer to Annual Membership Meeting Minutes on page three, under State Shoot.)

Diamond Life Sponsor: RFS Larry Holjencin asked the group to keep it's eyes and ears open for anyone who might want to consider becoming a Diamond Life Sponsor of the NWTf. Larry also mentioned that he and Jerry had truck raffle tickets available.

Paradise Ranch: RFS Larry Holjencin reported that he visited Paradise Ranch near State College, in an effort to get a hunt donated to the NWTf convention. Larry reported that they were unable to donate a hunt, as they have receive alot of requests for hunts. However, representatives of the Paradise Ranch had made alot of counter proposals to help raise funds for our organization. Larry indicated that he thought a hunt raffle ticket for \$20.00 would be a good idea to consider. More details need to be worked out, but it appeared to be a consensus of the Board that we should look into it further.

Wildlife Society: RFS Larry Holjencin suggested that the Chapter might want to consider making a donation to the Wildlife Society. **A motion to donate a framed and matted Chapter print to the Pennsylvania Chapter of the Wildlife Society was made by Boyd Enos, seconded by Carl Mowry. Motion carried.**

NWTf TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT: PGC Wildlife Biologist Bill Drake reported that comments will continue to be received on the draft Comprehensive Wild Turkey Management Plan until the end of March. Revisions, based on this input, are ongoing. If required revisions and decisions on the final wording of this document can be completed by then, the final draft will be presented for adoption at the April Commissioners Meeting.

TMA 7B Wild Turkey Study: As reported, a research study has been iniated to investigate the causes for wild turkey population declines in Turkey Management Area 7B. Wild turkey hens will be captured and radio-instrumented to determine survival rates, cause-specific mortality rates, and recruitment rates of the suppressed turkey population in this area. Field work will begin in September 1999 and continue for two years. A Grant-In-Aid Proposal, submitted to the NWTf, was not approved. A Super Fund Proposal has also been submitted to the PA Chapter for financial assistance to complete this study.

Along those lines, PGC Assistant Director Bureau of Wildlife Management Bob Boyd mentioned that the PGC's proposal for funding through the NWTf Grant-In-Aid program was close to being approved. As reported, five proposals were approved, and the PGC's proposal was sixth. We got some good, constuctive criticism on our proposal, and we're going to be repackaging our proposal and resubmitting it for next year. Hopefully, we'll have a better shot at it next time around, Bob Boyd said. We're at the point now where we need to purchase some equipment to get the research study started. We've received some informal commitment from the Chapter to help finance this study. But now we're looking for some sort of final commitment to see just where we stand so we can move forward on the study, Bob Boyd mentioned.

Bill Drake interjected that he would like to purchase some telemetry equipment and possibly a computer or two with Super Fund monies, in an efort to avoid red tape and move the study project forward. **A motion to extend the Chapter Board's recommendation to the Super Fund Committee for approval of Super Fund expenditures to purchase telemetry equipment and computers for the research study project on TMA 7B was made by Don Heckman, seconded by Dennis Strawbridge. Motion carried.** It should be noted that \$26,500.00 had already been approved by the Super Fund Committee to pay the salaries of biologist aides, working on the TMA 7B research study. This action by the Chapter Board, upon approval by the Super Fund Committee, would redirect the expenditure of those funds for equipment rather than for salaries.

COMMUNICATIONS: A communication was received by the Chapter in reference to the retirement party scheduled for PGC Executive Director Don Madl. This retirement party will be held at the Days Inn in New Stanton on April 24, 1999. Cost is \$25.00, and reservations must be made by April 9, 1999.

Bylaws: Rick Moroney mentioned that proposed amendments to our Bylaws would be included with the March Minutes. As reported, these amendments will mostly be simple word changes, and to put Articles back into our Bylaws which were inadvertantly omitted during rewrites over the years.

WELCOME: Joe Neville of the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmens Clubs was introduced and welcomed as a guest at our meeting. Joe spoke briefly to the Board about his desire to develop unity and cooperation with the Pennsylvania Chapter and the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmens Clubs. Although there will be issues where we don't agree, we need to work together on common ground issues...hopefully, we'll be alot stronger together, Joe said.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Gun Raffle Chairman Ed Kemp asked the Board about its proposal to make some changes to our fall gun raffle. As reported, our Chapter Board was not planning any changes to the fall gun raffle. However, our Executive Committee was planning to make a recommendation to the Board for its consideration on conducting a spring gun raffle, similar to our convention raffle, using higher priced guns. Following some discussion about the specifics of this gun raffle, **a motion to accept the Executive Committee's recommendation to conduct a spring gun raffle was made by Mark Davis, seconded by Carl Mowry. Motion carried.** It needs to be noted that this spring gun raffle will not replace the fall gun raffle. The spring gun raffle is needed to provide additional revenue for the Chapter, and will be conducted in addition to the fall gun raffle. It should also be noted that Ed Kemp agreed to serve as chairman of the spring gun raffle.

JAKES: JAKES Chairman Bill MacKereth reported that the selection process for choosing two youths to attend the Porter Wagner Field Days event in Edgefield has been completed. It was reported that a new First Bird patch had been chosen, using an art design developed by Wildlife Artist Larry Smail. Bill mentioned that he would need Board approval to move forward with ordering 200 patches, at a cost of \$700. Chairman MacKereth reported that his committee had met to work on the details for the state JAKES event to be held at Scotia Range near State College. **A motion to approve expenditure of \$700.00 for 200 newly designed First Bird patches was made by Bill MacKereth, seconded by Ron Sandrus. Motion carried.**

Local Chapter JAKES Event: Mark Davis reported that seven local chapters in his area have joined together to conduct a JAKES event in eastern Pennsylvania. According to Mark, many exciting events are being planned for this event, which is expected to attract over 600 youths. Date for this event is June 12, 1999.

Paper Supplies: Chairman Dennis Strawbridge suggested that we hold off on ordering letterhead and envelopes with the proposed new design until after the August Board meeting to tie in with 25th Anniversary orders. It appeared to be a consensus of the Board to wait until August.

Land Acquisition: Chairman Boyd Enos reported that his committee approved the following Super Fund expenditures for land acquisition:

Approved donating \$10,000.00 towards the purchase of 1550 acres of land, known as The Atlas Tract. This acreage will be added to existing State Game Lands. This project is in cooperation with the Wildlands Conservancy, and will receive additional funding from Wildlife Forever and the Pennsylvania Game Commission. The project proposal was submitted by the Shuylkill Spurs Chapter.

Approved donating \$5000.00 towards the purchase of 4200 acres of land in West Keating Township, Clinton County. This land purchase is adjacent to State Game Lands #100 and the Sproul State Forest. The project was funded in cooperation with the Northcentral Pennsylvania Conservancy, PA DCNR, and others.

Portfolio Committee: Chairman Mark Davis reported that the following chapters submitted portfolios for inclusion in the LA Dixon Chapter Competition: Allegheny Mountain, Appalachian, Bald Eagle Longbeards, Lake Region Longbeards, Local Chapter #1, Mason Dixon, Moraine, Red Rock, Stoney Valley, Susquehanna Longbeards, and White Horse Mountain.

District Directors: District Directors Mark Davis and Don O'Brien submitted a written report of their activities. These activities were varied and broad in scope - further proof that our District Directors are doing an excellent job.

OLD BUSINESS: Under the first item of Old Business, Mark Davis reported that he has been doing some research on the robotic turkeys. Mark mentioned that he had spoke with Matt Hough of the PGC and Sam Truxell of Local Chapter #1 about the robotic turkey they had. Sam indicated that they were not happy with the turkey, and that the PGC had completely rebuilt the original. Mark reported that he spoke with a representative of the robotic company about the problems, and was assured that the problems would be corrected. As reported, Mark sent a carcass to the robotics company to be mounted with robotics, at a cost of \$640.00. It was suggested that we wait to see what the workmanship was like and, if approved, to have four more robotic turkeys made.

Along those lines, Mark questioned the cost. If it is shot, how long is it going to sit before it's repaired? Who's going to pay the cost of repair? And will it be repaired? How practical is it? Mark asked. Mark suggested purchasing McKensie targets rather than robotic turkeys, as a more practical method of law enforcement. Following some discussion about public perception on this issue, and a need to work more closely with the Harrisburg-based staff of the PGC, it was a consensus of the Board to table this matter until after our June Board meeting with the PGC.

Display Booth: Bill Laird reminded the Board that a decision needed to be made, giving Lyle Gillespie direction on ordering display booths for the Chapter. Board Chairman Tim Holtz mentioned that the responsibility was given to the Executive Committee during our October meeting. Unfortunately, however, the Executive Committee allowed this matter to fall between the cracks. Board Chairman Holtz apologized to Lyle for the oversight, and assured him that he would be given direction before days end.

25th Anniversary: Don Heckman reminded all committee chairman that a 25th Anniversary budget would have to be finalized at the June Board meeting.

Web Site: Don Heckman suggested that the NWTf should develop a map listing all chapter web sites. Don reported that our Chapter web site would be updated to include information about Women in the Outdoors, map/bulletin board for local chapters, information about JAKES events, and a calendar of events.

Public Relations: It was reported that Charlie Burchfield had resigned as our public relations representative. Don suggested that the Executive Committee should be looking for a public relations chairman to help get our story out to the public.

Turkey Hunting License: Don Heckman suggested that the Executive Committee needs to continue forward in gaining support for a turkey hunting license. A group needs to be appointed by the Board to oversee and initiate action for gaining support. It was suggested that a VIP tour of a habitat project should be planned to provide interaction with VIPs to help gain support for a turkey license.

Youth Field Day Prints: A motion to provide Chapter prints for Youth Field Day events across the state was made by Skip Sanderson, seconded by Mark Davis. Motion carried. Some concern was expressed about coordinating the shipment of prints to various Youth Field Day events. It was noted that this had been a problem in the past. However, it was further noted that Dan Roessner had been advised of the problem, and he had assured the Board that it would not be a problem in the future.

NEW BUSINESS: Under the first item of New Business, Past President Howard Meyers mentioned that the Kicking Bird Calls company, which he represents, had assumed ownership of Kenny Springer Calls. As reported, these calls were being offered by Kicking Bird through a proposal package to help raise funds for local chapters and/or membership banquets. The calls are limited, so those who are interested should act soon.

J & F Graphics: Howard Meyers presented the Board with a proposal from J&F Graphics to produce convention patches as a means of fundraising for the Chapter. There were two options to be considered.

DART System: Chapter President Gary Beatty spoke at length to the Board about the new DART system. The Board was informed how much better and less expensive this new system was in comparison to the older FATS system. It was a recommendation of the Executive Committee that our Chapter should purchase a DART system for use in Pennsylvania. Following some discussion, **a motion to proceed with the purchase of a mobile DART system, complete with insurance and trailer registration, at a cost of approximately \$50,000.00, was made by Don Heckman, seconded by Reed Johnson. Motion carried.**

Pennsylvania Sportsmen's Coalition: Don Heckman informed the Board that the PGC had approached the Pennsylvania Sportsmen's Coalition about making recommendations to the PGC, regarding orange regulations in Pennsylvania during the fall turkey season. Don was asking the Board for direction on the Chapter's position for orange regulations, so that he and Bill Laird could cast their vote before the Pennsylvania Sportsmen's Coalition as representatives of the Pennsylvania Chapter. During the discussion which followed, Rick Moroney, Ron Sandrus and several other Board members expressed their displeasure with any Chapter statement/position which would support the mandatory wearing of any amount of orange during turkey season - spring or fall. **A motion that the Chapter's position would be to not support the mandatory wearing of any amount of fluorescent orange during the spring or fall turkey seasons was made by Ron Sandrus, seconded by Bill MacKereth. Motion carried, with one no vote recorded.**

Chapter Prints: It was reported that the Executive Committee had given its approval to the Art Committee to sell 100 Chapter prints to Wildlife Artist Jerry Putt for \$1500.00. It should be noted that these prints were done by Wildlife Artist Jerry Putt, and that he offered to purchase 100 prints from the Chapter, as a means of providing much needed revenue and to help lower our inventory of prints.

25th Anniversary Print: Art Committee Chairman Reed Johnson reported that his committee would be meeting with Wildlife Artist Dan Crist about doing a 25th Anniversary print for the Chapter. SRFS Jerry Zimmerman mentioned that he met with Wildlife Artist George LaVanish, and that George was working on ideas for the Chapter's 25th Anniversary print. Jerry asked if this work was being awarded to Dan Crist, or being offered to other wildlife artists. Reed Johnson indicated that time did not allow the Chapter an option to put this work out for bid. Some discussion followed, and it appeared to be a consensus of the Board that we were under the impression that George LaVanish was not interested in doing a 25th Anniversary print for the Chapter. Along those lines, Board Chairman Tim Holtz asked Art Chairman Reed Johnson to get with Chapter President Gary Beatty and Vice President Don O'Brien to determine who would contact Wildlife Artist George LaVanish to explain our situation, regarding the Chapter's 25th Anniversary print.

PGC Advisory Group: The Board was informed that the PGC plans to establish an advisory group to make recommendations to the PGC to help determine expenditures of revenue received from the hunting license increase. Don indicated that the Board or Executive Committee would need to determine who would represent the Chapter.

PGC/Chapter Meeting: As reported, our meeting with the PGC is scheduled for Monday, June 14, 1999 at Harrisburg. It was suggested that a confirmation letter should be sent to the PGC. In addition, the Minutes of last year's meeting should be sent to all Commissioners along with an invite to attend the meeting.

GOOD OF THE ORDER: Under the first item of business, Bill Laird agreed to take the Legacy Sculpture to Harrisburg, and to make it available at the April 9, 1999 PGC Commissioners meeting.

Insurance: A question was raised on the floor by Ron Perry, asking if members were covered by insurance while performing habitat work. As reported, the Chapter does not provide insurance coverage for local chapter members, state chapter members or NWTf members. Our Chapter does have an insurance policy which covers seated Chapter Board members while traveling to and from Chapter board meetings, our state convention and/or Chapter activities. It was suggested that local chapters should purchase the

\$40.00 blanket insurance coverage provided by the NWTF for any and all activities in which they are involved in.

Thanks: SRFS Jerry Zimmerman expressed his personal thanks and that of the NWTF to Tim Holtz for his 17 years of distinguished service on the Chapter Board. As stated, Tim has been a valuable asset to our NWTF organization and the Pennsylvania Chapter. Our Chapter has accomplished many good things over the years, as a result of Tim's leadership and input.

Portfolio: Chairman Mark Davis extended his personal thanks to all those local chapters who submitted portfolios to him for entry into the NWTF competition. Mark indicated that he was pleased with the increase in interest from our local chapters, but stated that he would like to see more participation.

Habitat: In view of some PGC landmanagers' unwillingness to plant barberry or autumn olive on State Game Lands, it was suggested that the Habitat Committee might want to consider purchasing other types of seedlings. It was noted that Habitat Chairman Rudy Kovacina was working on obtaining another type of seedling in addition to barberry and autumn olive.

Press Releases: Skip Sanderson agreed to undertake the responsibility of distributing Chapter news releases across the state. It was mentioned that we need to develop about six news releases prior to our June meeting. It was further noted that it was the responsibility of each committee chairman to write news releases relative to the activities of their committee.

Awards: Gary Beatty agreed to take the Hall of Fame and Silver Spurs awards for storage at his home.

Seed: Lyle Gillespie mentioned that the Red Rock Chapter had several bags of corn seed for those who wanted this seed to plant for wildlife.

Thanks: President Gary Beatty thanked Skip Sanderson for undertaking the responsibility of the Make A Wish donations. Gary thanked Skip for all the work he had done in helping to make this program a success. As noted, the program was well received, and we look forward to continuing our efforts in helping to collect donations for this very worthwhile cause.

Last Word: In turning the bend and heading for the finish line, a lot more was said to express thanks and appreciation for the work and efforts of those in attendance. Running through the course of personal comments, we looked into our past, and looked to our future. There was expressed excitement about what we've accomplished in the past, and where we are heading in the future - and our future is bright. **Bottom Line:** Our NWTF organization is like a well built home - built on a foundation of volunteer spirit and enthusiasm, framed and nailed with friendship and family values, bricked and mortared with dedication and commitment, secured under a roof of conservational goals, objectives and programs, and designed by an NWTF professional staff of accomplished visionaries. Our NWTF organization is a family of friends doing good things together for all the right reasons. That's what separates our NWTF organization from others. And that's why our organization is driving the vehicle and not just a passenger on the conservation highway. **The other Bottom Line:** Don Heckman did get in the Last Word...

There being no further business to come before the Board, **a motion to adjourn the March 1999 Board of Directors meeting of the Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation was made by Bill Laird, seconded by Bill MacKereth. Motion carried.** The March 1999 Board of Directors meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m., on Sunday, March 21, 1999.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick

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

**CHAPTER BYLAWS
AMENDMENT PROPOSALS
June 5, 1999**

Article III - Limitations of Power:

(g) The activities of this Chapter shall not conflict with... The financial affairs and assets of this Chapter shall be coordinated with those of the Federation as set forth within Article XIII of these Bylaws.
Proposed Change: Change Article XIII to **Article XII**, to conform with rewrite of Bylaws.

Article VI - Officers, Section 1 - Election and Term:

Under paragraph one, reference is made to "current members of the Board."
Proposed Change: Omit the word **current** and insert the word **seated**.

Under paragraph two, some original text was omitted from the rewrite. The Secretary, Treasurer or other Officers....provided each Officer shall commence at the close...
This was corrected to read: The Secretary, Treasurer or other Officers...provided each Officer is **duly nominated and elected**. **The term of office for each Officer** shall commence at the close...

Article II - Goals and Purposes, Section 2 - Reporting Election Results:

*** This Section makes reference to the "Director of Chapter and Membership Development of the Federation." This position no longer exists, and the entire Section was rewritten as follows:
It is the responsibility of the incoming Chapter President to provide the Federation with a written listing of all Chapter Officers, their mailing address, their phone number (day and evening, if possible) and the date the newly elected Officers are to be seated.

Article VII - Chapter Board, Section 2 - Nominating Committee:

Under paragraph one: ...selecting candidates for **memberships** on the Board.one qualified candidate for each **of the seats** on the Board.
Proposed Change:selecting candidates for **open seats** on the Board.one qualified candidate for each **open seat** on the Board.

Under paragraph two: Additional nominations **to the** Board may be made...
Proposed Change: Additional nominations **for** Board **seats** may be made...

Article VII - Chapter Board, Section 3 - Nomination and Election Qualifications:

*** Under paragraph one:Chapter Board shall be included with the **March** Minutes...by the Chapter Secretary prior to the **June** Board meeting.
Proposed Change:Chapter Board shall be included with the **June** Minutes...by the Chapter Secretary prior to the **August** Board meeting.

*** Under paragraph two:not less than thirty (30) days prior to the **Chapter Convention**.
Proposed Change:not less than thirty (30) days prior to the **scheduled election**.

Article VII - Chapter Board, Section 4 - Election of the Board:

Under paragraph one:the Board shall name a specified number of **candidate positions** open on the Board,....the total number of Board members **then in office**, to serve...at which **the Board member** is elected...

Proposed Change:the Board shall name a specified number of open **seats** on the Board,....the total number of **seated** Board members, to serve...at which **they are** elected,....

Under paragraph three:the number of Board **memberships** to be filled,...those nominees shall **become the members** on the Board...exceeds the number of Board **memberships** to be filled...

Proposed Change:the number of Board **seats** to be filled,...those nominees shall **be seated** on the Board...exceeds the number of Board **seats** to be filled...

Under paragraph four: All members of this Chapter, except JAKES, shall be **eligible** to vote...

Proposed Change: All members of this Chapter, except JAKES, shall be **entitled** to vote...

Under paragraph seven: Ballots received **by the designated member of the Nominating Committee** which are postmarked... The **designated member of the Nominating Committee**...for tabulation at the January meeting **of the Board of Directors**.

Proposed Change: Ballots received, which are postmarked... The Nominating Committee...for tabulation at the January **Board** meeting.

Article VII - Chapter Board, Section 5 - Honorary Board Members:

*** This section requires a **unanimous vote** to elect Honorary Board Members. The proposed amendment would require a **3/4 vote of the seated Board** to elect Honorary Board Members.

Article VIII - Meetings, Section 5 - Format of Meetings:

This Section 5 was omitted from the rewrite of our Bylaws. It is included in the Bylaws as follows:

All Chapter meetings shall be governed by the rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order in all cases to which they are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent with the Bylaws of this Chapter; and whereas the Chapter Bylaws violate or are in conflict with the Constitution of the Federation, the Federation's Constitution will supercede the Chapter's Bylaws, and will serve as the governing body of the Chapter in those areas of conflict and/or violation.

Article VIII - Meetings, Section 6 - Action by Phone:

*** This Section 6 was rewritten to make it a more realistic option. The rewrite is as follows:

Executive, Standing or Appointed Committee Chairman, when deemed necessary, may accept votes over the phone from committee members on all matters properly brought before such committee(s). Each committee chairman must maintain a written record of the voting date, matter or matters voted upon, and how each committee member cast their vote. Upon request, this information shall be reported to the Board as such by the committee chairman.

Article IX - Committees, Section 1 - Executive Committee:

Under paragraph one:Chapter Officers and two other members. Nominations and an election of the two other members who serve on the Executive Committee **will** be conducted by the Board at the January **Board of Directors** meeting.

Proposed Change:Chapter Officers and two other **Board** members. Nominations and an election of the two other **Board** members, who **shall** serve on the Executive Committee, **shall** be conducted by the Board at the January Board meeting.

Under paragraph two: The Executive Committee shall act through the President and on behalf of the Board...

Proposed Change: The Executive Committee shall act through the **Chapter** President, and on behalf of the Board,....

Article IX - Committees, Subsection 3 - Awards Committee:

The Awards Committee shall be responsible for the awards program, **as set forth within Article XI of these Bylaws.**

Proposed Change: The Awards Committee shall be responsible for the awards program, **and all things related thereto. Omit Article XI - Awards from Bylaws, and include this information under Subsection 3 - Awards Committee.**

Article IX - Committees, Subsection 7 - Local Chapters Committee:

*** ...This committee shall be responsible for organizing new local chapters... The committee shall work directly with the Federation's **Northeast** Regional Director...

Proposed Change: **The Local Chapters Committee** shall be responsible for **helping to organize** new local chapters... **This** committee shall work directly with, **and under the supervision of**, the Federation's Regional Director(s)....

*** The Local Chapters Committee shall consist of two (2) or more members appointed by the Chapter President.

Proposed Change: Add the following to this section. **The Chapter President shall have the option of appointing District Directors to serve on this committee.**

Article XII - Financial Matters, Section 4 - Fundraising and Donations:

....shall be transferred to the Chapter Treasurer, and shall include a **brief** financial statement thereof.
Proposed Change: Omit the word **brief**.

Article XII - Financial Matters, Section 5 - Reimbursements:

*** Under paragraph three: The Chapter President shall be reimbursed for....

Proposed Change: Add the following to this section. **The Chapter President shall be entitled to receive reimbursement for lodging and registration expenses to attend the Chapter convention, but shall not receive travel expenses for the same.**

Article IX - Committees, Subsections 1 - 12

Wording of these subsections was rearranged in order to be more consistent.

*** Represents significant change.



PENNSYLVANIA STATE CHAPTER THE NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION

ORGANIZED 1975

**PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER
NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
January 9, 1999
Ramada Inn - State College, Pennsylvania**

Following the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag, the January 1999 Board of Directors meeting of the Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation was called to order by Board Chairman Tim Holtz at 9:15 a.m., on Saturday, January 9, 1999. It was then noted that a quorum was not present, and the Pennsylvania Chapter could not conduct the business to come before it. Board Chairman Holtz stated that those matters which require Board action would be brought back to the floor once a quorum was established. It was further noted that, due to severe weather conditions, some members would be arriving late.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Chapter President Gary Beatty extended his personal thanks to Don Heckman, Don O'Brien, Jerry Zimmerman and Larry Holjencin for all their help, work and efforts in getting a hunting license increase bill passed through legislation.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Chapter Secretary Rick Moroney asked if there were any corrections or additions to the October 1998 Minutes. A correction to the Minutes was made as follows. On page three, under Conservation Seed Program, it was recorded: RD Holjencin reported that Pennsylvania was the number one participant in the seed program - 4 1/2 million pounds of seed was purchased last year. This was corrected to read: ...Pennsylvania was the number one participant in the seed program. **Across the country**, 4 1/2 million pounds of seed was purchased last year.

There were no other corrections or additions made to the October 1998 Minutes. However, the Minutes could not be approved until the Chapter had a seated quorum.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Don Heckman gave his report for the four-month period ending December 31, 1998. As reported, our checking account balance was \$4956.76. Our inventory (fair market value) was established at \$4375.80, giving us total assets of \$9332.56 with no liabilities.

Total revenue for the period was \$33,211.53, while total expenses for the period were \$33,137.12, leaving excess revenues of \$74.41. In continuing his report, Don clarified some points of interest for the Board, and he mentioned that income and expenses of the Chapter appeared to be normal. Until the Chapter had a seated quorum, action could not be taken by the Board to approve the Treasurer's Report.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Don O'Brien was unable to attend the Board meeting. He did, however, provide the Board with a written report of his activities.

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD REPORT: Board Chairman Tim Holtz echoed President Beatty's sentiments in regards to the efforts of those individuals who helped to get the license increase passed. A lot of people put their heart and soul into that effort, and I think it was time well spent. And I think we should all be thankful for the efforts that everybody put forth - traveling to Harrisburg on short notice...a lot of time away from their jobs and their families.... I hope everyone recognizes and appreciates those efforts. And I hope a large portion of our membership recognizes and appreciates those efforts, as well, Holtz stated.

OTHER BUSINESS: Board Chairman Tim Holtz introduced Lloyd Dell, Executive Director Raystown Country Vistors Bureau. As mentioned, Lloyd entered his name as a candidate for the Executive Director position of the Pennsylvania Game Commission. Lloyd spoke to the Board, conveying his thoughts and ideas for some change, and why he should be considered a good candidate for the PGC Executive Director position. Lloyd spoke briefly about having developed a comprehensive, strategic plan to improve PGC public relations - by promoting the agency and the programs within the agency, and by providing training for every employee of the Game Commission on how to project a positive, pro-active organization. Lloyd also expressed a need for Pennsylvania hunters, conservation groups, and the Game Commission to unite against anti-hunting.

NWTF REGIONAL REPORT: Senior Regional Field Supervisor Jerry Zimmerman reported that the NWTF had, once again, its best year ever in 1998. Our banquet program raised more money, and our Super Fund program has spent more money than has ever been recorded in the past, Jerry said. As reported, Pennsylvania also experienced a record year. Currently, Pennsylvania has 53 local chapters, and is looking to add to that number. Jerry extended his thanks and appreciation to all of our local chapters and members who helped to make this possible.

Membership: SRFS Zimmerman reported that there were approximately 13,500 Pennsylvania members in the NWTF. It was noted that Wisconsin has approximately 12,400 members.

Super Fund: Over the years, Pennsylvania has deposited \$1,387,199.57, while spending \$1,218,281.19 on 626 projects in Pennsylvania. As of 12/22/98, our Super Fund balance was \$168,918.38. In 1998 alone, Pennsylvania raised \$251,164.68, and spent \$190,407.00 on 114 projects. A tip of the camo hat is extended to all of our local chapters for their efforts in helping to raise and spend this money. Great Job Guys and Gals! It must be understood that every penny raised is important and critical to our success, and very much appreciated by our Chapter Board members. We find it important to note, however, that the Stony Valley Chapter was the first chapter to accomplish an 80 percent net to gross banquet, and deposited nearly \$13,000.00 into the Super Fund account. We extend our congratulations to the Stony Valley Chapter and salute them for their efforts. **Thank you!**

Chapter President's Meeting: As reported, the Chapter President's Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, August 9, 1999 at the Ramada Inn in State College. More details on the meeting will be recorded in future Minutes and communications from our Regional Field Supervisors Jerry Zimmerman and Larry Holjencin.

Interactive Video System: SRFS Jerry Zimmerman reported that the NWTF no longer has an interactive video system by FATS. It was noted that FATS purchased DARTS, and that DARTS was working with the NWTF on a new system. The Board was given some information about the DART system to take under advisement and consideration for possible purchase of a system with the new technology, now, available.

Brady Bill: Due to language contained in the Brady Bill, some changes will have to be made relative to firearms at our banquets. Our present policy is to do whatever the local FFL dealer feels comfortable with. It should be understood that that policy is subject to change. Our Regional Field Supervisors will keep each banquet chairman advised and updated on any changes as they develop.

Five-Star Chapter Program: SRFS Jerry Zimmerman informed the Board about the NWTF's five-star

program. This program is based on a six-point criteria which is to be adopted by a state chapter in support of the NWTF's mission. Under this agreement the Chapter will dedicate its efforts to give something back to ourselves and our communities, involve families in wildlife conservation, protect our right to hunt, develop a stronger relationship between the state and local chapters, create a positive image for the organization and build a better future. By adopting these goals, the Chapter acknowledges the importance of its volunteers and local chapters. This action signifies the Chapter's commitment and passion to provide a future where wildlife resources are abundant, and there are ample opportunities for everyone to hunt and enjoy the outdoors. The six-point criteria of this program is as follows:

1. Make a financial commitment to the Hunting Heritage Fund, with a portion to be designated to the Wildlife Legislative Fund of America.
2. Support Women in the Outdoors events conducted by local chapters (minimum \$250 per event).
3. Make a commitment to the JAKES program by:
 - *Funding local chapter JAKES events (minimum \$250 per event)
 - * Send a young person to the National JAKES event
 - *Provide a minimum of one JAKES Education Box to each local chapter
4. Make a commitment to a high school scholarship program by:
 - *Providing funds to each local chapter (minimum \$250)
 - *Offer a \$1000 state academic scholarship
 - *Select a state winner to be considered for the \$5000 national scholarship
5. Support the state 4-H Shooting Program (minimum of \$5000).
6. Provide financial support to state and federal wildlife agencies for projects that benefit the wild turkey.

At the conclusion of discussion relative to the NWTF 5-star program, it was noted that a quorum was present, and the Pennsylvania Chapter could conduct the business to come before it. **A motion to accept the October 1998 Minutes, as corrected, was made by Dennis Strawbridge, seconded by Ron Sandrus. Motion carried.**

A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, as presented, was made by Skip Sanderson, seconded by Bill Laird. Motion carried.

A motion to sign the NWTF 5-star program agreement was made by Don Heckman, seconded by Bill MacKereth. Motion carried.

NWTF REGIONAL REPORT: Moving forward with the business at hand, the floor was turned over to Regional Field Supervisor Larry Holjencin. Larry Holjencin reported that a new JAKES hat was available. In addition, the NWTF has developed a new JAKES membership application. As reported, the Educational Boxes would be made available for distribution near the end of January. The new JAKES magazine was being mailed out to JAKES members on January 11, 1999. It was noted that the JAKES magazine would be included in the library subscription program.

RFS Larry Holjencin reported on some changes that have been made to the JAKES incentive program. It was reported that local chapters would receive credit for signing up JAKES year-round, and not just during their banquet. Local chapters will receive a Zettie Jones print for signing up 50 JAKES members. For 100 members, you get an H&R shotgun. For 150 members, you get the print and the gun. For 200 members, the local chapter gets two guns. In addition, for every 100 JAKES members signed-up, the local chapter will receive a chance in the drawing for a FREE Banquet core-package.

Turkey Call TV: Regional Field Supervisor Larry Holjencin spoke about the Turkey Call television series which aired on Saturday, January 2, 1999, at 9 a.m., on TNN. It was noted that 13 programs would be aired and then repeated during 26 consecutive weeks. However, the **Big Show, The Highlight, The Blockbuster Event** of the program series will be aired on Saturday, February 20, 1999, at 9 a.m., on TNN. During this program the Federation's Carl Brown takes our own Don Heckman on a thrilling Montana hunt for Merriams wild turkey. Its been rumored that this hunt (getting a turkey for Don Heckman) was the most challenging event in Carl Brown's career with the NWTF.

Diamond Life Sponsors: As reported, Regional Field Supervisors Jerry Zimmerman and Larry Holjencin are seeking help from our membership to identify potential Diamond Life Sponsors, a \$10,000 commitment to the NWTF. Premiums for a Diamond Life Sponsor are as follows: 1. Sponsor premium each year 2. Magazines forever 3. Invites to NWTF convention to include all the breakfasts -free of charge 4. tax write-off. It was suggested that our Chapter should list the names of our Diamond Life Sponsors in each issue of "Turkey Talk." As mentioned, the NWTF will accept a four year payment plan for Diamond Life Sponsors at \$2500 per year. Regular Sponsors can also accumulate credit towards a Diamond Life Sponsorship - for example, if you've been a Sponsor Member for ten years, you would have accumulated \$2000 credit towards a Diamond Life Sponsor. In addition, if a Diamond Life Sponsor is signed-up at a local chapter banquet, the chapter's banquet would receive credit for up to 50 Sponsors, and would receive the incentive premiums which go with it.

Along those same lines, it was suggested that a letter and/or contact might be made to Life and Benefactor Members to see if they would be interested in upgrading their membership to Diamond Life Sponsor. Further, it was suggested that the Chapter should consider becoming a Diamond Life Sponsor. In regards to that suggestion, it was decided that the Executive Committee would take the suggestion under advisement for future consideration.

At the close of discussion on this subject, it was announced that Jerry Zimmerman and Larry Holjencin had relinquished their comp-time to become Diamond Life Sponsors.

NWTF Highlights for 1998: A Memorandum from Rob Keck to Regional Directors, dated November 16, 1998 - Re: 1998 Annual Reports is being reprinted and recorded in our Minutes as presented.

What a year for the wild turkey and the National Wild Turkey Federation! 1998 has truly been a record setting year for us, netting the following success stories:

- * Hosted 1100 membership banquets across North America
- * Raised \$11.3 million for the wild turkey at membership fundraising banquets
- * Increased membership almost 20 percent to 178,000
- * Completed 8400 Wild Turkey Super Fund Projects
- * Planted 42,000 seedlings through Project SOS and Operation Big Sky
- * Distributed more than 4 million pounds of seed through our Conservation Seed Program
- * Announced debut of Turkey Call Television to air on TNN Saturdays at 9am beginning Jan. 2nd
- * Hosted 1200 shooters at 5th Annual Turkey Shoot in Atlanta, GA
- * Inducted the Board of Directors for NWTF Canada
- * Held 20 Women in the Outdoors events across the country

We are all so proud of all these accomplishments, but our greatest success story continues to be the passion and dedication of our members and volunteers all across North America. The work of our volunteers is visible through the pictures and names listed in the 1998 Annual Report. Enclosed are five copies of the report for your use in telling our story. I hope that as you reflect on our progress this year that you are as proud as I am to be part of the greatest conservation group in the world - the NWTF.

That just about says it all. Our Chapter Board extends our congratulations and a tip of the camo hat to all of our local chapter leaders, volunteers, and members for helping to make this success story possible. **Thank you!**

At the conclusion of Larry's report, Jerry Zimmerman mentioned that Larry had been promoted to Regional Field Supervisor. Congratulations and a round of applause was extended to Larry from the Board. A presentation was made to Chapter President Gary Beatty. Gary received the President's Edition of the NWTF Stamp Print of the Year. Print numbers are issued based on net dollars raised, and it was noteworthy that President Beatty received print number 2 of 50.

WOMEN IN THE OUTDOORS: Regional Coordinator Sally Jones gave a brief history of her background, and spoke about her interests in the outdoors. But, more importantly, she enlightened the Board with a women's perspective of what the Women in the Outdoors program really means to women. I'm really, really excited about the possibility of getting more women involved. I've been involved in the out of doors for a long time, and it's not often that you see another women in the woods. A lot of times it's pretty tough to have a hunting partner out there that you can associate with. More and more women are getting out there and doing that. The last two years I've had a female hunting partner, and we've gotten our doe together. So, it's been encouraging to me to see the participation of the women. And I think more and more women are stepping out - standing up, and saying: We're interested in the out of doors. We want to extend our hobbies. We want to take our youth - our children - outdoors. A lot of single mothers are looking to work with their children to do just that, Sally stated.

As mentioned, the Pennsylvania event was the most organized and largest attended event in the country. There were 10 pilot events and several chapter events held throughout the country. Approximately 1000 women participated in the Women in the Outdoors program in 1998. There are three pilot events scheduled for early 1999, and one event scheduled in Michigan, which resulted as an offshoot from the pilot event held in Ohio.

WITO Regional Coordinator Sally Jones reported that, in addition to Trish Berry, who is the National Coordinator, NWTF has hired Becky Johnson as a Regional Coordinator to cover the Southern part and West coast region of the country. A Regional Coordinator was also hired to cover the Northcentral region, and the NWTF is looking to hire another Regional Coordinator in June 1999 to cover the Southeast region. As reported, Sally is responsible for covering the Northeast region and Ontario, Canada.

WITO Regional Coordinator Sally Jones mentioned that Pennsylvania and Ohio are key to the success of the Women in the Outdoors program in the Northeast. It was reported that the women who participated in the pilot events of these two states have expressed excitement about doing events in their areas. Further, it was noted that women from these events have been calling Sally to ask how do they get started with a program in their area.

Sally stated that she has been charged with doing 40 events in the Northeast in 1999. Sally anticipates that there will be between 12 and 15 events held in Pennsylvania. As mentioned, the events should be pretty much self-sustaining. Entry fees should cover the costs of any expenses. However, it is hoped that the entry fees will be kept at a reasonable level to allow more appeal, and to allow more women to become involved.

At the conclusion of Sally's report, several questions were asked by Board members. However, these questions were general in nature and answered to the Board's satisfaction and understanding.

NWTF TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT: In view of his pending retirement, Wildlife Biologist Bill Drake expressed his thanks and appreciation for having had the opportunity to work with the Chapter Board. Being himself, and in his own rambling way, Bill expressed his respect for the Chapter Board, our Chapter volunteers and our NWTF organization. **Bottom Line:** It's a two way street, Bill. **Thank you!**

Harvest Management: As reported, the spring 1998 wild turkey harvest may have been better than the spring 1997 harvest. The spring 1998 harvest report cards (6001) were the most we have ever received and were 12 percent above the report cards the PGC received after the spring 1997 season.

A preliminary fall 1998 harvest report card count suggests that Pennsylvania's fall wild turkey harvest may be less than that for 1997. Fall 1998 harvest report cards received as of 3 December 1998 were running 8 percent below those received at the same date in 1997. Final fall 1998 reported harvest data will be available by February 1999. Official spring and fall 1998 wild turkey harvest data (from the Game Take Survey) will not be available until September 1999. The 1998 statewide summer turkey sighting index value (19.1 turkeys seen/1000 miles traveled) was up 15 percent over the 1997 index value (16.1 turkeys/1000 miles).

PGC Bureau of Wildlife Management will recommend an extension of one week in Areas 1A and 1B, and an extension of one day in Area 9B (the Saturday at the end of the first week) to the fall 1999 turkey hunting seasons.

Proposed Wild Turkey Study: At the October Commission Meeting, the Commission suspended a wild turkey trap and transfer project for Turkey Management Area 7B and opted instead to initiate research to determine why turkey populations have declined. In October 1998, a Grant-In-Aid Proposal was submitted to the NWTF for a two year radio-telemetry study in Area 7B to determine survival rates, cause-specific mortality rates, and recruitment rates of the suppressed turkey population in this Area. A Super Fund Proposal has also been submitted to the PA Chapter for financial assistance to complete this study.

Comprehensive Wild Turkey Management Plan: A draft Comprehensive Wild Turkey Management Plan for Pennsylvania was submitted in September 1998. The draft Plan was distributed to PA Chapter Directors, interested agencies and individuals, and was placed on the Commission Internet web site for review and comment. Comments will be accepted and adoption is anticipated by the end of March 1999.

New PGC Wild Turkey Biologist Appointed: Mary Jo Casalena has been selected to replace Bill Drake when he retires on June 25, 1999. Mary Jo has worked on the Sichuan pheasant and waterfowl projects since coming with the Game Commission in 1993. She will reside in Bedford County and will transition from her migratory responsibilities by the end of June 1999.

Winter 1999 Turkey Trap and Transfer: The NWTF requested the PGC to participate in their Target 2000 Program during the winter of 1999 by transferring wild turkeys to the Canadian Province of Ontario. This request was not approved due to work priorities of Coordinator Bill Drake to assist his replacement in taking over wild turkey management responsibilities and to prepare for the TMA 7B Study before his retirement.

PGC PA Chapter of the NWTF Super Fund Project Proposals: Super Fund Project proposals submitted through various PGC Regions and Bureaus are proceeding smoothly. Super Fund Habitat Proposals will be prioritized by our Bureau of Land Management and forwarded, by mid-January, to Habitat Committee Chairman Rudy Kovacina for funding considerations at their meeting in February.

COMMUNICATIONS: Under the first item of communications, it was reported that the Chapter received a thank-you card from Nupp Printing, relative to our \$100.00 contribution for their efforts in getting out the summer and fall 1998 issues of "Turkey Talk."

Received a thank-you card from Governor Tom Ridge, for having presented the Governor with our 3rd conservation print during the Hunting Heritage Symposium in Pennsylvania.

Received a thank-you letter from the leadership of the Symposium, for our participation and financial support.

Received a certificate of appreciation and a letter from the Game and Fish Commission for our financial support of the Northeast Fish and Game Commission Conference.

It was noted that the Chapter was named as a main contributor in getting legislation passed for the hunting license increase within the PGC News Release.

The Chapter received its annual calendar from the Western PA Conservancy for being a sponsor member of that organization.

It was reported that past Board Member Skip Schaich was in need of a liver transplant. A benefit raffle for Skip's liver transplant is being operated by some of Skip's relatives and friends. The Board was asked to sell 50 tickets in support of this benefit.

Received a letter from the PGC, informing our Chapter leadership about the seasons and bag limits meeting.

Received a letter from NWTF, thanking the Chapter for its support of the Pennsylvania Women in the Outdoors Event.

Received a letter from the Trappers Association, indicating their desire to participate in the Women in the Outdoors program by providing instructors for trapping.

Received a letter from Representative Bruce Smith, thanking the Chapter for its assistance and involvement in getting legislation passed for the hunting license increase.

Received a letter from Bureau of Wildlife Management Director Cal DuBrock, relative to the Wild Turkey Management Plan.

Received a letter from NWTF, thanking the Chapter for its support of the Porter Wagner Youth Field Days.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Youth Committee Chairman Bill MacKereth reported that he asked to meet with his committee members, but the meeting was never held. As reported, Bill took the "bull by the horns" and carried out the responsibilities charged to him by the Board to the best of his ability. Bill passed around a prototype of a new First Bird patch, which was designed by Wildlife Artist Larry Smail. Bill mentioned that he was working with another individual about getting prices to have the patches made. Based on the questions which surfaced about the new First Bird patch, it was a general consensus of the Board that information about the patch would need to be published in "Turkey Talk," once the patches were available.

Porter Wagner Field Days: Bill MacKereth mentioned some of the problems he ran up against in attempting to locate candidates for the Youth Field Days event. Bill indicated that the biggest problem was in getting a phone number to contact the candidate(s). Bill suggested that the JAKES membership application should include space for a phone number.

State Youth Field Days: Chairman MacKereth stated that he would have more information about the Field Days event at Scotia Range at the March meeting.

At the conclusion of Bills report, Jerry Zimmerman and Larry Holjencin responded to Bill's concern over the difficulty in getting two JAKES members and their parent or guardian to commit to the Porter Wagner event. It was mentioned that most of the time the JAKES membership applications are not filled out by individuals who are closely related to the JAKES member, but rather by a friend of a friend, neighbor, distant relative, etc. It was also noted that older membership application had a line for phone numbers, but that they were rarely filled in. **Bottom Line:** Although no one appeared to have an immediate solution to the problem, the problem has been recognized, and some sort of revision to our system will have to be made.

1999 Convention: Chairperson Doe Medvec provided a written report for the Board. As reported, registration forms were to be mailed the second week of January, along with gun raffle tickets. The price of individual and couples packages was increased \$5.00 each. Publicity information was sent to Larry Smail, Charlie Burchfield and Don Heckman. Gary Huff has been confirmed as the auctioneer. Jim Clay and Chris Kirby have confirmed to serve as seminar speakers. It was noted that there will be at least three programs for the women. The menu will be stuffed chicken breast. Chairperson Medvec mentioned that Ed Blakley resigned as chairman of the special raffles committee. However, past Chapter President Howard Meyers agreed to serve in that capacity. For the gun raffle, the convention committee decided to use the four shotguns left over from the Chapter's fall gun raffle, and to purchase one more. Rifles that were left over will be used for some of the other special raffles.

Special Note: The Convention Committee can use any kind of help during the convention, even if it's only for one hour. Those who are interested in lending a helping hand, can contact Chairperson Doe Medvec at (814) 755-3774, or just stop at the registration desk during the convention.

Awards Committee: Chairman Dennis Strawbridge expressed his concern over the lack of response from the Chapter Board in nominating candidates for the Chapter Awards. It was mentioned that Dennis had only received nominations from two seated Board members and one past Board member.

As chairman of the Paper Supplies Committee, Dennis informed the Board that he had letterhead and envelopes available.

Make a Wish Foundation: Chairman Skip Sanderson asked for Board permission to contact a representative of the Make A Wish Foundation, so that we could present them with a check at our state convention.

As reported, Make A Wish letters were mailed out to the local chapters, and an article was also published in "Turkey Talk." According to Skip, the response to his appeal for donations was quite good, but not 100 percent. However, Skip was pleased to turn over \$1550.00 to our treasurer for the Make a Wish Foundation. The following local chapters helped to financially support this program: Allegheny Sultans, Endless Mountain, Kit-Han-Ne, Lakeland Longbeards, Local Chapter One, Mason-Dixon, Michaux Yellow Breeches, Millcreek, Moraine, Nittany Valley Longbeards, Peter's Creek Trail, Red Rock, Southeastern Silver Spurs, Stony Valley, Susquehanna Longbeards, and Whitehorse Mountain Longbeards. A big **Thank You** and a tip of the old camo hat is extended to all of the aforementioned chapters for having strutted their stuff for a very worthy cause.

Promotional Items: Chairman Skip Sanderson reported that the new shipment of rulers arrived, and all requests for rulers were filled. Skip asked the Board about what their decision was in regards to our 25th Anniverasry artwork for promotional items. Much discussion took place, which resulted in having a motion made on the floor. **A motion to commission an artist for our 25th Anniversary Print and to empower the Art Committee to get that done was made by Dennis Strawbridge, seconded by Bill MacKereth. Motion carried.** As a follow-up to the motion, it was suggested that this artwork should be completed in time to have the image published on the cover of our winter issue of "Turkey Talk."

OLD BUSINESS: Under the first item of Old Business, some discussion was invoked in consideration for the development of an Information and Education Committee. **A motion directing the Executive Committee to establish an Information and Education Committee was made by Don Heckman, seconded by Bill Laird. Motion carried.**

Sopchick Print: Bill Laird displayed a profile series of prints which were done by Wildlife Artist Bob Sopchick. **A motion to have the Safety Education Committee review and consider the purchase of 1000 prints at a cost of \$2.75 each was made by Bill MacKereth, seconded by Ron Sandrus. Motion carried.** As a follow-up to this motion, it was suggested that the prints would be distributed to HTE courses, JAKES events, and as a supplement to the NWTF education boxes.

Turkey Hunting License: Following some discussion, **a motion to solidify the Board's commitment to continue its pursuit of a turkey hunting license within this two-year, legislative session was made by Don Heckman, seconded by Reed Johnson. Motion carried.**

Public Relations: Don Heckman queried the Board for their perception regarding the effectiveness of our public relations program. It was determined that the effectiveness was difficult to gauge because of editorial privilege and what may or may not be used from a news release. Don Heckman stated that his expectations, as an officer of the Chapter, were to have the Board figure out a method to improve our Chapter's communication effectiveness, and to develop a better means of letting the general hunting public know what our Chapter is doing and what we've accomplished in this state for the wild turkey resource. It was determined that the Chapter needs to collect enough information to produce a minimum of ten news releases each year. Some discussion took place relative to ideas, suggestions and questions on how we might improve our communications. We heard from Jerry Zimmerman, Ron Sandrus, Gary Beatty, Tim Holtz and Don Heckman.

Home Page: Don Heckman reported that our web site has 90 pages of information. Don mentioned that all of Charlie Burchfield's press releases for our Chapter are on the Chapter's web site. Don provided complete printouts of our home page, and discussed some of its contents.

Safety and Education Committee: Don Heckman reported that there were two fatalities during the 1998 fall season, but that the PGC was not prepared to make any further comments regarding turkey hunting incidents until investigations are completed. Don mentioned that the PGC had enough safety posters left over from the fall season to satisfy their needs for the upcoming 1999 spring season. Safety Committee Chairman Ron Sandrus reported that he didn't have anything to add to the status of the motorized decoys. During the discussion which

followed, Jerry Zimmerman indicated that the PGC was not satisfied with the operation of the motorized decoys, and had sought another vendor. It was also noted that the Chapter would be responsible for providing skins for the decoys.

25th Anniversary Budget: Don Heckman mentioned that he does not have a budget for our 25th Anniversary. Don stated that he needs to get information from the Art Committee, Promotional Committee and the Executive Committee on how much money is going to be allocated for 25th Anniversary.

Chapter Name: As reported the name of our Chapter is inconsistent. In some cases, we are listed as the Pennsylvania State Chapter and others as the Pennsylvania Chapter. It was noted that we were incorporated as the Pennsylvania Chapter, and our Bylaws refer to Pennsylvania Chapter. It was suggested that letterhead, promotional items and everything else would be changed to Pennsylvania Chapter.

NEW BUSINESS: Under the first item of New Business, Nominating Committee Chairman Tim Holtz submitted his committee's slate of officers for the Board's consideration as follows:
President....Don O'Brien, Vice President....Open, Secretary...Open, Treasurer....Don Heckman, and Chairman of the Board....Gary Beatty. **A motion to open the floor for officer nominations was made by Ron Sandrus, seconded by Dennis Strawbridge.**

Don O'Brien was nominated by Don Heckman for the office of President.

There were no nominations forthcoming from the floor for the office of Vice President.

Rick Moroney was nominated by Bill Laird for the office of Secretary.

Don Heckman was nominated by Bill MacKereth for the office of Treasurer.

Tim Holtz declined the nomination from Bill Laird for the office of Treasurer.

Gary Beatty was nominated by Ron Sandrus for the office of Chairman of the Board.

As duly noted, officer nominations will remain open until the election takes place during our state convention. It was further noted that it's important to the future of our Chapter to fill the office of Vice President. Nominating Committee Chairman Tim Holtz stated that his committee would endeavor to have a nomination for that position prior to our state convention. At the same time, Tim would appreciate it very much if anyone who was interested in the Vice President position would contact him.

Legacy Sculpture: Jerry Zimmerman explained to the Board how this statue depicts the NWTF by signifying our commitment to youth and our commitment to our hunting heritage. According to Jerry, it was suggested by the NWTF that a state chapter might want to consider purchasing one of these statues, and donating it to their state wildlife agency. It was also noted that six other states have already committed to purchasing a statue for their state agency. Jerry spoke very highly about this statue - what it means to the NWTF - and what it could mean to our Chapter. As noted, this is a limited edition, 1/4 lifesize statue of bronze - not a resin replica - and it is priced at \$4000.00. However, as Jerry stated, it would be money well spent. **A motion to green sheet the purchase of the Legacy Sculpture was made by Don Heckman, seconded by Bill MacKereth. Motion carried, with one no vote recorded by Greg Dreibelbis.**

Ad Hoc Committee: Women in the Outdoors Regional Coordinator Sally Jones reminded Board Chairman Tim Holtz of the Executive Committee's discussion to form an ad hoc committee to work with Sally Jones on the Women in the Outdoors program. It was determined that the Chapter would wait until possible candidates were identified before making any official appointments to the committee.

New Chapters: Our Regional Field Supervisors reported the organization of two new local chapters. SRFS Jerry Zimmerman reported that a chapter was formed in Canton, and that 28 members attended the organizational meeting. RFS Larry Holjencin reported that a chapter was organized in Puxatawny, which will be known as the Gobbler's Knob Chapter. Our Chapter Board spreads its wings in welcoming these new local chapters to our flock.

Hunting Heritage Fund: Some discussion took place relative to the work being done by the Wildlife Legislative Fund in its efforts to protect our rights to hunt. It was noted that our Chapter donates \$5000.00 to the American Hunting Heritage Fund which, in turn, allocates 17 percent of their income to the WLF. In view of the discussion which transpired, **a motion to make a one time direct donation to the WLF for \$10,000.00, and to review the need for this expenditure each year was made by Don Heckman, seconded by Skip Sanderson. Motion carried, with one no vote recorded by Greg Driebelbis.**

Deer Management Council: The PGC has established a Deer Management Council comprised of representatives of conservation groups throughout Pennsylvania. The purpose of this Council is to work with the PGC Bureau of Wildlife and to provide input and recommendations on deer management concerns, issues and practices. **A motion to appoint Don O'Brien, as a representative of the Pennsylvania Chapter, to the Deer Management Council was made by Don Heckman, seconded by Skip Sanderson. Motion carried.**

Go Wild: This program was brought to the attention of the Board. It was mentioned that a representative of Go Wild would meet with our Chapter at a later date.

Pennsylvania Habitat Alliance: The Board was asked if the Chapter would be interested in sending a representative to attend a meeting of the Pennsylvania Habitat Alliance group, and to possibly have a Chapter representative become a member of this group. There were no volunteers, and it appeared that our Chapter was not interested in having representation with the Pennsylvania Habitat Alliance group.

GOOD OF THE ORDER: It was reported that Reed Johnson and the Susquehanna Chapter conducted a habitat project which appeared as a five minute segment on the TV program "Wild Pennsylvania."

It was noted that the NWTf bus trip scheduled for January had been cancelled.

It was sadly reported that our good friend and past Board member, Ken Springer, had passed away. Kenny will be truly missed by all who knew him. The Board's heartfelt sympathy was extended to Kenny's wife, Lucille.

There being no further business to come before the Board, **a motion to adjourn the Board of Directors meeting of the Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation was made by Ron Sandrus, seconded by Bill MacKereth. Motion carried.** The Pennsylvania Chapter Board of Directors meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m., on Saturday, January 9, 1999.

Respectfully submitted,



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