

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.panwtf.org E-mail: panwtfrep@panwtf.org

ATTENTION BOARD MEMBERS

The next Executive Board meeting will be held at Sam McCartney's Camp near Bellefonte, Pennsylvania on Friday, October 3, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.

The regular State Board of Directors meeting will be held on Saturday, October 4, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. at the Glenn O. Hawbaker office at Pleasant Gap, Pennsylvania.

Pennsylvania State Chapter NWTF Board of Directors Meeting Ramada Inn, State College, PA August 2, 2008

Director's Present: G. Beatty, T. Bunty, D. Butler, J. Drolet, K. Fernburg, D. Heckman, G. Huff, R. Johnson, B. Mackereth, C. Mathues, S. Motts, J. Nyce, D. O'Brien, J. Panaro, J. Pries, H. Shields, J. Straley.

Chairman of the Board Absent and sorely missed: Dave Burdge

Director's Absent: H. Daub

NWTF Staff Present: P. Ferrare, C. Mowry

Guests: Mary Jo Casalena, H. Meyers.

The Board Meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by President Jon Pries (for Dave Burdge).

Jon welcomed the Board members, called the meeting to order, led the prayer and Pledge of Allegiance, and ran through the ground rules.

Officers' Reports:

President's Report:

PA STATE CHAPTER NWTF

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

JUNE:

- 7 Met in committee to revise Long Range Plan. Separated it into two documents: a "Strategic Plan" and a "Principles of Operation".
- 9 Attended PANWTF / PGC Annual Joint Meeting with Carl Roe & staff of PGC at PGC Headquarters, Elmerton Ave., Harrisburg, PA.
- 10 Attended Susquehanna Longbeards banquet planning meeting.
- 12 Attended Inaugural "White Deer Jakes" Hunting Heritage Banquet, Allenwood, PA.

JULY:

- 8 Attended Susquehanna Longbeards banquet planning meeting.
- 15 Attended PA Governor's Technical Advisory Committee meeting for formulating the 2009-2013 Statewide Outdoor Recreation Plan.
- 21 Attended Susquehanna Longbeard banquet planning meeting.
- 25 Susquehanna Longbeards Hunting Heritage Banquet setup.
- 26 Susquehanna Longbeards Hunting Heritage Banquet.
- 29 Attended the 23rd Annual NRA International YHEC event, Mansfield, PA.

Vice- President's Report:

Don Heckman, PANWTF Interim Vice President's Report - June 9 - July 31, 2008

Report of vice-president activities, action items, decisions, ideas, completed items. I will have one copy of my report on Saturday for our Secretary.

June 9 - attended PGC Executive Staff/PA Chapter NWTF meeting

June 12 - PGC Bob Wesoloskie called me about an opportunity with public radio to sponsor a 3 minute time slot with PGC and Top Flight Media

- June 15-16 created a list of PANWTF Chapter President's from 1975-2008 21 chapter president names
- June 17 meet with PGC Staff on legislative bills and hunting license increase
- June 20 email Board on PGC Commissioner agenda item 143.243 on regulation change for mentored youth turkey hunting
- June 23 Coalition of Sportsmen meeting with Commissioners and staff
- June 23-24 attended Monday and Tuesday's PGC Board of Commissioner's meetings and Monday night dinner
- June 23 Coalition of Sportsmen meeting with Commissioners and staff
- June 26 drafted and emailed PA Senator's on position for hunting license increase
- July 1 emailed PA Senate Leadership and Rules Committee on SB 740 as amended by House
- June 2-July 2 emailed PA Forest Coalition quarterly report to PANWTF Board, working on several of their issues when they pertain to land management and habitat improvement, hunting, conservation and land preservation SGLs and State Forests
- July 3 mailed letters on behalf of PA Chapter NWTF to legislators on bills on our Legislative Committee report
- July 4 time to raise ole glory, thank our luck stars to be alive, and enjoy a weekend of hamburgers and steaks, potato salad and all the trimmings, and enjoy life with family and friends -- Happy 4th of July Fireworks.
- July 7 back to legislative emails and Coalition of Sportsmen's agenda items
- July 15 emails sent and letters mailed for HB 2653 and HB 747
- July 16 good news from JimDon, board meeting minutes are done and now on disk, now the next task for Joe
- July 17 posted on huntingpa.com message board information on wild turkey management and turkey hunting accomplishments

July 18 - after 4 months PGC and Coalition of Sportsmen have succeeded in having a hunting license back tag bill drafted, only criteria being, "take what they will offer"

July 21 - SB 1527 introduced for hunting license back tag and antlerless deer tag increase; will email information to board members over the next 10 days

July 24 - emails sent on support for SB 1527 hunting license increase

July 28 - emailed several articles and reports on current issues to be taken up at the August Board meeting

July 28 - Tim Holtz, as Chairman of the Board, created list of motions for 1982-1998, paper copy has been found, now on to the next task

July 29 - Coalition of Sportsmen review of current legislation status: Spring Creek, Hunting License, Dog, Alternative Funding, Elk Tag Auction, Crossbow, Fines and Penalties, Interstate Violators Compact, Deer Audit report, and update on USP lawsuit

July 30 - emailed Board Legislative Report, Vice President report, and Wild Turkey Management Committee reports to the Board

Posted 3 NWTF - PANWTF news items on HPA PA Chapter NWTF Forum, and a couple

hundred emails to Board members.

Tell The Story - Pass It On.

Think Safety - Hunt Safely.

Don.

Treasurer's Report:

PA NWTF TREASURER'S REPORT

TO: PENNSYLVANIA STATE CHAPTER NWTF

FROM: JIM PANARO

SUBJECT: REPORT FOR PERIOD JUNE 1, 2008 THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2008

DATE: 7/30/08

Starting Balance \$30,282.47

Income \$8,978.18

Green sheets (Seed, Ned Smith, safety ad) \$6,008

Local Chapter Banquet Rebates \$2,264

Expenses \$ 10,463.48

Green sheets (State Scholarship & gobbler banding) \$6,094

Promotional Items Inventory Purchase \$1,350

Turkey Talk Summer Issue \$1,200

Ending Balance \$28,797.17

Net Gain (Loss) \$(1,485.30)

General Updates Fiscal year 2007-08 year-to date reports are attached.

Major upcoming expenses are summer Turkey Talk and Chapter President's meeting.

The Treasurer's Report was approved as written

Secretary's Report:

The prior meeting's minutes were approved as written.

NWTF Staff Reports

Carl Mowry:

PA Board Meeting 8-2-08

PA Membership Numbers

Regular Members 6,685 Sponsors 1,220 Life 343 Women in the Outdoors 2,178 Wheelin' Sportsmen 905 JAKES 12,784 Hunting Heritage 2,971

Total Membership = $\overline{27,086}$

33rd annual NWTF Convention and Sport Show!

Feb. 19-22, 2009 Gaylord Opryland Hotel Nashville, Tennessee

Fun for the entire family-all under one roof! Call (888) 777-6779 to reserve a hotel room! Room rates are \$160 (includes resort fee of \$10) with free parking for overnight guests. Guests calling in can ask for a garden view room which is the same rate as a traditional room.

PA JAKES Raffle

40 guns for \$20.00, drawing will be from the 7:00 pm Big Four drawing like in past years. Each ticket has 4 chances to win that day. Tickets are here and will be passed out at Sunday's meeting. Other who could not attend were giving a form to mail in to request ticket be sent to there chapter. Jim Panaro will be handling the tickets and returned money and stubs this year. Ken Fernburg will be passing tickets out at Sunday's meeting to the chapter in attendance.

40 Guns!!!! Only \$20 / Ticket !!!!

- 1-Nov Browning BLR Walnut 7mm-08
- 2-Nov Remington 11-87 Sportsmen 12 Gauge 3 Inch
- 3-Nov Thompson Center Omega .50 Cal Muzzleloader
- 4-Nov Weatherby Vanguard Blue Barrel Synthetic .300 WSM
- 5-Nov Benelli Nova Camo 12 Gauge 3 ½ Inch
- 6-Nov Smith & Wesson M&P 40 S&W Cal. Semi Auto
- 7-Nov Browning BPS Walnut 12 Gauge 3 Inch
- 8-Nov Ruger Hawkeye Walnut Blued Barrel 25-06 Cal
- 9-Nov CZ 453 American Walnut w/ set trigger.17 Cal
- 10-Nov Remington 700 SPS Black Synthetic .243 Cal
- 11-Nov Remington 870 Rifled Barrel Deer Gun 12 Gauge
- 12-Nov Stoeger Walnut Side by Side 20 Gauge

- 13-Nov Weatherby Vanguard Blue Barrel Synthetic 30-06
- 14-Nov Henry Golden Boy Walnut .17 Cal
- 15-Nov Browning BPS Walnut 12 Gauge 3 Inch
- 16-Nov Thompson Center Omega .50 Cal. Muzzleloader
- 17-Nov Remington 11-87 Sportsmen 12 gauge 3 Inch
- 18-Nov Ruger Hawkeye Walnut Blue Barrel 270 Cal
- 19-Nov Benelli Nova Synthetic 12 Gauge 3 ½ Inch
- 20-Nov Remington 700 SPS Synthetic .308 Win
- 21-Nov Remington 870 Rifled Barrel Deer Gun 12 Gauge
- 22-Nov Smith & Wesson M&P S&W 40 Cal
- 23-Nov Henry Golden Boy Walnut .17 Cal
- 24-Nov Weatherby Vanguard Blue Barrel Synthetic 300 WSM
- 25-Nov Benelli Nova Camo 12 Gauge 3 1/2 Inch
- 26-Nov CZ American Walnut .223 with set trigger
- 27-Nov Thompson Center Omega .50 Cal Muzzleloader
- 28-Nov Remington 700 SPS Synthetic .243 Cal
- 29-Nov Stoeger Walnut Side by Side 20 Gauge
- 30-Nov Weatherby Vanguard Deluxe Walnut .257 Wby Mag Cal
- 1-Dec Remington 7600 Black Synthetic 30/06 Cal
- 2-Dec Browning BPS Walnut 12 Gauge 3 Inch
- 3-Dec Ruger 77 Compact Walnut .308 Cal
- 4-Dec Thompson Center Firestorm .50 Cal. Flintlock
- 5-Dec Benelli Nova Camo 12 Gauge 3 ½ Inch
- 6-Dec Remington 870 Super Mag
- 7-Dec Weatherby Vanguard Blue Barrel Synthetic 300 WSM
- 8-Dec Remington 11-87 Sportsmen 12 gauge 3 Inch
- 9-Dec Thompson Center Omega .50 Cal. Muzzleloader
- 10-Dec Browning X-Bolt Walnut 300 WSM
- Make checks payable to PA Chapter, NWTF Guns subject to availability.
- Winning #'s based on Pennsylvania Lottery Big 4 Number (7:00 PM Drawing) four numbers per ticket. Winners will be notified by mail or phone.
- Winners must pass background check to receive gun. Winners failing the background check will be given credit at Bob's A&N equal to the cost of the gun. Cost of background check to be paid by gun winner.
- Ticket stub and payment must be received by Jim Panaro 224 Buck Road, Ebensburg PA 15931 by 10-31-08
 Tickets received after 10-31-08 or not returned by 10-31-08, will not be eligible to win.
 - Guns are available at Bob's Army & Navy, 229 Market St., Clearfield, PA 16830

Rendezvous will be held on Saturday Jan. 10, 2009 at the Ramada Inn in State College. Meal prices will be the same and large turnout is anticipated. 5 Tickets will be sent to each chapter President, 1 of them will be complimentary. Bob Eriksen will do a seminar. Ken Fernburg is also setting up a photography Seminar. Joe Drolet mentioned that Bob Schmid was interested in doing another seminar this year on the value of food plots.

Ray Smith:

Phil Ferrare:

- There are 90 people expected for the Tyrone Sportsmen's Club, 60 for shooting.
- Food will be served at 4:00.

• 105 is the anticipated attendance for the Leadership Meeting on Sunday. 46 Chapters should be represented.

Tammy Mowry:



August 2, 2008 Pennsylvania Board Meeting

Tammy Mowry National Coordinator

I apologize for not being at this meeting, but I'm with the Muncy Creek Chapter today for their Women in the Outdoors Event.

National Women in the Outdoors Event: Learn, Laugh and Lighten Up is the theme of what promises to be one of the most exciting outdoor get-togethers we'll have.

There are about 33 different classes to choose from. The instructors will be top notch. We'll have 2 days of hands-on activities, pro staff instructors, guest speakers, music, vendors and a few auctions!

Medalist Sports Performance Apparel will be with us and will be involved in our Lumber Jack/Jill Show. Mike Sullivan who is a professional Lumber Jack will join us, as well as our own staff member, Emily Albright who was Lumber Jill in Alaska.

Laurie Lee Dovey will be with us to share her experiences as a woman in the outdoors. Laurie Lee is a highly awarded writer and photographer. She's written articles that have appeared in the Women in the Outdoors and Turkey Call magazines.

Steve Scruggs with Let's Get Wild will be a guest speaker.

Ellie Cork, the Director of Corporate Sales Promotion for Bass Pro will join us for the weekend also.

As of right now, 27 states and Canada are represented and approximately 190 participants.

Registration for the event is \$300 which covers all meals, hotel, supplies, and transportation while at the weekend.

Pre-registration is required. I've brought along registration forms if anyone is interested.

DCNR

The DCNR continues to be a big help this year with scheduling events at various state parks throughout the state. They are very eager to work with us.

Events that Are Occurring

August 1 and 2 -- Muncy Creek Chapter

Clare McWilliams (570) 323-7947, hurwitzbatteriescqm@verizon.net Nancy Craft (570) 482-4364, rockrun@dishmail.net North Mountain Sportsman Club, Muncy Valley (Sullivan County)

August 9 -- Mt. Pisgah State Park

Nicole Carman (570) 297-2734, <u>nicolecarman@yahoo.com</u>
Mt. Pisgah State Park, Troy (Bradford County)

August 9 -- Lower Bucks Longbeards Chapter

Dawn Secrest (267) 253-9002, girlshunt2@comcast.net Langhorne Rod & Gun Club, Southampton (Bucks County)

August 23 -- Bald Eagle Longbeards Chapter

Mary Probst (570) 748-3339
Western Clinton Sportsmen's Association, Hyner (Clinton County)

August 23 -- Lakefront Gobblers Chapter and Presque Isle State Park

Brandie Wade (814) 756-3669, <u>brandiewade@parapack.cm</u>
Jill Ferry (814) 734-7126, <u>jill.ferry@chromalox.com</u>
Miranda Crotsley (814) 835-4550, <u>mcrotsley@state.pa.us</u>
Presque Isle State Park, Erie (Erie County)

2008 – National Event

September 25-28, 2008

10th Anniversary Celebration
"Learn, Laugh, and Lighten Up"
NWTF Headquarters
Edgefield, SC
Contact Tammy Mowry, National Coordinator—
(724) 284-9201; tammynwtf@zoominternet,
or go to our website: www.womenintheoutdoors.org

Events will continue to be scheduled throughout the year, be sure to check back often to see what events have been added.

Bob Eriksen:

Regional Biologist Activity Report June through July 2008 Bob Eriksen, NWTF Regional Biologist

Agency Assistance

• Prepared agenda for annual PGC/PANWTF meeting

- Processed and paid 3 bills submitted by PGC regional staff for bait, equipment and supplies for the banding project
- Consulted with Penn State researchers and Ohio Division of Wildlife staff members about the possibility of Ohio withdrawing from the research project
- Provided advice and assistance regarding wild turkey harvest management, turkey nesting and diseases to biologists in Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island
- Discussed funding and arranged a meeting on improving disabled hunter access with US Forest Service staff at Allegheny National Forest

Writing Projects

- Prepared letters for New Jersey Chapter in support of funding in the FY09 budget for certain Division of Fish and Wildlife programs
- Drafted an article on the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation/NWTF Grant to improve habitat on Game Lands in southwestern Pennsylvania for "Game News"
- Prepared a letter for the New Jersey Chapter in support of improved access to state owned lands through the Yards Creek generating station in Warren County

Meetings and Presentations

- Attended the June Pennsylvania Chapter Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings
- Attended June meetings of the Delaware and New Jersey Chapters
- Met with US Fish and Wildlife Service personnel at Wallkill National Wildlife Refuge in New Jersey to plan a disabled hunter access improvement project
- Participated in a meeting of the New Jersey Outdoor Alliance
- Facilitated the annual meeting between the Pennsylvania Game Commission and the Pennsylvania State Chapter
- Attended the summer regional biologist supervisors and regional biologists meetings in Edgefield

Super Fund Activities

- Processed 22 Super Fund request forms from Pennsylvania, 7 from Maryland and 4 from New Jersey and 3 from Delaware
- Researched and prepared a summary of Pennsylvania Chapter Super Fund investment in habitat projects on state game lands between 2004 and 2008
- Prepared figures for a revision of the Pennsylvania Chapter Super Fund brochure

Special Projects

- Conducted a wild turkey habitat walking seminar at the Martins Creek PP&L facility in Northampton County, Pennsylvania
- Began planning for a cooperative landowner field day in Fairdale, Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania. The event will be a joint effort between the Wilson Moore Chapter, the Pennsylvania State Chapter and the Susquehanna Brach of QDMA
- Continued planning with New York DEC for a Thanksgiving media event involving capture and release of wild turkeys in the New York media market

Information Requests

 Handled 19 requests for information from Pennsylvania, Delaware and New Jersey on wild turkey harvest, behavior, natural history, ecology and management

Mary Jo Casalena:

NWTF Technical Committee Representatives' Report - PA Chapter NWTF Board of Directors Meeting, August 2, 2008

Submitted by: Mary Jo Casalena, Wildlife Biologist II, and Robert C. Boyd, Assistant Director, Bureau of Wildlife Management, Pennsylvania Game Commission

Harvest Management

The preliminary spring 2008 harvest, calculated from report cards, not including special spring license, was approximately 40,182 (Table 1). This is up 2% from the 2007 preliminary harvest of 39,500, 4% above the 2006 preliminary harvest of 38,483, and 6% above the previous 3-year average preliminary harvest of 37,842.

Harvest results from the 2008 special spring turkey license holders are still being collected. A reminder letter was mailed on July 1st to 1,000 of the special turkey license holders that did not return their report cards. Reporting is mandatory regardless of whether these license holders harvested a turkey. Similar to the last 2 years we will determine the harvest of nonrespondents and add it to the harvest of respondents.

Final harvest figures for spring and fall 2007 will be available for the October Board meeting.

Wild Turkey Spring Harvest Rates and Annual Survival Rates Study

Data analyses are continuing for the third year of the 4-year study. The study is progressing well, with a fairly good distribution of banding across WMUs. We appreciate the state chapter's continued financial support, which allowed us to purchase the charges for this final winter of turkey trapping.

Turkey Summer Sighting Survey

All Wildlife Conservation Officers (WCOs) currently are conducting this annual survey where they record the number of turkeys seen and miles driven in their state vehicle on a daily basis during June, July and August. Survey results provide an index to the turkey population by Wildlife Management Unit, and will be reported at the October Board meeting.

Michaux State Forest Turkey Summer Sighting Surveys

These 6 survey routes (30 miles each) also are conducted June, July and August. The June surveys yielded the third highest number of turkeys seen per mile driven during June for the 11 years the surveys have been conducted (2004 and 2007 were higher). Also, even though Bureau of Forestry staff sightings have yielded slightly below average

productivity data (poults seen per hen) during June for the 9 years we have been collecting these data, productivity is still relatively good with 4.9 poults seen per hen for June. We have 2 more months of data collection before conclusions can be made regarding the breeding season.

Table 1. PRELIMINARY Pennsylvania 2008 wild turkey harvests. First harvest are from general license sales and do not include harvests from the special turkey license, which allows harvest of a second spring turkey.

	First	Harvest
WMU	Harvest	per Square Mile
1A	2,147	1.16
1B	2,875	1.36
2A	2,177	1.20
2B	1,440	1.06
2C	2,072	0.67
2D	3,015	1.21
2E	923	0.73
2F	1,304	0.54
2G	2,604	0.63
3A	1,390	0.92
3B	2,478	1.10
3C	2,619	1.21
3D	2,213	1.01
4A	1,520	0.88
4B	1,656	1.04
4C	2,504	1.38
4D	2,027	0.74
4E	2,554	1.47
5A	537	0.41
5B	768	0.28
5C	1,219	0.56
5D	60	0.07
Unknown	80	
TOTAL	40,182	0.89

• Mary Jo reported that of the 2008 Gobblers harvested there were 165 that were banded in 2008, 60 that were banded in 2007, and 12 that were banded in 2006. The harvest was higher than expected.

• There was a discussion of the desire for a Fall Mentored Youth Turkey Hunt versus the desire to wait until after the banding study was complete before making any changes and then keeping the changes to one a year.

Committee Reports

Awards Committee - Tom Bunty

Tom indicated that the awards forms would be sent out this coming week. They will be sent out via email where possible otherwise via U.S. Mail and put on the web site.

DART Committee – Tom Bunty

Tom reported that both of the DART units have been having difficulties this year. Some of that was due to mechanical issues but most was due to improper operation and improper attempts to work on the unit.

Tom's points for users were:

- Leave the cables alone
- Do not work on the unit
- Stay away from the sun
- Do not adjust the projector
- Read assembly and setup instructions
- Bring two people to move and operate the unit.
- Call Tom if there is a problem
- Protect the Unit when transporting it.
- Set the unit up ahead of time.

Don O'Brien suggested investigating insurance for the unit. Skip Motts will look into that. Other suggestions were: a rental fee, more training, and mandatory training.

WTM Committee - Don Heckman

Wild Turkey Management Committee Special Report as part of the Committee Report for August 2008 Board meeting.

PA Chapter NWTF Supports Wild Turkey Management by Don Heckman, PA Chapter NWTF - Executive Officer Wild Turkey Management Committee Chairman

PA Chapter NWTF position statements supporting wild turkey management, turkey hunting and calling, and turkey hunter safety and ethics.

As part of the PGC Management Plan For Wild Turkeys In Pennsylvania, PA Chapter NWTF supports:

- 1) PGC "Management Plan For Wild Turkeys In Pennsylvania".
- 2) fully funded PGC "Management Plan For Wild Turkeys In Pennsylvania".
- 3) turkey hunting license/stamp for a fee.

The Pennsylvania Chapter NWTF Board of Director's supports these additional wild turkey management and turkey hunting position statements:

- 1) wild turkey management regulations and decision making based on facts, in the field, in the ground/on the ground data, as defined and outlined in the PGC Management Plan For Wild Turkeys In Pennsylvania. We support wildlife management regulations based on scientific wildlife management principles determined by PGC wildlife biologists and land managers and NWTF wild turkey biologist. [position statement on-going recommendation of Wild Turkey management Committee and PANWTF Board Directors]
- 2) purchasing the additional 2nd spring gobbler tag prior to the start of the season. [done can be removed]
- 3) delaying any additional hunting opportunities for all day adult spring gobbler hunting until 2010 when state-wide gobbler leg band research project is completed. [still under consideration on-going recommendation of Wild Turkey management Committee and PANWTF Board Directors]
- 4) continued monitoring of relevant data provided by PGC Wild Turkey Biologist's to review fall season lengths across WMU's. We support reducing season lengths or closing certain WMU's where data validates populations are declining. [wild turkey management plan objective and strategies on-going recommendation of Wild Turkey management Committee and PANWTF Board Directors]
- 5) 22 WMU's and their current boundaries for state-wide wild turkey management as outlined in the PGC Management Plan For Wild Turkeys In Pennsylvania. [on-going, would we support increasing to 28 or 32?]
- 6) PGC yearly funding of the Management Plan For Wild Turkeys In Pennsylvania. We continue to support wild turkey research to collect better data on the wild turkey resource and their habitat, and turkey hunters. [policy statement on-going recommendation of Wild Turkey management Committee and PANWTF Board Directors]
- 7) PGC Management Plan For Wild Turkeys In Pennsylvania guidelines for

- setting current dates for spring gobbler season and fall turkey hunting season. [policy statement on-going recommendation of Wild Turkey management Committee and PANWTF Board Directors]
- 8) further research on Fall turkey hunting seasons where in 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, and 2006, and 2007, turkey hunting incidents have dramatically decreased. What have turkey hunters done right these last 5-6 fall turkey hunting seasons to impact and help decrease turkey hunting incidents? [on-going -- continued support of turkey hunting safety, yes we have eliminated mandatory wearing of orange while moving in spring season -- when do we turn our attention to fall hunting season regulation and what do we say and recommend about overlapping fall hunting seasons, multiple mandatory orange regulations?]
- 9) based recommendations from the NWTF Turkey Hunter Task Force, PA Chapter NWTF supports removing mandatory spring turkey hunter orange regulation. [COMPLETED!!! Can be removed but if removed CAN NEVER BE FORGOTTEN EVER as the years turn into the next decade!!!] [17 year regulation was to high a price to pay... however remembering individual incident shooting victim trauma or death can not be left out or forgotten in the equation when it comes to NWTF Turkey Hunter Task Force evaluation, continued dialogue and improved hunter safety information, recommendations, THINK SAFETY HUNT SAFELY]
- 10) consideration to include a turkey hunting license in the PGC hunting license increase package if recommended by PGC and Legislators. We support funding the yearly budget of the PGC Management Plan For Wild Turkeys In Pennsylvania as part of the PGC Bureau of Wildlife Management budget with revenues generated from a turkey hunting license, with excess revenue dollars being available for use in the PGC General Fund. [Recommendation keeps getting lost in "what will PGC take" legislation; on-going recommendation of Wild Turkey management Committee and PANWTF Board Directors]
- 11) Mentored Youth Hunting Program, we support mentored youth being included in fall turkey hunting season regulations. [On-going recommendation of Wild Turkey Management Committee and PANWTF Board Directors]
- 12) Legislative resolution to research and study Sunday hunting, and support Legislation to allow PGC to set Sunday hunting regulations. [On-going recommendation of Wild Turkey management Committee and PANWTF Board Directors]

What new position statements will Wild Turkey Management Committee or Board of Directors add?

PA Chapter NWTF WTM Committee Report - August 2008 Board Meeting Revised March 2, 2008 - plus PGC WTMP Accomplishments

PA Chapter NWTF Wild Turkey Management Committee will be working on these issues and topics in 2008-2009

PGC and PANWTF Wild Turkey Management, Turkey Hunting Accomplishments, 1958-2008

Presented by Past WTM Committee Chairman Don Heckman [this is my last official Wild Turkey Management Committee report as a member of the PA Chapter NWTF Board of Directors after serving 33 years on the Board, my heart, soul, commitment, actions, passions, sweat, tears, hopes and dreams are embedded throughout this report.]

Wild Turkey Management changes require PGC Staff and Commissioner overview.

- 1) Support revising PGC Management Plan For Wild Turkeys In Pennsylvania final adoption February 21, 2007 by PGC Executive Staff, COMPLETE;
- 2) Support revised PGC Management Plan For Wild Turkeys In Pennsylvania, 2006-2015, operational with 47 strategies documented, measuring strategies as outlined, and the plan fully funded for 10 years;
- 3) Northeast Wild Turkey Population Model implement in wild turkey management plan PA NWTF has \$15,000 invested in development; model data and modeling results are requirements for future wild turkey management decisions:
- 4) Recommendation to extend last day of spring gobbler season to May 31 --- Commissioner's approved Memorial Day, May 26, 2008 as last day of 2008 spring gobbler season under final rule making on April 18, 2007 Commissioner meeting; Commissioner's approved Memorial Day, May 25, 2009 as last day of 2009 spring gobbler season;
- 5) Recommendation for Mentored Youth Hunting to including fall turkey hunting season in regulation;
- 6) Recommendation to expanding youth spring gobbler hunting to all day;
- 7) Recommendation to expanding youth spring gobbler to more than one day;
- 8) Recommendation to expanding regular spring gobbler season to all day hunting starting 2011, after 4 year gobbler leg band research project is

completed in 2009 and project evaluation is completed by 2010;

- 9) Continue recommendations to reduce WMU fall season lengths as management plan setting fall season guidelines are determined; 2007 recommendation WMU 2A, 2F, 2G be reduced to 2 weeks based on current field data, harvest densities information, population densities and hunter densities, as charted measurements outlined in the wild turkey management plan; to increase fall season lengths when management data supports regulation change; Commissioner's approved 2A, 2F for 2 week fall season, 2G remains 3 weeks due to social and political issues, 4D increased to 3 weeks as final rule making at April 18, 2007 Commissioner meeting; [what will Fall 2009 WMU recommendations be?]
- 10) Additional second spring gobbler regulation continue review and recommend additional changes if/as needed;
- 11) State-wide gobbler leg band research first year 2006 completed, second year 2007 completed, third year 2008 completed, fourth year for project Winter 2009; first three years of research project funding support from NWTF and PANWTF is \$145,870 from NWTF Grant In Aid and PA Chapter NWTF Hunting Heritage Super Fund for research project equipment and materials; PGC funded administrative, staff and transportation requirements, other agency project expenses; [on-going on schedule]
- 12) Four year state-wide gobbler leg band study will be completed in 2009 final project results and recommendations will be compiled by 2010; submit next wild turkey research proposal in 2008/2009 and request funding for state-wide hen telemetry study for 4 years 2010-2013. [telemetry is Wild Turkey Management Committee and PANWTF Board recommendation]

Legislation changes require Governor signature.

- 1) PGC hunting license increase legislation supporting need for PGC additional revenue, and supporting alternative funding option recommendations; [hunting license back tag and antlerless deer increase as proposed in SB 1527 will be reviewed at August Board meeting; and alternative funding bill HB 1676 has already been reviewed by PANWTF Board and approved for support, with our recommended for non game non fish species, infrastructure, spending allocations]
- 2) Turkey Hunting License continue with our position statement, articles and news release supporting need for combined spring and fall turkey hunting license, [old 2006 HB 2601]; support fully funded wild turkey management plan to complete yearly objectives and strategies; [on-going recommendation; need to get further PGC and Legislative verbal and/or written support for a legislative bill or amendment]

- 3) Turkey dogs for fall hunting season, providing support material to PA Turkey Dogs Association, SB 580 Signed Complete; [can be removed]
- 4) Support Sunday hunting as regulated by PGC [HB 904], required legislation to change Title 34 Game Law; another legislative bill HB 779 is being suggested for our support; [need to review this legislation at August Board meeting]
- 5) Do not support legislation [Title 34 Game Code] through legislative wording that changes PGC seasons and bag limits; seasons and bag limits are PGC Regulation [Title 58 Regulation Code]. [on-going policy statement]

Other PA NWTF Board Committee actions requiring PGC Staff and Commissioner Overview.

- 1) Spring gobbler season Orange regulation, recommendation to remove wording "must be worn at all times while moving", replace with hunter choice wording; agenda item for October 2, 2007 PGC Commissioner meeting; January 2008 PGC Commissioner's voted to eliminate mandatory spring season orange while moving regulation, COMPLETE; [can be removed]
- 2) Comprehensive PGC wild turkey hunter safety module NWTF Turkey Hunter Safety DVD provided to PGC HTE classes and availability to general hunting public; helping PGC reach out to 300,000+- turkey hunters with additional turkey hunter safety and ethics information and material; Turkey Hunter Safety education tri-fold pamphlet; NWTF Turkey Hunter Safety Task Force material; [on-going; NWTF, Pennsylvania edition, Turkey Hunting Success and Safety brochure has been completed prior to 2008 Spring Gobbler season; sent to all Local Chapter President's, published in Turkey Talk summer issue, added to panwtf.org web site along with PGC/PANWTF IDENTIFY YOUR TARGET poster, used for PANWTF spring turkey hunting safety news release, PGC inserted in their 2008-2009 Hunting and Trapping Digest, pages 74-75, further recommending PGC use as insert for 2009 second spring gobbler tag mailing; looking for further turkey hunter and media outreach suggestions for Fall 2008 and Spring 2009 turkey hunting seasons]
- 3) Turkey hunter safety and ethics HRSI 5 year trends are declining, work with turkey hunters and PGC to continue HRSI trending -- PGC Staff report due at June 2007 Commissioner meeting; [on-going review of HRSI information and need to be able to reach out to 300,000+- turkey hunters with safety and ethics information; PGC Hunting and Trapping digest has been an excellent source for distribution information and PANWTF continues to thank and work with PGC on these important hunting safety and ethics information and materials]
- 4) Annually review of meeting minutes from PGC Executive Staff and PA NWTF June meeting as provided by PGC Wild Turkey Biologist Mary Jo Casalena; 2008

meeting minutes have been forwarded for final review and update; copy of meeting minutes for PA NWTF Board of Directors and NWTF Staff are available; important wild turkey management criteria and decision making foundations have been accomplished since these joint partnership yearly meetings started back in the mid 1980's. [on-going meetings fully supported by PANWTF for information and support of wild turkey management and increased turkey hunting opportunities]

5) NWTF wild turkey management outreach programs - Wild Turkey Woodlands, fund HHSF Habitat, Safety Education, Land Acquisition, Habitat programs, Conservation seed programs, Project HELP, Operation Appleseed, Operation Oak, Get In The Game - Hunting Heritage Club, other budgeted HHSF Super Fund expenditures, support funding for NWTF Pennsylvania Wild Turkey Management Plan, continue with PANWTF articles and news releases to Tell The Story; [on-going with requirements in Pennsylvania to improve communications and marketing, create and use media advertising, increase grass roots turkey hunter memberships, banquet and outreach events memberships, and upper level sponsor memberships]

NWTF Pennsylvania Comprehensive Wild Turkey Management Plan.

1) NWTF Wild Turkey Management Plan - support management plan objectives and recommendations, provide for fully funded management plan criteria as directed by NWTF Wild Turkey Biologist and NWTF Conservation Programs. [Bob Eriksen will continue to provide NWTF updates, oversight, and recommendations]

As of April 18, 2008 wild turkey management and turkey hunting accomplishments in Pennsylvania since 1958:

PANWTF supports a fully funded PGC Management Plan For Wild Turkeys In Pennsylvania and partners with PGC to accomplish these 47 strategies in the revised management plan. As of April 18, 2008 these are key wild turkey management accomplishments and turkey hunting regulations made since 1958. These 46 accomplishments, current PANWTF regulation recommendations, and revised wild turkey management plan objectives and strategies will drive PA Chapter NWTF's wild turkey management and turkey hunting recommendations for future decades.

1950's - 1960's:

- 1) PGC begins full-scale wild turkey trap and transfer to expand and repopulate wild turkeys throughout Pennsylvania in suitable, but unoccupied wild turkey habitat.
- 2) PGC stopped winter-feeding of wildlife due to research results on lack of benefits.
- 3) PGC wild turkey biologists Jerry Wunz and Arnie Hayden doing several wild

turkey population, habitat, regional research projects, and PGC Game News articles on wild turkey management.

- 4) Spring gobbler season started in 1968 with one-week season. 1970's 1980's:
- 5) Spring gobbler season start date moved to later in April from management data recommendations.
- 6) Spring gobbler season is expanded to two weeks in 1972, three weeks in 1975, four weeks in 1984.
- 7) Pennsylvania State Chapter NWTF formed in June 1975 in State College.
- 8) Escalating and improving trap and transfer both in state and out-of-state in the 1970's, 1980's, 1990's.
- 9) Closing PGC game farm production of turkeys in 1980-1981.
- 10) Established turkey management areas TMA's in 1985 to effectively manage wild turkey populations at more local levels.
- 11) NWTF and PA Chapter begin state Super Fund in 1985 to support habitat management, safety and education, land acquisition, other wild turkey management requests, state and local chapter wild turkey projects.
- 12) Continued use of wild turkey in-state trap and transfer in suitable but unoccupied habitat to expand wild turkey populations.
- 13) Last regional wild turkey research project completed by Arnie Hayden in 1988, until 1999.

1990's:

- 14) Expanded or reduced fall season lengths since 1990 to manage and improve wild turkey populations due to bad recruitment, bad spring hatch, bad winters.
- 15) New mandatory PGC turkey hunting fluorescent orange regulation changes begin in 1992-1993, without PANWTF support.
- 16) Reduced mandatory PGC fluorescent orange regulation changes to today's regulations in 1995, with PANWTF support.
- 17) PGC Wild Turkey Biologists Bill Drake completes first 5-year PGC Management Plan For Wild Turkeys In Pennsylvania and is adopted in April 1999.

- 18) TMA 7B Wild Turkey Task Force started in 1996-1997 to determine dramatic decline of wild turkey population on Michaux State Forest, PGC and DCNR staff participated in task force meetings with PANWTF coordinating and facilitating wild turkey task force.
- 19) TMA 7B wild turkey hen radio telemetry research study in 1999-2001 on Michaux State Forest to determine causes of a suppressed wild turkey population, partially funded by \$82,000 contribution from PANWTF.

2000's:

- 20) PGC signed MOU with NWTF to partially fund NWTF Regional Biologist to assist the agency with all forms of wild turkey management and research.
- 21) PGC creates wild turkey web page on web site to provide accurate public information and education on wild turkey management and research in 2000.
- 22) Wild turkey in-state trap and transfer in southeast used to expand population into further suitable habitat in 2000-2003. This completed the agency's wild turkey restoration program with over 3,500 wild turkeys transferred within Pennsylvania and to 8 other states.
- 23) Closing fall turkey hunting seasons in TMA 9A [now WMU 5A] in 2001, TMA 9B [now WMU 5B] in 2003.
- 24) Record number of wild turkey in Pennsylvania in 2001, 410,000 estimated statewide wild turkey population.
- 25) Prescribed burn policy approved for use as habitat management tool on State Game Lands in 2001.
- 26) PGC completes turkey hunter survey to determine hunter attitudes, characteristics, and satisfaction in 2001.
- 27) Improving turkey hunting safety portion of PGC HTE course, adding turkey hunting safety section and questions to HTE test in 2001.
- 28) Northeastern states commissioned development of regional wild turkey population model in 2001, partially funding by \$15,000 PANWTF contribution.
- 29) Use of manmade blinds to hunt turkeys is legal, legislation signed in 2002, and regulation completed for 2003 hunting season.
- 30) PANWTF, NWTF, and other state conservation organizations oppose PGC proposed regulation to increase mandatory fluorescent orange for fall hunting seasons, proposed regulation was not adopted.

- 31) PGC permit required prior to releasing farm-pen raised turkeys, to help eliminate release of game-farm turkeys.
- 32) Wild turkey management now accomplished using 22 Wildlife Management Units starting in 2003.
- 33) Closed WMU 5A [old TMA 7B] to fall turkey hunting in 2003, recommendation from TMA 7B Wild Turkey Task Force.
- 34) Research continued on Michaux State Forest [WMU 5A] to determine turkey usage of herbaceous openings.
- 35) Established 6 Game Commission regional Wildlife Management Supervisors, to provide among other tasks, direct technical assistance to private landowners and agency staff.
- 36) Special Saturday youth spring gobbler hunting day established by regulation one week before regular spring gobbler season starts.
- 37) NWTF Wild Turkey Biologists Bob Eriksen and PGC Wild Turkey Biologist Mary Jo Casalena begin series of informational, educational articles for PGC Hunting and Trapping Digest, PGC Game News, and PANWTF Turkey Talk.
- 38) PGC Wild Turkey Biologists Mary Jo Casalena presents TMA 7B wild turkey study project research paper as part of NWTF's 9th Wild Turkey Symposia and Status in North America in December 2005.
- 39) Fall turkey hunting WMU season lengths are reduced in several WMU's between 2004 and 2007 based on wild turkey biologist's management data and fall season length guidelines due to poor reproduction.
- 40) NWTF and PA Chapter Hunting Heritage Super Fund expenditures exceed \$4,000,000 in 2006 for wild turkey projects and events in Pennsylvania.
- 41) Statewide second spring gobbler tag issued in 2006, regulations added in 2005, legislation signed in 2004; first year 2006 8,040 licenses sold.
- 42) State wide first-ever PGC gobbler leg band study started in 2006, first year completed of 4 year research study, being partially funded by NWTF and PANWTF for Pennsylvania, study will determine "wild turkey harvest rates and annual survival rates", and is being coordinated with Ohio and New York state wildlife agency studies.
- 43) Mentored Youth Hunting Program initiated in 2006 for spring gobbler,

squirrel, and groundhogs, turkey hunting starts in 2007 for spring gobbler season only.

- 44) PGC Wild Turkey Biologists Mary Jo Casalena completes revisions for updating 2006-2015 PGC Management Plan For Wild Turkeys In Pennsylvania, management plan adopted in February 2007.
- 45) Spring gobbler season length expanded to include Memorial Day 2008 based on wild turkey biologists management data and PANWTF support, PANWTF will continue recommendation for season length to be lengthened to May 31.
- 46) Spring gobbler season regulation for mandatory use of orange removed by vote of PGC Board of Commissioner's at January 29, 2008 board meeting to voluntary use of orange hunter's choice, as supported and recommended by PA Chapter NWTF Board of Director's.

Legislative Committee – Don Heckman

Legislative Committee - will be reviewed at August Board meeting.

Legislation being watched and letters/emails being written:

HR 642 - Deer Audit by 3rd party, audit being funded by General Assembly

HB 251 [HB 1862] - legalize hunting outside 150 yard perimeter around bait anywhere in commonwealth during any hunting season

HB 641 - Castle Doctrine - increased property owner protection

HB 747 - Elk license lottery; Senate amendment made to bill to remove PGC Deputy WCO's

HB 779 - legalize Sunday Hunting through Game Law Title 34 [not by Regulation Title 54]

HB 843 - extend spring gobbler season to all day

HB 904 - repeals Sunday Hunting game law to allow PGC to regulate in Title 58 Seasons and Bag limits, not General Assembly in Title 34; right now Title 34 reads no hunting on Sunday for any wildlife, small game and big game, with 3 exceptions

HB 1214 - PGC Commissioner term limit

HB 1676 - State Sales Tax revenue going to PGC and PFBC; 1/8 of 1%, with appx \$10 M going to PGC and \$5 M going to PFBC

HB 1862 [HB 251] - legalize hunting over shelled or ear corn anywhere in Pennsylvania during any hunting season

HB 2205 - Wildlife poacher(s) fines and penalties increases

HB 2364 - Interstate Wildlife Violators Compact law - add Pennsylvania to list of states

HB 2381 - PGC should be guided and support by verifiable data with equal regard for social, economic, and recreational impacts

No longer permit current and former employees or DWCO to serve on Board of Commissioners

HB 2525 - Dog law, including kennels and sporting dogs; on Version 3 in July

HB 2653 - bow definition change, legalize crossbow for all hunting seasons

SB 740 -- Spring Creek Canyon land title to Penn State University and Brenner Township rather than PGC for game lands

HB 1657

HB 2572

SB 1527 - Senate Legislative bill to increase hunting license back tag and antlerless deer tags 3 times over next 7 years.

Discussed at the Board Meeting:

- All bills not passed in August are dead and will have to be re-introduced in the next legislative session.
- HB 747 (Elk License Lottery) is virtually killed by the G. Armstrong Amendment to eliminate Deputy WCOs. We need letters (not email, letters) to go to all legislators to support HB 747 without the Armstrong Amendment which we strongly reject. Harold Daub will communicate this request to the Chapters.
- HB 2205 (Increase poacher fines) has been killed.
- The effort for PSU to get the Spring Creek Canyon property is strong and the time is critical. Letters, not email, are needed to convince representatives to reject that alternative and turn over the property to the PGC. This is an issue for hunters and non-hunters alike.
- HB 779 (Repeal non-Sunday Hunting) is supported by the Board and stands a chance of passing.
- SB 1527 (Hunting License Increase) is supported by the Board.

PFSC - Don Heckman

The Fall PFSC convention is September 5 - 7, 2008 at the Quality in Somerset Don Heckman can't attend. Perhaps Harold Daub can.

Jakes Committee - Bill Mackereth

- Bill gave Tom Bunty 300 1st Bird patches for Dennis Strawbridge.
- Youth Hunter Education Challenge (YHEC) went very well. They need and respect our \$1000 contribution.
- We also donate two framed prints as prizes.
- There were some discrepancies in the checkbook. Some due to prize money not being cashed.
- Bill was upset that he had not been mailed his copy of recent minutes. He was given a printed set of the June meeting minutes.
- Don Heckman thanked Bill for his effort.

A Motion to keep Bill Mackereth as the YHEC Representative was made seconded, and passed.

Internet Committee - Joe Drolet



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.panwtf.org E-mail: panwtfrep@panwtf.org

Internet Committee Report – August, 2008

- Set up a series of meeting pages to store agendas, minutes, and reports for the board meeting.
- Performed numerous data updates to the databases.
- Fixed the Mass Board Minutes Email capability in the Admin site.
- Added Super Fund documents to the state website.

- Formatted and added Bob Schmid's Planting article to the State website.
- Added Photos to the state website.

Discussed at the meeting:

A discussion about who should get meeting minutes and how they should receive them resulted in the following motion:

A motion was made by Don Heckman and seconded by Tom Bunty that the PA Chapter NWTF send our minutes electronically where possible otherwise via U.S. Mail. The motion passed.

Seed Committee - Dale Butler

- There are Chapters that have not paid for their seed.
- There is an issue where a farmer is supposed to have gotten inexpensive, NWTF seed for personal planting. This is being investigated by national and there are no results yet.

Promotion Committee - Shields, Huff, and Beatty

New polo-style shirts are available for ordering. The one with pockets comes in 11 colors, the one without pockets comes in 24 colors. Hugh has an order form for any Board member.

Jim Panaro requested that the Promotional Committee provide him with budget numbers.

Safety & Education Committee – Chuck Mathues

- We need to get something in the Fall Turkey Talk for safety & education
- Don asked: What are we doing with our Spring Safety Brochure.
- We would like to get more of our existing Safety Brochures printed and sent out to Chapter Presidents and included with hunting licenses and or/2nd tags.
- A discussion identified a need for about 10,000 copies which is not in the budget.
- Don Heckman, Mary Jo Casalena, and Chuck Mathues will work on a way to get them printed and distributed.

2008 - 2009 Budget - Jim Panaro

Jim discussed the budget process:

- Set the budget numbers to the 5-year average
- Adjust those number with any special requests

Jim told us that there is about a \$5000 loss issue in the budget and we need to find a way to deal with that. It could be larger than that.

There was a discussion about green-sheeting the portion of Turkey Talk devoted to Safety and Education (1/4 - 1/3 of the costs). It was agreed to look at that next year when we know more how the actuals are coming in.

Jim discussed budgeting requirements with the Promotional Committee.

Don O'Brien made a motion to accept the budget as presented. Bill Mackereth seconded and the motion was passed.

Old Business

Jon mentioned that Dave Burdge was moved to a nursing facility and we needed to come up with a way to assist the family with the costs of hospitalization. A suggestion was made to organize a raffle at Rendezvous where the proceeds would all go to the family. It was agreed to make a decision on this at the October meeting.

Jim Panaro presented the Strategic Plan:

STRATEGIC PLAN (2008)

Committee Members: Carl Mowry Gary Beatty

Tammy Mowry Hugh Shields
Gary Huff Jon Pries
Joe Drolet Jim Panaro

Don Heckman

This Strategic Plan is designed to:

- Identify opportunities and allocate resources to explore those opportunities;
- Help Chapter leadership to rationally determine where we are, where we want to go, and how and when we're going to get there;
- And to ensure the most effective use of available resources toward the attainment of the most important objectives.

MISSION STATEMENT

Conservation of the wild turkey and preservation of the hunting tradition.

GOALS

The following are the high level goals that the PANWTF needs to accomplish:

- 1. Establish personal electronic communications with every PANWTF member and each Pennsylvania turkey hunter.
- 2. Increase wild turkey populations in every WMU by at least 33%.
- 3. Increase PANWTF memberships in all categories by at least 50%.
- 4. Increase Hunting Heritage banquet attendance by at least 50%.
- 5. Increase Hunting Heritage annual spending by at least 50%.
- 6. Identify and create additional revenue sources.
- 7. Establish a non-hunter education program that identifies the value and benefits of the PANWTF.
- 8. Complete all goals and objectives of the PA NWTF Wild Turkey Management Plan.
- 9. Increase Turkey Talk content and media distributions by 50% to "Tell the Story"
- 10. Achieve zero turkey hunting related shooting incidents "Think Safety Hunt Safely"

A motion was made by Don Heckman to accept the Strategic Plan as written. It was seconded by Bill Mackereth and passed.

It was agreed that the Executive Committee would review the plan at every October meeting. This October the baseline for measuring the progress on the plan would be established.

Mary Jo initiated a discussion on point #2 asking whether we wanted to say all turkey management units. The conclusion was: yes.

There was more discussion about insurance for the DART unit. It was decided to continue with the plan to have Skip look into it and report back to the Board.

NOTE: Jim Panaro made a motion at the last meeting which read: The State Chapter should adopt a \$10 rental fee per banquet for State Chapter equipment to be voted on at the August Board meeting.

Jim made a motion to amend that motion by adding "supplied to NWTF Staff". Bill Mackereth seconded that motion and it passed.

The amended motion is: The State Chapter should adopt a \$10 rental fee per banquet for State Chapter equipment supplied to NWTF Staff. That motion carried.

New Business

Jim made a motion to have the Board move Skip Motts into an Executive Officer chair. That motion was seconded and passed.

It was decided that Tom Bunty would draft a letter for the Jon Pries to send to all Chapter Presidents explaining the \$10 rental charge. The fee will start with the first banquet in 2009.

<u>Dale Butler made a motion that the Local Chapters must pay for shipping costs for Conservation Seed COD.</u> The motion carried.

Jon Pries told the Board that he had received an invitation from Rep. Stayback to meet with him about supporting HB 779 (Repeal no-Sunday Hunting). Jon read a memo he proposed to deliver to Rep. Stayback supporting the Bill as written without amendments.

Jim Panaro and Don Heckman made a motion that the PA Chapter NWTF supports HB 779 to support Sunday hunting as written without amendments. Reed Johnson seconded and the motion carried.

Jon Pries told the Board that all the previous meeting minutes had been compiled on a CD and they were going to be scanned for motions and those motions were going to be reviewed for appropriateness.

Jon Pries asked the Board about a letter of support for George Thornton, the new CEO of the NWTF. The Board asked Jon to write that letter.

A motion was made to move that the PA State Chapter NWTTF nominate Jim Panaro for the NWTF Roger M. Latham award. The motion was seconded and carried.

Jon Pries will find the application for the Roger M. Latham award.

For the Good of the Order

Joe Drolet will stay after the meeting and help anybody who has difficulty connecting to the Board website or has questions or issues with their computer.

It was mentioned that we should be considerate and ask for Chapter Presidents' concerns at the Leadership Meeting.

The NWTF POWA membership has not been renewed. This has occurred for all state chapters.

Jon Pries asked the Board to think of some suggestions on how to add membership and also how we can raise some money for Dave Burdge's medical expenses.

Motion made for the PA NWTF State Board of Directors meeting to adjourn. Seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 1:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Drolet PA State Chapter Secretary