



PENNSYLVANIA State Chapter

Since 1975

*Dedicated to the Conservation of the Wild Turkey
and the Preservation of Our Hunting Heritage*

ATTENTION BOARD MEMBERS

The next Executive Board meeting will be held at Sam McCartney's Camp near Pleasant Gap, Pennsylvania on Saturday, March 6, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

The regular State Board of Directors meeting will be held on Sunday, March 7, 2010 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
January 10, 2010***

Director's Present: T. Bunty, D. Butler, J. Drolet, J. Groff, D. Heckman, G. Huff, R. Johnson, S. Letterman, S. McCartney, S. Motts, J. Panaro, S. Richards, K. Skrapits, J. Straley, S. Wojton, D. Zimmerman.

Director's Absent: K. Fernburg, C. Mathues

NWTF Staff Present: B. Eriksen, P. Ferrare, C. Mowry, R. Smith

Guests: G. Beatty, Mary Jo Casalena, D. Snyder.

The Board Meeting was called to order at 9:25 a.m. by Chairman of the Board, Tom Bunty.

Tom welcomed the Board members, called the meeting to order and ran through the ground rules.

Officers' Reports:

Chairman's Report:

None

President's Report:

PA STATE CHAPTER NWTF

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Jon D. Pries

January 10, 2010

OCTOBER, NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2009 –

With the exception of planning for the upcoming Rendezvous and Awards Banquet, this is generally the “slowest” quarter of our year’s activities. I attended no formal meetings or conferences as the PA State Chapter President.

There were, of course, the routine phone calls and e-mails throughout the period.

I would like to thank all of the active Committee Chairs and active committee members who helped make the task of operating an efficient and professional volunteer organization (the PA State Chapter NWTF) such a pleasure. I appreciate your help and support that you showed me throughout my term as President.

I hope that, as the new year begins, the Board will step up efforts to drive our statewide membership numbers to a much higher level. For the long-term health of our organization, this should be a top priority.

It has been a true honor to have served as your President, and I wish you much success as the PA State Chapter continues to grow and flourish throughout the years to come.

Vice- President’s Report:

None

Secretary’s Report:

- **A motion was made by Skip Motts to accept the minutes of the last meeting. Dean Zimmerman seconded and the motion carried.**

Treasurer’s Report:

PA NWTF TREASURER’S REPORT

TO: PENNSYLVANIA STATE CHAPTER NWTF

FROM: JIM PANARO

SUBJECT: REPORT FOR PERIOD OCTOBER 1, 2009 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2009

DATE: 10/4/09

Starting Balance	\$36,152.08
Income	\$49,210.14
Jakes Raffle	
\$29,760	
Chapter Membership rebate	
\$10,358	
Rendezvous preregistration	\$6,780
Local banquet rebates	\$1,736

Expenses	\$(18,620.21)
Green sheet Transfers (conservation seed, gobbler banding, habitat)	\$9,941
Fall Turkey Talk	\$6,358
ESOS Program and Booth	\$1,025
Ending Balance	\$66,742.01
Net Gain (Loss)	\$30,822.06

General Updates

FYTD 09-10 budget report and audited FY08-09 compilation report from our accountant are attached.

Jakes Raffle Income of \$30,040 versus budget of \$40,000 ... down \$8800 from last year. 1502 tickets (60%) sold and Bucky Shimp and his chapter sold 647 of them. Luckily we only had 18 out of 30 guns won for same 60% ratio on expenses. I have not received a final bill from Bob's Army-Navy yet.

Chapter membership rebate is 90% of budget and down \$1,510 from last year.

Rendezvous attendance is about 80 lower than 2009 and presale was down \$2900.

All bad news so we need to continue to carefully watch expenditures.

- **A motion was made by Joe Drolet to accept the Treasurer's Report. Don Heckman seconded and the motion carried.**

PA Chapter Budget Report:

Pennsylvania Chapter - National Wild Turkey Federation
2009-2010 Budget, and 5-year actuals

1/4/10
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Income:	FY 09-10 Budget	FY 09-10 Actuals	%	FY 08-09 Actuals	FY 07-08 Actuals	FY 06-07 Actuals	FY 05-06 Actuals	FY 04-05 Actuals	5-year average
Chapter Administration									
Interest Checking	\$100	\$43	43%	\$139	\$97	\$117	\$109	\$104	\$113
Chapter President's Meeting	\$1,600	\$160	10%	\$1,935	\$2,107	\$1,741	\$1,772		\$1,889
Dave Burdge Donations	\$-	\$-		\$3,360	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$672
Greg Caldwell Donations	\$-	\$-		\$2,305	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$461
Donations	\$50	\$-		\$1,025	\$-	\$25	\$79	\$50	\$236
Zimmerman Memorial Fund	\$-	\$-		\$-	\$-	\$1,000	\$18,817	\$100	\$3,983
Membership Services									
Chapter Membership Rebates	\$11,500	\$10,358	90%	\$11,868	\$12,666	\$12,774	\$13,348	\$14,726	\$13,076
NWTF									
Local Chapter Banquet Rebates	\$6,000	\$1,736	29%	\$5,068	\$6,537	\$7,904	\$7,827	\$7,162	\$6,899
Women in the Outdoors	\$-	\$3,712		\$726	\$107	\$-	\$3,293	\$3,223	\$1,470
Art Committee									
30'th Anniversary Print	\$-	\$-		\$-	\$133	\$114	\$481	\$656	\$277
30'th Anniversary Boxcall	\$-	\$-		\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$376	\$75
Rendezvous Patch & Pin Rebate	\$-	\$-		\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$213	\$43
Rendezvous/ Awards Banquet	\$25,000	\$6,960	28%	\$25,701	\$24,392	\$28,935	\$26,893	\$26,436	\$26,471
Promotional Items									
Promotional Items	\$1,500	\$-		\$1,116	\$530	\$1,442	\$2,221	\$5,508	\$2,163
Fundraising									
Jakes Gun Raffle	\$40,000	\$30,040	75%	\$38,852	\$15,000	\$13,500	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$19,470
Upper Gun Raffle	\$15,000	\$-		\$15,187	\$15,730	\$17,560	\$15,633	\$17,650	\$16,352
Elk Expo	\$-	\$-		\$-	\$-	\$-	\$652	\$649	\$260
Additional fundraiser	\$-	\$-		\$10,095	\$400	\$-	\$-	\$2,079	\$2,515
Chapter Miscellaneous									
Chapter Miscellaneous	\$500	\$-		\$17	\$2,060	\$1,282	\$1,290	\$200	\$970
Equipment Rental Fees	\$880	\$120	14%	\$560	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$112
Local Chapter Start-up Loans Returned	\$1,700	\$1,061	62%	\$1,900	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$800	\$600	\$1,260
Turkey Talk Publications									
Turkey Talk Advertising	\$1,305	\$-		\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
Total Income	\$105,135	\$54,191	52%	\$119,855	\$81,259	\$87,893	\$108,215	\$94,731	\$98,768

	FY 09-10 Budget	FY 09-10 Actuals	FY 08-09 Actuals	FY 07-08 Actuals	FY 06-07 Actuals	FY 05-06 Actuals	FY 04-05 Actuals
Starting Checking Account Balance	\$31,207	\$31,207	\$20,186	\$41,640	\$36,497	\$29,713	\$29,027
Plus Income	\$105,135	\$54,191	\$119,855	\$81,259	\$87,893	\$108,215	\$94,731
Gross Available Funds	\$136,342	\$85,397	\$140,041	\$122,899	\$124,390	\$137,928	\$123,758
Less Expenses	\$(105,135)	\$(9,094)	\$(114,036)	\$(105,284)	\$(85,574)	\$(107,282)	\$(89,576)
Green Sheet Transfers In	\$-	\$992	\$36,946	\$27,421	\$30,967	\$30,414	\$5,459
Green Sheet Transfers Out	\$-	\$(10,554)	\$(31,969)	\$(24,851)	\$(28,144)	\$(24,563)	\$(5,562)
Ending Checking Account Balance	<u>\$31,207</u>	<u>\$66,742</u>	<u>\$30,982</u>	<u>\$20,186</u>	<u>\$41,640</u>	<u>\$36,497</u>	<u>\$34,078</u>
Net Gain / (Loss)	\$(0)	\$35,535	\$10,796	\$(21,454)	\$5,143	\$6,784	\$5,051
Net Gain / (Loss) w/out green sheet transfers	\$(0)	\$45,096	\$5,819	\$(24,025)	\$2,319	\$933	\$5,155

Expenses	FY 09-10 Budget	FY 09-10 Actuals	%	FY 08-09 Actuals	FY 07-08 Actuals	FY 06-07 Actuals	FY 05-06 Actuals	FY 04-05 Actuals	5-year average
Chapter Administration									
Accounting	\$650	\$-		\$630	\$600	\$565	\$550	\$400	\$549
Advertising	\$-	\$-		\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
Board Meetings	\$2,500	\$107	4%	\$2,391	\$1,809	\$3,225	\$3,068	\$2,575	\$2,614
Chapter Presidents Travel	\$1,100	\$-		\$1,360	\$1,737	\$1,244	\$1,461	\$949	\$1,350
Chapter Promotions- Fees	\$-	\$-		\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
Chapter Promotions- Shows	\$500	\$1,025	205%	\$-	\$-	\$995	\$1,210	\$199	\$481
Chapter Travel	\$750	\$-		\$37	\$1,243	\$966	\$700	\$563	\$702
Insurance - Board	\$1,500	\$-		\$1,415	\$1,415	\$1,415	\$1,415	\$1,415	\$1,415
Legal Fees	\$100	\$-		\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
Local Chapter President's Meeting	\$5,700	\$223	4%	\$6,770	\$5,327	\$4,027	\$4,302	\$2,707	\$4,627
NWTF memberships	\$60	\$-		\$-	\$-	\$25	\$-	\$25	\$10
PaNWTF webpage	\$250	\$268	107%	\$209	\$76	\$1,202	\$861	\$1,769	\$823
Postage	\$500	\$-		\$567	\$380	\$464	\$605	\$587	\$520
Secretary Expense	\$200	\$-		\$-	\$118	\$775	\$770	\$675	\$468
Supplies	\$500	\$-		\$360	\$503	\$729	\$345	\$234	\$434
Supporting Member Dues	\$1,500	\$-		\$1,600	\$1,650	\$1,900	\$1,855	\$1,800	\$1,761
Telephone	\$500	\$-		\$387	\$247	\$294	\$546	\$1,057	\$506
WITO Volunteers	\$-	\$-	N/A	\$1,287	\$628	\$-	\$2,812	\$1,327	\$1,211
District Directors									
Postage	\$50	\$-		\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
Supplies	\$50	\$-		\$-	\$-	\$6	\$-	\$6	\$2
Lodging/Meals/Travel	\$900	\$185	21%	\$891	\$1,021	\$419	\$409	\$431	\$634
Telephone	\$50	\$-		\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
Public Relations Committee									
Committee Operating Expenses	\$200	\$-		\$-	\$-	\$-	\$164	\$-	\$33
PR Representative	\$1,500	\$50	3%	\$300	\$300	\$175	\$625	\$825	\$445
Local Chapter Startup Loans									
Local Chapter Startup Loans	\$-	\$-		\$-	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$3,200	\$300	\$1,180
Turkey Talk									
Editor's Fee	\$-	\$-		\$2,400	\$4,800	\$4,800	\$4,800	\$4,800	\$4,320
Printing	\$13,420	\$3,061	23%	\$11,305	\$9,200	\$7,920	\$9,205	\$9,960	\$9,518
Postage	\$11,200	\$3,297	29%	\$12,250	\$15,012	\$12,175	\$11,003	\$11,266	\$12,341
Committee Operating Expenses	\$100	\$-		\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
Legislative									
Committee Operating Expenses	\$100	\$-		\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
Legislative Programs/Travel	\$1,000	\$-		\$1,306	\$1,273	\$755	\$332	\$802	\$893
Promotion Items									
Inventory Purchase	\$1,000	\$100	10%	\$497	\$2,407	\$450	\$2,820	\$6,012	\$2,437
Sales Tax	\$100	\$-		\$13	\$6	\$31	\$34	\$147	\$46
Operating Expenses	\$200	\$-		\$-	\$-	\$39	\$99	\$212	\$70
Sponsor Member Hunt									
Sponsor Member Hunt of a Lifetime	\$1,450	\$-		\$950	\$1,649	\$400	\$1,216	\$1,261	\$1,095
Art Committee									
Committee Operating Expenses	\$100	\$-		\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
30'th Anniversary Print	\$-	\$-		\$-	\$-	\$-	\$1,100	\$-	\$220
30'th Anniversary Boxcall	\$-	\$-		\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
Framing	\$1,000	\$-		\$725	\$-	\$1,462	\$1,144	\$308	\$728
Jakes / Youth									
Youth Committee Expenses	\$1,000	\$-		\$1,000	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,200
Committee Operating Expenses	\$100	\$-		\$118	\$1,065	\$1,066	\$1,000	\$1,181	\$886
Jakes Hunt of a Lifetime	\$600	\$-		\$475	\$600	\$583	\$500	\$459	\$523
Rendezvous									
Awards	\$2,500	\$-		\$2,395	\$3,219	\$1,884	\$2,566	\$2,713	\$2,555
Calling Contest	\$-	\$-		\$-	\$-	\$2,100	\$4,558	\$2,650	\$1,862
Miscellaneous	\$1,500	\$104	7%	\$852	\$1,256	\$1,488	\$828	\$1,467	\$1,178
Room Rental	\$300	\$-		\$265	\$265	\$265	\$338	\$337	\$294
Meals	\$7,500	\$-		\$7,267	\$6,750	\$6,561	\$5,326	\$5,684	\$6,317
Speaker Fees	\$-	\$-		\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
Core Package	\$7,000	\$-		\$8,502	\$6,722	\$7,095	\$5,619	\$5,336	\$6,655
Fund Raising									
Jakes Gun Raffle	\$25,000	\$654	3%	\$22,974	\$354	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$4,666
Upper Level Gun Raffle	\$8,800	\$-		\$8,583	\$9,374	\$9,281	\$9,559	\$8,991	\$9,158
Elk Expo	\$-	\$-		\$-	\$-	\$-	\$535	\$733	\$254
Additional Fundraiser	\$-	\$-		\$9,800	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$852	\$2,130
Donations and Contributions									
NWTF Chapter Donations	\$500	\$-		\$-	\$1,006	\$350	\$3,665	\$3,809	\$1,766
Zimmerman Memorial Fund	\$705	\$-		\$-	\$3,208	\$3,526	\$12,477	\$-	\$3,842
Dave Burdge Medical Fund	\$-	\$-		\$3,360	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$672
Other Operating Expenses									
DART System Expense	\$500	\$-		\$542	\$473	\$336	\$73	\$252	\$335
Equipment Repairs	\$300	\$21		\$253	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$51
Chapter Miscellaneous	\$100	\$-		\$-	\$15,891	\$881	\$1,090	\$-	\$3,572
Total Expenses	\$105,135	\$9,094	9%	\$114,036	\$105,284	\$85,574	\$107,282	\$89,576	\$100,350

Hunting Heritage Budget Report:

2009 Hunting Heritage Fund Budget

			Budget	YTD Actual 12/31/2009	Forecasted Remaining	YTD plus Forecast	Budget versus Forecast
Starting Balance in Hunting Heritage Superfund Reserve:			\$98,918			\$98,918	\$98,918
Actual Income from 2009 Banquets: 88 Chapters			\$255,452	\$218,854	\$0	\$218,854	-\$36,597
				\$2,363	\$1,500		
2009 #	5-Star 2009 Expenses projected for:	88 Chapters					
65	Jakes Days	\$500 each	\$32,500	\$25,750	\$0	\$25,750	-\$6,750
25	WITO Events	\$250 each	\$6,250	\$3,750	\$0	\$3,750	-\$2,500
0	National WITO Event attendees (1x)	\$300 each	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
1	State WITO Event	\$800 each	\$800	\$800	\$0	\$800	\$0
10	Wheelin' Events	\$250 each	\$2,500	\$2,250	\$0	\$2,250	-\$250
40	Scholarships	\$250 each	\$22,000	\$7,250	\$0	\$7,250	-\$14,750
1	PA Scholarship		\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$0
88	School Boxes	\$63 each	\$5,544	\$2,950	\$0	\$2,950	-\$2,594
Local Chapter 5-Star Expenses:			\$70,594	\$43,750	\$0	\$43,750	-\$26,844
PA Chapter Budgeted Program Expenses for 2009:							
Congressional Sportsmen Foundation			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
HHSFR - 2009 Super Fund Reserve Allocation			\$20,000	\$0	\$19,327	\$19,327	-\$673
US Sportsmen's Alliance			\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000
Chapter Membership Rebate			\$0	\$10,358	\$0	\$10,358	\$10,358
4-H Shooting Sports			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
NWTF Biologist			\$20,000	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000	-\$10,000
Ned Smith Fund			\$2,500	\$2,500	\$0	\$2,500	\$0
PGC Trap & Band			\$8,000	\$8,000	\$0	\$8,000	\$0
PGC Hunting Digest Ad			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Conservation Seed			\$500	\$2,687	\$0	\$2,687	\$2,187
Seed Subsidy			\$5,000	\$4,158	\$0	\$4,158	-\$843
Hunting Heritage			\$0	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000	\$2,000
PA Chapter Expenses:			\$56,000	\$40,703	\$19,327	\$60,030	\$4,030
Total Expenses:			\$126,594	\$84,453	\$19,327	\$103,780	-\$22,814
Total Available for 2009 Super Fund Projects:			\$108,858	\$134,402	-\$19,327	\$115,075	\$6,217
Allocation for Habitat Projects 77%			\$83,858	\$83,685	\$0	\$83,685	-\$173
Allocation for Safety & Education 9%			\$10,000	\$9,390	\$0	\$9,390	-\$610
Allocation for Advertising & Communications 5%			\$5,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	-\$5,000
Allocation for Land Acquisition 9%			\$10,000	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000	-\$8,000
Total			100% \$108,858	\$95,075	\$0	\$95,075	-\$13,783
Ending Balance in Hunting Heritage Superfund Reserve:			\$118,918			\$118,918	\$0

2009 Direct Donations = \$15,000 2008 Direct Donations = \$15,970 2007 Direct Donations = \$20,004.00 2006 Direct Donations = \$3,248.00

NWTF Reports

Phil Ferrare:

- Talked about the National Convention. Jeff Foxworthy will be there.
- Jim Panaro requested that a notice be placed in the fall Turkey Talk that if you want to sit with the PA delegation at the National Convention you need to reserve by December.

Carl Mowry:

**January 7, 2010 Board Report
Carl Mowry
Regional Director**

We have been meeting with our chapters for the upcoming banquet season and we are looking forward to a great 2010 banquet season. I want to thank everyone for helping out at the meetings and supporting your local chapters.

Once again in the 2010 banquet season we will have our semi finalist drawings for the JAKES and Sponsors.

Also something new for the banquets we will have a Women in the Outdoors hunt drawing. We will sell chances at each ladies raffle table for the hunt.

All the winners will be drawn next January at the 2011 Awards Banquet.

The 2011 JAKES Hunt of a Lifetime will be sponsored by the Tuscarora Longbeards Chapter in Franklin Co. Shawn Mowen and Dan Akers have agreed to hold the hunt for the chapter. Also LONG-VU Rentals will donate a cabin for the weekend, Robbie Rohm of Rohm Bros. Calls and Putt Rohm from D&A Private Label will donate the turkey calls. The Keystone Country Store will also donate camo clothing for the hunt again next yr.

The 2011 Sponsor Hunt will take place in WY for a Merriam's Turkey Hunt. The hunt includes a 3 day semi-guided turkey hunt with meals, lodging, airfare (to a major airport) in the field transportation and hunting license.

The 2011 WITO Hunt will take place in WY for a Merriam's hunt. Hunt includes a 3 day turkey hunt with meals and lodging. Airport pick up, a Free Turkey Mount (hunt does not include airfare, hunting license)

PA MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS AS OF THIS WEEK ARE AT:

REGULAR – 6343
SPONSOR – 940
LIFE – 359
WITO – 1790
WHEELIN – 401
JAKES – 4857
HUNTING HERITAGE – 1132

Total Membership = 15822

Ray Smith:

Pa State Board Meeting
January 8 – 10th

Where does one begin? As most of you know or should know the NWTF and the staff have gone through and continue to go through many changes. Changes that need to happen to survive. 2009 was a very tough year for many. In light of the many changes the NWTF managed to make money for the first time in 3 years as several around us closed their doors and many others including some in Pa Struggle to survive. This positive cash flow did not happen without great sacrifices. Below I will outline several areas of change and activity.

1. Effective immediately all outreach events will require all attendees to be members. This includes Jakes, WITO and Wheelin events. This will affect several of the youth field days we provide funding.
 2. Pennsylvania has been chosen to pilot a new outreach rebate program. In the past outreach fundraising events have been given a 15% rebate. This fiscal year these events will receive 25% to the local chapter, 5% State Chapter, 20% outreach fund, 50% National. Based on Net after memberships and expenses.
 3. Starting 2009 all youth memberships will be \$10
 4. Project TOM is in full swing. The way we have done things in the past is getting a major facelift. Currently we are operating on a server out of Edgefield that allows us real-time activity. The changes will allow us to grow with our membership base. Initially much help from all of you and our will yield many great benefits and a much easier way to do business. Regional Directors have been working night and day learning an entire new way we are doing business. In the very near future TOM will allow us to do the several action items listed. On line ticket Sales, Real-time banquet reporting, local chapter member info, past banquet history and much more. All banquet reporting will be completed by computer.
 5. All chapters are required to send a signature card to Edgefield for all bank accounts.
 6. All chapters must provide a committee list to Edgefield prior to banquet reporting. Only those listed will receive gifts and benefits.
 7. You will notice this year we have had a change in chapter awards. This is due to LA Dixon numbers not being available. The Pa Staff have established a new group of awards titled The "Jerry Zimmerman Chapter Achievement awards" I am sure many chapters will be pleased in the opportunity for them to be in the playing field.
 8. Priscilla Page Garvin has resigned from the NWTF. Several Chapters have been realigned and will be absorbed between Carl, Phil and myself. As soon as the Rd's are able to breath we will provide the updated list to the board
 9. I want to take this time to thank the staff of Pennsylvania including Bob for the great undertaken they have been asked to perform. We are very short staffed on the East Coast. On top of the many changes we have been given the responsibility of overseeing chapters and banquets in many of the eastern states. We have the best team in the country working in our own backyard. Please take the time to thank them.
- **Jim Panaro, Bob Eriksen, Ray Smith, Joe Drolet, and Tom Bunty will be getting together for a discussion of the Special Outreach Fund.**

Bob Eriksen:

**Regional Biologist Report
Bob Eriksen, NWTF Regional Biologist
October 1, 2009- January 3, 2010**

Meetings and Presentations

- Presented a session on the work wildlife biologists do at the 100th Anniversary Jamboree of the Patriot's Path Council of the Boy Scouts of America in New Jersey

- Attended a meeting of the NWTF regional staff in western New York, a meeting of Directors of Field Operations and Directors of Conservation Operations in Edgefield and the NWTF Winter Field Staff meeting in Edgefield
- Attended the October meeting of the Pennsylvania State Chapter Board, the December meeting of the Delaware Chapter Board and the January meeting of the New Jersey Chapter Board
- Presented a “Wild Turkeys 101” power point at a meeting of the Jersey Shore (PA) Watershed Association
- Traveled to Massachusetts to attend a retirement dinner for Jim Cardoza, a wild turkey biologist with 40 years of service and present him with a gift from NWTF
- Participated in a meeting on Stewardship Contracts and Agreements on Allegheny National Forest in Warren, PA
- Traveled to New Hampshire to meet with NH Department of Fish and Game staff to discuss objectives and goals for the new regional biologist hired in September
- Prepared a power point presentation on wild turkey oddities for the Pennsylvania Chapter 2010 Rendezvous

Writing

- Prepared two articles for the Maryland Chapter newsletter
- Wrote an article on early successional habitat needs for American Woodcock for “Turkey Country”
- Prepared three articles for the winter edition of “Pennsylvania Turkey Talk”
- Prepared one article for the “New Jersey Gobbler” the state chapter newsletter
- Completed a synopsis for each state chapter wild turkey strategic plan within the North American Wild Turkey Management Plan
- Prepared answers for questions on fall turkey hunting for the NWTF on-line chat for October (49 questions)
- Drafted spring season forecasts for Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia
- Prepared the October northeast region report for the NWTF Board of Directors

Grants and Cooperative Agreements

- A new cooperative agreement was prepared and is being processed for renewal of the long-standing support of the regional biologist position by the Pennsylvania Game Commission
- Funds were transferred to NWTF in fulfillment of two grants from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development. One grant was acquired by the Honey Hole Longbeards Chapter in Luzerne County and the other was provided by the Department to the Mon Valley and Peters Creek Trail Chapters in Allegheny County. The grants will fund habitat work and outreach events in 2009 and 2010.
- Prepared an application for a South Mountain Mini-grant to cover rodent bait station placement and assisted with the preparation of a second application to help cover the cost of habitat management projects on Michaux State Forest
- Provided materials on the NWTF Corporate Certification Program to officials at Waste Management Inc. in Philadelphia and Conoco-Phillips Petroleum in Linden, New Jersey
- Provided Energy for Wildlife information to Cabot Gas and Oil in Pittsburgh

Agency Assistance

- Provided remote cameras and designed placement recommendations for a New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife investigation of reports of vineyard damage by wild turkeys
- Provided input and suggestions on transmitter and harness design for a major study of wild turkey hen survival and fall harvest rates slated to begin in January in Pennsylvania
- Provided two “hands on” training sessions on turkey capture, rocket-netting safety, transmitter attachment and baiting techniques for University of Delaware graduate students and Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife personnel involved in a study wild turkey hen survival and nesting ecology getting underway this month
- Completed work with PGC Wild Turkey Research Project Leader Mary Jo Casalena on updating a white paper on increasing recreational opportunity for turkey hunters

Media Contacts

- Participated in two interviews on wild turkeys and Thanksgiving with writers from the Philadelphia Examiner (PA) and Wilmington News Journal (DE)
- Attended the presentation of two mechanical decoys to the Game Commission by the Honey Hole Longbeards Chapter (PA)
- Spent a day with five television stations camera crews monitoring a wild turkey hen at a Turnpike toll plaza in Jersey City, New Jersey and assisted NJ Fish and Wildlife personnel with the capture of the wayward bird

Tenth National Wild Turkey Symposium

- Served on the abstract review committee for the symposium, reviewing 30 abstracts for inclusion in the symposium
- Prepared an abstract on a five year study of cause-specific mortality among wild turkey gobblers in New Jersey

Access

- Prepared letters in support of allowing turkey hunting on Cape May National Wildlife Refuge in New Jersey for the state chapter, local chapters and my own signature

Habitat Projects

- Oversaw the annual brush-hogging operation on the Thunder Mountain habitat project on the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area in New Jersey

Super Fund

- Hunting Heritage Super Fund request forms were processed from Pennsylvania (3), Delaware (0), Maryland (0) and New Jersey (1).

Information Requests

- Seventeen requests for information on wild turkey behavior, ecology, habitat management, fall hunting and the 2009 hatch were handled and information provided.

Don Heckman asked if the Glatfelter plot had been turned over to the DCNR. The answer was not known.

Mary Jo Casalena:

NWTF Technical Committee Representatives' Report - PA Chapter NWTF

Board of Directors Meeting, January 10, 2010

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

Harvest Management

Preliminary fall 2009 turkey harvest estimates are not available because our Bureau of Automated Services has not yet entered harvest report cards that were mailed due to backlog of work for the new PA Automated Licensing System (PALS).

In cooperation with Bob Eriksen, we updated the white paper from 2003 that described additional spring turkey hunting opportunities. Since 2003 four additional hunting opportunities have been added: a statewide youth-only hunt the Saturday prior to the regular season opening (began 2004); special turkey license (began 2006), the purchase of which permits harvesting a second spring turkey; Mentored Youth Hunt, which includes spring turkey season (began 2006); and season length extended one day to Memorial Day (began 2008). The youth-only season has been very popular accounting for 7 – 8 percent of the total spring harvest (approximately 2,500 – 3,300 turkeys harvested by youth) each year. Some of this harvest may be additional, while other youth may have harvested turkeys during the regular season even without the youth season. The Mentored Youth Hunting Program also has been popular with an average spring gobbler harvest of 3,300 each year, approximately 8 percent of the spring harvest. The Memorial Day closing has accounted for 2 percent of the total statewide harvest, demonstrating that hunters are using the extra day even at the end of the season. Beginning this license year hunters may purchase the special turkey license (enabling them to harvest a second spring turkey) from any license vendor or on-line, until the spring season begins. On average, from 2006 – 2009, almost 4 percent of hunters purchased the license, averaging 8,758 licenses per year, with an average harvest of 1,747, approximately 4 – 5 percent of the spring harvest.

The white paper provides the biological aspects of six main options for additional spring turkey hunting opportunities so that informed decision-making can occur and is being reviewed by the Bureau of Wildlife Management Director. We also are awaiting final results of the gobbler harvest rate study before finalizing recommendations. Copies of the final product will be distributed to the PANWTF Board as well as posted on the agency's website.

PRELIMINARY 2009 Turkey Hunting-Related Shooting Incidents (Reports attached)

Preliminary results for spring 2009 turkey HRSIs have been revised from 6 with one fatal down to 5 non fatal incidents. The fatality was determined to not be hunting related. All 5 were inflicted by others; 3 of which victims were in the line of fire, and 2 where victims were shot for game. These 5 incidents are down from 8 non fatal incidents in 2008, but the same number as spring 2007.

Preliminary results for fall 2009 turkey HRSIs are 3 non fatal incidents, all of whom were shot for game. One incident each in Cambria, Clearfield and Luzerne Counties. This is up from 2 incidents during fall 2008 and one in 2007 which was the lowest number of incidents ever recorded. The previous record low was 2 incidents in both 2003 and 2005 (4 incidents in 2006).

Hen Turkey Survival and Harvest Rate Study

Federal funding (Pittman-Robertson fund) is in place for this four-year (2010 – 2013) research study, in cooperation with the PCFWRC at Penn State (Dr. Diefenbach).

Study objectives are to estimate hen wild turkey harvest rates and determine the effect of changing fall season length on harvest rates of hen wild turkeys (see Executive Summary handout). Fall harvest is believed to influence the number of hens that survive to reproduce the following spring. Therefore, changing fall season length is the basis upon which turkey populations are managed and gaining a better understanding of this relationship will enable us to more confidently manage turkey populations. The two study areas are: 1) WMUs that have shown to be sensitive to 3-week seasons, WMUs 2C, 2E, 4A, 4B & 4D; and 2) WMUs that traditionally have had 3-week seasons but have lower spring harvest densities than the state average, WMUs 2F & 2G.

Equipment has been purchased and trapping begins the week of January 11. We are in the process of submitting a proposal to NWTf for their Grant-in-Aid Research grants to augment our current funding. We look forward to PANWTF's partnership in this study in any manner possible, whether it is financial or volunteer assistance.

Hen turkeys will be captured during January–March and August–September (2010–2013) and fitted with a reward leg band. A sample of the hens trapped during the winter also will be fitted with radio-transmitters. Hens with radio-transmitters will allow us to estimate how many birds survive to the fall hunting season. The harvest of reward-banded and transmitted birds will allow us to estimate the proportion of birds that are harvested — the harvest rate for hen turkeys. After 2 years we propose to change season length using a cross-over design — increase the season length in Study Area 1 by one week (from 2 weeks to 3 weeks) and simultaneously decrease it by the same amount in Study Area 2 (from 3 weeks to 2 weeks). This will allow us to detect differences in harvest rates within study areas as well as any differences in the pattern of change between study areas, while eliminating the effect of confounding factors (e.g., weather conditions, food availability, etc.) that influence harvest rates. Shortening the season by one week in Study Area 2 may be unpopular with some hunters. However, we carefully considered the alternatives and a cross-over design provides the best chance of detecting and measuring the effect of changing fall season length. For management decisions, it is important to know by how much harvest rate changes when we lengthen or shorten the season. If we shorten a season to allow the population to recover, knowing how much harvest rate is reduced will reduce uncertainty in how quickly a population will increase. Because we will obtain harvest rate estimates we will be able to immediately assess the effect of the lengthened and shortened seasons rather than having to rely on three-year trend in population indicators. With this knowledge the agency will be able to better justify turkey management decisions to sportsmen and sportswomen.

Wild Turkey Season Recommendations

The Bureau of Wildlife Management is recommending the following changes to the fall 2010 turkey seasons:

- 1) WMU 2F – To facilitate the hen harvest and survival rate study, the design calls for a 3-week season for 2010 and 2011, and then a 2-week season for 2012 and 2013. This initial increased fall season length also will address the Region request to increase the season in WMU 2F to provide more recreational activities to camp owners in this WMU.
- 2) WMU 4D - To facilitate the hen harvest and survival rate study, the design calls for a decreased season in WMU 4D from 3 weeks to two weeks for 2010 and 2011, and then increase to a 3-week season for 2012 and 2013. This WMU has shown patterns of adverse effects from 3-week seasons and this research study is

- being conducted to address this issue and determine if changing season length has the desired affect on harvest rates.
- 3) WMU 5A – Research in WMU 5A suggests that closing the fall season does help restore suppressed wild turkey populations. The fall season in WMU 5A has been closed for seven years and has now improved enough to recommend opening the season in 2010. Our population trend surveys suggest that the population has stabilized and can withstand a conservative fall harvest, which is consistent with the management plan to recommend opening a fall turkey season that has been closed when population indices indicate no population growth after 5 years. We recommend a conservative, three-day, mid-week (Tuesday –Thursday) fall turkey season for three years beginning 2010, while continuing to monitor population indices to determine how well the population can withstand the harvest. If, after the three-year period a more liberal season framework can be supported, then add extra days and/or change the days to include Friday and/or Saturday. Conversely, if the population consistently trends downward then close the fall season after three years.
 - 4) WMU 5C and 5D - The fall seasons in these WMUs were shortened to 4 days in 2009 due to concerns of decreasing population trends, and although we usually monitor the change for 3 years before making additional recommendations, population indices suggest these populations have declined substantially since 2001-2005. Although the spring harvest density trend is increasing slightly in WMU 5C, we anticipate spring harvests to begin declining in 2010 due to the declining trend in summer sightings. These WMUs warrant additional protection of closing the fall either-sex turkey season.

The Bureau of Wildlife Management will recommend the following spring 2011 turkey season recommendation: standardize the closing date of the spring turkey season to May 31.

Wild Turkey Spring Harvest Rates and Annual Survival Rates Study

The PCFWRC at Penn State is continuing data analysis and we should be able to provide a final report to NWTF within the next month, as well as submit the research findings to the *Journal of Wildlife Management*. Research results will be used in the regional turkey population model, our structured decision-making system for fall turkey season recommendations, as well as by other state wildlife agencies to assist with their turkey population management.

WMU 5A Wild Turkey Task Force

This task force, formed in 1997, is comprised of staff from PGC, DCNR-BOF, NWTF, PANWTF and Local NWTF Chapters NWTF. During the Task Force annual meeting last October members reviewed status of the WMU 5A turkey population and turkey/habitat management strategies and agreed with the recommendation to open a conservative, three-day, fall turkey season, which is justified via the criteria specified in the PGC's Turkey Management Plan. Grants were unsuccessfully sought for habitat improvements and for rodenticide bait stations on area orchards. Other funding sources will be sought, such as the PANWTF habitat superfund.

2008 Pennsylvania Turkey Hunter Survey

Completion of a final report has been delayed due to the lack of a biometrician. However, we are finalizing a manuscript for the peer-reviewed *Proceedings of the 2010*

National Wild Turkey Symposium and will present the results to the PGC Board in early 2010.

Update on Implementation Schedule of Turkey Management Plan for Pennsylvania, 2006-2015

The third year's implementation of the 10-year wild turkey management plan was again successful. Two strategies have been completed (Appendix 1). Of the remaining 45, 27 strategies are on schedule (21 ongoing, 6 in progress), 4 are delayed until full implementation of the PALS, 4 are in progress behind schedule (beyond personnel time commitments), 4 are future strategies, 4 are low priorities and beyond personnel time commitments and 2 were postponed (one until biometrician is hired and one until completion of gobbler study). Partnerships (monetary and personnel) become more important each year to assist with accomplishing the plan on schedule and we appreciate the support from PANWTF and NWTF. The Plan is important for our programmatic budget approach.

- Congratulations to the Game Commission for finding the funds to do the Hen Study.
- Mary Jo reported that \$6235 was needed for straw for the studies.
- Jim Panaro made a motion that we do not fund the Hen Harvest Rate Study for \$20,000 in 2010 based on notification that the PGC will do the funding. Don Heckman seconded and the motion carried.
- Hay bale finding will be done by the PGC.
- Congratulation again to the PGC for following scientific evidence in setting turkey seasons.
- Don Heckman reported that the PGC has a new website and the information for PA NWTF and NWTF is out of date.

Committee Reports

- Tom Bunty indicated that he wants to hear from every committee chairperson at every meeting.
- Dale Butler will redo committee staffing by March
- This report represents to new committee staffing (J. Drolet)
- Dale needs individual feedback on committee preferences by the end of January.

Art – J. Groff /G. Huff:

- The Art Committee has a goal for 2010 to ensure that all #1 prints are sent to Edgefield to be displayed on loan from PA NWTF in the Pennsylvania Room at Edgefield.

Awards – T. Bunty:

Jan 2010 Awards Committee Report

Awards Committee just finished up with this year's Rendezvous work.

Also, worked on WCO and Land Manager of the year awards. WCO we selected is Travis Anderson and LM is Jonathan Zuck.

In February when the Super fund proposals are worked on , the Committee will go over the Scholarships and determine the winner.

Tom Bunty

- February 14th is the Awards Scholarship meeting at Hawbaker's
- Joe Drolet should create a 2010 calendar.
- Ray Smith suggested that the Board should create some new awards.

By-Laws – R. Johnson:

- The By-Laws Committee has a goal to review the by-laws and bring any recommendations for amendment to the March meeting. Particular attention should be made to the use of email in lieu of postal mail.

Conservation Seed – R. Johnson/S. McCartney:

Conservation seed report

There has been 3 truckloads of seed ordered this year, Bob Erikson had filed the green sheet with national and also placed the order for :

Corn-1 truckload of to be delivered to:

Bierly's Garage 585 N. Pennsylvania Ave., Centre Hall ,PA .,16828- Contact : Sam McCartney

Sorghum -1/2 truckload to be delivered to:

Evansburg State Park, 851 Mayhill Road, Collegetown, PA., 19426- Contact: Mike Vile

Alfalfa- 1truckload to be delivered to:

PA Game Commission Maintenance Building, 480 Garard's Ford Road, Waynesburg, PA, 15370

The last total orders were updated November 25, 2009 are as follows:

560 bags of Corn,
586 bags of Sorghum
219 bags Alfalfa

- Thanks from the committee to Bob Eriksen
- 2 ½ truckloads have been ordered
- An email will be sent out when the seed is available to all chapters identifying when and where to pick up the seed.

Dart – T. Bunty/J. Drolet:

Jan 2010 Dart Committee Report

Dart systems have been pretty quiet these last couple months.

Shows start happening again in Feb.

I have the East system at my house and ESOS is currently the first event scheduled.

Tom Bunty

DCNR/PA Wilds – J. Drolet/D. Heckman:

- Don Heckman reported that we need to meet with DCNR every 2 years.
- This activity needs to be a committee

Drilling Reclamation – D. Butler:

- Cabot has been contacted

Habitat – R. Johnson/S. McCartney:

- The annual Habitat Meeting will be held on Feb. 14 at Hawbaker's
- All Green Sheets should go to the RD's who will distribute copies to the President, Mary Jo, and Bob Eriksen.

Internet – J. Drolet K. Skrapits

- Joe Drolet will conduct training on the Board website before the next meeting.

Jakes – K. Fernburg:

- The Jakes Committee has a goal to sell all the Jakes Guns by June 1st.
- Local Chapters may not Green Sheet purchasing these guns.

Land Acquisition – D. Heckman:

None

Legislative – D. Heckman:

PA Chapter NWTF Legislative Committee Report

Legislative Bills – January 10, 2010 – for PA Chapter NWTF Board consideration

PA Legislative Bill Locator -- <http://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/home/session.cfm>

Title 34 Game Code – 29 bills / Title 18 and 42 Firearms Code – 38 bills / Title 30 Fish & Boat – 11 bills / Environmental – 40 bills

PA General Assembly 2009-2010 legislative session. These firearms and game and wildlife code bills will be monitored from House and Senate Game and Fisheries and Judicial Committees. Underline bills are specific to PA Chapter NWTF consideration.

HB 40 – Title 18 – Castle Doctrine; referred to Judiciary, Jan 26. Judicial Committee meeting held on November 19, 2009.

HB 92 – Title 34 – PGC POS transferable license, tag, stamp transaction fee to buyer. Signed in House, July 14, 2009, Signed in Senate, July 15, 2009, Presented to the Governor, July 15, 2009, **Approved by the Governor, July 17, 2009.**
PANWTF DOES SUPPORT

HB 97 – Title 34 – Increased poaching fines and penalties, in game and wildlife protection act, for unlawful taking or possession of game or wildlife, and many more provisions. Referred to Game and Fisheries Committee, Jan 28, reported as amended, June 2 [[amendments supported by PGC, PFSC, Conservation orgs]], first consideration, June 2; re-committed to Rules June 2; re-reported to as committed, June 16; re-committed to Appropriations June 16; re-reported as committed, June 23; second consideration, June 23 [[NRA sponsored supported amendments

were reported too late]]; third consideration June 24; House vote 194-0 to re-commit; re-committed to Game and Fisheries June 24; See House Journal for remarks; voted out of Game and Fisheries Committee, printer number 1976, past printer number 89, July 9. Legislative bill has been reintroduced as HB 1859, July 14, 2009.

PANWTF DOES SUPPORT, as amended current printer number 1976

HB 180 – Title 34 – A minimum of 10% of the previous fiscal year's revenues from timber harvesting on commission land shall be used solely for the purpose of forest regeneration activities; referred to Game and Fisheries Committee, Feb. 2.

HB 181 – Title 34 – Further providing for powers and duties of enforcement officers relating to searches and for resisting or interfering with an officer; recommitted to Appropriations; second consideration with amendments, May 12, 2009. On final passage in the House 192-0 on June 1, 2009; bill sent to Senate, referred to Senate Game and Fisheries Committee, June 4.

HB 184 – Title 34 – Hunting groundhogs on Sunday; referred to Game and Fisheries Committee

SB 211 – – Amends the Local Option Small Games of Chance Act further providing for definitions; increases individual prize limits from \$500 to \$1,000; increases weekly limit from \$5,000 to \$20,000; authorizes progressive games with a maximum cash value of \$5,000; allows a licensed eligible organization to sell the raffle tickets of another licensed eligible organization; allows more than one organization to use the same location; increases license fee for an organization from \$100 to \$500; increases license fee for limited occasion licenses from \$10 to \$30 and changes the license renewal from annually to biannually; requires an annual financial report limited to the operation of games of chance detailing gross profit and background check in the application process.

Referred to Finance, Feb. 19; Reported as amended, April 1; First consideration April 1; Re-referred to Appropriations, April 28, 2009. Re-reported as amended Sept. 23, 2009; Second Consideration, Sept. 24, 2009; Laid on the table, Oct. 5, 2009.

PANWTF DOES SUPPORT

HB 239 – Title 34 – Safety zone as defined for and when applied to properly licensed furtakers trapping within a permanent watercourse and using traps submerged in water, or making use of any special permit issued in accordance with this title or commission regulations, the area within 50 yards around any occupied dwelling house, residence or other building or camp occupied by human beings, and other provisions; Re-committed to Appropriations, March 10, 2009

HB 262 – Title 34 – Prescribed Burning Practices Act encourages the continued use of prescribed burning for fuel reduction, ecological, forest, wildlife and grassland management purposes, and other provisions. Signed in House, July 13, 2009; Signed in Senate, July 14, 2009; Presented to the Governor, July 14, 2009; **Approved by the Governor, July 14, 2009**; Act No. 17

PANWTF DOES SUPPORT

HB 281 – Title 34 – PGC MYH exemption for transferable license between mentor to youth hunter. Passed the House 192-0 on April 22; Referred to Senate Game and Fisheries April 24; first consideration April 29, re-referred to Appropriations Committee May 4. Senate amendment for only 1 doe transfer tag to youth hunter per year; Senate amendment for Falconry change to lower age limit from 16 down to 12, and fee increase from \$25 up to \$50.

Third consideration and final passage, April 22, 2009 ([192-0](#)); Remarks see House Journal Page [634-635](#), June 22, 2009. Referred to Senate Game and Fisheries, April 24, 2009; Reported as committed, April 29, 2009; First Consideration, April 29, 2009. Re-referred to Appropriations, May 4, 2009.

PANWTF DOES SUPPORT

HB 375 – Title 18 – Firearms registration; referred to Judiciary Committee

HB 419 – Title 34 and 30 – Joint Resolution proposing an amendment to the PA Constitution stating that the right to hunt, fish and harvest game would forever be preserved, subject to state

restrictions. Referred to House Game and Fisheries Committee June 17, 2009; reported as committed June 17; first consideration June 17; re-committed to Rules June 17. Re-reported as committed, [Sept. 10, 2009](#); Laid on the table, Sept. 10, 2009; Removed from table, Sept. 11, 2009; Re-committed to [APPROPRIATIONS](#), Sept. 11, 2009.

PANWTF DOES SUPPORT

HB 460 – Title 34 – allow PGC to remove regulation for hunting license back tag requirement from the back of hunters; referred to Game and Fisheries Committee, Feb 13, 2009. Reported as committed, [Dec. 16, 2009](#); First consideration, Dec. 16, 2009; Laid on the table, Dec. 16, 2009; Removed from table, Dec. 17, 2009; Re-committed to [APPROPRIATIONS](#), Dec. 17, 2009.

HB 470 – Title 42 – All legal fees incurred by the Pennsylvania Game Commission for legal actions initiated by the Pennsylvania Game Commission and legal actions brought against the commission are to be paid from the PGC Game Fund and not from the Commonwealth's General Fund, referred to Game and Fisheries Committee, Feb 18, 2009.

HB 474 – Title 34 – Commissioner nomination can not be current or former employees or deputy conservation officers of PGC, referred to Game and Fisheries Committee, Feb 18, 2009.

SB 490 – – Divert almost \$175 million of state conservation funding held in the Oil & Gas Lease Fund to other state general fund purposes; re-referred to Appropriations March 18; third consideration and final Senate passage March 25, vote 33-17; In the House referred to Environmental Resources and Energy on March 26, 2009.

SB 535 – Title 34 – Mentored Adult Hunting; further providing for license requirements, exempting mentored adult hunting programs; re-referred to Appropriations Committee on May 4, 2009. Third consideration and final passage, Sept. 14, 2009 ([49-0](#)); (Remarks see Senate Journal Page), Sept. 15, 2009. In the House, Referred to [GAME AND FISHERIES](#), Sept. 16, 2009.

HB 578 – Title 34 - Defining "wildlife management unit"; & further providing for more resident license and fee exemptions. Referred to [GAME AND FISHERIES](#), Feb. 23, 2009.

HB 623 – Title – Oil & gas leases royalties - special fund for conservation, recreation, dams & flood control. Referred to [ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY](#), Feb. 26, 2009.

SB 740 – Title 34 – PGC hunting license fee increase; referred to Senate Game and Fisheries Committee, April 3, 2009.
PANWTF DOES SUPPORT

SB 842 – Title 18 and 42 – Castle Doctrine – Further providing for the definition of "dwelling" to include attached porch, deck or patio; providing a definition for "residence" and "vehicle"; providing an actor is presumed to have a reasonable belief that deadly force is immediately necessary to protect himself against death, serious bodily injury, kidnapping or sexual intercourse compelled by force or threat if both of the following exist: 1) the person against whom the protective force was used was in the process of unlawfully and forcefully entering, or had unlawfully and forcefully entered, a dwelling, residence or occupied vehicle; or the person against whom the protective force was used had unlawfully and forcefully removed or was attempting to unlawfully and forcefully remove another against that other's will from the dwelling, residence or occupied vehicle and 2) The actor knew or had reason to believe that an unlawful and forceful entry or act was occurring or had occurred. Referred to Judiciary Committee, May 5, 2009.

SB 843 – Title 18 – Further providing for cruelty to animals by adding that the use of live animals or fowl for targets at trap shoot or block shoot is prohibited. The bill provides for penalties and definitions. (Bans pigeon shoots) Referred to Judiciary Committee, May 5, 2009.

SB 862 – Title xx – Act authorizing certain Centre County lands to be conveyed. [[862 seeks to transfer the out parcels - not the 1100 acres Penn state is trying to heist from sportsmen with](#)]

inside deal]; Reported to State Government Committee, May 11, 2009; reported as committed June 9, 2009; first consideration June 9; second consideration June 15; third consideration and final passage, June 16, 2009 (50-0). In the House referred to State Government Committee, June 17. Third consideration, with amendments, [Aug. 4, 2009](#); Final passage, Aug. 4, 2009 ([198-0](#)); (Remarks see House Journal Page), Aug. 4, 2009. In the Senate, Senate concurred in House amendments, Aug. 11, 2009 ([47-0](#)); Signed in Senate, Aug. 11, 2009; Signed in House, Aug. 11, 2009; Presented to the Governor, Aug. 11, 2009; **Approved by the Governor, Aug. 11, 2009.**

HB 1158 – Title 34 – Spring Creek Canyon land acquisition to PGC and PFBC; referred to State Government Committee, March 31, 2009.

HB 1293 – title – Firearms Registration Act requires all firearms in PA to be registered. No person may possess, harbor, have under the person's control, transfer, offer for sale, sell, deliver or accept any firearm which is unregistrable. Referred to House Judiciary Committee, April 20, 2009.

HB 1294 – Title 34 – increases spring gobbler season length from sunrise to 5 pm each day. Referred to Game and Fisheries Committee April 20, 2009
PANWTF DOES NOT SUPPORT

HB 1325 – Title 34 – Authorizing Sunday Hunting on commercial regulated hunting grounds holding a valid permit. Referred to House Game and Fisheries Committee, April 22, 2009.

HB 1489 – Title – Severance Tax on Marcellus Shale gas exploration and drilling; reported to Environmental Resources and Energy, June 23, 2009; reported as amended June 23; first consideration June 23; re committed to Rules June 23. Re-committed to [APPROPRIATIONS](#), Sept. 11, 2009; Re-reported as committed, [Sept. 30, 2009](#); Re-committed to [ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY](#), Nov. 10, 2009.

HB 1531 – State Budget – several revenue generating line items added to PA State Budget legislative proposals including amendment for Marcellus Shale Drilling Severance Tax; pass House floor vote 103-98, Oct. 2, 2009. Will go over to Senate for consideration. Signed in Senate, Oct. 8, 2009; Presented to Governor, Oct. 8, 2009; **Approved by the Governor, Oct. 9, 2009.**

HB 1545 – Title 18 – Imposing a 1% tax on each sale of a firearm. The tax receipts shall be deposited into a newly created Violence Reduction Fund. The Pennsylvania State Police shall use the fund to assist local police forces with programs to reduce violence. The money in the fund shall be continually appropriated into the fund and not lapse at the end of any fiscal year. Referred to Finance Committee, May 29, 2009.

HB 1590 – Title 18 – Adding that persons convicted of an offense under section 6106(a)(1) (relating to firearms not to be carried without a license) or section 6108(a) (relating to carrying firearms on public streets or public property in certain cities) are not to possess, use, manufacture, control, sell or transfer firearms. Additionally, the limitations on carrying a firearm in cities of the first class (Philadelphia) are extended to cities of the second class (Pittsburgh). The bill adds a penalty. Referred to Judiciary Committee June 2, 2009.

HB 1620 – Title 34 – Allowing bow hunting on Sundays. Referred to Game and Fisheries Committee, June 5, 2009.

HB 1832 – Title 42 – Authorizing Commonwealth to join the Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact. Referred to Game and Fisheries Committee, July 6, 2009.

HB 1859 – Title 34 – Amend poaching fines and penalties in game and wildlife protection for unlawful taking or possession of game or wildlife, and many more provisions; Referred to Game and Fisheries Committee, July 14, 2009. This is a new bill encompassing old HB 97 and amendments agreed to by Committee vote on July 9; these are the watered down, lesser wording penalties and fines amendments; passed out of Committee on July 14 by unanimous vote; reported as committed on July 15; First consideration July 15, re-committed to Rules on July 15; re-committed to Appropriations, July 16, 2009; re-reported as committed, July 20; Second consideration, July 20; Third consideration and final passage, July 21, (196-3); bill sent to the Senate, July 21, 2009. Referred to [GAME AND FISHERIES](#), July 23, 2009.
PANWTF DOES SUPPORT

HB 1859 – Title 34 – Amends poaching fines and penalties. Third and final passage, July 21, 2009, (196-3); bill sent to Senate, July 21, 2009. In the Senate referred to Game and Fisheries Committee on July 23, 2009.

HB 1904 – Title 18 – Act providing for a sales tax holiday on certain firearms, ammunition and hunting supplies; and imposing a penalty. Referred to Finance Committee, Aug. 13, 2009.

SB 905 – Title 72 – Amends Title 72 re natural gas extraction tax with all tax revenue being used in the state budget. Referred to Finance Committee, June 4, 2009.

Membership – J. Groff/S. Wojton:

None

Nominating – T. Bunty/D. Butler:

None

PFSC – D. Heckman:

Pennsylvania Federation Sportsmen's Clubs Report
Don Heckman, PA Chapter NWTF Delegate to PFSC
For PA Chapter NWTF Board meeting, January 10, 2010

Al Smith, PFSC Executive Director, has assumed all organization leadership roles in his new position. Al can be contacted if there are any PFSC questions at al@pfsc.org or through PFSC office phone, 717-232-3480. PFSC web site is www.pfsc.org

PFSC has a new Legislative Liaison, Jeff Souders, he can be contacted at jeff@pfsc.org or through the PFSC office phone, 717-232-3480. Jeff is also the Membership and Sportsmen's Club/Conservation Organization's coordinator.

Legislative bills have been updated and will be posted on Legislative Committee site link.

PA Chapter NWTF did not participate in this years PFSC "On Target" January-February 2010 Hunter Trapping Education issue.

PFSC Board meeting on January 16, 2010 in State College, as part of my report to the Board will be the Wild Turkey Management Committee recommendations and organization changes.

PFSC Spring Convention is March 18-21, 2010 in Harrisburg, PA. PANWTF reports for PFSC Board meeting, Game and Trapping Committee, and Delegates voting session will be presented.

2010 issues PFSC will be working:

PGC Hunting License Increase legislation.

Stable Alternative Funding for PGC, PF&BC, and DCNR.

Marcellus Shale Extraction Severance Tax.

Increased Fines and Penalties for Wildlife Violators.

Participation in the Wildlife Violators Compact.

Continued protection of our 2nd Amendment Rights, supporting Castle Doctrine legislation being signed; accountability for the mayors and city councils that are breaking Commonwealth law by enacting illegal firearm ordinances.

Increase PFSC revenue incentives to operate the day to day business of the Federation, while reducing expenses throughout the organization.

Increasing PFSC revenues to support local and state-wide events and programs, and legislative issues and events on Capitol Hill.

Increase PFSC individual membership dues, sportsmen's clubs and state-wide conservation organization membership dues.

Increase PFSC outreach and education programs.

Work to bring sportsmen and women groups together in a more cohesive working relationship to protect our Outdoor, Hunting and Trapping, and Fishing and Boating Heritage for current and future generations.

- **Don Heckman made a motion that the PA Chapter pays our renewal dues to PGSC for \$1,500. Jim Panaro seconded and the motion carried**

Promotion – G. Huff

None

PR/Adv/Comm – S. Richards/K. Skrapits

Pub./Turkey Talk – K. Skrapits/J. Straley :

Turkey Talk Committee Report
January 2010 Board of Directors Meeting

Happy New Year!!!

Pennsylvania Members should be receiving their Winter Issue of TT in the mail this week. Terrific job once again by Trina. This is our first issue with advertising. We had one ad for this issue (PA artist George Lavanish). Trina has received some feedback from Tribune Direct's Advertising Department regarding the advertising costs being priced a bit high. Trina will be meeting with the Advertising Department to discuss revised fees and will report back to the TT Committee. One interesting note, I was recently reading a publication industry report that stated that advertising dropped 26% in 2009. This is definitely related to the economy and hopefully this turns around. The TT committee will review any revised advertising prices and forward any recommendation onto the board. Please note that the Spring TT deadline is 3/10/10.

Rendezvous – D. Butler:

- There will be a presentation for the Chapter Presidents at the August Leadership meeting on the schedule and how to help with Rendezvous
- Thanks VERY much to Sam McCartney and his buddies who brought over the Rendezvous prizes Friday night so they were available early Saturday morning for setup

Safety & Education – D. Heckman/S. Motts:

- The Committee is working on a spending plan based on the 2010 budget.

Shows – S. Motts:

- Roscoe Sportsmen's Show opportunity will be sent to the local chapter
- ESOS needs help, especially running the DART machine. Contact Randy Rakers

Strategic Plan – D. Heckman

None

Upper Gun Raffle – J. Panaro/J. Straley:

None

Wheelin' Sportsmen – J. Groff:

- The Jerry Zimmerman Chapter could use letters of support for the Wheelin Hunt they are trying to set up.

Wild Turkey Management – D. Heckman:

PANWTF WTM Committee recommendations to PANWTF Board for January 23, 2010 Commissioner meeting comments letter:

Opening statement on PANWTF supporting sound scientific wildlife management principles, PGC Management Plan For Wild Turkeys In Pennsylvania, and our partnership program for habitat management on state game lands.

Recognition and thank you to PGC in these restricted economic times for funding Hen Harvest Research Study within the timeframe provided in the wild turkey management plan and research project plan.

May 31 spring gobbler season end date to permanently standardize the closing of the season, unless May 31 falls on a Sunday, then May 30 would be season end date that year. ((that is, until Sunday hunting is signed by the Governor giving regulation authority and powers to PGC for setting seasons))

Encourage PGC to begin the proposed annual gobbler season hunter survey to obtain spring season harvest data in a more timely and factual manner.

WMU 5A for 2010 fall turkey hunting season, 3 day fall turkey hunt, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday of the first week.

(not sure if there are any other WMU's that need to be included at this time for fall season length review)

After Governor Rendell signs HB 281 legislation, recommendation for Mentored Youth Hunting to included in fall turkey hunting season. ((recommended regulation wording for fall turkey hunting: a Mentored Youth Hunter could harvest a single fall turkey in a single season if and only if accompanied by a Mentor who possesses an unused tag which would be surrendered to the Mentored Youth immediately after a bird is harvested))

Behind the scenes and not to be included in the PA Chapter NWTf public recommendations and comments, request PGC to complete 2008 Turkey Hunter Survey final results with additional notes and findings and release the survey document for public knowledge. When will survey results be available to PA Chapter NWTf?

Also from the current WTM Committee Report there are a couple other recommendations could be included but these above are priorities for 2010-2012, unless other legislation is signed by the Governor that would prompt quicker recommendations and action planning.

- Cooperators emails/letters will go out in February and there will be a notice in the next Turkey Talk
- The annual Board recommendation to the PGC will be prepared by Bob Eriksen, reviewed by the WTM Committee, approved by the Board, and presented to the PGC by Dale Butler.

WITO – K. Skrapits:

PA STATE CHAPTER

Women in the Outdoors Program Report – January, 2010

Below is an email I received from Teresa Carroll from Edgefield. These new incentives will be taking place with our PA Women in the Outdoor Events.

Ray will go in more depth at our Board Meeting on Sunday.

- Trina

Pennsylvania is one of 11 test states where we are returning larger income splits to the local chapters. It will help increase chapter funds allowing local chapters to receive an additional 10% back from profitable outreach events, as well as to provide an incentive for more and better events.

With these test states, 20% of the event profit will also be deposited in their state Outreach Fund. There, it will be accessible just as the Super fund is now, except that it will only be available to fund Outreach events and activities, rather than the full spectrum of expenditures covered by the Super Fund.

Regards,
Teresa Carroll

National Wild Turkey Federation
Women in the Outdoors Program Coordinator
770 Augusta Rd., P.O. Box 530
Edgefield, SC 29832
(803) 637-3106 ext. 7551

YHEC – D. Zimmerman:

January, 2010 YHEC Report

I emailed Charlie Fox to get the meeting dates for the 2010 season. Although I have not heard from him, it is my understanding that he will be at our banquet on Saturday.

Dingo

- Scotia Range is hosting the PA State Competition on June 19th.
- The national competition is in Mansfield

Communications

None

Old Business

None

New Business

- There is an opportunity to partner with the new NWTF, Sentry Program. Neither Ray nor Bob are familiar with the program but will investigate.
- Everyone is urged to update their email groups with all the changes in the Board and Executive Committee.

For the Good of the Order

- There should be a Press Release on the reaching the \$5 million mark.

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

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Drolet
PA State Chapter Secretary