



October 4, 2008
Pennsylvania Board Meeting

Tammy Mowry

PA Women in the Outdoors

The event season has come to a close in the state, but plans are in the works to get the events scheduled for 2009.

Changes in PA

As you may know, we've made some changes to the way events will be handled in the future.

With the new management at Headquarters, George Thornton wants all field staff members to be well rounded in the regions they cover. All Women's Regional Coordinators have been integrated and they are now Regional Directors.

Here in Pennsylvania, we have a staff member, Priscilla Page-Garvin who will be assisting with 2 events in the southeast corner of the state as well as working with the local chapters in Pennsylvania and Maryland.

Carl Mowry, Ray Smith and Phil Ferrare will assist with 2 events in their local areas also.

I will continue with the majority of the events, but will also be involved with numerous banquets in the region.

National Women in the Outdoors Event Full of Surprises for More Than 300 Women

The National Wild Turkey Federation's three-day event celebrating the NWTF's 10-year anniversary of its Women in the Outdoors outreach program proved to be full of surprises for more than 300 women in attendance.

Women from across the country as well as Canada gathered at the Wild Turkey Center in Edgefield, S.C., Sept. 25 to Sept. 28, 2008, to Learn, Laugh and Lighten Up - the theme of this year's national event.

Unexpectedly, participants received a special message from Alaskan Gov. Sarah Palin during the event's opening festivities. NWTF CEO George Thornton, read a letter from Palin, an avid hunter, angler and outdoorswoman, addressing the women who attended the event.

The women in attendance also enjoyed a surprise appearance and speech by the NWTF's newly-named spokeswoman, Brenda Valentine. Known as the outdoor industry's "First Lady of Hunting™," Valentine made her debut as the NWTF's official spokeswoman Friday, Sept. 26. Valentine's wide-ranging talents include that of an accomplished author, photographer,

videographer and radio personality, and she is the first female inducted into the Legends of the Outdoors Hall of Fame.

Valentine makes regular appearances on the new "Bass Pro Shops' King of Bucks" program on Outdoor Channel, and is also a host of the "Bass Pro Shops' Real Hunting" show that airs weekly on the Versus Network. As spokeswoman, Valentine will make appearances on the NWTF's television shows and contribute to the NWTF's Women In The Outdoors magazine.

"I am honored and excited to have been invited to serve as the first official spokeswoman for the NWTF," said Valentine. "I have been a friend and supporter of the NWTF for many years and am now looking forward to a more active role in helping all staff and members to further enhance the future of the wild turkey and our hunting heritage."

In addition to hearing from Palin and Valentine, who have brought positive attention to the outdoor industry, participants were treated to speeches by the NWTF's second woman president, Peggy Anne Vallery and acclaimed author, photographer and speaker, Laurie Lee Dovey.

Participants also had opportunities to enjoy more than 30 hands-on classes including fly fishing, kayaking, camping, Dutch oven cooking, outdoor photography, archery, shotgunning, ATV safety, turkey calling and much more in a beginner-friendly, stress-free environment.