

# *Pennsylvania State Fox & Coyote Hunters inc.*

Website: [www.pafoxhunters.com](http://www.pafoxhunters.com)

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## Fall Newsletter – September 2018



### Rare Historic Horse at Family Day

The horses that were present at the annual family day are specially trained fox hunting horses owned by members Sally Jellison and John Dugan. Sally Jellison was riding "Heathcliff" (Canadian Sport Horse) and Felicia Metzger was on "Lord Murphy" (Canadian Sport Horse.) But the real equine star of the day was "Bluebelle" (registered name Blueberry FC 622) ridden by her 13 year old owner, Charlene Dugan.

Bluebelle is a living piece of American history. She is a foundation mare of the Florida Cracker Horse breed whose DNA can be traced back to the first Spanish horses that arrived in 1521 with Ponce De Leon. In addition, she spent most of her life undomesticated running wild with a Florida herd being protected and preserved by the

Ayers Cattle Company estate. She was "caught," trained and adopted by Patti Long, an advocate of the preservation of heritage breeds.

Bluebelle came to our family as a most precious gift. Due to her increasingly debilitating allergies she suffered from in Florida, Bluebelle needed to move to the northeast for the sake of her health. So she was gifted to my daughter. We are so honored to be trusted with this amazing horse and we are pleased to announce that her respiratory allergies are not only improved but gone. We hope to adopt another Heritage horse this summer... "Thomas" her son. Maybe you will get a chance to meet him at the next family day.

*(Submitted by Sally Jellison)*

### **From the President's Pen...**

The last three months of 2018 has proven to be a busy time for the PA State Fox & Coyote Hunter's Assn. Our Family Day Picnic was held on June 23rd. We participated in an extremely informative and productive Sporting Dog Owners meeting with the PA Game Commission on July 31st. On July 21st, we conducted seminars at Chip Sorber's QDMA Youth Camp with over 80 youngsters in attendance. See the full reports on these events below.

### **Pennsylvania State Fox & Coyote Hunter's Assn. Host Family Day Picnic**

Molyneaux's Training Enclosure, Endicott, New York, was the site for Pennsylvania State's Fourteenth Annual Family Day Picnic. 130 members and guests were on hand to enjoy summer picnic fare while running 32 hounds.

A variety of competitions and training classes also comprised the day's activities.

The traditional horn-blowing contests were won by Caden Jennings and Kristen Vaughn, with Noah Frantz and Adele Vaughn taking second honors. Joey and Marilyn Ross finished third among all the kids who were sporty enough for the difficult challenge.

Many youngsters (and adults) were very attentive during a highly informative "Elk Hunting in Pennsylvania" class presented by Director Chip Sorber.

Director Jim Rogers presented detailed instruction during a children's handling class which was followed by the bench show. Director Ron Cole acted as bench judge. An intense judging period resulted in the following winners, listed in order of bench placement:

Spencer Gardner showing Dot, Tucker Vaughan showing Hershel, Dustin Dixon showing Sassy, Joey Ross showing Homer, Kristen Davis showing Dawn, Caden Jennings showing Striker, Adele Vaughan showing Kipp, River Gardner showing Gonzo, Noah Waltz showing Thorn and Kohl Clark showing Moon.

2018 State Champion Coyote Hunter Jack Sorber was on hand to receive his trophy for first place in the Association's Coyote Tournament. Jack was easily declared the 2018 PA State Champion with a 51.5 pound coyote.

This year your association increased the number of \$500.00 scholarships to be awarded to the children or grandchildren of members. Our winners were Anna Altmiller (U of Scranton), David L. Coole (Ringling College of Arts & Design – Florida), Cayle Spencer (King's College) and Gaberille Kishbaugh (Lockhaven U). Congratulations and Best Wishes as you continue your studies.

Our baking contest saw the number of entries increase three-fold, making it extremely difficult for the lucky judges to reach a decision. After serious deliberation all

three first- place categories were swept by the Sullivan County, NY duo, Linda Covart (Four Berry Pie and Oatmeal Cookies) and Rose Allison (Chocolate Cherry Cake).

The puppy raffle was won by Steve Gardner with Paul Stone being declared winner of the Cabela's 100 quart cooler. Special thanks are in order to Ontario's Jeff Whan, New York's John Nielson and Fred Bennett, and Josh Cragle who each provided beautiful puppies and Wade Gray and Ron Davis for transporting and housing the puppies for the organization.

Special thanks for donated auction items are accorded to Sally Davis (hand crafted quilt), Bill Doney's Thunder Valley Pet Pantry (dog food) and Kevin and Tammy Van Camp (Wood crafted candle sticks and kitchen items).

We are also grateful for the burgers donated by Wade & Carol Gray and Ron & Sally Davis. Also for the popular rice pudding donated by Mike Brown, owner of "Down Home Rice Pudding".

The highlight of the day was the appearance of three magnificent horses, brought to us by Members Sally Jellison and her husband and daughter John and Charlene Dugan of the Windy Hollow Hunt.

Sally provided an overview of the mounted hunt scenario and the plans for The Windy Hollow Hunt in Muncy, Pennsylvania. She also provided fascinating information about these horses (see article above).

#### **Special Thanks to Our Cooks and Helpers.**

A lot of hard work goes into the running of an event like our Family Day Picnic. Special thanks to Ron Davis and grandson Tucker Vaughan, Jerry Ross, and Shaun Spencer, for doing the heavy lifting setting up the pavilion at 6:00 am; Grill Masters Ron Cole, Ron Davis, Don Bednarczyk and Mitch Wasczak; Food line managers Dave Hall and Jerry Ross; Baking Contest coordinator Amy Carr; ticket, membership and mdse. managers Pat, Tim, and Marty Carr, Toni Cisowski, Mercy Ross and Mike and Carol Jaskulski. Without such willing, dependable volunteers, managing such an event would be a major struggle.

#### **Scholarship Winners Drawn!**

History was made at the Family Day Picnic when Anna Altmiller, Cayle Spencer, Gaberille Kishbaugh and David Coole saw their applications drawn at random, for our fourth annual scholarship program. There were eleven eligible applicants this year. This past spring we announced that we would increase the number of winners to four applicants.

Anna Altmiller is the daughter of Dave Altmiller. She is a student at the University of Scranton.

Cayle Spencer, enrolled at King's College, is the granddaughter of Don Spencer.

David Coole is the grandson of Bill Coole and studies at the Ringling College of Art and Design – Florida.

Gaberille Kishbaugh is the daughter of Brad Kishbaugh. She is enrolled at Lockhaven University.

Congratulations and best wishes to Cayle, Anna, David and Gaberille!

### **Baking Contest a Big Hit!**

As a result of suggestions from a few members, this year's Family Day featured a baking contest for the third time in our recent history. The first place results were:

Cakes: Rose Allison  
Cookies: Linda Covart  
Pies: Linda Covart

We are grateful to Amy Carr who provided the necessary "Woman's Touch" and coordinated the event and to all entrants who donated their hard work and talent to the contest.

### **Overview – Sporting Dog Owners Meeting, July 31st, 2018**

Members of the Pennsylvania State Fox and Coyote Hunter's Assn., PA Nite Hunters, PA Beagle Gundog Assn. and other beagle clubs took part in what turned out to be a characteristically productive meeting on Tuesday, July 31st.

Spokesmen for this partnership of hound organizations were Bruce Knopsnider (President - PA Nite Hunters); Jim Katchko (President- PA Beagle Gundog Assn.); John Gibble (President – Elizabethtown Beagle Club); and Dick Bednarczyk.

Our thanks to all members who took the time to travel to Harrisburg and participate and to Jim Katchko and John Gibble of the beagler's and Bruce Knopsnider of the PA Nite Hunters for their ongoing partnership with us in these efforts.

Also to Chad Eyler, Chief, Special Permits Enforcement Division; Randy Shoup, Director, Bureau of Wildlife Protection; Tom Grohol, Deputy Director of Administration; and Dr. Matt Lovallo, Section Supervisor, Game Management – Mammals, PA Game Commission, who hosted and supported this annual event.

Discussions centered on HB 1603, HB 2502, (see articles below), potential Bobcat and Fisher hunting scenarios and access to selected SGL roads after the big game seasons.

### **Legislative Monitoring – HB 1603: Trespassing While Hunting**

HB 1603 proposes to increase current penalties for trespassing while hunting, including revocation of your hunting license for a second offense within a seven year period. While we understand the importance of protecting property rights, we are hopeful that this bill will be amended to allow for hound retrieval situations, especially in those cases where the landowner cannot be reached or identified in order to seek permission.

Last Action – Removed from table – June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

### **Legislative Monitoring – HB 2503: Transporting Dogs**

§ 5538.1. *Transporting dogs in external section of vehicle.*

(a) *Offense defined.--It shall be prohibited to carry or cause or allow to be carried a dog on the hood, roof, truck bed or any other external section of a vehicle on a public road in this Commonwealth.*

Needless to say, this bill, as proposed, clearly fits the definition of absurdity!! It must be construed as another covert attempt to insert an anti-hunting regulation into Commonwealth Statutes.

Last Action – Referred to Judiciary – June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018

**Editor's note: Members are requested to be alert to any progress on these bills and anticipate the need to voice your opposition to your legislator.**

### **Welcome New Members!**

Recruiting efforts for 2018 is expected to break all previous records! YTD, 56 hunters have joined the Association. Since our last newsletter Lindie Scorsone, Mike Peifer, Jason Maneval, Darren Lindsey, Emily, Sally and Dr. Edwin Wiley, Kohl Clark, Amanda and Jessie Kovalick, Mike and Noah Frantz, Kelsey Clemens, Dustin Dixon, Clarence Heaton, Maddy Fritsch, Alex Berkheimer, Joseph Benner Jr., Felicia Metzger, Heidi White, Summer Davis, Caden and Jerin Kennedy, Sean Moll, Ryan Thoman and Paul Conner have come on board. Welcome hunters!

### **Do We Have Your Current E-Mail Address?**

With increasing frequency, the PA State Fox & Coyote Hunter's Assn. uses e-mail for all Association business, as well as for response to individual queries from members. At present we maintain e-mail addresses for approximately 230 members. In the event that we may not have your address or that you have changed your internet provider, please provide your address to Dick Bednarczyk at [dick.bednarczyk@gmail.com](mailto:dick.bednarczyk@gmail.com), assuming that you are willing to do so. Be assured that it is the policy of the Association to restrict this medium for official business, or to respond to requests from members. In the event that you do not have e-mail capability, please note that a letter supplements all e-mailed messages, when it is appropriate or necessary to do so.

### **A Reminder about Overdue Memberships.**

Recently we sent a final reminder to those members who have not paid their 2018 dues. We are requesting prompt payment so that we may continue to fund our various activities and maintain our advocacy of hound owners' rights with the various governing bodies which affect our sport. In the event that you may have misplaced your billing, you may remit your dues to Dick Bednarczyk, using the address which appears on the letterhead. If you wish to be removed from the mailing list, merely indicate so on the form provided.

### **Check Out Our Website**

All members are encouraged to review our new website ([www.pafoxhunters.com](http://www.pafoxhunters.com)). We are indebted to Member Joe Ross for developing and maintaining the site for the Association. In addition, Joe has prepaid our subscription fees for a five year period!

Special recognition is in order for Joe's uncle, Vice President Jerry Ross, who volunteered to spearhead this project.

We would welcome your comments and suggestions regarding anything you feel should be included. Merely use the website's "Contact Us" feature if you wish to respond.

### Remember To Support Our Sponsors

Johnson's Telemetry, Prowler/Quick Track, Sportmix Dog Food, Thunder Valley Pet Pantry, Chase Publishing, Gundog Supply, Custom Collars, PA Outdoor News, Double U Hunting Supply, Hunter's Horn magazine and "Down Home Rice Pudding". All companies listed provided gift certificates, subscriptions or merchandise for our various events.

### Down Home Rice Pudding becoming a signature attraction!

For the past several years, member Mike Brown has been donating his "**Down Home Rice Pudding**" for our Annual Meeting and Family Day picnic. This extraordinary dessert has taken on a life of its own, to the extent that we receive many inquiries about its availability throughout the region.

Members are advised that **Down Home Rice Pudding** is available at over 100 retail locations throughout Pennsylvania and the Southern Tier of New York, in addition to most County Fairs, the Harrisburg Outdoor Show and similar venues.

A complete listing of the retail establishments and outdoor events where **Down Home Rice Pudding** is featured can be found on their website.



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