

Pennsylvania State Fox & Coyote Hunters *inc.*

Directors:

Roy Rosenbaum Richard Ross Ron Davis James Rogers Jay Roberts

Officers:

Richard J. Bednarczyk, 118 Commerce Dr., Scott Twp. PA 18447
President

David Hall, 261 Hall Ln, Monroe Twp, PA 18657
Treasurer

Ron Cole, 1187 Beacon Hill Rd, Wyalusing, PA 18853
Vice President

Kipp Adcock, 76 Center St., Covington Twp, PA 18424
Secretary

Spring Newsletter – March 2012



Frank Hall takes 2011 Best in Show, Jim Rogers garners Best Opposite Sex

Pictured right, is BIS Hound #91, Quint. Pa (b) Ch. Cascade Rhymer, - Hemphill's Crazy Horse x Cascade Whitney, owned by Frank Hall, Moravia, New York. Frank makes a bit of PA State history by capturing our first bench championship.

Pictured left is BOS Hound #517, Sherry - Locust Grove Blitz x Locust Grove Dawn, owned by Jim Rogers, Forkston Twp., PA. Sherry also finished fourth in the All Age running and won our Derby Combination trophy in 2010.

From the President's Pen...

2012 has gotten off to a good start for your Association, as you will see from the following news items:

On February 18th & 19th, we were invited to participate in Gander Mountain's Outdoor Show. Member Jack Sorber conducted a "Hunting Coyotes/Bobcats with Hounds" Seminar on our behalf. Our thanks to Jack for doing such a fine job once again.

Directors Ron Davis and Roy Rosenbaum manned our booth during the first day of the event.

Our calendar for 2012 is being finalized and preparations are underway for our major events.

Our Annual Meeting has been set for Saturday, April 28th, and our "Member's Only" Coyote Tournament is underway, with several good specimens being reported.

Dates for Major Activities Scheduled

Many members have requested the earliest possible notice for our major activities for 2012, in order to allow for scheduling vacations, etc. Unless unforeseen circumstances develop, our calendar for 2012 is as follows:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Saturday, April 28 th | Annual Meeting |
| Saturday, June 23 rd | Family Day Picnic |
| Saturday, August 11 th | 1 Day Speed & Drive |

The Annual Meeting will be held at the American Legion in Wyalusing, the Family Day Picnic and Speed & Drive will be held at Molyneaux's Training Facility in Endicott, New York. Further details will be announced as they become final.

Details Regarding Two -Day Field Trial Undetermined

At the time of publication, the availability of Molyneaux's for a two-day event is uncertain. Options regarding a multi-day field trial are currently under review by your Executive Committee.

We will immediately publish our plans as soon as a final determination has been reached.

Annual Meeting – Saturday, April 28th, 2012

The Annual Meeting of the Pennsylvania State Fox & Coyote Hunter's Assn. has been scheduled for 4:00 pm, Saturday, April 28th at the American Legion, Route 6, Wyalusing, PA. In addition to election of officers for 2012, the agenda will include a review of the accomplishments of the organization during 2011, plans for 2012, and review of significant legislative issues and other important business.

Please mark your calendar and watch for further correspondence regarding this meeting.

Annual Meeting to Feature Chicken Dinner

This year's Annual Meeting will feature a Chicken Dinner provided by the folks from the Wyalusing American Legion.

In order to insure proper dinner arrangements, please RSVP to Dick Bednarczyk via e-mail (dick.bednarczyk@epix.net) or by phone (570) 586-9270 if you plan to attend.

Please note: There will be a \$10.00 charge for the dinner, payable to the American Legion.

Annual Meeting to Feature Member's "For Sale" Table

In response to requests from membership, we will have a "For Sale" table available for anyone wishing to sell electronic collars, systems, etc. (No firearms please). Hopefully this will provide an excellent medium for interested buyers and sellers to see what will be available. Sellers will be asked to personally attend their merchandise or have it clearly tagged for ease and accuracy of any transactions.

Remember to Nominate Your Youngsters for "First" Awards

Recently we expanded our award program to include "First Turkey", "First Bobcat" or "First Coyote" in addition to the "First Deer" or "First Bear" awards. The PA Game Commission will provide certificates for youngsters who take a deer, bear or turkey, while the Association will present our own "First Bobcat" or "First Coyote" Certificate. Members are requested to notify Dick Bednarczyk about the successful hunters and provide a digital photo, if one is available.

Northern Pennsylvania Foxhunter's Annual Luncheon

The annual luncheon sponsored by the Northern PA Foxhunters will be held on Saturday, April 7th, at American Legion Post 534, Rt. 6, Wyalusing. Plan to attend what will be a delightful, entertaining affair sponsored by Dick Ross and Paul Stone.

Accepting Nominations for Youth Achievement Awards

Since we introduced the concept five years ago, the recognition of deserving youngsters with Achievement Awards has proven to be very successful. The award is in the form of a citation which is usually presented at the Annual Meeting and is followed by an appropriate article in our quarterly newsletter. Since we are a statewide and multi-state organization, there is one challenge with this program - that is the difficulty of identifying deserving youngsters. At this time we are encouraging all members to help us with this matter, by nominating any deserving youngsters that you may know. Our criteria is broad and informal – merely that the youngster has shown a deep interest in hounds and hunting or has enthusiastically participated in the events of the Association.

Please give this some serious consideration and provide your suggestions to Dick Bednarczyk at 570-586-9270 or to any other officer or director, if it is more convenient to do so.

Game Commission to Recognize Youngster from Our Organization

Jay Delaney, PA Game Commissioner, Northeast Region, will present an original Game Commission Coyote Patch to the first Mentored Youth from the PA State Fox & Coyote Hunter's Assn. who successfully takes a coyote. Please keep this in mind and be sure to notify any of the Officers or Directors immediately, when this historic event occurs. Our sincere thanks go to Commissioner Delaney for this gesture and his continuing support of our Association.

PA State Fox & Coyote Hunter's Coyote Tournament

This is a reminder that our season-long coyote tournament will end on March 31st. Successful participating hunters should return their weight cards to Dick Bednarczyk by Wednesday April 11th.

Legislative Monitoring - Pennsylvania

HB 881 (Use of Tracking Dogs to Recover Wounded Game) was referred to the Game and Fisheries Committee on March 2nd, 2011.

HB 1760 (Sunday Hunting) was referred to the Game and Fisheries Committee on June 29th, 2011.

Legislative Monitoring – New York

(Source NY Houndsmen Winter 2012 Newsletter)

Legislation to Oppose:

S61 Senator Diaz (D) NYC would require that all dogs and their owners in NYS complete a course in obedience training.

S1239 Senator Addabbo (D) of Howard Beach would provide that no dog can be tethered outside for more than 6 hrs. per day.

A21122 Assemblywoman Millman (D) NYC specifies what constitutes appropriate shelter for dogs kept outside and specifies maximum and minimum temperature range for outside exposure.

Legislation to Support:

A3296 Assemblywoman Donna Lupardo (D) Binghamton and Senator Kathy Young (R) Olean would provide that any dog that has been released from their confinement for hunting purposes shall be deemed to be under the reasonable control of it's owner while engaged in hunting or returning from hunting.

Reminder –Raffle Drawing

Although we indicated a February 28th deadline for raffle ticket returns, we can continue to receive them up to the moment of our drawing, which will be held at the Annual Meeting on April 28th. This fundraiser has become an integral part of our overall financial scenario for the year. The grand prize is a Garmin Astro Hunter-Dog GPS with the improved DC40 collar valued at approximately \$600.00 retail or a \$500.00 Gift Certificate. In the event that you have not yet made your returns, we encourage you to support your organization by doing so.

2012 Memberships Now Due

At this point, everyone should have received their 2012 membership billing. We are requesting prompt payment of dues 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.

Welcome New Members!

Recruiting efforts for 2012 is off to a good start. YTD 10 hunters have joined the Association. Since our last newsletter, Anna Altmiller, Meghan Clark, Rob Soley, Jason McCammon, Nathan Minier, Dave Messersmith, Spencer Kishbaugh, Tyler Peterson, Casey Host and Dakota Pedro have come onboard. Welcome hunters!

Youth Memberships Now Available

At our 2009 Annual Meeting, a resolution to establish a Youth Membership within our classes of memberships was discussed and adopted. Members present were advised of past requests voiced by members for such a membership category and the benefits of doing so by President Bednarczyk.

The exact wording of the resolution adopted is as follows:

Proposal: *The Association will add the category **Youth Member** to the classes of members. Such **Youth Members** will enjoy all rights and privileges of the Association. The age limitations for **Youth Members** will coincide with that of Pennsylvania Jr. Hunting License holders – currently under age 17. The annual fee for **Youth Membership** will be proposed at \$5.00.*

Editor's note: *At the close of 2011, 28 youngsters were enrolled as Youth Members.*

PA State Fox & Coyote Assn. Members Enjoy Success in Tournaments

Many members continue to appear among the successful hunters at regional tournaments. A partial listing follows:

District Nine Trappers – Tunkhannock

Successful members were; Bob Cragle (2 coyotes), John Bold (2 coyotes), Bob Brown (2 coyotes), John Klinkiewicz (2 coyotes), Shaun Spencer, Guy Michlowski, Wade Gray, Ron Davis, Cory Luther, Bruce Tewksbury, Bob Clark and Jeff Cragle. It took a 51.7 pound coyote to win the Grand Prize. There were 53 entries overall. Eight Hundred and Seventeen hunters registered for the event.

Mosquito Creek

Dynamite Hunter Bob Brown of Tunkhannock was overall winner with a 47.35 lb. male. We understand that Bob's hunting partner (John Clark) also took first place honors with the heaviest female (42.75 lbs.). Other successful members were Jack Sorber (3 coyotes), Ron Laubscher, Nathan Minier, and William Rising. 120 Coyotes were turned in during the hunt, 78 of which were taken by hounds. There were 3985 registered hunters for the event. The average weight was calculated at 34.94 lbs.

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 50 % of our membership. 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@epix.net, 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.

New Mailing Address??

Several members have had their rural mailing addresses changed in order to comply with 911 emergency response procedures. Please assist us in maintaining accurate membership records by calling Dick at 570-586-9270, or by sending an e-mail message, if you have been affected as well.

Devin McCarty to represent PA State Fox & Coyote Hunter's Assn.

Devin McCarty, son of James (Chopper) McCarty, will represent our Association at the Jakes Rendezvous which will be held on April 4th at the Meshoppen Rod & Gun Club. While Devin has assisted at this event during the past two years, he has volunteered to take sole responsibility for this year's event. He will be manning the Hound Hunting booth, providing "mini-seminars" for those youngsters in attendance.

We are thankful to Devin for taking this initiative. Having worked with him at similar events in the past, we have every confidence that he will do a splendid job.

We understand that Devin will be permitted to use this experience to help satisfy his Scholarship requirements at Keystone College.

High School/College Students need a service project?

Since the PA State Fox & Coyote Hunter's Assn. is a tax exempt, non-profit 501 (c) corporation, we have successfully provided requesting youngsters with assignments that satisfy their service project obligations at their schools. Most often the assignment involves helping out at various events. There may be other projects which can be conducted from the member's home, at their convenience.

Please feel free to notify any of the officers if your youngster has a service obligation which you'd like to explore with us.

In Memoriam

Pat Smithson - Director Emeritus

We have been notified of the passing of Director Emeritus Pat Smithson of Fawn Grove, PA.

Mr. Smithson and his family served as a foundation for the Mason Dixon and PA State Foxhunter's organizations for many years, hosting our Field Trials at the family's farms. In addition to owning hounds, Pat functioned in several official capacities ranging from officer and director to Master of Foxhounds, bench and field judge and camp cook. Although he will be missed, the legacy of his support, influence and involvement will endure.