

# Pennsylvania State Fox & Coyote Hunters inc.

## Directors:

Roy Rosenbaum Richard Ross Ron Davis James Rogers Jay Roberts  
Ron Cole Walter Vosefski Shaun Spencer Chip Sorber Cas Bonczewski (Membership Chairman)

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Richard J. Bednarczyk, 118 Commerce Dr., Scott Twp. PA 18447  
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David Hall, 261 Hall Ln, Monroe Twp, PA 18657  
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Jerry Ross, 603 N. Wilbur Ave. Sayre, PA 18840  
Vice President

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

## *Spring Newsletter – March 2016*



### **On the Cover: Four Youths Receive Hunting Awards for 2014**

From left to right; Logan Jennings, son of Chris Jennings and Rachael Stucker, daughter of Brian Stucker received their ‘First Coyote’ awards. Nick Solinsky, son of John Solinsky, and Meghan Clark, daughter of Bob Clark, received their ‘First Bear’ awards at last year’s Annual Meeting. We will be awarding similar awards to six additional youths at our 2016 Annual Meeting on April 16<sup>th</sup>.

### **From the President’s Pen...**

2016 has gotten off to a good start for your Association, as you will see from the following news items:

Our calendar for 2016 is being finalized and preparations are underway for our major events.

Our Annual Meeting has been set for Saturday, April 16th, and our ‘Member’s Only’ Coyote Tournament is underway, with several good specimens being reported.

Once again, we will be awarding a \$500.00 scholarship to two students who are the children or grandchildren of a member. (See details below –page 6).

### **Dates for Major Activities Scheduled**

Many members have requested the earliest possible notice for our major activities for 2016, in order to allow for scheduling vacations, etc. Unless unforeseen circumstances develop, our calendar for 2016 is as follows:

Saturday, April 16 <sup>th</sup>	Annual Meeting
Saturday, June 25 <sup>th</sup>	Family Day Picnic
Tuesday, July 12 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting - PA Game Commission
Saturday, August 13 <sup>th</sup>	Speed & Drive Field Trial

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

### **Annual Meeting – Saturday, April 16th, 2016**

The Annual Meeting of the Pennsylvania State Fox & Coyote Hunter's Assn. has been scheduled for 4:00 pm, Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at the American Legion, Route 6, Wyalusing, PA. In addition to election of officers for 2016, the agenda will include a review of the accomplishments of the organization during 2015, plans for 2016, 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 Porketta Dinner**

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

*In order to insure proper dinner arrangements, please RSVP to Dick Bednarczyk via e-mail ([dick.bednarczyk@epix.net](mailto: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.

### **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 Monday April 11th.

### **Accepting Nominations for Youth Achievement Awards**

Since we introduced the concept eight 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 are 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.

### **Reminder –Raffle Drawing**

Although we indicated a March 31<sup>st</sup> 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 16<sup>th</sup>. This fundraiser has become an integral part of our overall financial scenario for the year. The grand prize is a Garmin Astro Hunter-Dog 320 GPS with the improved T/5 collar valued at approximately \$600.00 retail or a \$600.00 Cash Award. In the event that you have not yet made your returns, we encourage you to support your organization by doing so.

### **2016 Memberships Now Due**

At this point, everyone should have received their 2016 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.

### **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***

There were 27 entries overall, out of 771 registered hunters for the 2016 contest.

Successful members were; Jeff Cragle, Bruce Tewksbury, Drew Madill, Bill Higgins, Brett Ruhf, Ron Taylor, Corey Luther, George Hobbs, Jerry Devine and Don Spencer. Members of the PA State Fox & Coyote Hunter's Assn. harvested 10 coyotes during the event. The winning coyote weighed 46.6 pounds and was taken in Lackawanna County.

### **Welcome New Members!**

Recruiting efforts for 2016 are off to a good start. YTD eleven hunters have joined the Association. Since our last newsletter, Dr. Emily Bold DVM, Peter Champluvier, Matthew Moyer, Logan Jennings, Mike Dietz, Seth McCammon, Ron Hertz, Joshua Fields, Evan and Elliott Thomson, Zachary Kinney, Aerial McHenry, David Strait III and Brett Ruhf have come aboard. We are delighted to see the number of youths and family groups which have joined the Association over the past few years. Welcome hunters!

### **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.

### **Remember to Nominate Your Youngsters for "First" Award**

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.

### **Remember To Support Our Sponsors**

Please support these loyal sponsors, who continually provide substantial donations to insure the success of our events. Each of these sponsors willingly provides their support. Some do so automatically each year, without the need for personal solicitation from us;

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, Sacandaga Dog Supply and Hunter's Horn magazine.

All companies listed provided gift certificates, subscriptions or merchandise. Also Dave and Shannon Messersmith, members from Beach Lake, have established Houndsmen's Cream ([www.houndcream.com](http://www.houndcream.com)) and have provided samples of their product to distribute at the Annual Meeting.

### **Pennsylvania State Fox & Coyote Hunter's Assn. Continues Scholarship Program**

For the second time in our history, the Association finds itself in a position to recognize two worthy students in the form of a \$500.00 scholarship award.

Please see the details and scholarship application below. Any questions may be directed to Dick Bednarczyk (570) 586-9270, Jerry Ross (570) 423-3389 or Cas Bonczewski (570) 977-4539. Our 2015 winners were Rob Carr and Taylor Cole.

### **Legislative Monitoring – New York**

As reported in the New York Houndsmen Winter Newsletter, the bill providing that dogs engaged in hunting or training shall not be deemed to be "running at large" was passed by the legislature but vetoed by Gov. Cuomo.

Fortunately for Pennsylvania Residents, hounds engaged in hunting, training or field trialing are exempt from 'Running at Large' citations.

*Editor's note: The following is a continuation of an article furnished by H.L.Todd Addis, which appeared in our December, 2015 Newsletter. Dr. Addis is a lifelong Pennsylvania foxhunter and advocate of 'no kill' foxhunting. He has recently published **Our Penn Maryland Hound** and **A Backward Glance**. Both books may be purchased by contacting him at (610) 286-5222.*

**History of Foxhound Development  
A Refresher Course!  
By H.L.Todd Addis**

England – The 14th Century was peaceful; its wars being fought only in Wales, Scotland and France. The countryside prospered – sheep raising and making of clothing from wool became an industry. The feudal system was in decay and extinguished by the War of the Roses.

A book in 1486 called Boke of St. Albans ascribed to Daine Juliana Berners, plagiarized the Art of Venery by William Twici. The Boke of St. Albans was an immense success with the yeomen and merchants who wanted to be country gentlemen. The book in all of its editions was reprinted more often than any other English book other than the Bible.

The 16th Century saw a great reduction in the area of ancient forest. The Elizabethan sailors cut down oak trees for their ships and for fuel for smelting iron; whereas in France, a succession of kings were in the forefront of hunting skills and hound breeding. In England the whole forward movement of hunting became far less royal.

In August 1603 Henri IV of France sent his expert huntsmen to visit James I of England to demonstrate the French method of hunting.

The visit influenced to a small degree fox hunting above ground and the use of Scottish deer hounds for wolf hunting.

France, during the 18th Century increasingly used the speed of the English hound. Louis XV crossed his chiens-blancs (white) with English hounds. More and more Norman breeders did likewise, so that a writer complained in 1778 that the pure Norman breed was becoming lost: the cross was faster, but losing its scenting powers. This was the period of Anglo mania, during which thousands of the noble French made pilgrimages to England, trooped from country house to country house and copied English dress and manners. They imported English horses and English fox hounds but not English fox hunting. Few breeds of French hounds were quite the same again.

The tall Southern hound was the principle pack hound in England in the 1600's. The breed was incapable of catching the red fox, but when brought to America in 1650, did well accounting for the greys.

The process of creating a speedier English fox hound was in 1750 primitive and tentative. Hounds varied enormously in size, conformation, temperament and everything else. All sorts of out crosses were tried.

In 1752 Hugo Mynell started to hunt his own hounds at the age of 18. It was quoted that he was a wild huntsman and a worst sportsman. He never went out, reported by an eyewitness with less than 100 couple. By 1780 he was the most celebrated Master in England. Hugo Mynell was credited with developing the modern English fox hound. Peter Backford experimented around 1770's with pointer, and beagle crosses, Thornton with greyhounds. The best fox hounds produced were bred strictly within the breed. During the last two or three decades in the 1700's, organized pheasant shooting developed. The game keepers became a major enemy to the master of hounds.

*The readers of the above material must realize that I did not gather this material during my high school European history course. However inclusion of this material would have made it a most interesting course.*

## The Pennsylvania State Fox & Coyote Hunters Association announces the 2016 Scholarship Award!

As decided by the Officers and Board of Directors, the association will provide \$500 scholarships to two eligible students. The award will be presented during the awards portion of the 2016 Family Day picnic to be held at Molyneaux's Pen, Saturday, June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

**Details:**

1. Student must complete the application below and submit by June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016. One application per student. Families with multiple students may copy the application below. Mail application to RJ Bednarczyk, President.
2. Student must be a PA State Fox & Coyote Hunters Association member or the child or grandchild of a current, paid member.
3. The Scholarship opportunity is open to:
  - a. All graduates from the class 2016 who meet the above qualifications, regardless of state or province of residence.
  - b. Previously graduated students currently enrolled in further education programs, who meet the above qualifications, regardless of state or province of residence. Currently enrolled college students must not have entered into the 4<sup>th</sup> year of their chosen program.
4. A qualifying further education program refers to a 2 or 4 year college, trade or specialty school or any other higher education program for which the student is paying for.
5. In an effort to be fair and objective to all qualified and deserving applicants, the name of each applicant will be placed in a hat for a random drawing to determine the winners.
6. The winning students will be required to submit proof of current enrollment or planned continuation of education beyond high school. (i.e., acceptance letter)
7. Student need not be present at Family Day picnic to win.
8. Previous winners are ineligible.

Students Name (please print):		Date:
Address:		
Town:	State or Province:	Zip Code:
Phone Number:	e-mail Address:	
Member's Name (student, parent or grandparent):		
College or Trade School you are/will be attending:		
Students Signature:		