

Pennsylvania State Fox & Coyote Hunters inc.

Directors:

Ron Cole Ron Davis Jay Roberts James Rogers Roy Rosenbaum Richard Ross Chip Sorber

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

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

Jerry Ross, 603 N. Wilbur Ave., Sayre, PA 18840
Vice-President

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

Fall Newsletter – September 2013



Top: PA State Kids take home hardware and a Canadian puppy on Family Day. See page four (4) for complete report.

Bottom Left: Wade, Carol and Brett Gray, Jason and Seth McCammon and Hailey Stoddard with five hounds placed in Speed & Drive Event. Pages four (4) and five (5).

Bottom Right: Jason McCammon, Dale Arthur Jr., Eric Emerson and Rick Phillips showing hounds which placed, including winning hound #30, Northwind Rocky. Rick also owns 6th place hound, #20, Phillips Shadow. 3rd place hound, Brooke Maskell's Rambo M. Hanover is not shown.

From the President's Pen...

The last three months of 2013 has proven to be an eventful, productive time for the PA State Fox & Coyote Hunter's Assn. In addition to holding our Family Day Picnic and One-Day Speed & Drive, we also chaired the Sporting Dog Owner's Meeting with the PA Game Commission. This year's meeting was again particularly productive regarding "Running at Large" citation being issued to hunters – (see full report below). Roy Rosenbaum has completed individualized judges training, helping to insure that we have a sufficient cadre of qualified individuals to officiate our events. At the time of publication we are preparing for our Two-Day Field Trial, which will be held on September 13th and 14th.

Please refer to further details on these matters which appear below.

Sporting Dog Owner's Meeting –PA Game Commission Headquarters, Harrisburg

Approximately twenty members of the PA State Fox & Coyote Hunter's Assn. and an equal number of beaglers and coonhunters showed their support by attending the dog owner's meeting on June 25th. As usual, our primary focus centered on hound safety issues – this year's focus on "Running at Large" citations tendered while hunting (see report below). In response to our request, Matt Lovallo, PGC Biologist, gave an in-depth report on the split bobcat season and indicated the likelihood on its continuance. We also discussed the potential for allowing hounds to participate in the current fisher season, where it exists. Jim Katchko presented the Beagler's issues, including in-season predator permitting on club grounds and youth mentoring, while Bruce Knopsnider, President of PA Nite Hunter's discussed "Right to Retrieve" legislation.

Our sincere thanks are extended to the Game Commission Staff and the members of the Board of Commissioners who gave their valuable time and attention to the "dog folks" in attendance.

Director Richard R. Palmer, Bureau of Wildlife Protection Continues Personal Support of Houndsmen – Intervenes with Dept. of Agriculture on our behalf.

Although "Running at Large" issues do not fall into the realm of PGC responsibilities, we brought this matter up for general discussion at the Sporting Dog Owner's Meeting. During the recent winter running season, three houndsmen were initially cited while engaged in lawful hunting, which is an exemption under PA Law.

While two of the citations were eventually dropped, our member voluntarily paid the corresponding fine in the third case.

As a result of our discussion, Director Palmer volunteered to step outside of his normal responsibilities and address this matter with his professional contacts at the DA.

By the next day, Director Palmer reported back that his discussions were complete and fruitful. After explaining the nature of wide-ranging working coyote hounds and emphasizing the corresponding exemption, the DA agreed with our understanding of the Dog Law language. They also pledged to cover this matter in the training of their enforcement personnel!

Over the past few years, we have benefited from such involvement by Director Palmer on more than one occasion.

We cannot over-emphasize how important Director Palmer's continued support has been to the PA State Fox & Coyote Hunter's Assn.

Thank you Director Palmer!!

PA Dog Law Language – "Running at Large"

Please note that the Dog Law is a large statute and this article is only concerned with a small percentage of the law as a whole. However, there are a few sections that all dog owners need to be aware of. The first is § 459-305, which is titled "Confinement of Dogs." More commonly known as the Leash Law, this section mandates that:

• It shall be unlawful for the owner or keeper of any dog to fail to keep at all times such dog either:

1. Confined within the premises of the owner;
2. Firmly secured by means of a collar and chain or other device so that it cannot stray beyond the premises on which it is secured; or
- 3. Under the reasonable control of some person, or when engaged in lawful hunting, exhibition or field training.**

(Editor's note:

Prepared by Gregory R. Riley, Legal Research Assistant

The Agricultural Law Resource and Reference Center

The Pennsylvania State University, The Dickinson School of Law)

Game Commission Investigates possible sources of Arns Disease

During the June 25th Sporting Dog Owners Meeting, Game Commission personnel asked that we take an informal poll regarding any experience we may have had with Arns Disease. Several hunters present reported losing hounds to this sickness in the recent past.

Since our meeting, their Habitat Committee has conducted a review of the Game Commission practices regarding the use of Wild Rye as a food crop. It appears that Wild Rye is one of several grasses suspected to be a source. The review was completed and a report issued at their August 12th meeting. Results show the State's use of Wild Rye to be minimal –approximately 1 %.

Commissioner Jay Delaney, Northeast Region, advised the PA State Fox & Coyote Hunters of the findings immediately upon conclusion of the report – (that evening). (He previously requested any additional input we could provide regarding the hounds which we lost to the disease).

In spite of the low usage of Wild Rye seedings, the Game Commission has indicated that they will omit its employment in any areas known to be "high usage" by sporting dogs.

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 ninth annual Family Day Picnic. 125 members and guests were on hand to enjoy summer picnic fare while running 84 hounds.

A variety of competitions and training classes also comprised the day's activities. The traditional horn-blowing contest was won by Aragon Cruz, while Jubei Cruz took the metallic horn event. Jayden Case won the photo hunt, with Emily Carr and James Conway taking second and third places in that event.

Many youngsters (and adults) were very attentive during a highly informative "Whitetail Aging" 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: Dakota Pedro showing Hot Rod, Adele Vaughan showing Ellie, Tucker Vaughan showing Deena, Aragon Cruz showing Skye, Kole Peterson showing Cleo, Michael Davis showing TC, Josh Brown showing Amber, Kendall Peterson showing Diamond, Bowen Minier showing Ringer and Max Mitehen showing Joey.

2013 State Champion Coyote Hunter Ed Grasavage was on hand to receive his trophy for first place in the Association's Coyote Tournament. Ed was easily declared the 2013 PA State Champion with a 48.6 pound coyote which also won the Springville Tournament. Ed also won our State Championship two years ago. Other winners were Jack Sorber (3 places), Ron Davis, Tim Carr, Bob Brown and Wade Gray (2 places).

The puppy raffle was won by Hannah Keane with Gene Molyneaux being declared winner of the Gas Grill. Special thanks are in order to Seeley Bay's Ben Forman who provided a particularly beautiful 8 week old puppy and to Wade Gray for traveling to Canada to bring the puppy back to our area.

Rebekah Gardner and Toby each won a \$50.00 Cabela's gift card which was donated by the Western Boy's Coyote Team.

Special thanks for donated auction items are accorded to Tammy and Kevin Van Camp (multiple woodcraft items), Jack Wentzel (lottery ticket theme basket), Wade and Carol Gray (Rib-Eye Steaks), Sally Davis (handmade quilt), Kipp Adcock and Cas Bonczewski (theme baskets), Carl Berkheimer (dog food) and Gene and Staci Molyneaux (maple syrup).

Results of PA State 2013 Speed & Drive Field Trial Rick Phillips' Northwind Rocky Takes Event

Favorable weather, good game conditioning and superb hounds combined to make another memorable PA State Speed & Drive Field Trial, with Northwind Rocky winning the event. Northwind Rocky's owner, Rick Phillips, also placed Phillips' Shadow in the 6th position. Wade and Carol Gray's Springs Kennel placed five hounds, with a sixth, owned by Jason McCammon also being bred by them. 44 hounds were entered, representing Pennsylvania, New York and Canada.

Ron Cole did a great job serving as Master of Hounds.

A sincere thank you to the following judges: Dick Bednarczyk, David Hall, Roy Rosenbaum, Ron and Scott Davis, Kevin McCloskey, Walter Vosefski, David Wride,

Brian Coleman, Jerry Ross, Chip and Jack Sorber, Bob Brown, Charlie Michlowski, Cas Bonczewski, Jim Rogers and Jerry Devine.

Other Field Support Staff were Paul Conway, Tom Maciun, Tim Folk and Kevin O'Neill

Dave Wride once again performed double duty with computer operations in addition to judging.

We are also indebted to Gene, Staci and Richard Molyneaux who continue to host many of our events and are continually responsive to all of our requests.

Special thanks to those member/hunters who worked behind the scenes. Sometimes we forget to give the credit to those who work the hardest during our field trial. They cooked, cleaned, sold merchandise, set up the booths, tore them down and performed a countless number of other tasks. They are: Wade, Brett and Carol Gray, Dave and Amy Peterson, Mike Jaskulski and Marty Carr.

We are ever grateful to our faithful sponsors: Prowler-Quick Track for their discount coupons and to Wade and Carol Gray for donating and conducting the ever-popular raffle of a NY Strip, won by Jack Sorber.

Finally, thank you to all who entered hounds in this year's event. None of this would be possible if it were not for your support.

Congratulations to:

1. Northwind Rocky (Newham' Heavy Chevy - L&A Abigail), Rick Phillips, Powassan, Ontario.
2. Spring's Shy (Rockhill's Closeline - Crazy Sally), Spring's Kennel Wade & Carol Gray, Laceyville, PA.
3. Rambo M. Hanover (Surefire Sako - Saugeen Gaycat), Brooke Maskell, Hanover, Ont...
4. Spring's Trouble (Running Shoe - Lil Miss Spark Plug), Spring's Kennel Wade & Carol Gray, Laceyville, PA.
5. Spring's Savage G (Springhill Rocky-G - Spring's Savior), Jason McCammon, Wyalusing, PA.
6. Phillips Shadow (Neilsen's Conroy - Wrightman's Ginger), Rick Phillips, Powassan, Ontario.
7. Spring's Frazzel (Blanton's Big Sexy - Blanton's Nailer), Spring's Kennel Wade & Carol Gray, Laceyville, PA.
8. Spring's DeVeaor-G (Springhill Rocky-G - Locust Grove Rage), Spring's Kennel Wade & Carol Gray, Laceyville, PA.
9. Spring's Ring'em up-G (Springhill Rocky-G - Locust Grove Rage), Spring's Kennel Wade & Carol Gray, Laceyville, PA.
10. Meshoppen Creek Snake (Springs Sugar Ray - Tall Pines Tia), Dale Arthur, Springville, PA

Our Upcoming Field Trial

Two – Day Speed and Drive and Bench Show – September 13th and 14th. This will be an open hunt with trophies awarded to the first ten places for both Derby and All-Age hounds.

This competition will be held at Molyneaux's in Endicott, New York. Numbers may be reserved by calling Kipp Adcock at 570-842-5477 or 570-840-1086.

Bench Show to Award Bench Championship.

For the third consecutive year, the PA State Fox & Coyote Hunter's Assn. will award a Bench Championship to the hound selected as "Best in Show". The event will be judged under the rules of the National Foxhunter's Assn.

All hunters competing at our trial are encouraged to be sure to show your hounds in addition to running them.

Remember To Support Our Sponsors

Johnson's Telemetry, Prowler/ Quick Track, Hunter's Horn, Food, Sportmix Dog Food and Thunder Valley Pet Pantry.

Also Rob Burk of the Hyland Company, Ashland, KY and Pride Dog Food who supplied a variety of field trial forms for our event.

Welcome New Members!

Recruiting efforts for 2013 continues on a good trend. YTD 31 hunters have joined the Association. Since our last newsletter, John Clark, Mike Davis, Ike Miner, Joshua Beltowski, Jeff Miszler, Justin Smarsh, Jason Brown, Douglas Trinkley, Joe Downey, John Arnone, Brett Boff, Tim Folk and Dave Leib have come on board. We now have 28 Youth Members as part of the Association – a good basis for a strong future. 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 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.