

PENNSYLVANIA

Turkey TALK

**JAKES Hunt
of a Lifetime**

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2009
Summer
Edition

**Peters Creek Trail Chapter
Feeds 200 Families**

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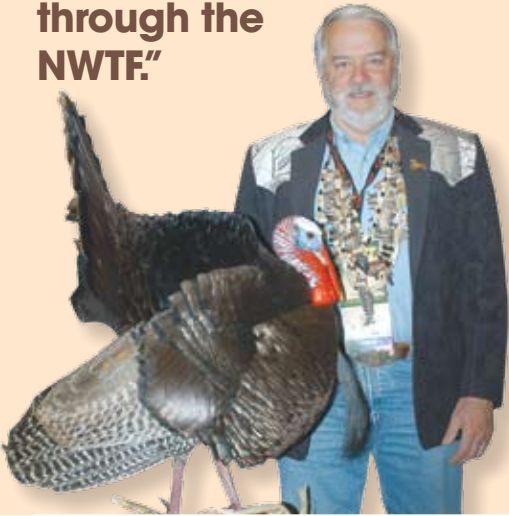
**NWTF -
Not Without Terrific Friends**

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A Publication of the Pennsylvania State Chapter of the NWTF

Message From The President

"Introduce potential new members to this great outdoor world that we share through the NWTF."



Pennsylvania's spring gobbler season is behind us (Thank goodness!). I don't know about you, but for me it was a time-consuming process that produced little food for the table! I was hard at it almost every morning, but the gobblers were certainly not in a cooperative mood wherever I went. Neither state game lands nor private property seemed to be productive. Gobblers would gobble a few times on the roost, very little on the ground, and then you would hear those darn hens. They would get to-

gether and not talk the rest of the morning. As for other hunters that I checked with, it seemed like a common scenario. I certainly hope your season was more active than mine. There are numerous reports floating around of successes and a goodly number of them were by the hands of youth and mentored hunters, which is very encouraging. Look for photos of some of these happy hunters in upcoming issues of Turkey Talk.

One positive note is that initial reports seem to point to a 25% drop in HRSI's (hunting related shooting incidents) for this season compared to 2008's spring season. Preliminary data is still being gathered to complete the field reports, but, at the moment, there appears to be 6 incidents this year compared to the 8 from last year. That is good news, while the obvious goal remains at zero incidents. Details of these occurrences will be published in a later issue. As Bob Eriksen, our regional biologist has stated, "What (we) need to be reminded of is that hunters fire literally hundreds of thousands of shots in PA every year and few people – hunters or non-hunters – are injured."

Please take a moment to read the outstanding write-up that first appeared in the NWTF online "News from the Roost" about our very own Trina Skrapits. Last year at the annual National Convention she was awarded the "Annie Oakley Award" for her tireless efforts over many years as a volunteer, and now she has been (and rightly so) honored by recognition for her continued efforts. Trina joined the PA State Board this year and is a very valuable asset to our Board.

Please mark your calendars for August 1&2, 2009, as these will be the dates for our annual Leadership Meeting / Presidents' Weekend. Held again at the Ramada Inn in State College, this year is expected to produce a record attendance. Topics of discussion will include: "How to host a more productive banquet", "Working with other conservation groups", "Holding a joint chapter outreach event", and "Ways to increase our membership across the state", among others. A flyer will be forthcoming describing the weekend events, but we expect to include the ever-popular trap shooting and throw in a few surprises along the way!

Finally, as the spring season has now drawn to a close and our time and energy turn toward Jakes, Wheelin' and WITO events as well as our annual banquets, remember that each of you make a very important contribution by attending and participating in all of these activities. Throughout the remainder of the year, various local chapters will hold many fundraising and educational activities. I hope to see many of you at these events and suggest that you use them as a means to introduce potential new members to this great outdoor world that we share through the NWTF. Your efforts to recruit new youths and adult members will be the greatest way to insure the success of our critical role in "The Conservation of the Wild Turkey and the Preservation of our Hunting Tradition."

Jon Pries

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Dedicated to the conservation of the wild turkey and preservation of our hunting heritage.

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The Pennsylvania Chapter
of the National Wild Turkey Federation



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The Pennsylvania State Chapter seeks nominations for the State Chapter Board of Directors. Interested candidates must submit a written nomination signed by no fewer than fifteen NWTF members and include a resume which outlines their background, qualifications and contributions to the wild turkey on the state and local levels. Written nominations must be submitted by **AUGUST 15, 2009** to: Chairman of the Board Don O'Brien, 3 Kellyburg Rd., Trout Run, PA 17771

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WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Send us your articles and high resolution photo submissions to:
turkeytalk@panwtf.org

For sending digital photos, follow these guidelines:

- Digital images **must be 5x7 inches at 200 dpi** for use in Turkey Talk.
 - Always try to identify the person(s) in the photo.
- Photos taken from a cell phone are not print quality and may not be accepted.

**Deadline for submitting articles for the
2009 Fall Issue of Turkey Talk is AUGUST 17.**



Annual President's Leadership Workshop August 2, 2009

Submitted by Phil Ferrare
PA NWTF Regional Director

Each of the 88 local chapter presidents in PA has been sent an invitation to attend the 2009 Chapter President's Leadership Workshop. The workshop will be held this year on Sunday, August 2nd at the Ramada Inn in State College. This is an annual meeting that provides the opportunity for chapter leaders to be brought up to date on NWTF happenings, new programs and current issues plus the opportunity to exchange ideas with other leaders from across the state. Two members from each local chapter are permitted to attend. This meeting runs from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

In addition to Sunday's meeting there will be a barbecue as well as trap and block shoot on Saturday August 1st at 2:00 p.m. at the Tyrone Sportsman's Club in Blair County. The NWTF and the PA NWTF will cover all expenses for Saturday and Sunday except for travel costs and the cost of the clay birds and shells for the trap shoot and block shoot.

It is hoped that all chapters will be represented at the workshop. Last year we had over 100 attendees. Chapter presidents who can not attend should contact an alternate who can attend. Reservations should be made to Phil Ferrare, Jr at 814-796-6983 or pferrare@nwtf.net. Reservation forms are included in the mailing sent to the local chapter presidents.

Dave Burdge Benefit Auction September 26, 2009

On September 26, 2009 there will be an auction to benefit Dave Burdge, at the Hazen Fire Hall, Hazen PA.

As most of you know, Dave is a past president of the Pennsylvania state chapter of the NWTF. A year ago Dave suffered a brain hemorrhage. This has left him unable to work and worst of all he had no medical insurance. Although he has made remarkable progress, there is still a long way to go in his recovery. Several state chapters and individuals from throughout the state have provided assistance and have asked how they can do more.

Doors will open at noon on September 26, 2009 at the Hazen Fire Hall with a lunch available. The benefit auction will begin at 1:00 PM. There will be a live auction and several raffles. All of the proceeds will go to the Burdge family.

Anyone wishing to make contributions of items for the auction or financial assistance can contact Dan Tollini 814-849-5414 or Phil Ferrare RD for the NWTF 814-796-6983. The Hazen Fire Hall is located on Rt. 28 North of Brookville, PA.

JAKES Gun Raffle time is here!

Selling these tickets benefits your local chapter by giving your chapter the opportunity to provide JAKES memberships at a discounted rate.

If you may be interested in purchasing or selling the Gun Raffle tickets please contact your local chapter president or Ken Fernburg at 570-807-0716. These tickets will be available in early August.



- Nov. 1, 2009.....**Weatherby - Vanguard Sporter, 270 Cal. Bolt Action Rifle Walnut Stock**
- Nov. 2, 2009.....**Remington - 870 Exp, 12 Ga. Pump Action Shotgun Laminated Stock 26" Barrel**
- Nov. 3, 2009.....**Remington - 700 SPS, 300WM Blk Synthetic Stock Bolt Action Rifle**
- Nov. 4, 2009.....**Stoeger - Condor, 12 Ga. Over/Under Shotgun Wood Stock**
- Nov. 5, 2009.....**Savage - 111FCXP3, 30-06 Blk Synthetic Stock Bolt Action Rifle w/ 3-9X40 Scope**
- Nov. 6, 2009.....**Remington - 11/87, 12 Ga. Semi Auto, Blk Synthetic Stock Shotgun**
- Nov. 7, 2009.....**Thompson Center Arms - Omega, 50 Cal. In-line Blackpowder Muzzleloader**
- Nov. 8, 2009.....**Remington - 7600, 308 Cal. Walnut Stock Pump Action Rifle**
- Nov. 9, 2009.....**Benelli Nova - 12 Ga. Pump Action Shotgun Blk Synthetic Stock Barrel**
- Nov. 10, 2009.....**Remington - 870 Exp, 12 Ga. Pump Action Shotgun Laminated Stock 26" Barrel**
- Nov. 11, 2009.....**Henry - Repeating Arms, 22 Cal. Lever Action Walnut Stock Rimfire Rifle**
- Nov. 12, 2009.....**Remington - 770, 30-06 Blk Synthetic Stock Bolt Action Rifle w/ 3-9X40 Scope**
- Nov. 13, 2009.....**Thompson Center Arms - Omega, 50 Cal. In-line Blackpowder Muzzleloader**
- Nov. 14, 2009.....**Weatherby - Vanguard Synthetic, 270WSM Blk Synthetic Stock Bolt Action Rifle**
- Nov. 15, 2009.....**Benelli - Nova, 12 Ga. Pump Action Shotgun Blk Synthetic Stock Barrel**
- Nov. 16, 2009.....**Stoeger - Uplander, 12 Ga. Side By Side Wood Stock Shotgun**
- Nov. 17, 2009.....**C.Z. USA - 452, 17HMR American Walnut Bolt Action Rifle**
- Nov. 18, 2009.....**Remington - 870 Exp, 12 Ga. Camo Synthetic Stock Pump Action Shotgun 3.5" Chamber**
- Nov. 19, 2009.....**Henry Repeating Arms - Golden Boy, 22 Cal. Lever Action Walnut Stock Rimfire Rifle**
- Nov. 20, 2009.....**Thompson Center Arms - Omega, 50 Cal. In-line Blackpowder Muzzleloader**
- Nov. 21, 2009.....**Weatherby - Vanguard Synthetic, 243 Cal Blk Synthetic Stock Bolt Action Rifle**
- Nov. 22, 2009.....**Remington - 700 SPS, 300WSM Blk Synthetic Stock Bolt Action Rifle**
- Nov. 23, 2009.....**Benelli - Nova, 12 Ga. Camo Synthetic Stock Pump Action Shotgun 3.5" Chamber**
- Nov. 24, 2009.....**Thompson Center Arms - Omega, 50 Cal. In-line Blackpowder Muzzleloader**
- Nov. 25, 2009.....**Mossberg - 835, 12 Ga. Camo Synthetic Stock Pump Action Shotgun 3.5" Chamber**
- Nov. 26, 2009.....**Ruger - KM77VT, 204 Ruger Laminated Stock Stainless Steel Barrel Bolt Action Rifle**
- Nov. 27, 2009.....**Remington - 870 Exp, 12 Ga. Pump Action Shotgun Laminated Stock 26" Barrel**
- Nov. 28, 2009.....**Weatherby - Vanguard Sporter, 7mm08 Bolt Action Rifle Walnut Stock**
- Nov. 29, 2009.....**Ruger - HM77R, 22-250 Bolt Action Rifle Walnut Stock**
- Nov. 30, 2009.....**Remington - 11/87, 12 Ga. Semi Auto Blk Synthetic Stock Shotgun**

Thank you for your support and remember the youth is our future.

30 Great Guns - 30 Chances to Win!

Each ticket has 3 - Big Four numbers to win on. Local Chapters will get \$7 refund to buy a JAKES membership back for every ticket they sell. \$20 Ticket

Pennsylvania NWTF Addresses the Pennsylvania Game Commission

Submitted by Jon Pries, PA NWTF President



PENNSYLVANIA State Chapter

Since 1975

*Dedicated to the Conservation of the Wild Turkey
and the Preservation of Our Hunting Heritage*

612 Harman Road
Trout Run, PA 17771
April 15, 2009

Executive Director Carl Roe
Pennsylvania Game Commission
2001 Elmerton Avenue
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110
Dear Director Roe:

The opportunity to provide input to the commission concerning seasons, bag limits and hunting hours is greatly appreciated as is our fine working relationship with the agency. We have been very pleased with the concerted effort made by many commission employees to capture and band the full quota of gobblers for each year of the gobbler harvest rate and survival study. The Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation would like to thank the Game Commission for agreeing to place the "Turkey Hunting Success and Safety" brochure in each mailing of a second spring gobbler license. Getting the "Think Safety- Hunt Safely" message out to turkey hunters is one of our most important goals.

The members and board of directors of the Pennsylvania Chapter are in full support of the proposed 2010 spring gobbler season with a closing date of May 31. The spring season in the Commonwealth is properly timed to give adequate protection to nesting hens. We request that the commissioners adopt May 31 as the permanent closing date for this popular season, a move that could provide additional days of hunting opportunity each year. Our members also agree with the proposal to reduce fall season lengths in Wildlife Management Units 2D, 5C and 5D. This proposal is justified by spring harvest trends and summer brood counts as stipulated in the guidelines for setting fall seasons in the Management Plan for Wild Turkeys in Pennsylvania. The Pennsylvania Chapter supports any adjustment in fall season lengths, either shortening or lengthening, made based on sound data.

Our chapter members are, however, disappointed in the decision made by the commissioners at the January meeting to increase the fall season length in WMU 2F. This decision was based on data from only two years. The Management Plan for Wild Turkeys in Pennsylvania clearly sets a guideline of increasing or decreasing spring harvests in a unit for at least three years before making a decision to adjust the fall season length. It appears that this guideline was not followed in the case of WMU 2F and we request that this proposal be reconsidered.

Once again we commend the commission for the outstanding work on the gobbler harvest rate study. As the study on spring gobbler harvest draws to a close, we urge the commissioners to support the initiation of the fall harvest rate and hen survival research designed by commission biologists and Penn State researchers. This follow-up research will give the Bureau of Wildlife Management a full set of tools on which to base population modeling and harvest strategy decisions. It will place Pennsylvania in a leadership position in wild turkey management. Our chapter will help to provide funding for the project as needed. In addition, we suggest that revenues generated from the sale of second spring gobbler licenses in 2010 be directed at this project to provide adequate funding for the critical first year.

We remind the commissioners that our members are in favor of providing mentored youth hunters with the chance to hunt fall turkeys. In that vein, we support changes to statutes and regulations that would allow hunters to transfer their tags to a youth hunter. Sharing of tags for this purpose would limit the potential for increased fall harvest of turkeys and would encourage older hunters to give opportunity to youngsters.

Thank you again for the chance to share our views. We are pleased with the many aspects of wild turkey management accomplished by the Game Commission ranging from research to habitat enhancement and wildlife protection. This agency has so many good and dedicated employees. It is a pleasure to work closely with all of them.

Further, as you are already aware, the PA State Chapter is on record as being in support of pending hunting license fee increases.

Kindest regards,

Jon D. Pries
President, Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation

www.panwtf.org

panwtfrep@panwtf.org

NEWS from the ROOST

NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION



Katrina Skrapits

Hometown:

Danielsville, Pa.

Home Chapter:

Katrina volunteers for two NWTf chapters: The Jerry Zimmerman Memorial Chapter and the Walking Purchase Chapter.

Notable Fact:

Received the 2008 Annie Oakley Award for her contributions to the Women in the Outdoors program.

How did you become involved with the Women in the Outdoors program?

In 2004, I realized my boys didn't need mom around as much, so I had more free time for myself. I had a strong urge to get back out in the great outdoors and participate in outdoor activities such as hunting, hiking, etc. A friend e-mailed me about a new Women in the Outdoors event happening in my area. I thought this would be a good opportunity for me to meet new people with the same interests.

I made a very special friend that day - Audrey Zimmerman. She told me that her husband was a NWTf Regional Director and that he was looking for volunteers to start a new NWTf chapter in my neighborhood. Even though I was female, Jerry Zimmerman and the other volunteers welcomed me. They voted me to be the new chapter's secretary, and said I didn't even have to wear a skirt.

Over the next few months, Jerry became my friend and mentor. He taught me all that the NWTf had to offer. I felt strongly about the importance of this organization, and the positive impact NWTf could do in our community for wildlife and education through its outreach programs. I wanted to be part of it to help spread the word.

Since I had an awesome time at the Women in the Outdoors event, I volunteered to help run the next one and have been coordinating the event every year since.

Why is the Women in the Outdoors program so important to you?

Education through outreach is the future of hunting and conservation. Being an active committee member on both the Walking Purchase and the Jerry Zimmerman Memorial Chapters gives me the opportunity to work with all my friends. The reach becomes further and stronger with their involvement and help. The bond with my friends, and what we accomplish together as a team is important to me. Even though Jerry Zimmerman has passed on, his passion for the wild turkey still lives in all of us.

How has the Women in the Outdoors program changed your outlook on hunting and the outdoors?

As I spend time with nature, it has more meaning. I have gained so much knowledge through the NWTf, the Pennsylvania Game Commission and the other wonderful conservation organizations I work with through Women in the Outdoors. I now notice that everything has a meaning when I'm out scouting or hunting. I search and learn while enjoying the beauty of it all. I don't take wildlife and their resources for granted. I also learned that whether you're male or female, dressed in camouflage or blaze orange, there is no gender when you hunt.

What do you say to other women to get them to participate in Women in the Outdoors events?

I share with them the experiences of others at past events. I explain that it's a day to treat themselves, learn new skills and overcome fears. However, most of the time, they hear about an event from a friend who has participated in a past event. Word of mouth is the best tool.

What keeps bringing you back to Women in the Outdoors events?

Every year, I return because of the laughter, smiles and good times of the participants, instructors and helpers, and because of the knowledge, confidence and memories everyone takes home. I know these skills and memories will be passed down through generations and make a difference in the future.

What is your favorite Women in the Outdoors event memory?

My first event in 2004 is still my favorite. I took a turkey hunting class that day. My urge and excitement to hunt the wild turkey soared while the instructors talked about their turkey hunting adventures. Thanks to them, I now have turkey hunting stories of my own to share with others.

Why should women attend a Women in the Outdoors event?

Because of the confidence they will receive from learning new skills they can share with their families. I have the confidence to be able to head into the woods alone or with my family, and know I'll return home safely. Friends of mine have attended events and learned the skills and confidence to be comfortable handling firearms, and many have expanded their skills into firearms and archery hunting, and even carrying for firearms self defense. There are so many reasons to attend a Women in the Outdoors event, but first and foremost - it will change your outlook on life.

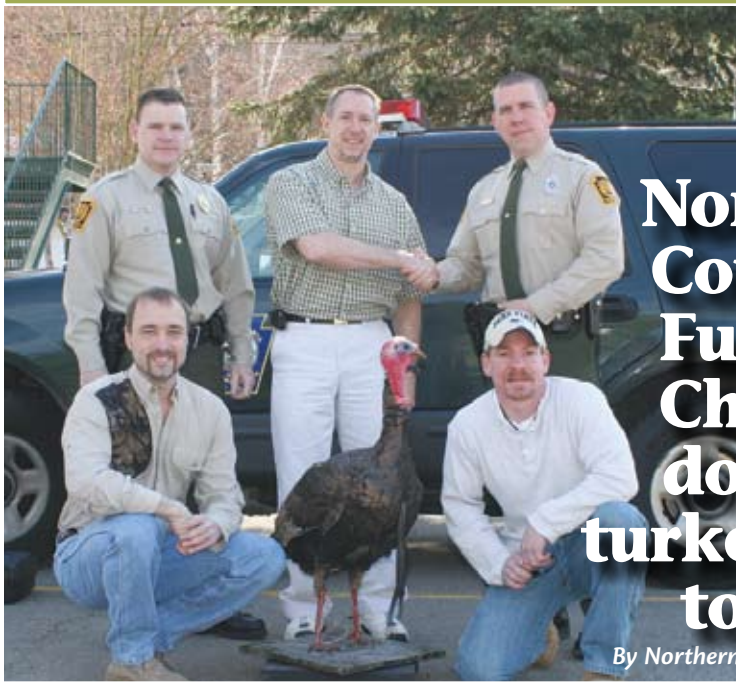


Congratulations to David Orlawski

David took a bearded hen on 5-12-09 in McKean County. Bearded hens are legal game in Pennsylvania spring gobbler season. It has three beards with one measuring 10 1/2" and the other two are 9 1/2" each, and weighed 17 pounds. According to NWTf Regional Biologist Bob Eriksen, bearded hens are an exceptional bird as some hens grow one or two beards but seldom more than two.

Donated Turkeys Feed 200 Families

Job well done to the Peters Creek Trail Chapter which donated 200 turkeys to five Western Pennsylvania food banks. Participating in the NWTF's Turkey Hunter's Care Program are left to right: Pat Conley, Al Gouker, Kyle, Jim Shull and Joe Benkovic



Northern Counties Full Fan Chapter donates turkey decoy to PGC

By Northern County Full Fan Chapter

Front row L to R: **Kevin Urian, Chapter Treasurer; Bob Woodbridge, Board Member;**
Back row L to R: **Dan Figured, PGC Law Enforcement Supervisor;**
Ken Bannon Chapter Vice President; James McCarthy, PGC Wildlife Conservation Officer

The Northern Counties Full Fan Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation recently presented an automated turkey decoy to the Pennsylvania Game Commission for PGC use in the field.

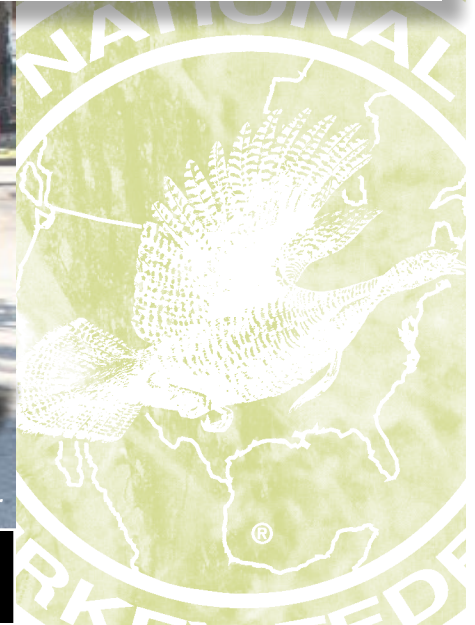
The PGC and the public have long been plagued by road hunters and other poachers who put rightful hunters' safety in jeopardy. Road hunting is not legal, but is an epidemic in rural areas. According to WCO Jim McCarthy, monitoring the situation is difficult because "we are usually too late to apprehend the perpetrator." Meanwhile, the poachers with no respect for private property or other individuals sharing the outdoors continue to compromise the sport of hunting Pennsylvania's wild turkey.

The life sized standing decoy was made by Conservation Decoy Company, LLC in Alabama. It has a state of the art remote control 4 channel rechargeable radio base and a moveable head. Headed by a retired conservation officer, CDC sells decoys to Law Enforcement agencies across the United States only.

The Northern Counties Full Fan Chapter spent many hours with the PGC researching this project. While this was an expensive proposition, the proceeds from last year's gun raffle covered the cost of the decoy. Board Members feel that attending to the problem of illegal poaching activity at a time when mentored youth hunting is rapidly growing will benefit the sport of hunting wild turkey. This is just one of the multiple projects that this NWTF chapter and the local supervisors of the PGC have orchestrated. Since 2005, \$7,300 has been spent in local game lands to establish eighteen acres of food plots with lime, seed and fertilizer. Habitat enhancement in Lackawanna, Wayne and Susquehanna Counties including Game Lands 236, 70, 360 and 159 has been a high priority with the chapter. The Northern Counties Full Fan Chapter also purchased equipment for the commission like sprayers, pruners, and a chain saw. "We try to help out as much as we can," states Kevin Urian, chapter treasurer. "We take monies received through donations, banquets and gun raffles, and

use the money to further the cause of hunting and habitat in our tri-county area."

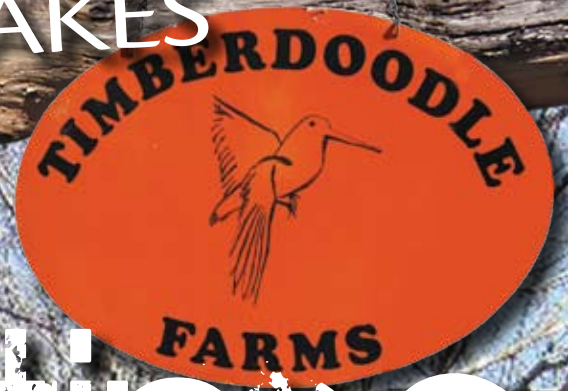
On a larger scope, The Pennsylvania State Chapter of the NWTF has allocated \$83,858 for habitat projects throughout the state in 2009. Project reviewers including NWTF Regional Biologist Bob Eriksen working with PGC biologist Mary Jo Casalena and Dr. Ben Jones of the PGC Bureau of Habitat Management approved funding for sixty-six projects this year alone. "We are a small chapter in a rural area," Urian describes, "but we are very busy in habitat work, education and community service." "Working with the PGC has been a cooperative effort. Every year the PGC donates one of their prints for us to raffle at our Hunting Heritage Banquet." "The PGC mission is to 'Manage Pennsylvania's wild birds, wild mammals and their habitats for current and future generations' is our goal as well and we are happy to continue our relationship with them," concludes chapter treasurer, Urian.



2009 Pennsylvania JAKES

Hunt of a Lifetime

by Phil Ferrare



This hunt for the kids was the ultimate hunting experience, not to mention one of the best playgrounds to pursue wild turkeys on Timberdoodle Farms property.



Every year the Pennsylvania National Wild Turkey Federation offers 2 JAKES (Juniors, Acquiring, Knowledge, and Ethics, Sportsmanship) members a chance to go on a PA Hunt of a lifetime. One JAKE member is drawn from 88 PA Hunting Heritage Banquets as a semi-finalist and entering into a final drawing at the Annual Pennsylvania NWTF Rendezvous and Awards Banquet in January at State College, PA. The other JAKE member is decided in our Live Auction held at the Rendezvous and Awards Banquet. This year was no exception. The winner of the drawing was 15 year old Heather Sempowski of the Foothill Spurs Chapter and Chris Nehrig won the bid in the live auction for his 16 year old son Tyler Nehrig of Yellow Creek Chapter. The Hunt offers each winner a shotgun, provided by the PA State Chapter, a set of camouflage clothing provided by Keystone Country Store and a set of turkey calls.

Along with the well established tradition of having a PA JAKES Hunt of a Lifetime there is also a tradition of a generous volunteer come forward to host the hunt. We were fortunate to have Bob Friedl of Timberdoodle Farms volunteer to host the hunt for the second time in the hunts history. Bob had also hosted the 2005 JAKES Hunt. Timberdoodle Farms is located near Port Alleghany, PA in McKean County. Skip Motts, Executive Director of the PA State Board of Directors who offers his time to volunteer and use of his camp Gutters Gulch which neighbors Timberdoodle Farms. Skip approached Bob to host the 2009 PA JAKES Hunt of a Lifetime and the rest is history. When I say the rest is history I mean it. Bob pulls all his tricks out of his hat to give the kids 5 star treatment. Bob got a lot of his pals in the turkey hunting industry to help with giving the kids a full red carpet experience. Bill Picard one of Bob's long time friends helped with all the details, Leslie and Mark Spornor did all the cooking for the hunt and what a spread, lunch and dinner prepared for kings! A Special thanks goes out to Mountain Hollow Game Calls and their pro staff. Mountain Hollow also donated each JAKE member a set of calls and provided guide and video service. Mountain Hollow pro staff Jerry Foster and Banquet Chairman for Ben Stimaker Memorial Chapter guided Tyler Nehrig's along

with Shane Funair Mountain Hollow pro-staff and cameraman for Tyler's hunt. Matt Nickolas Mountain Hollow pro-staff and cameraman/guide for Heather Sempowski's hunt. This hunt for the kids was the ultimate hunting experience, not to mention one of the best playgrounds to pursue wild turkeys on Timberdoodle Farms property. Dave Frontino and Alan Reynolds from Mountain Hollow game calls and Kinzua Valley Chapter also volunteered to help make the hunt a memorable experience.

Both Heather and Tyler set out early in the morning with each of their prospective guides and cameramen with hopes of connecting with that coveted gobbler. Both Heather and Tyler hunted till noon and were not able to fill their tags on this day however, there were some very close encounters. It just was not in the cards to harvest any birds that day but it did not go without an unbelievable experience for each JAKE member. At about 10am Matt struck 3 Longbeards with Heather however a good shot never presented itself for Heather to pull the trigger. That's why we call it turkey hunting!

The real fun started after the hunt and hearty lunch. All the kids were then involved in some clay target shooting ran by Skip Motts, Rusty Johnson, and Gary Beatty. Bob of course, performed his infamous golf

cart and ATV rides around the property with the kids as well. Then for a dinner or more like a feast to cap off the day was in order. The camaraderie and friendships made with everyone involved will forever live in everyone's hearts. I have been sworn to secrecy but if you ask Tyler about his deer calling abilities he performed at dinner for everyone...well lets just say I bet you get a big smile on his face....but that story is for another time only to be discussed at Timberdoodle Farms!

Next years 2010 PA JAKES Hunt of a Lifetime is scheduled for the youth spring gobbler hunting day and the Armenia Mountain Spurs Chapter has volunteered to perform it at the Pine Lodge in Bradford County.

On behalf of the PA State Board of Directors and NWTf staff I would like to thank all volunteers involved to make this weekend a huge success and a special thanks to Bob Friedl for his generosity and passion to pass on to the future our beloved Hunting Heritage that we hold so sacred.



Not Without Terrific Friends

NWTF....we all think National Wild Turkey Federation when we see those initials. It also could mean "Not Without Terrific Friends", as I'm sure all of us reading this are involved in turkey hunting through experiences we shared with good friends over the years.



Jack

We've all watched the classic film "It's a Wonderful Life". Ever think back to the person or persons who introduced you to hunting? In my case, the first person I think of would be my Dad. I can't remember the first time I "went hunting", I'm sure as a very small child Dad took the time to have me walk along on a squirrel hunt or some other hunting adventure in the mid 1960's, but certainly it was at such an early age I can't recall it today. I can't imagine how different my life would be if it wasn't for this hunting passion my father instilled in me.

Many years later, the summer of 1981 to be exact, I met the guy who started me down this path of being a devoted turkey hunter. My employer asked me to be involved with the hands-on testing of a newly constructed automated warehouse operation in the Mechanicsburg, PA area. My lead contact on this project was a programmer by the name of Jack Eshenour. As is always the case, when two hunters get together it's soon discovered they share an interest, and this too was the case with Jack and I.

I had just been married in June of that year, and when Jack asked me if I'd like to hunt turkeys and bear in Potter County later that fall, he did so with a teasing "and I'll send a note home to the new bride if that's what it takes!" - I can still see the sly smirk and twinkle in his eye as he said that. Little did I know that I was about to be bitten by a bug that would become a huge part of my life.

I recall us arriving at Cobb Hill Camp late on Friday night where I met Smitty, Don, and Robbie. They reported they had seen turkeys in Moxie Hollow that evening so it was decided that's where we'd go the next day, which was the last day of the fall turkey season.

After a great breakfast, we drove the short distance to "The Moxie", and Jack pointed about 3 ridges away from where we parked as he said "that's where we're going". I looked at the distance involved, and back at Jack, who was not a small person by any means, and I have to admit I thought "yeah right"! Well... sure enough a short time later we arrived at the top of that third ridge, and I remember I sure was feeling a lot more winded than Jack appeared to be!

Not long after our arrival on that ridge top three shots rang out. Jack said we needed to work our way in that direction as he was suspicious of those shots being taken at a flock of turkeys. Sure enough, his hunch was right because soon we heard a turkey "whistling". I remember how impressed I was as Jack expertly answered the turkey, and delivered it into my zone of fire, where my "turkey gun"

(a Mossberg 12 gauge bolt action with a poly-choked muzzle) claimed my first wild turkey harvest...but not until I chased it down, through a swamp, and I can still hear "pour the chemicals to it Harold!" as I was cheered on like a beagle chasing a rabbit! We all had a great laugh for many years about my first turkey in the Moxie.

That experience got me hooked on turkey hunting. A few years ago, we lost Jack to a sudden health issue and he's no longer physically sharing the turkey woods with us. But as Randy Travis sings in his song "3 Wooden Crosses" - "I guess it's not what you take when you leave this world behind you, it's what you leave behind you when you go" - I hope Jack approves of this turkey hunter he created that November day almost 30 years ago. I know I still ask for his help most days while pursuing his favorite quarry.

Through my interest in turkey hunting, I have met wonderful new friends who were volunteers with the Lykens Valley NWTF chapter, and a couple of years ago when I was elected to the PANWTF board I met more great "turkey friends" from all around the state of Pennsylvania.

The NWTF: National Wild Turkey Federation.

But also -
NWTF:
Not
Without
Terrific
Friends!

Our love of the outdoors in general and admiration for the wild turkey in particular keeps all of us connected and volunteering, driving habitat restoration projects, awarding scholarships to the future conservationists who will continue to preserve and protect our hunting heritage, and turkeys to feed local needy families through the Turkey Hunter's Care program. I hope you just shared a wonderful 2009 spring turkey season with your close friends and I wish you many many more seasons of the same.

Harold Daub

By Bob Eriksen, NWTF Regional Biologist



When organizations join forces there is usually mutual benefit derived. The National Wild Turkey Federation has a long history of partnerships with a number of state and federal agencies and with other conservation groups. These relationships have been forged over the years when the partners were working on issues affecting both parties, or more often, when several parties were affected. On the national level, NWTF has worked closely with the United State Department of Agriculture (USDA) U.S. Forest Service (USFS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Farm Service Agency (FSA). We have developed good communication with the Department of Interior U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and National Park Service (NPS). Many good projects have been accomplished on Department of Defense properties held by the Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and on a number of military installations. Though we do not always agree on all issues affecting our natural resources, these partnerships have enabled NWTF to help shape the goals and direction of natural resource management.

In addition to federal agencies, NWTF has developed strong ties with other conservation groups on the national level. Some examples include the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Wildlife Forever, Ducks Unlimited, Pheasants Forever, Quail Unlimited, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and others. In many areas of the country NWTF has been able to work closely with

these organizations to literally accomplish more habitat enhancement on the ground.

Partnerships don't only take place at the national level. Our strongest partnerships over the years have been with state wildlife agencies. The rapport we have with wildlife agencies throughout the country is shown through the participation they provide on our National Wild Turkey Technical Committee helping give guidance and direction to NWTF programs. NWTF has signed Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with all the wildlife agencies across the country in which we agree to work closely for the conservation of the wild turkey and other wildlife resources and to preserve our hunting tradition. On the ground these agreements allow NWTF to interact with land managers, research biologists and conservation officers to enhance and protect the wild turkey resource. More recently we have begun to pursue similar partnerships with state forestry agencies.

These partnerships do not only work from the top down. Our local chapter system is another example of partnership. You as a local chapter member are partnered with NWTF on the national level to work locally through outreach programs and fund-raisers to make things happen on the local level that would never be possible without your dedication. Many of our chapters in Pennsylvania are actively involved in assisting Game Commission land management officers, crew supervisors, law enforcement officers and biologists with their missions. Other chapters have devel-



oped a relationship with local crews from the Bureau of Forestry. Still others work with the Army Corps of Engineers.

Some chapters actually get out on the ground and get their hands dirty working to improve wildlife habitat on public lands. Others do so by providing funding that allows land managers to purchase equipment, seed, fertilizer and lime. In return, state and federal agency personnel in Pennsylvania work on PANWTF outreach events, attend local banquets and make sure you get the most bang for the dollars you provide to their programs.

Without a doubt, partnerships are the most important component of the success NWTF has had in the conservation community. The basic foundation of that success is the partnership we have with you, our volunteers. Your sweat equity has made Pennsylvania a better place to hunt. Your dedication has given young people, women and disabled persons opportunity that they might never have had. Your continued interest in our mission is critical to the future of wildlife, of the hunting tradition and maintaining our freedoms. Our national economic situation is bound to affect you personally and PANWTF as an organization. The Pennsylvania Chapter Board of Directors is watching the budget carefully and that group of volunteers is making sure that the dollars you raise are used wisely, making conservation happen in the Keystone State. Keep up the good work, Pennsylvania Chapter members!



“Without a doubt, partnerships are the most important component of the success NWTF has had in the conservation community.”

Partnerships with Millcreek Chapter are Improving Habitat

Submitted by: Daniel Tollini (Millcreek Chapter member)



In April 2007, members of the Millcreek Chapter and Walmart employees planted approximately 400 mast-producing trees and shrubs in three one-acre fenced enclosures to improve wildlife habitat on State Game Lands 244 located in Knox Township, Jefferson County, Pennsylvania. Unfortunately, due to a temporary drought lasting into June of that year, several of those trees and shrubs did not survive. In July, 2008, members of the Millcreek Chapter removed the tree tubes and wooden stakes from the dead trees and shrubs so that they could be used again on future habitat projects.

On April 11, 2009, Millcreek Chapter members and Walmart employees once again worked in conjunction to replant these three fenced areas. This combined group of approximately 40 participants planted 150 mast-producing trees and shrubs, installed tree tubes to protect against girdling by small mammals, and applied fertilizer to the newly planted trees and shrubs as well as the existing trees that had survived the drought.

In addition to the hands-on cooperative effort of these two groups, funding from both the PANWTF Superfund and from Walmart was allocated toward the purchase of cool season grass seed (clovers and trefoil), oats (as a cover crop) and fertilizer. These were utilized by the Pennsylvania Game Commission to create a three-acre herbaceous opening adjacent to a habitat improvement site completed by the Millcreek Chapter in 2008 and also located on this State Game Lands.

The work performed by the Millcreek Chapter, local Walmart employees, and the Pennsylvania Game Commission has enhanced wild turkey habitat as well as wildlife habitat in general and has created a partnership among these three groups that we hope will continue into the future. These habitat projects would not be possible without the funding allocated through the PANWTF Superfund as well as the donations of money and manpower from Walmart.

Beaver County's 2nd Chance Tom's and PGC join Forces on "Operation Appleseed"

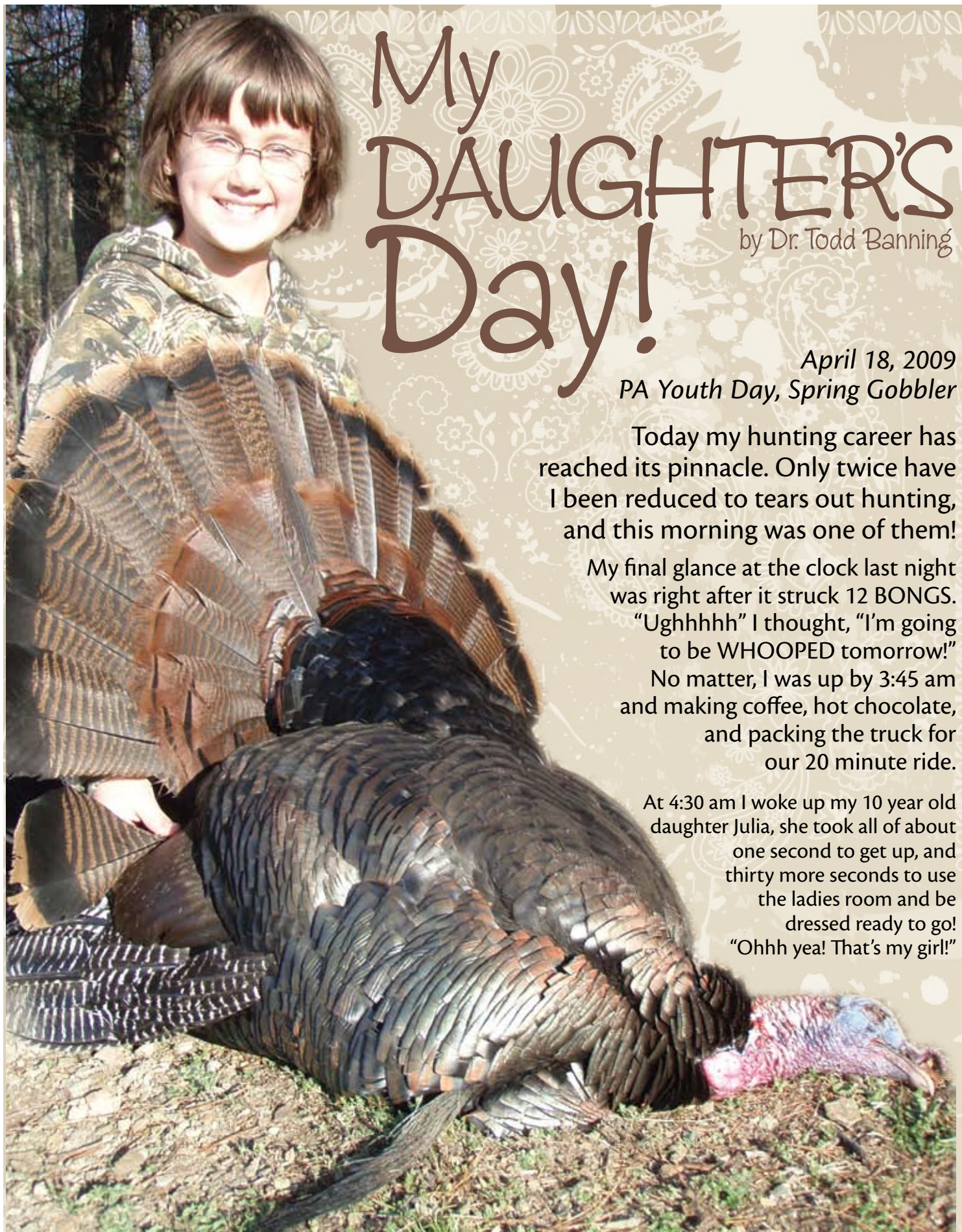


Cannellton, Pa - Committee members and volunteers from the NWTF's Beaver County 2nd Chance Tom's Chapter teamed up with the PGC on Operation Appleseed in SGL 285. "The old rifle range was being closed due to its condition, vandalism and safety concerns, so we've partnered with the NWTF to reclaim the site for the benefit of songbirds, grouse, wild turkeys and other species", said Bob Coral, PGC Southwest Regional Land Supervisor. Don 'Nort' Short, Chapter President, echoed Bob's passion to turn a bad situation into a good one for turkeys, "SGL285 was heavily strip mined in the 40s and 50s and our chapter is trying to reverse the damage. The rifle range turned out to be a perfect opportunity to kill two birds with one stone".



The chapter was granted 25 seedlings, which were planted by the following volunteers, from left to right:

1st row: Julia Ehrman, Christian Ehrman & Emily Ehrman
2nd row: Brandon Short & Lily (the 2nd most famous Jack Russell Terrier in Pa.) Sean Ehrman & Kim Short
3rd row: Bob Ehrman, Don 'Nort' Short, Shania Short & Mark Bonessi



My DAUGHTER'S Day!

by Dr. Todd Banning

April 18, 2009

PA Youth Day, Spring Gobbler

Today my hunting career has reached its pinnacle. Only twice have I been reduced to tears out hunting, and this morning was one of them!

My final glance at the clock last night was right after it struck 12 BONGS.

"Ughhhhh" I thought, "I'm going to be WHOOPED tomorrow!"

No matter, I was up by 3:45 am and making coffee, hot chocolate, and packing the truck for our 20 minute ride.

At 4:30 am I woke up my 10 year old daughter Julia, she took all of about one second to get up, and thirty more seconds to use the ladies room and be dressed ready to go! "Ohhh yea! That's my girl!"

“Then as if
a ghost,
he came out.
Instant
strut fest!”

By 5:00 am we were hiking up my buddy's (Randy) field edge to our blind that he had already set up for us at our predetermined location that required about five phone calls between us. He even put a big buddy heater in it to my surprise. Randy, let me just say is a top notch grade A man! I'm proud to call him my friend, and turkey hunting mentor. He was heading out fishing with a couple other guys at dawn so he couldn't join us, but he thought about it! Anyway, Julia and I get settled in the blind, 10 yards from the field edge. Did I mention Randy used his front end loader to cut some shooting lanes. So one of the lanes I marched out my Hazel Creek hen decoy to 20 paces and my Hazel Creek jake decoy to about 24 paces. Then, I broke out the sleeping bag and told Jules to take a nap. "I'll wake you if anything happens", within minutes she was snoring ever so lightly. I on the other hand, couldn't have slept even if they gave me an intravenous sedative!

Dawn came, and went. NOTHING!!! Not a gobble. Uh oh, I thought. Then, at about sunrise, 6:20 am, I heard a couple of hens cackle as they flew down about 150 yards behind us. I knew the trees in which they slept. "Oh GOOODY". I thought to myself. It is dry here, so I knew I'd hear them coming. Jules slept on. Then I heard them coming through the woods off to our right, at about 7:00 am. I quietly woke up Jules and she sprung to the ready! Shortly thereafter one, two, then three hens popped into the field about 10 yards behind one another. Julia said, upon the third one entering and my announcement of another hen "Aw, man, I wish one was a boy!" It seemed like hours passed as we watched two of the three hens preen themselves and dust for awhile all of about 40 yards in front of us. They just about ignored the decoys I had out, but you could tell they knew they were there.

Then, as if a ghost, he came out. He popped into the field farther to the right and away from us, about 125 yards when we saw him as he came out of a depression in the field. Instant strut fest!

For what seemed like hours, we watched as he courted two hens. The third hen had walked through our setup, we never saw her again. Try as I might he ignored all I threw at him but for one time he gobbled. At that, Julia lifted her eyes from my binoculars and gave me that "OH WOW" look silently. I smiled to myself. After about 30 minutes of that I just couldn't take it anymore. Figuring little to lose, I got REAL aggressive with calling. I used a Rick White Box Call, a Hooks Mouth Call, and my Enticer Wet One with an aluminum arrow striker. I "let'R'rip" and, I couldn't believe it! As Julia was saying for the fourth time "I don't think he will ever come up here Dad." The two hens about bolted to where they came from and then the gobbler found himself standing there in half strut clearly in disbelief that he was suddenly all alone. In an instant he spun around looking for more admirers. So, I obliged and laid it on thicker and even heavier with my calling. I'm not sure I could call more aggressive if I tried. In a flash he popped out of strut and headed right to us. It was a mad scramble to get ready as he covered about 125 yards in 10 seconds! Then he came in, circled my jake decoy and flogged him once then went into strut and spit and drummed once facing directly away from us at all of 20 yards, oblivious of our presence. Now, I'm breathing at about 40 breaths a minute, my heart rate going about 160 - it was nothing like hunting for myself. I could, being right next to her, hear Julia breathing heavy and I could literally feel her heart beating.

Now, in my uncontrollable excitement, here is where I almost failed as a guide. I must have said "shoot, no wait, shoot, no wait wait!!" three or four times as he spun around the decoys ignoring us between 18 and 22 yards out. He flogged the jake decoy again and then I finally gathered myself for Julia's sake and told her that "I'm going to call and try and get him to poke his neck up. When he does and I say shoot, shoot him in his neck."

So, I cutt hard on the Hooks diaphragm and he peeked straight up and I said, "shoot" and



BOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOM! Stone dead he dropped. I never had to touch the gun after loading it up for her, other than steadying the Primos bipod on which it rested. The rest was ALL her and I was never prouder. All the time on our range with her youth Remington 11-87, 20 gauge had paid off!

Well, I went nuts and Julia and I was shaking. Even knowing he was down for the count, I anxiously but deliberately unloaded the gun and then we hugged and high fived and kissed. Then I said, "Let's go get your turkey Jules!" The first thing she said, "Dad, you're going to have to carry him, he is too big for me to carry!" and we both laughed out loud at that.

As I got choked up then, getting all misty eyed, she said in true 4th grader form "Come on DAD!" I couldn't help it! All you DADS out there KNOW what I'm talking about here!

We took some pictures, and then went down to my buddy's house where his fiancé took some more pictures for us. I thanked her incessantly, though no thanks are necessary between us and them. Then we, at Julia's request mind you, drove to my Moms, then to my Wife's Moms, then to Dunkin Donuts for a celebratory TREAT!

It is by far the best day of my hunting career, tied with the last hunt I went on with my father before he passed away. I will never forget either as long as I live.

Since then, our phone has been rather busy with friends and family congratulating Julia on her success. A prouder father could not be found! Already I can't wait till next year!

Thanks to the PGC for allowing this to happen. Though obviously biased, I think the Mentored Youth program is the best thing that has ever happened to youth hunting in PA.

Teague & Trent Smith Double Success!!



10 year old Twin brothers, Teague and Trent Smith from Northampton, PA each shot a turkey while hunting in Pike County with their dad, Thad Smith and hunting partner Scott Wojton. Teague shot a 2 year old bird weighing 16 1/4 lbs with a 7 inch beard. We worked the bird off the roost and he finally got a shot at 6:40 AM. As we were celebrating Teague's

success, we heard another gobble. We quickly sat down and started to call. We realized we had a Tom racing a group of Jakes to our calling. Within a couple of minutes, three Jakes crossed in front of Trent at 20 yards and he shot the lead bird. The Jake was 13 1/2 lbs with a 4 inch beard. Trent had his bird by 7:10 AM. This was their second season going with their dad and their first birds.

Jessica Ferdinand shows Good Sportsmanship!



Jessica Ferdinand from Northville Michigan is shown here with her father Mark of Drums, PA. Jessica harvested the first turkey she has ever taken and completed this task with bow and arrow. Jessica is 14 years old and a JAKES member of the Honey Hole Longbeards Chapter of the NWTF of which her father is the Chapter President. Jessica's quest the last three years has been to harvest a spring gobbler with the bow. She has spent countless hours practicing at a local archery shop and archery club here in Pa visiting her father and while in Michigan. Jessica flew in specifically to participate in the PA Youth Turkey hunt and spend some quality time with her father and at 7:15 AM on the Youth Turkey Day, this gobbler presented Jessica with a 5 yard shot as it strutted among the strutting Jake and Breeding hen decoys set in front of her Double Bull Blind. A very happy and excited Jessica would like to extend a special thanks to club members (Kenny and Leo HHLB members) for helping with blind and decoy setups and to her father for his expert calling.

Red Rock Chapter hosts 12th Annual J.A.K.E.S. Field Day Event

By Chastity King



A beautiful spring day was enjoyed by all as the Red Rock Chapter held their twelfth annual JAKES and Xtreme JAKES Event at the Moon Lake Park in Luzerne County on April 19, 2009. The event was attended by approximately 300 youth and their families. The event was held the day after the youth turkey hunt so you can imagine how many stories the youth and their mentor's had to share, both harvested gobblers and the ones that got away.

Many individuals and organizations provided a variety of hand on learning stations

for youth ages 17 years and younger. The Red Rock Chapter provides two sets of learning stations one set designed for J.A.K.E.S. and another set for Xtreme J.A.K.E.S. The J.A.K.E.S. learning stations included .22 range, archery range, outdoor cooking, furbearers of Pennsylvania, mountain man, first aid, turkey calling and fishing skills. The Xtreme J.A.K.E.S. learning stations included trap shooting range, 3-D archery range, outdoor cooking, fishing skills, outdoor survival and turkey calling.

The participants and their families seemed to enjoy the day's activities and many smiles and shouts of success could be seen and heard throughout the park. Each participant took advantage of the opportunity to develop a new outdoor interest or learn a new skill or technique to perfect an old interest. All youth received a J.A.K.E.S. or Xtreme J.A.K.E.S. membership, a Red Rock Chapter J.A.K.E.S. Day t-shirt, a goodie bag, a turkey tube call or mouth call, first aid kit, and door prize chance thanks to the many businesses and individuals who donated items. According to the many comments and interviews throughout the day some of the most popular activi-

ties were the shooting ranges, archery ranges and outdoor cooking stations.

Some of the organizations that were involved in our J.A.K.E.S. Event included the Pennsylvania Game Commission, the Pennsylvania Trappers Association, Mike Lo Dolce from Tight Lines Guide Service, members of Lunker Landers Bass Club, the Susquehanna branch of the QDMA, Girl Scouts of America, West Wyoming Ambulance crew, Trans-Med Ambulance volunteer and many individuals.

The Red Rock Chapter J.A.K.E.S. committee would like to take a moment to thank the many volunteers and organizations that donated their time and talents to make this event a great success. A special thanks goes out to the staff of Moon Lake Park for their dedication and hard work and the Luzerne County Commissioners for allowing us to use the park for our activities. To date this was the Red Rock Chapter's largest event with 313 registered JAKES members and over 200 parents in attendance. If you would like to see more information on our J.A.K.E.S. Event or activities please check out our website www.redrockchapternwtf.org.



STRUT ZONE

A Proud Dean Zimmerman with grandsons, Danny & Shaun

Dean Zimmerman was able to experience a terrific day with his two grandsons on Saturday. A friend from our local Chapter accompanied Dean and his two grandsons on the youth hunt on Saturday. In Dean's words: "I took my two grandsons hunting today for the first time. At 9:35, we had two toms and a jake come into our calls and decoy. Shaun and Danny shot at the same time and the picture shows the end result. We'll be after that jake when he gets bigger. Thanks to the farmer for allowing us to hunt on his property and to Mike Oxendine for doing a great job with me to mentor a grateful 11 and 12 year old on their first turkey experience."



Kevin Chura Xtreme Hunt!

Kevin Chura of Hazle Township is shown here with a gobbler taken on the 2009 Youth Turkey Day. Kevin, a 14 year old Honey Hole Longbeards Chapter NWTF Jake member along with his father Mike (also a HHLB member) who accompanied him, were hunting in the Sugarloaf area when this gobbler responded to his father's calls. The 21lb. gobbler sported a 9.5" beard and almost 1 inch spurs.



Maddie Daub You Go Girl!!



Beard was 9 3/4". Weight was 16.5 lbs.
Spurs were 1 inch.
Date of kill: April 18th, Youth Day.
Time of kill: 8:00 am.

Sarah got her bird the morning of April 25.
It was 18 pounds, had an 8 inch beard
and had 1 1/16" spurs.

Sarah Welsh and her Trophy Tom!



Joshua Skrapits Born to Hunt!



It was the perfect bonding day for the Skrapits family of Northampton Co. Not only was it a lively spring morning with the birds singing everywhere, his mom called this jake in for Joshua to bring home for supper! A tradition that will be passed on.



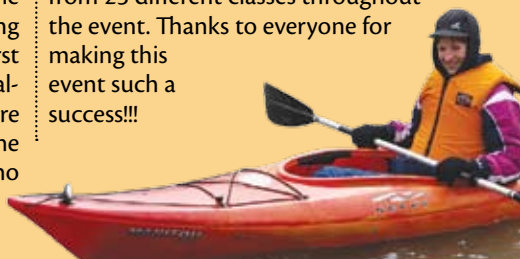
**11th Annual
PA State
Women in the
Outdoors Event
March 27-29, 2009**

A special thank you to all the ladies who participated in the event this year and to our very special instructors who instructed. Without you, this event would not be possible. The weather cooperated with us this year. There was no snow!!! And only a little rain. But the little rain we had didn't dampen the spirit of the ladies. The ladies were real troopers.

Friday evening was Get to Know you time for meeting new people and also rekindling friendships from past events. We had our first ever Chili Cook-off and 17 ladies took the challenge to participate. It's amazing that there are so many different variations of chili. Everyone did an awesome job. Thanks everyone who participated.

Saturday evening, Jack Lineman taught us about Roping and had the ladies roping steer like professionals. Jack competed in "saddle bronc riding" for several years before he learned to rope. He began roping in professional rodeo in 1987 as a team roper. Thanks so much Jack.

The ladies had the opportunity to choose from 23 different classes throughout the event. Thanks to everyone for making this event such a success!!!



2009 Women in the Outdoors Events in Pennsylvania

Do you enjoy activities in the out of doors? Would you like to learn outdoor skills or brush up on old ones, and network with other women who enjoy the same outdoor activities as you enjoy? Then come and participate in a National Wild Turkey Federation's Women in the Outdoors event! You will learn outdoor skills in a non-competitive environment. Skills that you can take home and share with family and friends. Make new friends and maybe take up a new hobby.

July 18 • Southern End Strutters
Stacy Padilione (717) 419-7127
**Southern Lancaster County
Farmer-Sportsmen Association,**
(Lancaster County)

July 25 • Mon Valley Longbeards
Helen Bittorf (724) 497-3072
hbittorf@yahoo.com
Star Junction Fish & Game,
Perryopolis (Fayette County)

Aug. 8 • Mt. Pisgah State Park
Nicole Carman Harris (570) 297-2734
nicolecarman@yahoo.com
Mt. Pisgah State Park,
Troy (Bradford County)

Aug. 15 • Lower Bucks Longbeards
Dawn Secret (267) 253 9002
girlshunt2@comcast.net
Langhorne Rod & Gun Club,
Southampton (Bucks County)

Aug. 22 • Lakefront Gobbler
Brandie Wade (814) 756-3669
BrandieWade@parapack.com
Presque Isle State Park,
Erie (Erie County)

Sept. 12 • Southeast Silver Spurs
Kathy Michener (215) 249-9367
Jamkat1105@comcast.net
Wendy Freed 215-258-0331
**Branch Valley Fish, Game and
Forestry Assoc, Perkasio,**
(Bucks County)

**WHEELIN' SPORTSMEN
BENEFITS**



**Michaux Yellow Breeches
Wheelin' Sportsmen Benefit
Gun Bash**

Penn Twp. Firehall, Huntsdale, PA
Randy Rakers 717-243-1726

**Moraine Chapter's
4th Annual Wing Night,
August 22, 2009**
Butler City Hunting and Fishing Club,
East Butler, PA
Brandon Mowry 724-496-1849

**Allegheny Plateau Chapter's
2nd Annual Wheelin' Sportsmen
Benefit Trap Shoot,
August 23, 2009**
Greater Jackson Sportsman's Assoc.
Johnstown, PA
Bill Nagy 814-322-1735

Help start an NWTF Hunting Heritage Banquet in your hometown and enjoy these benefits:

- Have fun.
- Meet new friends and business contacts.
- Raise money to conserve wildlife,
and uphold our hunting traditions.

The NWTF is looking for volunteers to develop new chapters and banquet committees. Or join an existing committee and expand your network and the good you can do for wildlife and hunting.

Visit www.panwtf.org
or contact a regional director near you.



PENNSYLVANIA HUNTING HERITAGE BANQUETS JULY - SEPTEMBER

July 25.....	Susquehanna Longbeards	Woodward Twp. Fire Co., Linden	Bill Bean 570-322-3392
Aug. 15	Walking Purchase	Lehigh Twp. Country Garden, Cherryville.....	Katrina Skrapits 610-760-1689
Aug. 16	Western PA Regional Chapter Shoot/Banquet.....	Lawrence Co. Sportsmen's Assoc, Wampum	Gary Huff 724-946-2350
Aug. 21	Mehoopany Creek	Dotti-Lou Grove, Tunkannock.....	Diane Ogin 570-833-0793
Aug. 21	Allegheny Mountain.....	Bavarian Hall, Altoona	Kevin Kunsman 814-317-7535
Aug. 22	SUN Area.....	Grace Covenant Comm. Church, Middleburg.....	Glenn Dressler 570-374-1059
Aug. 22	East Coast Thunderin Toms	Comfort Suites, Bethlehem.....	Kelly Cameron 570-515-1041
Aug. 29	Kit-Han Ne	Kittanning Twp Firehall, Kittanning	Don Smail 724-545-9585
Sept. 12	Michaux Yellow Breeches.....	West Pennsboro Firehall, Plainfield.....	Randy Rakers 717-243-1726
Sept. 12	Ben Stimaker Memorial	Pine Creek Inn, West Galenton	Tim Holtz 814-647-5429
Sept. 26	Adams Co. Longbeards.....	Biglerville Firehall, Biglerville	Pat Reeve 717-677-9529
Sept. 30	Philadelphia County Fightin' Spurs	Canstatter's, Philadelphia	Greg Isabella 215-336-1710



THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE
NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION



INVEST ^{IN} OUR FUTURE Hunt. Conserve. Share.



YES!

I'd like to join the National Wild Turkey Federation, a non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation of the wild turkey and the preservation of the hunting tradition. This membership also enrolls me in my state and local chapters.

Member Benefits

Join the NWTF and enjoy exclusive membership benefits, including:

- Subscriptions to the NWTF's magazines
- Networking opportunities with hunting and conservation-minded people at NWTF banquets.
- Exclusive merchandise opportunities
- Access to articles and helpful hunting and conservation tips.
- Members-only message board access.
- Outreach programs for youth, women and people with disabilities.
- Exclusive online deals.
- Scholarships for students.
- Free or discounted seed through Project HELP and the Conservation Seed Program. (in participating states)
- Discounted land enhancement materials including tree seedlings, grass seeds, oat hay, netting and more through the NWTF's regional and national habitat programs. (in participating states)
- Land management advice from certified biologists.
- Habitat field days and workshops.
- Turkey records registration.
- The opportunity to vote in Board of Directors elections.
- NWTF decal.

- Regular Member: \$30
- Sponsor Member: \$235
- Women in the Outdoors: \$30
- JAKES Member (ages 12 & under): \$7
- Extrem JAKES Member (ages 13 - 17): \$10
- Wheelin' Sportsmen Member: \$30

Name: *(please print)* _____

Signature: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Master Card Visa

Credit Card #: _____

Exp. Date: _____

(Make checks payable to NWTF)

Send complete application to:

Carl Mowry • 288 Crisswell Rd • Butler, PA 16602