

# *Pennsylvania State Fox & Coyote Hunters inc.*

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

## Directors:

Mercy Ross Chris Meeker James Rogers Jay Roberts Ron Davis Ron Cole Chip Sorber Shaun Spencer  
Walter Vosefski Dave Hall Dick Bednarczyk

## Officers:

Jerry Ross, 603 Wilbur Ave., Sayre, PA 18840  
President  
Jack Sorber, 436 Cemetery Road, Little Meadows, PA 18830  
Vice-President

Marty Carr, 705 Pine St, Moscow, PA 18444  
Treasurer  
Patrick Carr, 4860 McDermott Rd., Bangor, PA 18013  
Secretary

## Summer Newsletter – June 2023

### Coyote Tournament Winners & 1<sup>st</sup> Deer and Bobcat Awards



Jerry Devine, 2<sup>nd</sup> left, 9<sup>th</sup> place, 38.7 lbs. and  
Wade Gray, center, 4<sup>th</sup> place 45.6 lbs.

State Champion Josh Fields, (l)  
55.12 lbs. Largest entry ever !!



Greg  
Reed, (l),  
2<sup>nd</sup> place,  
46.7 lbs.

Jack  
Sorber, (r)  
3<sup>rd</sup> place,  
46 lbs.





Zack Kinney, 5<sup>th</sup> place, 45 lbs.



Luke Kirby, 6<sup>th</sup> place, 44.9 lbs.



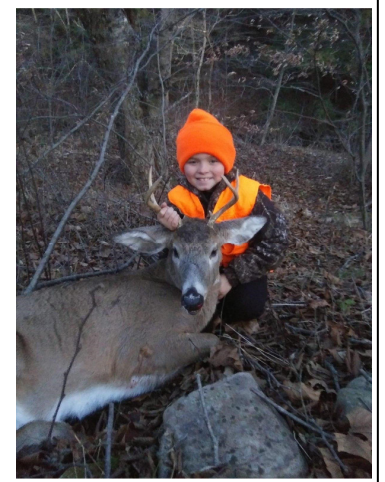
Chris Meeker, 7<sup>th</sup> place, 43.1 lbs.



Chet Pawelski, 8<sup>th</sup> place, 42.33 lbs.



Cooper Shaw, grandson of Jim Hoodak, with 1<sup>st</sup> deer and 1<sup>st</sup> Bobcat. Wow !!



Isabel Sorber, (above), granddaughter of Chip Sorber and Kristin Davis (right), granddaughter of Ron Davis, each with their 1<sup>st</sup> deer



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

2023 could be an ominous year for Pennsylvania Houndsmen. At this point we are concerned with seven bills listed below which have either been introduced or are expected to appear.

Soon, we will be in contact with the PGC in order to schedule the Sporting Dog Owner's Meeting in Harrisburg.

Preparations for Family Day are outlined below. We hope to see many of you at the Sorber Cabin near Noxen, Wyoming County on July 15<sup>th</sup>. We plan to make it a "fun day".

### **Josh Fields a three-time State Champion – Caden Jennings wins Youth Division again!**

Josh Fields again captured first place honors with his 55.12-pound coyote taken in Chenango, New York. This marks the third time that Josh has garnered the Championship and his specimen represents the heaviest ever entered in our hunt.

Caden was featured on the cover of the March Newsletter with his 39.2 lb. entry. Congratulations Josh and Caden!

### **Annual Meeting Held on Saturday, April 22nd.**

The Annual Meeting of the Pennsylvania State Fox & Coyote Hunters Assn. was held on Saturday, April 22nd at the American Legion in Wyalusing, PA. Chaired by President Jerry Ross, the meeting was attended by approximately 60 members and guests. Officers reported on legislative matters, recent PGC Citations and reviewed the 2022 Sporting Dog Owner's Meeting with the Game Commission. Audit Chairman Jerry Devine reported the satisfactory audit of financial records and Nominating Committee Chairman Chip Sorber presented the nominees for 2023. Other Officers and Directors provided details regarding financial status, membership, goals & objectives and recent accomplishments.

### **State Representatives Attend our Annual Meeting**

Tina Pickett, Representative for Legislative District 110 and James Haddock representing District 118, both attended our Annual Meeting and provided useful insight and information regarding bills significant to the sporting community.

Tina has been a steadfast supporter and frequent presence at our meetings, while James Haddock has been a member, hound owner and coyote hunter for several years prior to his recent election.

We were honored by their presence and grateful for their invaluable support.

### **Election of Officers for 2023**

The following individuals recommended by the Nominating Committee, agreed to serve in the following capacities, and were elected unanimously:

<b>President</b>	<b>Jerry Ross (570) 423-3389</b>	<b>jross45@stny.rr.com</b>
<b>Vice-President</b>	<b>Jack Sorber (607) 427-2230</b>	<b>jacksorber@gmail.com</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Marty Carr (570) 842-8823</b>	<b>houndsmanmarty@gmail.com</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Patrick Carr (610) 841-6271</b>	<b>patrickcarr1212@att.net</b>

### **Appointment of Directors**

**Shaun Spencer, Walter Vosefski, Ron Cole, Jim Rogers, Ron Davis, Chip Sorber, Mercy Ross, Chris Meeker, Dick Bednarczyk, Dave Hall and Jay Roberts**

agreed to serve as directors for 2023. Their advice and counsel is critical to the continued success of the Association and their direct involvement is crucial for all of our activities.

### **Fund-raiser Raffle Drawing a Success!**

Thanks to all members who supported our recent fund raiser and special thanks to those who volunteered to sell additional tickets. Due to your support, we were able to clear approximately \$3000.00 which will be used to sustain our activities.

The lucky winners were as follows:

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Prize (Garmin Alpha– TT/15)</b>	<b>John Maneval</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Prize (\$400.00 or Special Cooler)</b>	<b>Colton Babcock</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Prize (\$150.00 Cabela’s Gift Card)</b>	<b>George Jones</b>

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

Gun Dog Supply, Sportmix Dog Food, Thunder Valley Pet Pantry, Sacandaga Dog Supply, Double U Hunting, PA Outdoor News, and Hunter’s Horn magazine. All companies listed provided gift certificates, subscriptions or merchandise. In addition, member Mike Brown of “Down Home Rice Pudding” provided his delicious product to enhance our dinner menu.

### **Legislative Monitoring – Pennsylvania**

**HB 529** – Would make it illegal to transport hounds in the exterior of vehicles, unless in an insulated dog box. (Our objection pertains to the insulation requirement which could be fatal in warmer weather). Sent to Judiciary March 17<sup>th</sup>.

**HB 549** – “All Dogs Equal” – Requires to same ventilation, ambient temperature, heat index values and ammonia ranges monitored and maintained by large commercial kennels be applied to all private kennels. Sent to Agriculture March 20<sup>th</sup>.

**HB 669** – Would provide for the revocation of a hunting license if merely accused of animal cruelty, prior to any hearing, trial or other defense afforded to the accused.

**SB907** (Last year’s bill number) – Provides for a reconstituted Dog Law Advisory Board. Last year we were accorded one seat, we are requesting a second seat to represent large sporting dogs.

**HB337** (Last year’s bill number) Commonly referred to as Libre’s Law, this suggested version would eliminate our exemption to the tethering bill, requiring that hounds/sled dogs be brought indoors if temperatures fall outside of 32 – 90 degrees.

**HB495** – While at first glance, this bill seems to address a clearly debatable issue – Monday vs. Saturday deer opener, it would set a dangerous precedent wherein the political body (Legislature) would make wildlife decisions instead of professional wildlife biologists and wildlife staff personnel. There is ample evidence in seven or eight other states wherein Wildlife Advisory Boards have been infiltrated and taken over by anti-hunting legislators. This would be clearly against the North American Model of Wildlife Management. It would also jeopardize Pennsylvania’s share of Pittman-Robertson revenue (\$38,340,930.00 for 2022). The P-R Act allows allocation of such funds only when the fish and wildlife department of the State has overall responsibility and accountability for the program.

**Project Coyote** – Would ban coyote tournaments. No bill introduced in Pennsylvania to this point, however proponents have vowed to do so. They have been successful in seven or eight states so far.

### **Welcome New Members!**

Recruiting efforts for 2023 is off to a good start. YTD 15 hunters have joined the Association. Since our last newsletter, Shannon Brendt, James Short, Dave Gelatt, Preston Lewis II and Ava DeMichele have come on board. Welcome hunters!

### **Reminder – Get Those Scholarship Applications In!!**

As we announced in the March Newsletter, this year we will continue our \$500.00 Scholarship program for five students, including the Dick Ross Memorial Scholarship, Roy Rosenbaum Memorial Scholarship, George Hobbs Memorial Scholarship and Western Boy's Honorary Scholarship. Parents and grandparents are reminded to ensure that your family's applications are in for our random drawing which will take place on Family Day. The scholarship form appeared in the March newsletter.

Additional copies may be requested from Dick Bednarczyk at (570)586-9270 or found on our website: [www.pafoxhunters.com](http://www.pafoxhunters.com).

### **Family Day – July 15th– Don't Miss It!**

On Saturday, July 15th, we will be hosting the Sixteenth Annual Family Day Picnic at Sorber Cabin, Sorber Mountain Road, near SGL 57, in Noxen, Wyoming County, PA. *As usual, there will be no charge to members for this event.* Members are reminded to remit their 2023 dues, if you have not already done so. Dues payment and new memberships will also be available at the event.

In order to offset some of our costs, we will be conducting a raffle drawing for a custom made donated 24" x 48" flag crafted by "Grain to Glory" Flag Co. Raffle tickets will be \$5.00 each with an extra ticket for each \$20.00 worth of tickets purchased.

We also plan to have an auction of items donated by our members.

**Note: Start Time – 9:00 am Activities Cease – 2:30 pm (approximately)**

There will be a full slate of activities including the following events:

- Family Picnic Menu – Serving starting at Noon
- Children's Bench Show and Instruction (must bring your own hound).
- Children's Turkey Calling Contest
- Paint Ball Coyote Shoot
- Baking Contest – see rules below.
- Retriever Dog Demo
- Black Powder Demo

### **What you should bring for the kids events.**

Your Association plans to have paint ball guns and turkey calls on hand. We recommend that families bring their own items, if you possess them, including insect and tick repellent. Hopefully the youngsters will feel more comfortable if they are familiar with their own equipment.

### **A Word of Caution about the Noxen Region**

Each year the Noxen Fire Dept. hosts a Rattlesnake Roundup. The region is home to Timber Rattlesnakes which are collected by experienced hunters who know how to locate and handle them safely.

While it may be rare to actually witness a rattler, we bring this to your attention as a precaution and ask that you confine your youngsters to the open area picnic grounds. Whenever Youth Events are held at the Sorber Cabin, the area is searched beforehand. We plan to continue that practice for our event.

**Family Day Chefs to add Sausage and Smoked Kielbassi to grill menu**

This year we will continue to enhance our usual picnic menu and will include Italian Sausage and Smoked Kielbassi to our usual grill items (burgers and hot dogs). There will be a full selection of side items typical of picnic fare, including our special feature – Down Home Rice Pudding.

**Back by Popular Demand - Baking Contest to be held at Family Day Picnic**

Based upon suggestions from members who regularly attend Family Day, this year we will continue our baking contest - designed to be a fun event, in addition to providing a major enhancement to our picnic menu.

**Categories:** pies, cookies, cupcakes.

**Prizes:** Special gifts awarded in each category.

**Criteria:** Entries will be judged on appearance, taste, consistency and originality on a five-point scale.

**Logistics:** All entries will be submitted and numbered upon arrival to Family Day. Entries must be received before 11 a.m. at which time the judging will commence. Judges will taste & observe each entry and will score. Scores will be tallied and the winner will be chosen. After the judging is finished, entries will be served as the dessert for the day. Prizes will be awarded.

Please consider bringing your family favorite and help make this unique feature a success.

**Auction Items Requested from Members**

This year we plan to have an expanded “Theme Basket” auction. If you or your hunting group would like to donate a basket or any other item for the auction, it would be welcome. We ask that the basket be valued for at least \$20.00 and could represent any theme.

**Family Day RSVP Needed to Insure Adequate Preparations**

Please assist us in our preparations for this event by returning the following reservation form to Dick Bednarczyk, no later than July 9th. You can also phone or e-mail your reservation. Dick can be reached at (570)-586-9270, text at (570) 209-3700 or via e-mail at dick.bednarczyk@gmail.com.

**Dick Bednarczyk, PSFCA, 118 Commerce Drive, Scott Twp., PA 18447**

-----  
**Reservation Form – Please Print**  
**Pennsylvania State Fox & Coyote Hunters Assn Family Day**

**Member Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Adults:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Number of Children:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Do you plan to bring a hound for the children’s bench show?** Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Will you participate in the baking contest?** Yes: \_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_