

# Pennsylvania State Fox & Coyote Hunters inc.

## Directors:

Dick Bednarczyk Marty Carr Ron Cole Ron Davis Chris Meeker Mike Miele Aaron Montross Mike Murnin  
Jay Roberts Jerry Ross Mercy Ross Shawn Spencer Chip Sorber Walter Vosefski

## Officers:

Cas Bonczewski, 353 Center St., Covington Twp., PA 18444  
President

Betsey Ross, 379 Mills Road, Wyalusing, PA., 18853  
Secretary

Jack Sorber, 436 Cemetery Road, Little Meadows, PA. 18830  
Vice President

Pat Carr, 4860 McDermott Rd, Bangor, PA 18013  
Treasurer

## *Summer Newsletter – June 2025*



Chris Meeker, (r ):  
“ The hound in the middle of the picture is my hound Jeter. He was diagnosed with lymphoma in November and I lost him yesterday. That was the last coyote he got to chase and I was able to shoot it. I never should have been able to kill it with how far it was and with how thick it was. I truly believe the man upstairs made it all happen. I sent that hide off to get tanned. Jeter was a good hound and I am sure going to miss him. We killed quite a few coyotes in front of him this year. My goal was to give him the best few months that I could.”

### **Jeter - A tribute to a fine hound !**

Those of us who have spent the greater portion of our lifetime in the company of hounds, can empathize with the sentiments expressed by Chris Meeker (above). Even more impactful is the fact that the coyote pictured earned Chris 8<sup>th</sup> place in this year's hunt.

## From the President's Pen...

As I begin the role of president, I thought I would give a brief intro for those of you who may not know me or were not at the annual meeting.

My name is Cas Bonczewski from Daleville, PA. I'm 62, married with 2 daughters and 4 grandkids. Got my first hound from an old fox hunter about 52 years ago. I've always been a Plott guy but currently have 1 Kemmer Cur, 1 Plott, 2 Leopards and 1 Treeing Walker. My main focus is coyote hunting but I'm always trying for that real cat dog as well! Going forward, feel free to reach out to me at any time with questions, concerns or issues.

## Vice President Jack Sorber a three-time State Champion!

Jack Sorber again captured first place honors with his 52.5-pound coyote taken in Bradford County. Jack also won the Championship in 2018 (51.5 lbs.) and 2019 (51.35 lbs.) Congratulations Jack! All 2025 winners appear below:



3<sup>rd</sup> time State Champion – VP  
Jack Sorber, right, 52.5 lbs.



2<sup>nd</sup> place – Bruce Tewksbury, 2<sup>nd</sup> right, 48.5 lbs.  
9<sup>th</sup> place – Jerry Devine, right, 38.6 lbs.



Chris Jennings, 10<sup>th</sup> place, 32.2 lbs.



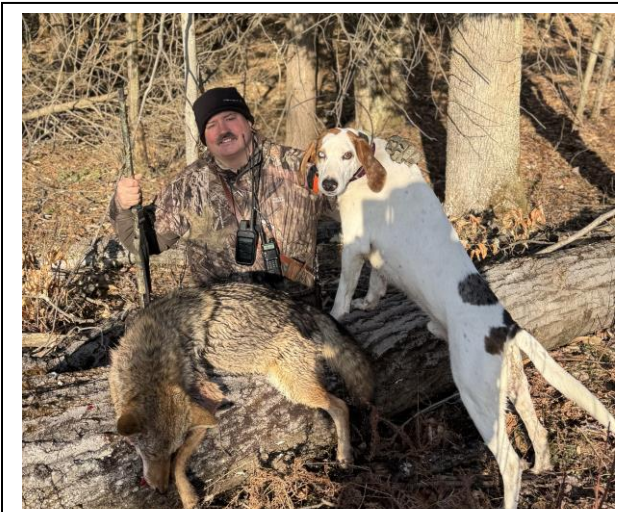
5<sup>th</sup> time Youth Champion, Caden Jennings,  
38.4 lbs.



Mike Murnin, left, 3<sup>rd</sup> place, 46.2 lbs., Jack Henderson, right, 6<sup>th</sup> place, 44.5 lbs.



Josh Fields, 4<sup>th</sup> place, 45.12 lbs.



Bill Joseph took 7<sup>th</sup> place with this 44.09 lb. female coyote in Wayne County.



Marquetta Pisarchik proves the ladies are great hunters with this 5<sup>th</sup> place 45.9 coyote.

### 2025 Memberships Now Due

At this point, everyone should have received their 2025 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 Patrick Carr, using the address which appears on the letterhead.

**Annual Meeting Held on Saturday, May 10th.**

The Annual Meeting of the Pennsylvania State Fox & Coyote Hunter’s Assn. was held on Saturday, May 10th at the American Legion in Wyalusing, PA. The meeting was attended by approximately 80 members and guests. Outgoing President Jerry Ross reported on legislative matters, President Cas Bonczewski covered our major accomplishments during 2024 and plans for 2025, and Director Dick Bednarczyk covered Game Commission related matters. Audit Chairman Jerry Devine reported the satisfactory audit of financial records and Nominating Committee Chairman Ron Cole presented the nominees for 2025.

**Election of Officers for 2025**

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

<b>President</b>	<b>Cas Bonczewski</b>	<b>(570) 977-4539</b>	<b>cbonczewski@msn.com</b>
<b>Vice-President</b>	<b>Jack Sorber</b>	<b>(607) 427-2230</b>	<b>jacksorber@gmail.com</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Pat Carr</b>	<b>(610) 841-6271</b>	<b>patrickcarr1212@att.net</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Betsey Ross</b>	<b>(570) 746-1661</b>	<b>bitzi1661@gmail.com</b>

**Appointment of Directors**

Dick Bednarczyk, Marty Carr, Ron Cole, Ron Davis, Chris Meeker, Mike Miele, Aaron Montross, Mike Murnin, Jay Roberts, Jerry Ross, Mercy Ross, Shawn Spencer, Chip Sorber and Walter Vosefski, agreed to serve as directors for 2025. Their advice and counsel will be 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>1st Prize (Garmin Alpha 300i– TT/25)</b>	<b>Doug Routch</b>
<b>2nd Prize (\$400.00 or Special Cooler)</b>	<b>Henry Allabaugh</b>
<b>3rd Prize (\$150.00 Cabela’s Gift Card)</b>	<b>Wrenly Smith</b>

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

As we announced in the March Newsletter, this year we will continue our \$500.00 Scholarship program to include five winners, including the Dick Ross Memorial Scholarship, Roy Rosenbaum Memorial Scholarship and the George Hobbs Memorial Scholarship. Parents and grandparents are reminded to ensure that your family’s applications are in for our random drawing which will take place on June 10th. The scholarship form appeared in the March newsletter.

Additional copies may be printed off of our website: [www.pafoxhunters.com](http://www.pafoxhunters.com).

### **Welcome New Members!**

Recruiting efforts for 2025 are off to a good start. YTD 18 hunters have joined the Association. Since our last newsletter, Holland and Leyland Bellas, Jared Bates, Duane Clark, Lisa Crawford, Bill Joseph, Dan Karlheim, Boone Mister, Teegan Moleski, Levi Niebauer, Rob Pepper, Frank Petrisko, Liston Ross, Brandon Sides, Brittany Smith, Doug Trinkley, and Aaron and Josiah Holdren 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!

### **A Special Thanks to Secretary Betsey Ross**

A lot of “heavy lifting” was done by Secretary Betsey Ross who successfully solicited donations for our door prize drawing from over 30 companies. In addition to our regular sponsors - Sportmix Dog Food, Thunder Valley Pet Pantry, Gundog Supply, PA Outdoor News, Double U Hunting Supply, Sacandaga Dog Supply, Down Home Rice Pudding and Hunter’s Horn magazine, Betsey received over \$1100.00 worth of prizes from Wal-Mart, Tractor Supply, PA Game Commission, Purina, Chewy, Coldstrike Gear, Primos, Mossy Oak, Deerfield Vet Clinic (NH), Sportsman’s Whse, Columbia, Houndsmen XP, Custom Tee Sales, Huntworth, PetMate, Dr Naylor Products, Musher’s Secret, State Line Pet, Worldwide Wildlife Products, Vet’s Best, Fur Fish & Game magazine and the Ross Family. A great job by our hard-working Secretary !

### **Sporting Dog Owner’s Meeting with PGC set for August 14<sup>th</sup>**

Our annual meeting with the Pennsylvania Game Commission has been scheduled for 1:00 pm, on Thursday, August 14<sup>th</sup> at PGC Headquarters, Elmerton Ave., Harrisburg.

Spokesmen for the PA Nite Hunters and Northeast Beagle Gun Dog Federation will assist in co-chairing the meeting, as is customary.

Your attendance at this meeting is welcome and vital to our ongoing efforts to preserve our sport.

### **Spring Hill Hounders Provide Significant Donation !**

Wade Gray’s Spring Hill Hounders recently provided a donation in the amount of \$350.00 designated to be used toward our legislative efforts in defense of our heritage of running hounds in the Commonwealth. Such gestures have become increasingly important over the past few years. The inflation factor has significantly impacted our financial posture since we have “held the line” on membership dues and most other pass-through pricing measures. Thanks again – Spring Hill Hounders !

### **Western Boy’s Coyote Team Renews Generous Donation !**

Director Jay Roberts has transmitted a check from the Western Boy’s Coyote Team in the amount of \$500.00 to be used to fund either their honorary scholarship or finance our legislative efforts. We deeply appreciate the generous support of this dynamic hunting group from the western part of our State. They have established Mercer County as a strong base for our advocacy. Much appreciated – Western Boy’s !

## Legislative Monitoring

**If you do not take an interest in the affairs of you government, then you are doomed to live under the rule of fools.**

**Plato**

## Pennsylvania

**HB 376: Transporting dogs in external section of vehicle.** - (Failed to advance over the last 2 two-year sessions. We expect it to go nowhere).

**HB 693: ‘All dogs equal’.** – Calls for same environmental standards for small kennels as commercial kennels. Monitoring of heat index, ammonia levels, etc.- (Failed to advance during last two -year session. We expect it to go nowhere).

**SB 391 & HB 70: Return to Monday Opener for Deer Season.** - Language is identical. The issue being that we do not want the politicians involved in setting seasons and bag limits. This has proven to be a disaster for hunters in states where this precedent has crept in.

**The PA Federation of Sportsmen’s Clubs and the Sportsmen’s Alliance** have emphatically opposed this incursion on wildlife decisions by politicians. *Would you want to have the very same Game & Fisheries Committees that in 2024 proposed issuing a citation to hunters if their hound failed to read no trespassing signs, and repeatedly proposed retracting the ability of an unarmed hunter to retrieve their hounds, in charge of seasons and bag limits ???*

**SB 67: Sunday Hunting Bill:** The preferred bill. Preserves the ability of an unarmed hunter to retrieve their dog without being subject to a trespassing citation’. Nothing included that we can’t live with. Endorsed by the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen’s Club.

**HB 851: Sunday Hunting Bill:** Removes ‘Right to Retrieve’, vague references to ‘HUNTING WITH HOUNDS OR FURTAKING’. (Unless amended, we will definitely oppose this bill. Referred to Game & Fisheries on March 10<sup>th</sup>.

**HB 1431 Sunday Hunting Bill:** Similar to the preferred Senate Bill, re-instates the dog retrieval amendment. Referred to Game & Fisheries on May 8th.

**HB 1075 Removes Cap on Purchase of Game Lands:** This bill would remove the current \$400.00 cap – per acre, that the PGC is allowed to spend for the acquisition of additional Game Lands. Referred to Game & Fisheries on March 31<sup>st</sup>.

**HB 800 Interference with Lawful Hunt:** A very comprehensive bill outlining numerous activities deemed as unlawful interference with an individual’s right to hunt, driving or disturbing wildlife, blocking, impeding, harassing, erecting barriers, etc.