

# Pennsylvania State Fox & Coyote Hunters inc.

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

## Directors

Mercy Ross James Rogers Jay Roberts Ron Davis Ron Cole Chip Sorber Shawn Spencer Walter Vosefski Dave Hall

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

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

( Vacant )  
Treasurer

Pat Carr, 4860 McDermott Rd., Bangor, PA 18013  
Secretary

## Summer Newsletter – June 2021

### First Harvest Awards and “Member’s Only” Coyote Tournament Winners



**Colton Luther, 1st place Youth Division, -age 6, 42.4 lbs. Dad Corey, 6<sup>th</sup>, 41.6 lbs.**

**Mentored Youth Rory Moher shows Grandpa Dick Bednarczyk how to get a big one!**

**14 year old Wyatt Lawrence, nephew of Dave Evans, with his first coyote-taken in Mercer County. Wyatt got his second coyote a few days later.**



**Joey Ross harvested this Maine bear over hounds. Joey has already taken his first buck and gobbler! Joey is the son of Joe and Mercy Ross.**

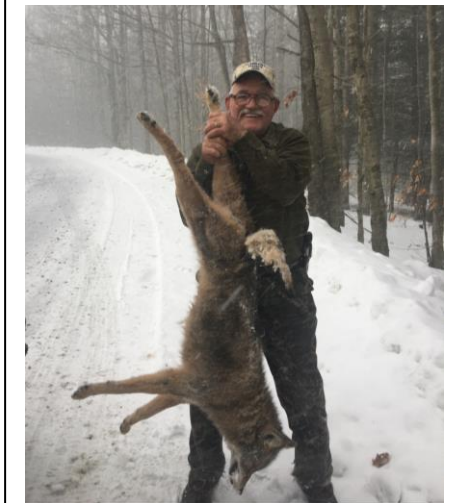


**Last year's State Champion Josh Fields (R). with a 46.5 lb. coyote. Josh tied Zach Kinney's 2021 winner with date of kill determining tie breaker!**

**Zach Kinney, (L) State Champion with 46.5 lb. coyote! Tied with Josh Fields. - Date determined winner.**



**Chris Meeker (L), 10th place at 36.65 lbs. and Barry Kytte (above) 7th place at 38.8 lbs.**



**Jack Sorber, 3rd and 4th places. 44.3 and 42.7 lbs.**



**Jerry Devine (2nd from R), 6th, 8th, & 9th places. 41.13, 38.8 and 37.4 lbs.**



**Tyler Peterson, 2nd place, Youth Division, 31 lbs.**

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

While we have seen some relaxation of Covid-19 restrictions begin to emerge, the Association feels it is most prudent to avoid any large gatherings at this point. Even though we are about 6 months into the vaccination program, there still remains a significant population who are not yet fully vaccinated, either by circumstances or choice, and new cases and deaths are reported daily.

In spite of the obstacles presented by Covid-19, the Pennsylvania State Fox and Coyote Hunter's will continue to monitor and respond to the myriad of legislative challenges which threaten our sport. Please pay special attention to the legislative information listed below.

### **Zack Kinney - 2021 State Champion!**

Zack Kinney captured first place honors with his 46 lb., 5 oz. coyote taken in Columbia County, PA. Coincidentally last year's Champion, Josh Fields, tied Zack with an identical weight yote, the date of kill determining the tie-breaker! Trophies will be shipped to the top ten entries, pictured above. The winning weights ranged from 46.5 lbs. to 36.65 lbs.

The Youth Winner- 6 year old Colton Luther, turned in a coyote weighing 42.4 lbs! Perennial youth division winner, Tyler Peterson took second place within the division. Trophies have been shipped to most winners at this point.

Our thanks are rendered to all members who supported the organization by registering for the event.

### **Officers to continue to serve for 2021.**

Due to our inability to hold the Annual Meeting, the following individuals agreed to continue in their present capacity until such time as circumstances allow us the conduct a proper election.

<b>President</b>	<b>Dick Bednarczyk</b>
<b>Vice-President</b>	<b>Jerry Ross</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Pat Carr</b>

### **Appointment of Directors**

**Shawn Spencer, Walter Vosefski, Ron Cole, Jim Rogers, Dave Hall, Ron Davis, Chip Sorber, Mercy Ross and Jay Roberts** agreed to serve as directors for 2021. Their advice and counsel is critical to the continued success of the Association and their direct involvement is crucial for all of our activities.

### **2021 Scholarship Winners**

The following students are designated winners of the 2021 PA State Fox & Coyote Hunter's Assn. Scholarship Program. Selection was made via random drawing on June 21st.

We offer our best wishes to the winners and all others who applied.

<b>Sean Sears</b>	<b>(Roy Rosenbaum Memorial Scholarship)</b>
<b>Leah Flynt</b>	<b>(Dick Ross Memorial Scholarship)</b>
<b>Tyler Peterson</b>	<b>(Western Boys Honorary Scholarship)</b>
<b>Reagan Allison</b>	
<b>Adalyn Kleintob</b>	

**Sean Sears** is the grandson of Walter Vosefski. He is a student at Bloomsburg University.

**Leah Flynt** is the granddaughter of Jerry Ross and is enrolled at Johnston Community College.

**Tyler Peterson** is a member in his own right. He also is the son of member Kirk Peterson and grandson of Ronald G. Sands and nephew of Ronald J. Sands. Tyler studies at Penn State.

**Adalyn Kleintob** is the granddaughter of Bill Babcock. She attends Thomas Jefferson University

**Reagan Allison** is the granddaughter of Carl Allison. Reagan is a student at Mercy College.

### **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 \$2800.00 which will be used to sustain our activities.

The lucky winners were as follows:

1st Prize (Garmin Alpha– TT/15)	Jack Hubley
2nd Prize (\$400.00 or Special Cooler)	Carl Allison
3rd Prize (\$150.00 Cabela’s Gift Card)	Corey Luther

### **Welcome New Members!**

Recruiting efforts for 2021 has yielded 18 members YTD. Since our last newsletter John Gibble, Kyle Miszler and Chuck Mister have come on board. Welcome hunters!

### **Members Make Significant Donations**

We extend our appreciation to John Gibble and Jim and Dawn Hardler of Pheasant Hill Birds for their recent donations to the Association. In addition to the financial assistance such donation provides, they offer a measure of satisfaction that our toil and efforts in defense of the sporting community are recognized and appreciated. Thank you Dawn, Jim and John!

### **2021 Memberships Now Due**

At this point, everyone should have received their 2021 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 Pat Carr, using the address which appears on the letterhead.

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

Johnson's Telemetry, Prowler/Quick Track, 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" provides his delicious product to enhance the menu at our events.

### **Legislative Monitoring – Pennsylvania**

There are a variety of gun control bills, too numerous to enumerate, which have been introduced in the legislature. Please be attentive to any notices from the NRA, Sportsmen's Alliance or PA Federation of Sportsmen and Conservationists should any of these proceed through the legislative process.

### **Legislative Monitoring – Pennsylvania**

As previously reported, we have been alerted that a group called Project Coyote along with two other PA based groups- Humane Action of Pittsburgh and Animal Wellness Action are starting a campaign to have all Wildlife Killing Contests banned in Pa.

In reviewing their website, it appears that they are well funded and well organized. Such measures have been successful in curtailing Coyote Tournaments in a few states, so far.

Most recently, they have introduced legislation to curtail contests in New York, New Jersey, Oregon and Nevada.

In our last Newsletter, (March 2021), we reported details of our teleconference with the PGC wherein they provided extremely useful insight and pledged their support.

Needless to say, we are closely monitoring this matter, in the event that it is brought to the legislative level.

### **Legislative Monitoring – Pennsylvania**

As recently reported by the Sportsmen's Alliance, the bill to resurrect anti tethering and introduce temperature restrictions still resides in the PA Legislature. We enjoyed success in defeating this bill through a sporting dog/sled dog exemption just three years ago. Nevertheless, final versions of the bill specifically targeted our language, attempting to overthrow our exemption.

This too will be closely monitored should the matter proceed through the legislative process.

### **Legislative Monitoring – Pennsylvania**

HB 526 / SB 232 will prove to be problematic, if passed without amendments. Two key features of the bills, which are several pages long, provide for a dog license fee increase to \$10.00, and ***the requirement to license puppies once they have reached 8 weeks of age***. While the fee increase may be debatable at best, the 8 week requirement is clearly unreasonable. In our view, it amounts punishment of the law abiding dog owner, rather than the policing of those who do not comply with the laws of the commonwealth. As of publication, these bills were referred to the Agricultural and Rural Affairs Committee on February 16, 2021.

**Legislative Monitoring – New Jersey**

**Assembly Bill 1365, Assembly Bill 3654 & Senate Bill 1176:**

While all three of these New Jersey bills differ slightly, they all intend to end wildlife contests in the state. AB 1365 makes it unlawful to take wildlife in any competitive event, including field trials and other canine events, and would even prevent big-buck contests, some turkey hunts and coyote contests. This bill was scheduled for a hearing earlier this year, but due to pushback it was pulled from the schedule. SB 1176 is the same bill as AB 1365 but has not been scheduled for any hearings. AB 3654 prohibits competitions for small game in the state but has not yet had a hearing.

**Legislative Monitoring – New York**

**Assembly Bill 5746 and Senate Bill 6643**

Prohibits contests where the objective is to take wildlife. These bills have exemptions for field trials, big-buck contests, bear contests and turkey contests. AB 5746 had a hearing this week in the Assembly Environmental Conservation committee where it narrowly passed. SB 6643 has not yet been scheduled for another hearing.

**Assembly Bill 1556:**

Prohibits tethering or penning a dog outside between the hours of 7 p.m. and 6 a.m. It was introduced in early 2021 and has yet to receive a hearing.

**Assembly Bill 2347:**

Creates felony penalties for anyone who leaves a dog outside without proper food water or shelter. Its ambiguous language can be interpreted many ways. This bill was introduced in January 2021 and has yet to receive a hearing.

*Editor's Note: The above information regarding the New Jersey and New York Bills has been provided by the Sportsmen's Alliance. The bills could be severely impactful for hound owners and should be monitored closely by affected residents.*

**Board of Commissioners Meetings Scheduled for July 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>.**

As of this publication, no determination has been reached as to whether the quarterly meeting will be held in person, or virtually. The Sporting Dog Owner's Meeting with the PGC typically follows the conclusion of the BOC event, although this is not always the case.

You may recall that we chose to cancel our meeting last year due to Covid - 19 concerns, which continue to be a serious consideration on our behalf.

At this point, we have not concluded, nor have we provided any input to the PGC regarding our desires to meet. Once a determination has been reached, we will provide a timely notification.