



Pennsylvania Bowhunting News

Preserving, Promoting & Protecting Bowhunting in Pennsylvania

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www.ubofpa.org

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LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Wes Waldron,
Chairman, UBP Legislative Committee

Lately my legislative reports have been somewhat lacking, something I must attribute to work and archery season. To be frank, the current legislative scene pretty much reeks of personal agenda, at least regarding the most important bills affecting hunters.

Since Senate Bill 1166 (to allow the PGC to set their own fee's) passed the Senate and was referred to the House Game & Fisheries Committee it has been the up-hill battle that I predicted. Finally passing the HG&FC in a 17-Yea, 8-Nay, and 2 No Votes and surviving a motion to table, which failed by an almost identical margin (9-Yea, 16-Nay & 2 NV) it has languished in the House as the Speaker of the House has failed to bring it to the floor for a vote. In a grand bully style, Representative Mike Hanna 76thDistrict, has pushed numerous amendments to 1166 (62 total- 50 of them from him alone) which has bogged down the process. Hanna's dislike of the PGC is well known and rumor has it that this stems from a family members multiple citations from the PGC for several game violations. Rumor also has Hanna vowing to destroy the PGC as it is and rebuild it to what *he* believes it should be.

As an aside, Hanna is facing an election challenge in his district from Republican newcomer Stephanie Borowicz, who supports 1166, and firearms rights. Hanna has created a TV ad claiming she wants to *exorbitantly* increase hunting license fees, which is a gross exaggeration of the fact. In my opinion, hunters in the 76th District would be better off with a change in representation.

House Bill 2083 (remove management of deer and habitat from the PGC and place it in the hands of USP and the Legislature) may have passed the House State Government Committee (It had to go there because the Game & Fisheries Committee would not run it) but thankfully it has made no more progress in the House. Those malcontents in the USP refuse to give up their infantile, misguided, and morally bankrupt agenda to institute the hypothetical *Maximum Sustained Yield* system of deer/habitat management, a concept that professional wildlife managers agree is implausible and counter-productive to wise scientific, and biologically sound wildlife and habitat management principles.

The House is currently on break and will convene again on November 14, 2016, but any legislation not presented to the House floor for a vote will die until they reconvene in 2017. **Now is the time to once again call your Representative, tell them you support 1166 and ask that they support it, as written and without amendments. Also tell them you oppose House Bill 2083 and want deer and habitat management to remain in the hands of the professionals of the Pennsylvania Game Commission. Makes no difference if you have called previously, call again.**

DALE MILLER PASSING

It is with great regret that we report the passing of UBP Life Member Dale Miller, 65, of Wellsboro while at his hunting camp in New York on October 7, 2016. Dale had served the UBP as a County Rep, Member of the Board, President, and most recently as Immediate Past President. He served as a pastor of the United Methodist Church for 20-years and then as counselor and crisis intervention for Tioga County. Dale was a Life Member of the NRA and Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association, and penned an outdoor column for the Wellsboro Gazette. He is survived by his wife Amy, sons Greg and Steven, and daughter Kristy. His passion for bow hunting was well known and his dedication to the UBP well documented. He will be missed and we offer our most sincere condolences to his family.

PRESIDENT RICK CONLEY: MEMO

An important event is coming up. The annual membership meeting will be held Sunday, February 19, 2017 starting at 9:30 AM. This meeting is very important as the Board of Directors will ask members present to ratify the changes to our bylaws. These changes have been discussed and worked on for the past 3 years and finally come to a vote. We will also hold the election of new Officers and Directors for a two year term. Please try to attend and exercise your right to vote these items. I think we just saw the importance of voting with the results of the Presidential election.

STATE HOUSE/SENATE REPS

Having trouble locating your state Senator and Representative? See this link for all the contact information you need.

<http://www.house.state.pa.us/>

When writing or calling your Senator or Representative, be polite and be professional. Let them know the Senate or House Bill number you are contacting them about and clearly let them know why you are for or opposed to the bill or issue. Conclude with your name and contact information.

DRY BOOTS

Have wet or damp boots after a day in the field? Bunch up some newspaper and shove down into each boot. Push the whole way into the toe, fill the entire bottom of the boot and let the boots sit overnight. The next morning, pull the damp newspaper out of your now dry boots.