



Pennsylvania Bowhunting News

Preserving, Promoting & Protecting Bowhunting in Pennsylvania

September 2017

www.ubofpa.org

This newsletter is sent monthly as a supplement to the quarterly magazine

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Wes Waldron,
Chairman, UBP Legislative Committee

With both the Senate and House of Representatives out of session at the time of this report, little action has taken place on any of the current bills of interest to either the UBP, or hunters in general. The bills listed below remain current and perhaps now that the budget has been passed that some action may occur when the House returns on September 11th, and the Senate on September 18th 2017. However, I hold little hope of that since the House calendar indicates that they will only be in session for six days, and the Senate calendar shows but three days of session until they each break again to reconvene in early October.

House Bill 71 (Godshall) that would allow the PGC to institute Sunday hunting was referred to House Game & Fisheries Committee early this year and has yet to see a vote. Senator Brewster's Senate Bill 453 which would allow the same has likewise languished in the Senate Game & Fisheries Committee.

House Bill 275 (Mullery) would authorize the PGC to sell antlerless deer permits via the Pennsylvania Automated License Sales (PALS) website. This bill passed the HG&FC but once sent to the full House has yet to be put up for a vote.

House Bill 602 (Jozwiak), the tracking dog bill, passed the House but the SG&FC has yet to bring it to a vote.

House Bill 726 (Goodman) would prohibit the calling of turkeys for 30-days prior to the spring gobbler season. There seems to be equal amounts of support and opposition from hunters regarding this proposal so not surprisingly there has been no action since the bill was sent to the HG&F Committee.

Senate Bill 192 (Stefano) would give the PGC the authority to set their own fees regarding licenses and permits. This is the "biggie" these days and the arguments abound both pro and con. Although the bill passed the Senate in a nearly unanimous vote, it has been thoroughly hammered by certain members of the House Game & Fisheries Committee. Those Representatives opposed to the bill have done overtime duty to list reasons why this bill should not pass, and much of what they are espousing are either misleading or downright false. While some of those who oppose SB192 are in favor of the Agency receiving some type of license increase, the lack of any legislation to that end being introduced has only allowed the PGC to slip further into cutbacks of manpower and management of our habitat and wildlife resources.

My last contacts with both Senator Stefano and Representative Gillespie, Chairman, HG&FC indicate that while almost all of the state's major sportsman's organizations support Senate Bill 192, that the support of individual hunters has been less than mediocre, that is to say, their offices are hearing very little from our members, or hunters in general.

As you read this report I will be arriving in the Matagamon Wilderness Area of Maine for a fall bear hunt. Upon my return I will be preparing to attend the last quarterly meeting of the PGC Board of Commissioners for 2017. The September 25-26, 2017 meeting has been moved from PGC Headquarters in Harrisburg to the Middle Creek Wildlife Center.

This meeting will see two new commissioners seated on the Board. The District 6 seat formally held by the late Ronald Weaner has been filled by Dr. Michael F. Mitrick of York, and the District 7 seat has been filled by Mr. Stanley I Knick, Jr. of Dupont. I look forward to meeting each of them.

PRESIDENT RICK CONLEY: MEMO

Our new Office Manager is long time UBP member **Patrick Schild** of Mechanicsburg.

The office 800 phone number and e-mail address will remain the same:

1-800-279-2024 and ubofpa@yahoo.com

The new mailing address will be as follows:

United Bowhunters of PA
907 Derbyshire Avenue
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Again, many thanks and my gratitude to Art Keefer for many years of professional, dedicated service.

Help needed! Crista Wizeman chairs our UBP Annual Banquet Committee. She needs committee members! If you're going to the 2018 Banquet, please volunteer to help her. UBP needs you to help make the Banquet a financial success for the organization. It's one of our primary fund raisers and helps keep dues from increasing. If you are not planning to attend the banquet, you can still help – just send Crista an e-mail and she'll explain more. Her email is cwize10@verizon.net.

JOIN THE UBP FOCUS GROUP

We want to know what you think! UBP has a survey tool and we periodically send a survey to members (e.g. Sunday hunting and license increases) who have volunteered to participate and tell us how they feel about various issues. This enables the Officers and Directors to correctly represent the opinions of our members – at least some of them. Please send your email address to Steve Koch - stevok13@rcn.com and ask to participate in the UBP Focus Group. The more members who participate the better we can represent you!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS – 2017 MEETING DATES

The next UBP BOD meeting will be held Sunday, September 10, 2017; starting at 10:00 AM.

The meeting will be held at:

Hemlock Field Archers
99 Spring Hill Lane
Lebanon, PA 17042

The Hemlock club is located in the SE corner of the intersection of Routes 72 and 322 in Spring Hill Acres development. From PA Turnpike exit #266 go north on Route 72 about 1 mile and turn right on Spring Hill Lane (well marked). Turn left into first drive and proceed to clubhouse.

STATE SENATE/HOUSE REPS

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

<http://www.pasen.gov/index.cfm>

<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.

Click [HERE](#) for a letter template