



Pennsylvania Bowhunting News

Preserving, Promoting & Protecting Bowhunting in Pennsylvania

December 2017

www.ubofpa.org

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

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Wes Waldron,
Chairman, UBPA Legislative Committee

Regarding legislation that effect Title 34 (Game Laws) and the PA Game Commission, progress have been pretty much non-existent in both the House and the Senate. Out of session for the Thanksgiving Holiday and not returning to session until December 11th to the December 20th, little action is expected regarding sportsmen's issues. Likewise with the House, which returned to session on November 27th and also breaks on December 20th for the Christmas Holiday. Not all of the session-days of either the House or the Senate will be voting days, and in the House there are no scheduled meetings of the House Game & Fisheries Committee.

Here are the standings of a few of bills most sportsmen are concerned with.

SB453 (Brewster) Allow PGC to institute Sunday hunting. The bill has been in the Senate Fish & Game Committee for some time and still has not been put up for a vote. A companion bill **HB71** (Godshall) has also been in the hands of the House Game & Fisheries Committee for some time now, and without ever seeing a vote.

SB135 (Scavello) Would allow the use of tracking dogs for deer. This bill passed the Senate and has been sent to the House Game & Fisheries Committee where it has yet to have been put to a vote. A similar situation exists with House Bill **602** (Jozwiak) where it passed the House but has

languished in the Senate Game & Fisheries Committee.

Other bills in the hands of the HG&FC that have yet to been put up for a vote include, **HB275** (Mullery) Allow the PGC to sell antlerless deer licenses through PALS, and **HB726** (Goodman) Prohibit calling turkeys 30-days prior to the Spring Gobbler Season.

SB192 (Stefano) Allow the PGC to set fees for licenses and permits. Still not enough support in HG&FC to see a passing vote.

HB1483 (Maloney) This bill is merely a re-introduction of the failed HB2083. In a nutshell it would put deer and habitat management in the hands of political appointee's which would likely have the mindset of the bills creator's rather than professional scientific and biological credentials and experience.

The UBPA Legislative Committee has sent numerous emails and letters of opposition to sponsors of **HB1483**, and respectfully requested that they remove their names from the bill. To date we have received two responses from House members signed onto that bill. We would like to thank 32nd Legislative District Representative, Anthony DeLuca for honoring our request by removing his name as a cosponsor of House Bill 1483.

The Legislative Committee has been keeping a close eye on the proceedings of selecting replacements for the District 2 and District 3 seats on the PGC Board of Commissioners, at least as close an eye as possible given the absurd amount of secrecy that the last two Democratic gubernatorial administrations have placed upon the selection process. To date it would appear that two candidates for the District 2 seat have just recently received interviews by DCNR, GSAC, and the Governor's Office, and now await one of their names to be submitted to the Senate for approval. We had hoped that this would occur during the current session of the Senate. However, word on the street is that the powers that be want to finalize the selection process for District 3 before the Senate returns to session after the Christmas/New Year Holiday and have both seats approved prior to the January 28, 29 & 30, 2018 Seasons & Bag Limits Meeting of the Board of Commissioners. This would finally create a full PGC Commissioner complement, something we have not seen since for quite some time.

The Legislative Committee is adamant that the whole selection process for PGC and PF&BC commissioner seats should be revamped, and that the sportsmen's organizations of Pennsylvania should have a major part in the selection process, with politics at the minimum. In addition, we feel that the whole process should be more open and that hunters and fishermen should be aware of just whom is vying for a position where the decisions they make and support will have major impact on the wildlife, game, and habitat.

2018 UBP ELECTIONS

It is election time once again and the UBP is looking for a few individuals to step up and fill a few open 2-year term positions. Our by-laws require that you make your interest known by February 15. The current election cycle has three positions open for the Board of Directors in addition to both President and Vice-President positions. The current Board of Directors would like you to consider running for one of these open positions. Serving is a way to give back to the sport we love. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Office Manager, Patrick Schild at ubofpa@yahoo.com or Jack Davis at jackdff3b@ptd.net. Your organization needs you.

ROSEMARY CONNELLY PASSING

It is with the deepest regret that UBP has learned of the passing of Rosemary Connelly, wife of UBP Life Member Ned Connelly, on November 17, 2017, after a courageous five year battle with ovarian cancer.

Rosemary was a familiar face at the UBP Winter Banquets and especially at the UBP Campout Shoots where her friendly and outgoing personality- along with her great sense of humor- made her many friends. She was always up for conversation and her sparkling Irish smile made her an attendee many of us looked forward to seeing at those events.

Our most sincere condolences to her husband, sons Ned and Patrick, granddaughter Elizabeth, and all of her family.

PLEASE CONSIDER HUNTERS SHARING THE HARVEST

Successful bow hunters are asked to please consider donations of at least part of their harvested deer to the Hunters Sharing the Harvest (HSH) program. HSH has grown due the support of hunters and the hunting organizations of Pennsylvania, including UBP.

In the past several years the HSH program has donated thousands of pounds of venison to needy families, through the generosity of hunters. Support for the program has expanded to the point where hunters no longer have to pay for the processing, although monetary donations to HSH through the deer processor are happily accepted.

To find a participating deer processor in your area please go to www.sharedeer.org.

REMINDER: NEW OFFICE MANAGER

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

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

UBP in Northwestern PA

This spring the UBP will return to the Erie Sport and Travel Expo to be held on March 2 – 4, 2018 at the Bayfront Convention Center in Erie, PA. The current plan is to host a membership/information table for adults and a shooting booth for kids. Upperclassmen from Northwestern High School's archery and environmental clubs have volunteered to assist with staffing. This will help UBP members run things, while simultaneously providing the students with volunteer service hours. This is a win-win for both groups and a positive example for the UBP in the community. Thanks to all those involved!

Additionally, in conjunction with the Expo, UBP Region 10 is conducting a raffle of bowhunting-related items. Prizes are:

1. PSE Momentum Compound Bow
2. Carbon Express Blade Crossbow
3. OMP 40# Draw Recurve Bow
4. Vortex Diamondback 10x42 Binoculars
5. Soft-sided Bow/Crossbow Case
6. Four \$25 Gift Cards from Lancaster Archery

Tickets for the raffle are \$10 each or 3 for \$20. The raffle will conclude and winners will be contacted following the Outdoor Expo. Proceeds benefit youth archery and educational travel experiences.

We'll email you a confirmation once your order form arrives; included in that email will also be your raffle ticket number(s). Please make any checks payable to "Northwestern APES".

Ticket orders can be mailed to:

UBP Raffle
c/o Nick Corsini
140 Maple Drive
Edinboro, PA 16412

For raffle tickets, please cut out and use the following form:

United Bowhunters of PA Raffle	
Name	_____
Address	_____
Phone	_____
Email	_____
# of Tickets	_____ \$ Amount included _____