



Chapter Coverts

Chapter Newsletter—Western PA, OH, WV, IN

September, 2009

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Winners Of The 2008-2009 National Raffle Upland Bird Dream Hunt

Congratulations!!

The Ruffed Grouse Society headquarters announce the lucky winner of the 2008-2009 National Raffle. Jim Farrell from the Altoona, Pennsylvania Area is the winner of the Upland Bird Dream Hunt. Jim and a guest will receive a week-long ALL-



EXPENSE-PAID trip consisting of two guided hunts. The first hunt will be in Havre, Montana for Sharp-tail Grouse and Hungarian Partridge. The second will be two spots at the RGS National Grouse and Woodcock Hunt in Grand Rapids, Minnesota. They both will also receive an SKB model 785 over/under shotgun. Approximate retail value

of this package is \$18,000.00. The winner of the Cabela's \$1,000.00 gift certificate is Andrew Lukashuk of Sussex, New Jersey. Our final winner

of the custom fitted pair of upland hunting boots from Russell Moccasin Company is Kristine Dew from Elgin Illinois.

Cabela's



Congratulations To All Of The Lucky Winners!!

RGS Fall Banquet/Event Season

The summer months are coming to an end, we are all beginning to think about getting back into the woods and the upcoming hunting season. A great way to prepare for the quickly approaching hunting season is to attend an RGS event in your area. Mark your calendar and make plans to join us. Below are listing of upcoming events in our region.

August 13th—New Wilmington, PA Banquet

Contact: Lisa 724-693-9032 or rgslmt@msn.com

August 22nd—Lancaster, OH Fun Shoot

Contact: Terry 740-569-4457

August 29th—Indianapolis, IN Banquet

Contact: Karl 317-291-7411



August 29th—Washington, PA Fun Shoot

Contact: Brian 412-296-1178 or setter@gundogalliance.com

August 29th—Clarksburg, WV Fun Shoot

Contact: Steve 304-366-0637



September 5th—Kane, PA Banquet

Contact: Mike 814-512-2101

September 11th—Erie, PA Banquet

Contact: Michelle 814-774-9621

September 19th—St. Clairsville, OH Banquet

Contact: Harold 740-242-9663



October 10th—Washington, PA Sponsor Hunt

Contact: Brian 412-296-1178 or setter@gundogalliance.com



November 6th & 7th —PA Wilds Upland Bird Hunt

Contact: Mary 814-512-2102



November 12th—Washington, PA Banquet

Contact: Brian 412-296-1178 or setter@gundogalliance.com

November 20th—Athens, OH Banquet

Contact: Steve 740-596-2513 or Stephen.benson@austinpowder.com



For more details or copies of the above events banquet flyers please visit the RGS web site, [www. ruffedgrousesociety.org](http://www.ruffedgrousesociety.org)

Covered Bridge Chapter 3rd Annual Field Day

The Covered Bridge Chapter held their 3rd Annual Southwestern PA Field Day on Saturday, April 25, 2009 on the Buck Run Road Project site State Game Lands 232, in cooperation with the PA Game Commission. We all met at noon due to the fact that 4/25/09 was the opening day of turkey season. The RGS CBC would like to give a very Special "THANK YOU" to the local Boy Scouts from Club Scout Pack 1017 of Prosperity and their families who came out and helped with the planting and clearing on SGL 232. We had about 30 volunteers give up their Saturday afternoon to make a difference for Habitat. The Habitat Crew planted about 1000 + trees, silky dogwood, American hazelnut, aspen, American mountain ash, Washington hawthorn and American sweet crabapple, in about 2 hours. That is a hard working crew! This turned out to be a very productive day for the CBC Committee and the Scouts according to the CBC Co-Chairman, Kenn Popko, "The Day provided an great opportunity for conservation work and tree identification and a step in understanding early-successional habitat necessary for sustaining wildlife. The Scouts also got to inspect the work the CBC did in 2007 and 2008." The CBC is looking forward to working with the Boy Scouts on many more future projects and field days.



2009 Habitat Crew and RGS CBC Committee Members. Minus a few that had to leave early. THANK YOU TO ALL—GREAT JOB!!

Check out the NEW RGS website www.ruffedgrousesociety.org
What do you think??-- Please send me your thoughts, suggestions and comments to rgslmt@msn.com.



Welcome Back To RGS Northeast Pennsylvania Chapter

The Northeast Pennsylvania Chapter held their 2009 Sportsmen's Banquet on Friday, July 24, 2009 in Luzerne, PA. The NPC had not held an RGS fundraising event since 2006. But with the determination of their Banquet Chairman, Brian Clark, and a dedicated Committee: George Nichols, Lisa Howe, Paul Howe, Kevin Steible and Corey Wiesel they were back in business and organizing their first RGS event. This Committee is made up of new RGS Members now they are new RGS Committee Members.

They all pulled together and had a great event. The Northeast Pennsylvania Chapter presented Brian Clark, Banquet Chairman with a print #1 by local artist, Allen Crothamel. The original by Allen was sold on the live auction. Brain was instrumental in getting this Chapter up and running and the Committee wanted to show their appreciation for all of his hard work. This chapter has just started and you can expect many great things for them in the future. Welcome to RGS!



From left to right –Northeast PA Chapter Committee: Paul Howe, Brain Clark, George Nichols & Kevin Steible, Corey Wiesel not in photo

2006 World's Strongest Man Gives Back To RGS West Virginia Chapter



Philip Pfister, World's Strongest Man in 2006 a representative for Chesapeake Energy, was the winner of the Ohio River Chapter 2009 Sponsors Gun Drawing. The winner was drawn on April 11, 2009 at the 8th Annual Ohio River Chapter Sportsmen's Banquet. Chesapeake Energy and Phillip Pfister could no attend the banquet but still supported the event by becoming a Conservation Sponsor. Chesapeake Energy donated the Sponsor gun they won back to the Chapter to use to generate dollars for local habitat.

Pictured above Is Philip Pfister with the Ohio River Chapter Committee Members, Left to right, Josh Amos, Russell Smitley, Philip Pfister, Andy Pittman, and Bill Rea. .

Clarion County Youth Field Day—Allegheny Northwoods Committee Give A Helping Hand

RGS Allegheny Northwoods Chapter Committee took part in the Clarion County Youth Field days on Saturday, July 18th. Even though there was rain most of the day, the event still had over 400 youth attendants. The



day was filled with many exciting things for the young conservationist to do. There was clay bird shooting, a cross bow booth, fishing, canoeing and much more. The Chapter donated several items to the event including some youth firearms.



From left to right –Steve Wilkinson, Jeff Perdue, Dave Galbreath, Denny Alston Members of the Allegheny Northwoods Chapter at the Clarion County Youth Day

Greater Pittsburgh Chapter Celebrates Success

The Greater Pittsburgh Chapter celebrated their years of successful dinners in Pittsburgh under the leadership of their Banquet Chairman, Joe Switala. The Committee and invited guests had a great day at The Rolling Rock Club, host by RGS Board Member and Greater Pittsburgh Committee Member, Edwin H. Gott, Jr. After lunch all were welcome to shoot, the quail walk, skeet and or trap. The weather was great and everyone enjoyed a great day sharpening their shooting skills with friends.



From left to right: Upton Hudson; Otto Beck; Ken Simon; Don Mergenhagen; Jay Carmichael; Mickey Hutchko; Ed Gott; Joe Switala



Banquet Chairman, Joe Switala being congratulated By RGS Board Member and Committee Member, Edwin H. Gott, Jr.

The Brood-Cast—Attn: RGS Committee Members

We are just beginning the upcoming fall season and I look forward to working with you to organize your 2009 fund-raising events. This has been a challenging time for many Chapters; some Chapters have seen a decrease in their banquet attendance due to many uncontrollable factors. But do not give up during this obviously depressed economic times. Many Chapters have come up with great fund-raising ideas. I wanted to pass along some of their helpful suggestion in writing, suggestions that have been successful with other Chapters.

Outside Raffles—What I mean by outside raffle is, raffle tickets that are sold outside of the banquet/event, you do not have to be present to win. Most Chapters do an outside raffle prior to the banquet and pull the winning ticket at the banquet. Some sell 2 to 3 outside raffle all year long and pull the winning tickets at Shoots, Field Day and other events during the year. Of course most outside raffle are for firearms, but other items also work as outside raffle prizes, Polaris ATV, Hunts, Trips, Artwork. Use your imagination almost item will work. Give it a try—It Really Works!



Invite RGS Members to attend a Committee Meeting—Our Committee Members are The Best, loyal and hard working for the RGS mission they believe in. But may Chapter are celebrating 25 to 30 + years with RGS and some Committee Members are also celebrating 25 to 30 + years with RGS. That is a great contribution-**THANK YOU!!** We need to think about the future, at your next meeting discuss some possible new Committee Members. Make a personal phone call and invite a New Committee Member to your next meeting. Many Members would be involved, if you just ask. As your Committee grows, new Members help lighten to work for the other Members and express new ideas and suggestions that may have not been explored before. “RGS Committee Members do not get a pay check because they are priceless” Give it a try—It Really Works!



NEW-- 2009/2010 RGS National Raffle
Custom Model 21 Baby Frame 28-Gauge Shotgun
Made famous by Winchester
Tickets-\$100.00 Each—Up To 1,500 Tickets Will Be Sold Winner To Be Drawn June 30, 2010
If you would like to order ticket please contact Lisa Rossi 724-693-9032 or rgslmt@msn.com
(To Order Please print below order form)



If you are interested in starting an RGS Chapter in your area I would welcome the opportunity to speak with you. If you did have an active RGS chapter in your area but it no longer existed, and you would be willing to donate your time I need your help. I am asking all current RGS members to consider becoming involved with their local chapter or start a new active chapter in your area. If this is of interest to you please contact me. The Society is looking toward the future and our future is our Members. The Members who make things happen are called Committee Members. If you would like to become an RGS Committee Member please contact: Lisa M. Rossi, RGS Regional Director 724.693-.9032 or e-mail rgslmt@msn.com

RGS Committee Member Make Things Happen—Become Part Of The Process-Join An RGS Committee In Your Area

Regional Chronicle -- Snapshots From Our Region

Below are some of the photos received from the Members in our region. If you have some hunting/sportsmen photos you would like to share please e-mail them to rgslmt@msn.com also include a brief description of the photo and I will try to include them in this new section in our regional electronic newsletter.



Congratulations Ohio Hills Chapter Committee For Being Featured In The Fall RGS Magazine

Hanna And Her Father Jeff Greene After A Successful Spring Turkey Hunt. Way To Go Hanna!!



Larry Souleret, CBC Chapter Getting His Dog Chase Ready For The Upcoming Season



Look For Our New RGS Billboard In Wheeling, WV, 220 National Road Elm, Grove FW



Ken Simon & Joe Switala Shooting Trap



I am looking to post on the news letter some of your outdoors photos, Ruffed Grouse & Woodcock hunting photos, fishing, hiking camping. What are the RGS

Committee Members doing over the summer months in our region? E-mail your photo with a brief description and share with other Committee Members-- e-mail to rgslmt@msn.com



Tick Removal

We will all be heading into the woods if the weather is still warm the ticks will be showing their heads. Here is a good way to get them off you, and your dog. This is great, because it works in those places where it's some times difficult to get to with tweezers: between toes, in the middle of a head full of dark hair, etc.



Apply a glob of liquid soap to a cotton ball. Cover the tick with the soap-soaked cotton ball and swab it for a few seconds (15-20), the tick will come out on its own and be stuck to the cotton ball when you lift it away.

Give it a try, It really works!

Still Looking For Volunteer Huntsmen

The Upland Inaugural Upland Bird Hunt in the Pennsylvania Wilds scheduled for November 6 & 7, 2009 is looking for RGS Chapter Members for Huntsmen. The duties of the Huntsmen will be to help our hunters and guests to find an assigned spot in the hunting area around Kersey. Some of the hunters will bring there dogs and some will want to use a huntsmen with his or her own dogs. So if you do not have a dog we would still love to have you participate in the event. Several hunters are coming form other states this is a great opportunity to meet other grouse hunter and RGS Members. What a super way to show off the assets of the Pennsylvania RGS chapters and the grouse woods they hunt. If you are willing to volunteer your time as a Huntsman please contact Chris Yeager at 814-776-1845 or chris23@windstream.net

National News

Shawnee State Forest Uses RGS Trail Mix for Forest Trails

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Forestry recently re-opened recreation trails on the Shawnee State Forest lands. RGS donated our wildlife seed mix, *Trail Mix*, for use in reseeding some of the trails.

Seeding of the trails was accomplished in order to rehabilitate areas impacted by an April wildfire in the forest.

New Equipment Will Enhance RGS Habitat Work

RGS recently purchased two trucks and two trailers for use with the ASV/Terex PT-100 forestry loaders in the Midwest and the CAT loader in the Northeast. The new trucks and trailer will allow for the transport of the equipment to various locations for habitat work.

One truck and trailer will be used in the Midwest and the other in the Northeast. An additional truck is being supplied by the US Fish and Wildlife Service for use in Wisconsin. The

remaining truck is also for use in the Northeast, and an additional trailer will be purchased very soon.

The new equipment was purchased with funds from several recently obtained grants.

California Lawsuit Ends in Settlement Unfavorable for Healthy Forest Management

A recent Northern California lawsuit ended with a settlement by the Pacific Gas and Electric Company agreeing to pay \$14.75 million as recompense for the 1999 Pendola fire in Plumas and Tahoe National Forests. The fire started due to a pine tree that fell onto a power distribution line.

Allegations that the fire caused damage to the lands, harm to the ecological habitat and loss of timber ended in the resulting settlement.

The decision is viewed by many to be a blow to conservation groups because fire, which is a natural act of nature that allows for forest renewal, was viewed as destructive.

Wildlife Bill Introduced to Congress

Bill requires lengthy species monitoring, may be unrealistic

In June this year Wisconsin Representative Ron Kind presented "American's Wildlife Heritage Act" (HR 2807) to Congress. The bill, though ostentatiously written to sustain wildlife and plants on federal public lands, may actually prove too cumbersome to be effective.

Requirements in the bill include overwhelming obligations placed upon federal land management agencies to monitor every species that may be impacted by a proposed activity. The manpower necessary to implement this requirement is beyond the current expertise available to these agencies, and there is no provision for additional funding. The large quantities of money that would be spent attempting to follow these guidelines would, perhaps, be better spent in accomplishing much needed habitat work on federal lands.

RGS intends to work with Representative Kind and other members of Congress to modify the language of the bill to reflect more reasonable expectations.

Welcome to new RGS Corporate Sponsor Connecticut Shotgun. They donated a 28-gauge RBL that will be used in an upcoming raffle or banquet.

Congratulations to our three 2009 National Raffle Winners: Jim Farrell from Altoona, Pennsylvania won the Dream Hunt, Andrew Lukashuk of Sussex, New York won a \$1000 Cabela's gift certificate and Kristin Dew of Elgin, Illinois won a pair of custom Russell Moccasin boots.

Please forward this on to your friends. If you have someone that wishes to receive this, have them e-mail me their address. Please contact me if you have any questions or would like to post information that fits this newsletter -- rgslmt@msn.com.



NEW-- 2009/2010 RGS National Raffle
Custom Model 21 Baby Frame 28-Gauge Shotgun
Made famous by Winchester

Tickets-\$100.00 Each—Up To 1,500 Tickets Will Be Sold Winner To Be Drawn June 30, 2010
 If you would like to order ticket please contact Lisa Rossi 724-693-9032 or rgslmt@msn.com
 (To Order Please print below order form)

Ruffed Grouse Society
2009-2010
National Raffle



To purchase raffle tickets contact
 Lisa Rossi, Regional Director
 724-693-9032 or rgslmt@msn.com
 or Mail Coupon To:
RUFFED GROUSE SOCIETY
 215 Marshall Road
 Oakdale, PA 15071

Name _____
 Mailing Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip _____
 Phone Number _____
 _____ Tickets @\$100.00 Each =
 \$_____ Total Enclosed

CHECK (Payable to RGS) CASH
 CREDIT CARD

CC # _____
 Exp. Date _____

Billing Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip _____
 Signature _____

Winchester
Model 21
Baby Frame
28-Gauge
Shotgun

This one of a kind gun features
 28" barrels choked IC/M with two
 beads, a straight English stock
 crafted from AAA fancy
 feather crotch walnut to a
 checkered butt, and a 14 1/2" LOP.

The DAH is 2 3/8", DAC is 1 1/2",
 pitch is 5° and the cast is neutral.



The beavertail forend
 has an ebony insert
 in the tip. It has a
 single selective
 trigger and the
 RGS logo is engraved
 in gold on the bottom
 of the receiver.

Approximate
 retail value:
\$28,000.

Winner to be drawn on
June 30, 2010
 at RGS headquarters in
 Coraopolis, Pennsylvania.

**Winner responsible for applicable taxes.*

Donation for each ticket is \$100.00.
 Up to 1,500 tickets to be sold.



Actual Gun
 & Engraving
 Not Shown



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Established in 1961, the Ruffed Grouse Society is the one international wildlife conservation organization dedicated to promoting conditions suitable for ruffed grouse, American woodcock and related wildlife to sustain our sport hunting tradition and outdoor heritage

Information on the RGS, its mission, management projects and membership can be found on the web at:
www.ruffedgrousesociety.org