



Turkey Droppings

Winter 2015

NWTF

www.MarylandNWTF.org

Newsletter of the Maryland State Chapter



Turkey Droppings

Turkey Droppings is a newsletter for the Maryland State Chapter, National Wild Turkey Federation, published in January and August. Deadline for material to be published in the newsletter is June 2 and December 10. Contents of this newsletter may be reprinted without permission.

Chris Miller—Editor

Flock Talk

The mailing address for the *Turkey Droppings* newsletter is:

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All articles and photos for the newsletter can be emailed, mailed, or put on a CD and sent directly to the publisher at:

Sincell Publishing Co., Inc.
Attn: Richard Hill
P.O. Box 326
Oakland, Maryland 21550
301-334-3963

rahill@therepublicannews.com

or

printing@therepublicannews.com

Please send all revised or updated mailing lists or address changes to:

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Deadline for submissions for the August issue: June 2, 2015.

News from the Editor

The Holidays are here again. I hope everyone has had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! As well as a safe, successful hunting season.

I look at the past year and have to give my thanks to the Good Lord for all His blessings.

He put several tests out in front of me this past year, (Not getting to do much hunting because of family illnesses and obligations was a hard one to pass! As well as church and community service that was unexpected.) However, I feel I didn't let Him down and rose to the challenge.

Speaking of community service, please have a look at the Appalachian Crossroads article in this newsletter. They are the outfit responsible for the mailing of our newsletter and are doing a wonderful job!

I'm looking for stories and pictures to go into this newsletter of YOUR state chapter.

As always, if you have anything for the newsletter, please submit it to me via email at: thec525@aol.com. And I'll see that it makes it into the next issue!

Be safe and shoot straight!!

From the State Board of Directors

by Bobby Boarman, Maryland State Chapter President

Hello friends, fellow hunters and conservationists. I hope by now you have some tender deer in the freezer and waterfowl and other game too.

Our 2014 awards banquet is just around the corner and we have a lot to celebrate. This year's Awards Banquet will be at the Kent Island Volunteer Fire Department on January 24. If you need any information or tickets call Susan (301-259-2830) or your Chapter President. Congratulations to all and thank you for all of your hard work and dedication. If any of you have an item that you would like to donate for our state awards banquet auction, please let me know what it may be. Thank You.

Our 30 gun raffle just finished up and I would like to thank all that bought tickets. Also congratulations to all of our winners. I would like to send a special thanks out to Joe Herbert of Fred's Sports for helping us with 30 gun raffle. Joe's building was broken into and set on fire just before our raffle was to start. With all of what happen it did not stop Joe from taking care of all of the



Susan's birthday buck.

winners. Thanks again Joe.

Again this year the Southern Maryland chapter partnered with the Young Guns Hunt Club to take kids hunting on deer youth day. There were seventy-one boys and girls, many of which went on their first deer hunt. A total of twenty-eight deer were harvested. Congratulations to all of our hunters. I would like to thank Dean Ennis and Tom Maliszewski for donating several blinds to the Young Guns Hunt Club. It is truly amazing what we can do when so many different organizations and so many people donate their time and resources. A big thank-you to all of the volunteers.

The 39th Annual NWTF Convention and Sport Show will be Feb. 12-15 at Gaylord Opryland and Convention Center in Nashville. It is always a good time and lots to do at the convention. I hope to see many of you there.

As many of you know, Butch Faulkner will be leaving us as our regional director. Butch has been offered another position with the NWTF and will be moving back to Florida with his family. Butch has done a great job here in Maryland and in the rest of his area. I am proud to call him my friend, and from the entire BOD for the state of Maryland we wish Butch and family well. With that said we would like to welcome our new regional director Shawn Weddle. Shawn is no newcomer to the NWTF. Shawn has been a member and President of the Washington County long beards. We welcome Shawn and know that he will do a great job.

I would like to congratulate

Sean Warrington on his Eagle Scout project. Sean's project was to plant 200 American Sweet Crabapple trees on 2+ acres of Pennsylvania state game lands. As of today the trees are planted and doing well. Good job, Sean.

I would like to wish my wife Susan a happy birthday and congratulate her on her birthday buck. What better present could you ask for? Way to go, Susan.

Please take a minute to thank a soldier for protecting our continued freedom. Remember to take a child hunting or fishing or just spending time in the outdoors with them for they are our future. I would like to thank each and every one of you. From our board of directors, our chapter presidents and our many volunteers for all that you do for the Maryland State Chapter, and your local chapters. You are the best. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Be safe and again thank all of you for what you do.

Mentor A New Hunter This Year

by Bob Eriksen, NWTF Regional Biologist

My son Jon was about fifteen when he had a "mentoring" experience, one of many. He had hunted spring gobblers with me and a friend of mine for a few years and had taken three or four good birds. One morning we had no luck with the gobbler we had roosted the evening before. We spent a couple of hours on that bird and later moved to an-

other spot to try fresh ground. It was late in the morning when we set up in wide open woods near a hayfield that gobblers occasionally used for impressing hens with their displays. Jon was impatient and ready to go home. Many of his previous hunts had been the textbook sort. You know the type. The gobbler has read the script, responds to your tree call,

flies down and immediately comes your way. Jon was convinced that was the only way successful hunts happened.

When we set up I told Jon I knew there was a group of three adult toms that frequented this location. He was impressed but doubtful that we would have any luck this late in the morning. He had enough experience that I was comfortable having him take a tree about five yards or so from me and off to my left. As a right-handed shooter that position would allow him the ability to turn to make a shot. After letting the woods settle down I clucked and purred on a slate call. There was no response. About that time Jon was probably thinking this was not going to work out.

The morning was warming up but it was clear with only a light breeze. A few minutes later I clucked with a mouth call and made a series of excited yelps. A gobble erupted some distance away. To me it sounded like more than one bird gobbled. That was the last gobble we heard. In the next half hour or so I called perhaps a half dozen times with no response from the trio. Jon looked over at me and whispered, "They're not coming." I whispered back, "We have another hour before noon." He sighed and settled back against a huge oak.

With thirty minutes of legal time left I saw movement uphill and a hundred yards or so away. A group

of crows was flying tree to tree acting like they were following something. I whispered to Jon, "Get your gun up and get ready!" He looked over at me and asked, "Why?" I replied "Do it and look to your left."

The crows kept diving and moving tree to tree in our direction. It wasn't long before I saw three adult gobblers walking steadily toward us. One would half-strut and run to catch up with the others. The crows continued to follow them and before long they were almost in range. Jon had seen the birds about the same time I had and was ready when they closed to thirty yards. The twelve gauge boomed and Jon killed his first late morning gobbler. His bird weighed 20 pounds and sported a ten-inch beard and spurs that exceeded an inch in length. It was a mentoring experience, perhaps not in the strict sense of the word since Jon was already a hunter. However, this was a learning experience for him because he came to realize that patience as well as knowledge of the quarry and calling can be productive.

Jon and my other kids were mentored because I was a hunter. I have had the privilege of mentoring one of my sons-in-law. My best friend growing up wanted desperately to hunt. His dad was not a hunter but wanted his son to pursue his interests. My father agreed to take Glenn hunting with us when he took me out as a youngster. Glenn

was mentored by his best friend's father. Today he lives in Louisiana and is an avid hunter. In turn he is mentoring one of his sons-in-law. I have passed it on to my children and Glenn is passing it on to others.

It's imperative that we as hunters take the time to mentor our children in our hunting tradition.

But it's as important or more so to provide mentoring opportunities to young people and adults who have an interest but have no one to take them. The future of hunting and conservation as we know it depends on our passing on the tradition. Get involved! Save the Habitat and Save the Hunt!

MD DNR Wild Turkey Program Update

by Bob Long, Wild Turkey Biologist

2014 Summer Wild Turkey Observation Survey Results—The Maryland DNR conducts a wild turkey observation survey annually in July and August to estimate wild turkey reproductive success and monitor the turkey population. A total of 4,353 turkeys were recorded by the 85 individuals or groups that returned survey forms in 2014, slightly higher than the 4,034 turkeys observed by 82 participants in 2013. Statewide, an average of 2.3 poults was observed per hen, identical to the 2013 average but below the 12-year average of 2.7 poults per hen. All regions except the lower Eastern Shore had below average production. The results suggest that both nesting success and poult survival was somewhat low in most regions. This may be partly attributed to persistent wet and damp conditions some parts of the state experienced in May and early June, when most hens are incubating nests. Research suggests this may

increase predation rates because of the increased ability of predators to scent nesting hens (referred to as the "wet-hen theory"). An exceptionally dry period followed the wet weather that may have limited insect production for growing poults. Other factors such as local predator communities and habitat conditions influence reproductive success as well. Large differences among counties and even within counties were very apparent this year, demonstrating the complexity of the factors related to reproduction in wild turkeys. More detailed regional results as well as additional information on Maryland's wild turkeys can be found on DNR's website (www.dnr.maryland.gov). Thanks to all the volunteers that sent in survey forms!

2014 Fall Turkey Season Harvest—Fall turkey hunters, whose 1 week season ended on November 8, reported taking 134 turkeys—15 percent lower than the 2013 harvest. The decline can likely be attributed

to below average turkey reproduction in the fall-hunted part of the state and abundant mast crops which can limit turkey movements. Fall turkey hunting is only permitted in the three westernmost counties; Garrett County reported the highest harvest (54), followed by Allegany (52) and Washington (28).

2015 Winter Turkey Season—

A new 3-day winter wild turkey season will be open January 22-24 statewide. This season was created in response to hunter requests to allow additional turkey hunting opportunities while considering potential biological impacts and other hunting seasons. The bag limit for this season is 1 turkey of either sex (unless a turkey was taken in the fall season). Hunting hours are one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset. Weapons are limited to what is allowed in the spring season (shotguns loaded with #4 shot or smaller, crossbows, or vertical bows). The most successful methods of hunting in this season

will likely be considerably different than those used in the spring season. Traditional fall season tactics that include finding food sources, scattering the flock, and calling with assembly and kee-kee run calls will probably be the best ways to bag a winter bird. More information can be found on the DNR website or the *Annual Guide to Hunting and Trapping*.



L.J.W. CUSTOM CALLS

6904 Colonial Ave., Thurmont, Maryland 21788

“Let Jakes Walk”

Bruce Chaney—301-829-6802

David Hohman—301-898-5256

E-mail: ljwcustomcalls@verizon.com

Regional Director's Report

by Shawn Weddle, NWTF Regional Director, Maryland/Delaware/New Jersey/SE Pennsylvania

As I sit down to write this, I think about how everything in life is a circle. From the circle of life in the animals that we pursue in the field to the circle of life within our own family, my journey to become the new Regional Director for this great state of Maryland has come full circle. More about that in a moment.

My name is Shawn Weddle and my beautiful bride is Renee. We live in Smithsburg, MD along with our wonderful family. We have a total of 6 children, one granddaughter and one on the way! Currently at home we have Luke (13) and Dalton (11) who have been described at times as "hunting fools"!

We at the NWTF are in full swing in our SAVE THE HABITAT, SAVE THE HUNT initiative. Through the hard work and dedication of members and volunteers like you, we are off to a tremendous



start, but we cannot stop now! In the next few months you will be seeing and hearing things that should have everyone feeling very excited!

Now back to my journey with the NWTF coming full circle. I was first introduced to the NWTF as a youngster because my parents saw an ad in our local paper for a JAKES day hosted by the Monocacy Valley chapter. We attended for many years to follow and had a blast every year.

Fast forward a few years to when I was introduced to the past president of our local chapter who invited my wife and me to join their local committee. We jumped on the opportunity to help give back and to join such a great organization. Not long after joining the committee, I was elected to be President of our chapter and Renee was elected to the position of treasurer. We know what it's like to be a volunteer and are very thankful for each and every one of you! If you are not involved

with your local committee, I am positive that they will welcome you with open arms.

I am looking forward to meeting each and every one of you in the near future as we run headlong into banquet season.

By the time you are reading this the Christmas season will be in our rear view mirrors. On behalf of my family I would like to wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!



Clites Shares Love Of Hunting

by Jocelyn Brumbaugh, Bedford Gazette Staff Writer



Boy Scout counselor in training Alex Bausman, camp director Jack Rhodes, John Clites, Collin Hess, shotgun instructor Ben Zamonski and Scout leader Joe Baker pose for a photo in July. This is when Clites, an NRA-certified rifle and shotgun instructor, taught Hess, his 10,000th student, at a Boy Scout event at Camp Sinoquipe in Fort Littleton and recognized Hess with a trophy and certificate for a free 3-hour training session.

John Clites has always loved the thrill of hunting and shooting. Now, for about 30 years, Clites has passed on this love to more than 10,000 students as a certified rifle and shotgun instructor through the National Rifle Association.

Clites, of Buffalo Mills, got his start with firearms when he went hunting as a boy. It was then he discovered his hobby only lasted a short period of time and found another passion.

"Hunting is seasonal," he said. "But you can shoot year-round."

In 1981, Clites began instruct-

ing youngsters and beginners at various youth camps, sportsmen's club events and Boy Scout troops in Pennsylvania and Maryland. Because he and his wife, Cathy, also an NRA-certified instructor, had no children, he said he first spent a lot of time training nieces and nephews.

"We've always been heavily involved in shooting," Clites said, having represented both the state and the country on Pennsylvania and United States national teams in the 1990s, in addition to several other competitions.

Clites said now that he's retired

from many years at Westinghouse/Bedford Materials, he teaches others more than he shoots, explaining that he gets great joy from seeing a student, especially a youngster, struggle at the beginning of a lesson, work hard, and eventually get the hang of hitting the targets.

“You can have a 4-foot kid come in and they walk out 10 feet tall,” Clites said.

Because Clites keeps close track of how many students he instructs, as mandated by the NRA, he knew he would teach his 10,000th student while he was working with a Boy Scout troop at Camp Sinoquipe in Fort Littleton in July.

Collin Hess, 11, of Waynesboro, was one of the first to arrive at the training session and, although he was excited, Clites said, he let two of his other scouts go ahead of him in line for the instruction. Little did he know that his good deed, observed by Clites, would make him student number 10,000 in Clites’ training

career.

At lunch that day, Clites called Collin up in front of his peers and recognized him with one of the many trophies he received throughout his years of competition, which he relabeled with Collin’s name. He also made Collin an honorary member of his Silver Bullet Shooting Team with a silver bullet keychain, in addition to a certificate for a free 3-hour shooting class with Clites.

Collin was so excited that he carried the trophy around for the rest of the day, Clites said, and called his parents right away with the news.

While Clites has taught students young and old and even seen students go on to receive major scholarships to universities for their rifle and air rifle teams, his favorite kind of student is one who has never shot a gun in their lives.

“It’s like working with a clean sheet of paper,” he explained.

A lot of times, he said parents or

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John Clites, left, stands with his 10,000th student, Collin Hess, 11, in July during a Boy Scout camp in Fort Littleton. Clites, of Buffalo Mills, is an NRA-certified shotgun and rifle instructor and has been training students of all ages for more than 30 years.

relatives can get a bit lax when teaching their children to shoot, often forgetting that the child has never handled a gun before. This can form bad habits and even worse, create a lack of safety, Clites explained.

“That’s when accidents happen,” he said.

Clites also said that he’s learned along the way that, most times, a stranger is a better instructor than a family member or friend.

“Students seem to listen better,” he said, when they’re learning from an expert they don’t know.

Whether he’s shooting at the personal range in his backyard or hunting locally for bear and deer, Clites said what he enjoys even more is instructing a young

student and “seeing a smile on a child’s face” when they hit a reactionary target that pings when shot or a clay pigeon that explodes on contact.

They just light up,” he said. “You’ve instilled in them, ‘Hey, I can do this myself.’ I really get a kick out of their responses,”

In 2011, Clites was chosen from hundreds of nominees across the country and was named North American Hunting Club’s Mentor of the Year. At that time, Clites had between 8,500 and 9,000 total students. By the end of September, he predicts that he’ll have taught more than 11,000.

“That’s a lot of smiling faces,” he said.

The
Tri-County Longbeard Chapter
of the
National Wild Turkey Federation

would like you to join us at our

17TH ANNUAL



**HUNTING HERITAGE
BANQUET AND AUCTION**

Saturday
January 31st, 2015

4:30 PM to 10:00 PM
at the

Cambridge American Legion Hall
Route 50 – Fred Malkus Bridge
Cambridge, MD 21613

DINNER CATERED BY OLD SALTY'S

REGISTRATION FORM ON THE BACK OF THIS PAGE

The
Tri-County Longbeards Chapter
HUNTING HERITAGE BANQUET

Saturday, January 31st, 2015

REGISTRATION FORM

Please list name and address for each person attending.
Attach separate page if necessary.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Single @ \$ 70 _____

WITO @ \$ 70 _____

Couples @ \$ 100 _____

Sponsor @ \$330 _____

Corporate @ \$800 _____

JAKES @ \$ 30 _____

Please send this form with check, payable to:
Tri-County Longbeards Chapter – NWTF

George Corey – Treasurer

216 Bay Street

Easton, MD 21601

(410) 820-7977

Pre-registration is required, cutoff date is

Wednesday, 01/22/15

Or Before if tickets are sold out

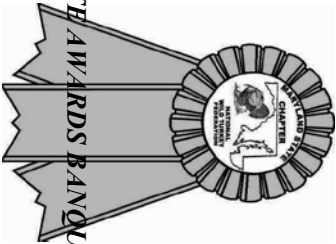


Maryland State Chapter
Of the
National Wild Turkey Federation
Bobby Boarman
President
11500 BB Farm Pl
Newburg MD 20664

The
Maryland State Chapter
Of the
National Wild Turkey Federation

Cordially invites you to join us
At our

15th Annual



STATE AWARDS BANQUET
Saturday
January 24, 2015
6:00 PM – 11:00 PM

Kent Island Fire
Department
Chester, MD 21666

Ticket Order Form Enclosed

The 15th Annual
Maryland State Chapter
Awards Banquet and Chinese Auction

The Maryland State Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation will be hosting our 15th Annual Awards Banquet on January 24, 2015 from 6:00PM to 11:00PM, At the Kent Island Fire Department. This will be the first opportunity for you to see and try to go home with some of the great items from the 2015 Core Package from the NWTFF.

There will be lots of fun for everyone, but more importantly, there will be special recognition for the achievements of our local chapters and volunteers.

Registration by January 1st is necessary for our catering arrangements.
Please, PRE-REGISTER!

Directions:

Kent Island Fire Department
Queen Anne's County
1610 Main St, Chester MD 21619
Exit 39 on the MD Eastern Shore just across the Chesapeake Bay Bridge
Take Ramp Right towards MD-552
552 To Right on Main St.

Please send order forms and inquiries to:

Bobby Boarman
State Chapter President
11500 BB Farm Pl
Newburg MD 20664
(301)259-2830

susanboarman55@gmail.com

Maryland State Chapter
2014 AWARDS BANQUET REGISTRATION

Fees
Dinner (Includes Door Prize Ticket) \$30.00
Early Bird Raffle Packages
150 Ticket Package \$100.00
300 Ticket Package \$150.00

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____
 State: _____ Zip _____
 Phone (_____) _____
 Email _____
 Dinner(s) @ \$30 _____
Early Bird Raffle Packages
 _____ 150-Ticket Package(s) @ \$100 _____
 _____ 300-Ticket Package(s) @ \$150 _____
 TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

All tickets will be issued at Check-in

Please send this form with check
Payable to:

Maryland State Chapter NWTFF

Bobby Boardman
State Chapter President
 11500 BB Farm Pl
 Newburg MD 20664

CHINESE AUCTION FORMAT

Have you ever been to the Maryland State Awards Banquet? It is like no other banquet in the state! This will be your first chance to see and try to acquire some outstanding items of the 2015 NWTFF Core Package. This event differs from the local chapters' banquets in that there will be only a SPECIAL LIMITED LIVE AUCTION* AND a Small SILENT AUCTION. Every item in the 2015 NWTFF Core Package, all of the beautiful limited edition prints, the cast sculptures, the fabulous home furnishing, the NWTFF Collectables, and the unbelievable Gun of the Year will be given away in a Chinese Auction.

Each item in the auction will have a bucket in which to place raffle tickets. Place your tickets in the buckets for the items you would like to win. One winner will be drawn from each bucket.

Chinese Auction Tickets

Early Bird Package
150 Ticket Package \$100.00
(At event for \$100 you get 100 Tickets)
300 Ticket Package \$150.00
(At event for \$150 you get 200 Tickets)

Chinese Auction Tickets

This year a special gift will be given to anyone who purchases a Raffle package. If you purchase a \$100 package you will get a NWTFF Flashlight. If you purchase the \$150 package you will get a NWTFF Camo hat. Be sure to buy your packages early so you can take advantage of the additional ticket offer.

SPECIAL LIMITED LIVE AUCTION

Once again we will be holding a very limited live auction of items of exceptional quality and design, which were donated specifically to the MD State Chapter for this event by world-class craftsmen and artisans.

Dear Fellow NWTFF Members,
 The Maryland State Chapter of the NWTFF and I wish you all a very happy and joyful holiday season! We hope you will join us on January 24, 2015, at our State Awards Banquet which is a special time day set aside to renew our bonds with those we know and love. May each of you have a peaceful holiday and a wonderful New Year!

Sincerely,
 Butch Faulkner, Regional Director, NWTFF

AWARDS BANQUET

The volunteers that make up the thirteen NWTFF chapters here in Maryland are outstanding in their contributions to the conservation of the wild turkey. Through their efforts, the Hunting Heritage Fund has supported field studies, habitat improvement, scholarships, JAKES events, turkey releases, and more, both here in Maryland, and across the country.

This January, we will be holding our 15th Annual Awards Banquet and Chinese Auction in recognition of the outstanding work by our many volunteers.

Please join us in this fun filled evening to help celebrate the 2014 accomplishments of our local chapters and volunteers. The chapters are recognized for their achievements and their improvements over the previous year.

SPECIAL AWARDS

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Presented to an outstanding individual who has contributed exceptional time, effort, and leadership to foster the goals and success of the NWTFF in Maryland

MVP LEADERSHIP AWARD

Awarded to an outstanding chapter leader, committee Member or officer who has contributed significantly to the mission of the NWTFF.

CONSERVATION OFFICER OF THE YEAR

The Maryland NWTFF selects an outstanding DNR Conservation Officer to receive this award and it is presented at the MD Awards Banquet.



January 2015

Dear Maryland Member:

The Maryland State Chapter Board of Directors is pleased to offer its members the opportunity to purchase Turkey Gold Chufa, Buckwheat, and Triple Threat Clover Strut & Rut[®] Mix at a subsidized price. The Maryland State Hunting Heritage Super Fund will pay for 50 percent of the subsidized portion of your order.

**Members regardless of membership level are allowed only 2 bags at the subsidized price.
You may get 2 of the same variety or mix & match. (NOT 2 of each)**

All orders are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Quantities are limited on subsidized seed due to the dollars allocated to the program. For shipping allow 2 to 3 weeks from the date your order is entered in our system. Additional bags of seed may be purchased in **unlimited** quantities using the non subsidized portion of the order form.

Turkey Gold[®] Chufa produces small nut-like tubers that turkeys scratch out of the ground. Once birds find the tubers in the fall, they keep coming back. A 50-pound bag of seed will cover approximately 1 acre. Select an open area that receives full sunlight. Sandy or loamy soils are preferred. Prepare the seedbed by plowing and disking. Have soil tested to determine exact amounts of lime and fertilizer to add. If you cannot get the soil tested, use 400 pounds of 10-10-10 or 13-13-13 fertilizer and 1,000 pounds of lime per acre. Soil pH should be between 6.4 – 7.2. Broadcast, May through mid July, at a rate of 40-50 pounds per acre and plant at a depth of 2 to 3 inches.



Maryland Subsidy Offer Spring 2015

Super Fund pays a percentage of the subsidized portion of your order

Member #:	_____
Member type:	_____
Name:	_____
Address:	_____
City/State/Zip:	_____
Day Phone #:	_____
Email:	_____

Ship to information:

Will not ship to PO Boxes

Please print or type

Name:	_____
Address:	_____
City/State/Zip:	_____
Day Phone #:	_____
Add'l Phone #:	_____

Email: _____

(Print clearly, this info will NOT be shared)

- **Only submit one order form per member.**
- Member number must be in the state of subsidized offer. (Example: FL cannot participate in AL, GA cannot participate in SC, etc.)
- Orders **must** be completed on this form and submitted to the address listed by mailing or faxing.
- **No orders will be taken by phone or email.**
- Offer for adult members only. JAKES are ineligible to participate.
- **Limited quantity – first come first served – while supplies last.**
- Do not tear or cut this form – return entire form with all fields completed.
- To avoid duplications, **submit your order once.** (fax or regular mail). Do not send multiple times.
- To check on order call 800-843-6983 opt. 1 sales. **Allow minimum 1 week for processing**, have your member number available.

For credit card security purpose
DO NOT SEND BY EMAIL.

Limits: Regardless of your membership level, you are only allowed a total of 2 bags at the subsidized price.
NOT 2 of each.

NOTE: If you have a question concerning your membership level please call 800-843-6983 and ask for Membership.

Plants 1 acre unless otherwise stated. See statement above for qty limitations. Prices include shipping.

Items are shipped by various vendors and may arrive in multiple shipments.

	Item Cost	Qty	Total Amount
0989898119010000 Turkey Gold® Chufa (50 lb)	\$38.50 ea	x	\$
0062739015010000 Buckwheat (50 lb)	\$43.00 ea	x	\$
0055765122010000 Triple Threat Clover Mix (12 lb) Crimson, Patriot & Durana	\$32.50 ea	x	\$

NO limits on quantities of NON subsidized items below. Prices include shipping.

098989811A010000 Turkey Gold® Chufa (50lb) NON subsidy	\$77.00 ea	x	\$
0062739016010000 Buckwheat (50 lb) NON subsidy	\$86.00 ea	x	\$
0055765123010000 Triple Threat Clover Mix (12 lb) NON subsidy Crimson, Patriot & Durana	\$65.00 ea	x	\$

Grand Total for all Items: \$

Return form and payment to: National Wild Turkey Federation

Attn: MD Seed Offer
PO Box 530
Edgefield, SC 29824

Fax: 803-637-9180

For credit card security purpose
DO NOT SEND BY EMAIL

To avoid duplication
ONLY submit your form once (fax or regular mail)

Payment Credit card Money order Check # _____ Make payable to National Wild Turkey Federation

Credit Card: _____ Exp. Date: _____ / _____
Signature: _____ Date: _____

Buckwheat is a very popular feed crop for wildlife, as well as an excellent cover crop. Buckwheat does well in almost any soil and can grow from two-to-five feet tall. This plant produces heavy seeds that shatter easily making the seeds readily accessible to turkeys, ducks, quail and other game and non-game species. Plant after the danger of frost and at the rate of 40-50 lbs. per acre. For best results, a weed-free, smooth, well-prepared seedbed should be established before the crop is seeded. Seed should be placed into moist soil to ensure quick germination (can mature in 10 to 12 weeks with good weather). Do not seed more than 2 inches deep. Fertilize with 5-10-10.

Strut and Rut® Triple Threat Clover Mix is a concentrated, pre-inoculated clover mix including Crimson, Patriot and Durana clovers. This mix will provide high quality food and cover for wild turkeys, deer and other wildlife. This mix is adapted to most sites and will stay established for several years with proper maintenance. Prepare the seedbed by disking or harrowing the ground. Create a smooth seedbed. Follow the recommendations on amounts of lime and fertilizer. Broadcast seed over one acre. Cover seed 1/4" deep using a drag or cultipacker to insure good seed to soil contact. Soil pH should be 6.0 to 7.0. Normally can be planted early fall or early spring depending on location.

Every bag purchased results in the establishment of quality wild turkey brood habitat. Your efforts support the MID State Chapter efforts to Save the Habitat. Save the Hunt. Your membership and financial support at NWTf Hunting Heritage Banquets helps make this program possible and allows the NWTf to address high priority habitat needs in your state. THANK YOU!

Sincerely,

Bobby Boorman

Maryland State Chapter President
National Wild Turkey Federation

P.O. Box 530 • 770 Augusta Road • Edgefield, South Carolina 29824 • Phone: (803) 637-3106 • Fax: (803) 637-9180

www.nwtf.org

MARYLAND NWTF CONSERVATION SEED PROGRAM

Fall Conservation Seed Orders Due by April 15

The Conservation Seed Program is a partnership between the NWTF and Resource Management, Inc. (RMI). RMI acts as a liaison between conservation organizations and several large seed companies to supply YEAR-OLD seed for **wildlife conservation plantings** (not for harvest) at a reduced cost.

If you would like WINTER WHEAT seed for FALL 2015 planting, please contact your local chapter president (listed in the back of the newsletter) no later than **APRIL 15, 2015.**

**A fee may be collected by local chapters to offset the shipping costs.
10 bag per person maximum.**

Note: Orders are not guaranteed and seed supply may dictate how many bags you receive, but reserving your bags early ensures the best chance for success.

Corned Goose or Venison

4-6 lbs of Deer Roast or

3-4 lbs of Goose Breast

5 tbsn of Morton Tender Quick Mix

2 tbsn of Brown Sugar

1 tbsn of Paprika

1 tbsn of Ground Bay Leaves

1 tbsn of ground All Spice

½ tbsn of Garlic Powder

Trim meat of excess fat.

In small bowl mix all ingredients

Rub the dry mix on all sides of the meat

Place in plastic bag sealed for 4-6 days rotate each day for curing leave in refrigerator.

Place in Dutch oven and add water and cover. Bring to boil then reduce heat and simmer until tender 3-4 hours 6 lbs of venison or 2½ - 3 hours for goose breast.

Or

Crock pot for 4 hours high and 6 hours low.

Makes great sandwiches and hash.

Local Chapter News

Southern Maryland Chapter

by Billy Moore



Greetings from the Southern Maryland Chapter of the NWTf. Grace and Peace to each of you.

What a year 2014 has been—a milestone year for our Chapter, our organization, our state of Maryland and our country—God Bless the USA. First of all let me thank the numerous volunteers that have made 2014 another resounding success starting with Tommy Deagle, a local decoy carver, as our Jakes event volunteer of the year. Thank you, Tommy, for a lifelong dedication to our youth. Tommy was presented the 2014 award at the 11th annual Wildlife Adventure Day which was hosted by NRG Energy at their McGregor Farm. Special thanks again to Bonnie Boyden and the Charles County 4-H for an 11 year partnership that even on a chilly rainy day

in October the kids, volunteers and parents show up with energy and appetites for a fun-filled day – their dedication is an indication of their love for the outdoors.

The Chapter also provided lessons on turkey calling, hunting safety and how to score/measure a whitetail rack. The pictures show local taxidermist Steve Edelen teaching several 4Hers the Pope & Young method. Prizes were given to the team with the closest score.

This year several Chapter volunteers hosted an NWTf exhibit at the first annual Outdoor Festival at the St. Mary's County Fairgrounds in August. Doug Hancock, Bobby and Susan Boorman, Lynn Saunders, Colin Mohler, Dean Daetwilder, Bill Riley and the entire Baden clan guided hundreds of youth through



*Brian Wathen Hunter/
Tom Wathen Guide;
Alyssa Kline Hunter/
Bobby Boarman Guide.*

the BB gun range and shared their stories about NWTF. We also joined the new established Patuxent Chapter in reaching a new territory for NWTF. Good luck to this new Chapter and their leadership team.

The highlight for 2014 has to be the 5th Annual Young Guns youth deer hunt on youth day in Southern Maryland. This year the event grew even larger when 71 youth hunters were individually guided on private farms in three different counties. This year we were blessed with 33 first time hunters straight out of MD hunter safety classes. On a cold November day the hunters were fortunate enough to harvest 26 deer, and just about all were fortunate enough to have the opportunity to harvest a deer and enjoy the great outdoors.

This year one young hunter, Brian Wathen, was presented with a Make a Wish hunt donated and operated by the National Rifle Association for this December. We are so grateful for this partnership

with the local Young Guns Hunt Club which has become a dream for Billy Crutchfield and Colin Mohler. During the event a special thanks was provided to Matt Linder, editor for *Turkey Country* and to Butch Faulkner, our NWTF RD, who will be departing Maryland for Florida. We will miss Butch and sincerely thank Butch and his entire family for their support, guidance and service—we wish them well in their new journey. As in all of life's situations, when one door closes, another one opens. We would like to welcome our newest RD, Shawn Weddle, to the best group of volunteers in the entire country.

As we close out this year our goal remains the same—reach as many people as we can to introduce them to the great outdoors, especially the youth, our military and anyone looking for a new adventure in God's great Outdoors. Until next time, may your life be full of adventure and share it with a friend.

Monocacy Valley Chapter

by Jay Zimmerman, Chapter President

As we start a new year, I would like to reflect on last year's success as a chapter and look ahead to a promising 2015. In April we held our JAKES Day event at Mayberry Game Protective Association. Due to the fact that it was our first year at a new venue we were more than a little concerned about turnout. Our fears were not justified, however, as we ended up hosting a very successful event that both kids and parents seemed to very much enjoy.

In May, we partnered again with Ecosystem Recovery Institute on a habitat improvement project on property in western Maryland owned by our treasurer, Bob Hope. Chapter volunteers teamed with Boy Scouts from Taneytown Troop 751 to plant native trees and shrubs as a buffer for a stream that runs through the property. Our relationship with ERI has been a very rewarding one, and we would like to encourage any other chapters in the state that may know of potential sites to get involved. I can be contacted at rleith6@comcast.net for more details.

In September we held our 23rd annual hunting heritage banquet that was a tremendous success. We were truly blessed this year to have renowned wildlife artist Melissa Ball donate a new print that she was showcasing for the first time.

Scott Basehore, award winning callmaker, also donated one of his box calls. Long time chapter members Gene and Shirley Long were honored for their years of service with our volunteer of the year award. Don't know how we'll do without them when they decide they've "had enough." For the second year in a row a first timer to a NWTF banquet, Chris Dorman, won the gun of the year. Chris came down from Philadelphia to attend and has since gotten involved with a chapter up there. Our very own Dave Hohman and Bruce Cheney of LJW calls were again generous enough to donate one of their box calls that are getting more popular every year. The banquet committee overall really did a great job this year at "stepping up or game" to put on a really nice event. Many thanks to all that helped out, without whom it wouldn't be possible.

The new year brings a few changes to our chapters board. We are fortunate to have Jay Zimmerman agree to be "abused" for another year as president and Bob Hope will remain as treasurer. New board members will include Russ Leith as VP and Brad Burford as secretary. Longtime board member Gale Taylor has decided to step aside for a bit to allow her more time for planning her daughter Hannah's

wedding this summer. We are also excited to have a new WITO coordinator, Randi Burford, who has brought some new energy and great ideas for that program.

Our schedule of events for 2015 is as follows:

JAKES day—Saturday, March 28.

WITO—Saturday, June 28

Banquet—Saturday, September 12.

Our chapter is also very excited about our new website [<http://mvc-nwtf.org>] that has been up and running for a few months now. Many thanks to Thomas Plante for his invaluable assistance.

All of us at Monocacy Valley would like to express our hope that everyone has a happy, healthy and successful new year.

State Line Strutters Delmar, MD, Chapter

by Stephen A. Harrison

Our 7th annual JAKES day was held at the Delmar VFW on June 28. The event featured fishing, a turkey shoot, BB gun shooting, and other activities. As always, free lunch was served.

Our 9th annual Hunting Heritage Banquet was held September 27 at the Delmar VFW.

We raised \$18,000.00 thanks to an outstanding turnout. Thanks to all who attended and helped support this year's banquet.

As mentioned before, the State Line Strutters formed a training team for the Maryland DNR to teach Hunter Safety classes. We

just completed our 4th class at the Delmar VFW. Fifty-two people attended with only 2 not passing. The classes are held in the evening and finish with a field day to demonstrate what they have learned. The experience of helping kids learn firearms and hunting is a VERY rewarding experience.

A dance will be held on January 31, 2015, from 9:00 pm until 1:00 am at the Delmar VFW. Proceeds will go towards our 2015 JAKES day. The band "Front Page News" will provide the entertainment. Tickets are \$10.00. Contact any member of the State Line Strutters for tickets.

Free State Chapter

by Tom Maliszewski

Happy New Year! Thank you to all the members and volunteers who make Freestate possible. If it wasn't for their help and drive it wouldn't be here hats off and thank you.

This past summer we held our annual Crab Feast fundraiser. This is a chapter fundraiser that we do to cover cost above superfunds. We had 170 people come and enjoy some of

Maryland finest blue crabs. We also had a few games/ raffles just to make it interesting. This was also a time to say thank-you to all the friends that helped, and we were able to break crabs and drink beer and tell some stories of the past.

I started this past season going natural. "Natural." The game was Sika deer a non-native to us but a truly magnificent deer. I forgot my calls and thought ah what the heck. I had my decoy. I had my bow and I was in the stand at first light. He bugled a couple hundred yards away; I gave it my best and I bugled back at him and he fired off and I hit it again and he fired off. It was turkey hunting 101. Holy cow, I cut the distance, set the decoy dropped back and cow called and he bugled. At 60 yards he bugled and kept coming. The rest was history; I nailed him at 12 yards. That was my sika hunt with a six point stag on the ground the intensity was unbelievable. Just 5 months prior I was doing the same to gobblers. The big question: Am I a better deer hunter because of my turkey hunting or I'm a better turkey hunter with my deer hunting? Whatever it works. So this spring the vest that's loaded with everything except the kitchen sink, I might just take a seat cushion and see what happens. I've been practicing this fall; I busted several turkeys off the roost. I called in gobblers with a single long yelp. Hens came in with kee kee kee call

(my whistling lips). To my ears it sounded pretty good. So I practice a few clucks and purrs and birds came in. Can you just imagine all the money I'm going to save? No more points from Dick's, or Bass Pro. Ouch, that's going to hurt, no more reason to burn those points, can't let them go to waste. So go "Natural" and give it a try, you'll be surprised. Maryland will have a late winter season so I'll put it to the test.

This past year we sponsored some youth events—this is a personal challenge to everyone who goes hunting, Take a new person hunting (think outside the box), take them and coach them with their hunters safety course and set up some times to go afield and get them hooked. Just one person, that's the challenge.

We had some congratulations in order to some of our AIM program shooters; here's a little more from their coaches.

2014 Academics Integrity & Marksmanship (AIM) Maryland State Youth Trapshooting Championship.

On Saturday, June 14, Harvey's Cedar Gun Club and the Free State Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTf) hosted the 2014 Maryland State Youth Trapshooting Championships in Darlington, Maryland. Forty participants from six different AIM programs in Maryland and Pennsylvania came out and participated in this year's event. Participants were



Grandson Kyle with his first deer. Rifle hunt on the Eastern Shore.



Josh Maliszewski, Freestate JAKES member, get his first Sika deer. Way to go!



Freestate JAKES member Logan Hughes doing some goose hunting with dad Dick Hughes.



Freestate WITO kayak trip ready for launch.



Freestate Fred Zellman's fishing Derby Trailer.



Freestate President didn't get his gobbler this morning, but this will do.



able to compete for both individual and team age category trophies. The event included 100 singles targets, 25 pair of doubles, lunch for all participants and family members and an awards ceremony at the end of the day.

AIM is the official youth shooting program of the Amateur Trapshooting Association. The purpose of AIM is to provide youths with a safe and positive experience with firearms, while encouraging good sportsmanship and personal responsibility through competition. The program is open to all youths, elementary school through college age. More information can be learned about the program and certified coaches in your area by visiting the National website at www.aim4ata.com.

The fall Heart of Maryland trapshooting league runs for ten weeks at five different trap clubs (Carney, Carroll County, Coon Club, Mt. Airy, and North Carroll). Participants shoot 25 singles targets and 25 handicap targets each week. Each week between 125 and 156 shooters participate in the league.

Two AIM shooters from Har-

vey's Cedar Gun Club, which the Freestate National Wild Turkey Federation sponsors, won trophies. Nick Hughes broke the only 50 straight the first week and held the lead for all ten weeks. Each shooter drops the two lowest scores. Nick ended with a score of 377 to win the entire league. His brother, George, broke 364 and won the sub junior trophy (under 16 years of age). Congratulations Nick and George, and no I'll never go dove hunting with you guys. Just kidding, but I shoot first and you guys retrieve. Job well done.

In closing, this past year we had new elections and it was great to see the vote; please follow the news and government for proposed changes. One great place is the Maryland Hunting Coalition with Allen Ellis at the helm. He's got his foot in the door and we need more of him to fight for our sportsman rights. Just google and you will be shocked what's on the table.

In closing, there still a few weeks of hunting, so enjoy what Maryland has to offer, and be safe. See you in the woods.

Mid-Shore Chapter

by Ted Capel

On August 16, we held our annual Jakes Event at Chesapeake Farms, with 30 Jakes in attendance. The youth were treated to several stations including Archery, by the

Md. Bowhunter's Society, Tree stand Safety by the crew from Blitz TV, Introduction to Trapping by the Md. Fur Trappers, Use of Box Calls by LJW Calls, Clay Target Shooting

by Chesapeake Farms, and 22 cal. Rifle Shooting by our chapter.

On October 4, we held our Annual Hunting Heritage Banquet in Chestertown, which was another success. Two of our dinner guests included a Junior at Salisbury University giving us an update on the use of her previous scholarship, and where she is now, and this year's Scholarship winner, who also was

the state scholarship winner.

This year, we held some fundraisers and financed the NASP Archery in the Schools in Kent County Middle School. We have been following the use of this, and the school now has a club established and hopes to compete statewide.

This past Thanksgiving we also donated 20 turkeys to needy families in Kent County.

Washington County Chapter

by Shawn Weddle

As most of you know, the Washington County chapter is still in its infancy. Now entering into its 6th year, excitement and growth seem to be the two words that come to my mind. Many new members as well as leaders within our chapter have continued to allow us to grow. Our 5th annual Hunting Heritage banquet, held in September, was the largest and most successful in the chapter's history. Members both new and old attended to fellowship and celebrated our hunting heritage. With this being my first banquet, I was surprised by the generosity of those willing to help and donate to the NWTf cause. We took time to honor fellow committee members Dave and Wanda



Clark, who were instrumental in getting the chapter off the ground and running. Our committee felt that this special recognition was well deserved for the hard work that the Clarks have done for the chapter. Their hard work and dedication have helped to make the chapter what it is today. We want to thank all of our volunteers and attendees for helping to ensure a memorable and successful evening.

Moving forward into the next year comes with higher expectations for the NWTF. With all new officers within our chapter, we are excited to continue the paths and meet the goals that were set by the ones before us. We want to reach out to more children and adults by teaching and educating about the great outdoors and utilizing the resources that God has given us. Including education of proper handling of firearms, types of calls and calling, and tree stand safety will be focused on at our JAKES event March 28, 2015. With the help from other local or-

ganizations, such as the Washington County Izaak Walton Club, we hope to start planting food plots locally, helping turkeys and other wildlife to flourish. This is just one way for us to help "Save the Habitat, Save the Hunt."

The chapter is currently holding a fundraising raffle with a Barnett Ghost 360 package being the prize! A winner will be drawn when 200 tickets are sold or on February 14, whichever comes first. For tickets, or any other chapter information, contact me at 301-992-2266 or pikshirider@gmail.com.

Central Maryland Chapter

by Gene Hyatt

CMC wrapped up a great 2014 with several Hunter Safety Classes and our State Qualifications shoots for those going on special hunts this fall. We also had a fund raiser selling hot dogs at Bass Pro on opening day of fire arms season. Try to put a crew together to work that day. Harry Rhule and our 4-H friends pulled it off and put a few bucks in the city.

We will be starting back in full swing in January. Our banquet will move back to La Fountain Blue on March 20, 2015. We may have tickets on our web page Central Maryland Chapter NWTF or by contacting Gene Hyatt at hyattfullfan@yahoo.com or 443-962-7398. March will be busy, that's when we have our NRA Turkey Hunter Safety

course and our first hunter safety course of the year.

The first Tuesday of the month is our business meeting at Meyer Station, 1600 Meyer Station Rd., Odenton MD 21113. The rest of the Tuesdays we'll be shooting trap and putting our heads together for our up coming events. We are always in need of help and new ideas and would love to see you there.

I would like to thank everyone for all the help in making 2014 a great year, and I'm looking forward to see just how much better 2015 will be! I wish everyone safety and success for the fall hunting season. Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

God Bless, Gene Hyatt



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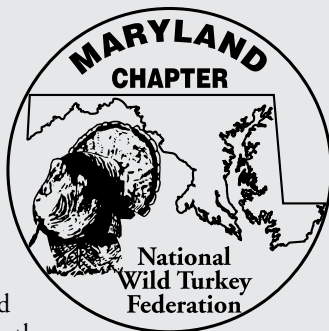
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Maryland State Chapter NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION 2016 J.A.K.E.S. “Hunt of A Lifetime” Application



Applications for the 2015 Maryland State Chapter's JAKES “Hunt of A Lifetime” are now available and will be accepted through December 31, 2015. Successfully drawn applicants must be current JAKES members, pass a Hunter Safety Education course, possess a valid Maryland hunting license and be willing to write a short story about their adventure. Selected applicants will be required to attend and pass the Turkey Hunting Clinic sponsored by the Central Maryland Local Chapter. After meeting all of these requirements, qualified applicants will be entered into a second drawing to determine the winner of the hunt. JAKES may enter “JAKES Hunt Of A Lifetime” until picked for a hunt. Please, one hunt per “Lifetime.” If interested, complete and mail the application below:

Maryland State Chapter NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION 2015 J.A.K.E.S. “Hunt of A Lifetime” Application

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____ Birthdate _____

City/Town _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone Number _____

Parents' Names _____

NWTF J.A.K.E.S. Membership Number _____

Maryland Hunter Education Card Number _____

Mail this Form to:

Bobby Boarman

11500 BB Farm Place, Newburg, Maryland 20664

JAKES may enter “JAKES Hunt Of A Lifetime” until picked for a hunt. Please, one hunt per “Lifetime.”

NOTE: This form must be received by December 31, 2015



Dedicated to the Conservation of the Wild Turkey and the Preservation of our Hunting Tradition

You can help answer the call by joining one of the nation's most progressive conservation organizations

For more information call: 1-800-THE-NWTF

or visit our web site at

www.nwtf.org

or write to:

Maryland State Chapter

National Wild Turkey Federation

11500 BB Farm Place, Newburg, Maryland 20664

Yes, I would like to join the Maryland State Chapter of the NWTF, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the conservation of the North American wild turkey and the preservation of the hunting tradition. Sign me up as (check one):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full voting member—\$30.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Women in the Outdoors—\$35.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor member—\$250.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Wheelin' Sportsmen member—\$30.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Active Military—\$10.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Student (age 18-23)—\$10.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> J.A.K.E.S member (12 years and under)—\$10.00 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EXTREME J.A.K.E.S. (13 - 17 years)—\$10.00 | |

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone No. _____ E-mail Address _____

Charge to my: MasterCard VISA

Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

(Make checks payable to NWTF)

Send to: Maryland State Chapter—NWTF



Maryland State Chapter
National Wild Turkey Federation
11500 BB Farm Place
Newburg, MD 20664



Winter 2015

Turkey Droppings

Newsletter



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