

# PENNSYLVANIA DEER FARMERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

-To Preserve, Protect & Promote the Deer Industry in Pennsylvania-



# NEWSLETTER

Volume 10

SPRING 2011

No. 1

## WHAT PDFA DID FOR YOU IN 2010

➤The association's board responded to the recent budget cuts in the Pennsylvania budget, as it threatened the industry's CWD surveillance program. After many meetings with the department of agriculture, the CWD program was saved.

➤We have successfully worked with Milliron Associates and key legislators to pass a bill to create a \$75.00 CLO (Cervid Livestock Operation) fee to support the future of our CWD programs.

➤The association assisted two Pennsylvania hunting ranches with local zoning and approval issues.

➤The PDFA sponsored two regional vet and deer producer clinics in the east and west of the state with the assistance of Dr. Karen Martin and Dr. Deb Landis.

➤The association created the Cervid Livestock Reward Fund to help PDFA members bring anyone vandalizing a CLO to justice.

➤The PDFA raised and contributed over \$25,000.00 to key legislators in Harrisburg through its PAC fund.

➤The association sponsored an antler scoring seminar along with Safari Club International at Amos Kauffman's farm



## FRIDAY FUN NIGHT PLANNED

Plan to come early to the Spring Annual Meeting and Sale at the Lancaster Host on Friday April 8, 2011.

Your board has set up various fun events. There will be a laser shooting booth, dart gun competition run by Amos Kauffman and rook game fun managed by Harry Strawser. All events are planned to begin about one o'clock on Friday afternoon. From 4:30 – 6:00 pm everyone is invited to David Lapp Jr's farm -- Gap Ridge Whitetails -- for a chicken bar-b-que sponsored by the Lancaster County PDFA members. David's farm is with-in 11 miles of the Lancaster

Host. The address is 5206 Old Strasburg Road, Kinzers.

Following the bar-b-que, the Game Night will continue at the hotel. We hope to see many of you at this event, which expands our spring sale.

If you plan to attend the chicken bar-b-que please reply by April 1 to the PDFA office. You can call 610-767-5026, fax 610-767-5034, e-mail to [lowhill@rcn.com](mailto:lowhill@rcn.com), or return the form below by mail. David needs to have a count for food preparation.

### FRIDAY FUN NIGHT RESPONSE FORM

YES, I will be attending the Chicken Bar-b-que on Friday, April 8

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Number of tickets \_\_\_\_\_

Call: 610-767-5026  
Fax to: 610-767-5034  
Email to: [lowhill@rcn.com](mailto:lowhill@rcn.com)  
or  
Mail to:  
PDFA  
P. O. Box 5  
New Tripoli, PA 18066

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rhuff29@verizon.net

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

*by Dave Griffith*



Hello Everyone,

I hope you have your calendar marked for Saturday April 9, 2011. This is the date for our Spring meeting to be held, once again at the Lancaster Host Resort in Lancaster, PA. This is one of the most important days for the PDFA because it is our main fund raiser for the year. It is the monies raised at this benefit that allows us to service our membership and maintain our presence in Harrisburg throughout the year. Without these monies we cannot continue to support your right to raise deer in our state. So if you haven't sent your donation to Kelly Pittenger, Chairperson of the meeting, please consider giving something. We also have our Gun Raffle tickets available to benefit our Political Action Fund. They are \$10.00 each and offer cash prizes and a free hunt. The PAC Fund is also very important to our efforts. The PAC monies go to support the legislators in Harrisburg that support our rights to farm deer.

By now many of you may have heard that I will stepping down as President of the Association at the conclusion of the Spring Meeting. When my brother Rick and I began deer farming in the late 80's there were less than 100 deer farmers in the state. Today Pennsylvania is the second largest deer farming state in the U.S. behind the big state of Texas with over 1,000 farms. A lot has transpired since those early days when collecting semen and artificial insemination of deer seemed like flying to the moon and back. I can remember the early days of forming this association, when the very existence of this industry in Pennsylvania looked like it would end. Thank goodness that through divine guidance from above and holding our ground we made it. Today, through the hard work of this Association and your support, we have a solid presence in Harrisburg and maintain the privileged to raise our deer.

I have had the opportunity to be your President since our beginning in 2002. Our mission when we formed the Pennsylvania Deer Farmers Association was and still is "To Preserve, Protect, & Promote the deer industry in Pennsylvania." Some of you remember the early days when we were fighting off government agencies and special interest groups bound and determined to put us out of business. That is what we refer to as history, and although you can talk about it, sometimes you can't get everyone to embrace it. My hope for the future board members and officers of this association is remember our mission statement and the order in which it is written. The order it is written is a simple guide in itself. The words " Preserve and Protect" come first. Any board member that puts the animals, the industry, and fellow members first will always be able to make the right decision.

In closing, I want to thank everyone for your trust in me over the years. It isn't easy to step down because there is so much at risk. I have faith that the next class of board members and officers will get the job done and be able to write their chapters in the history books for future deer farmers to be told. They will have my support and I will always be in the crowd.

I look forward to seeing you all in Lancaster. Have a great spring and lots of big healthy fawns.

Dave Griffith, President

# A Big Thank You to Will Ainsworth Dream Ranch LLC for his Contribution to PDFFA

## BY-LAW CHANGE PROPOSED

The board of directors would like to propose a by-law change to Article II, Section 2 A., Life Membership. It currently reads, "Life membership shall have all voting membership privileges without payment of annual dues upon payment of a one time fee of \$500.00.

It is proposed that it read, "Life membership shall have all voting membership privileges without payment of annual dues upon payment of a one time fee."

With this change, the board of directors would have

## DATES SET FOR FALL SALE

September 9 & 10, 2011 has been chosen for the PDFFA Fall Sale. The sale will be held at the Blair County Convention Center in Altoona.

Our hotel will be the Marriott Courtyard, which is connected to the convention center. The rate is \$104 for Thursday night, but due to a Penn State football schedule change (Alabama is in town), the Friday and Saturday night rate has increased to \$144.00. Due to this, the hotel is asking that you call them directly at 814-312-1800 to book your reservation. Be sure to identify yourself as a PDFFA member. **Cutoff date is Thursday, August 25, 2011, but if you're planning to stay, you should call early.**

*Happy Easter from  
the Office of the  
Pennsylvania Deer  
Farmers Association*



## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The following members have joined PDFFA since the printing of the 2011 Directory:

Harold Bartlebaugh  
Hoover Hurst Whitetail Deer  
Farm  
P. O. Box 36  
Arcadia, PA 15712  
814-845-7594

Doug Meyer  
Patriot Whitetails LLC  
1222 Prospect Rd.  
Prospect, PA 16052  
724-814-1159  
patriotwhitetails@gmail.com

Kenneth Friedline  
Maple Ridge Deer Farm  
134 Menser Rd.  
Somerset, PA 15501  
814-443-3782

Mark E. Saner  
Saner Farm  
1484 Jonestown Rd.  
Thompsontown, PA 17094  
717-535-5963  
msaner@dumor.com

Lawrence & Candace Hampton  
Whitetail Dreams  
100 Byers Road  
Millerstown, PA 17062  
717-796-9251  
whitetaildreams@comcast.net

Michael Weaver  
Hidden Hollow Whitetails  
1387 CR 658  
Nova, OH 44859  
419-606-2244  
mikeweaver@cmypeople.net

Patricia Massie  
39 F St.  
Carlisle, PA 17013  
717-346-3223, Ext. 215  
pmassie@state.pa.us



## Save the Date! THIRD ANNUAL SUMMER COOKOUT

**AUGUST 12-13, 2011  
REEDSVILLE, PA**

Please consider being a sponsor!

Contact:

Willie Swarey  
3245 E. Back Mountain Rd.  
Belleville, PA 17004-8784  
717-935-7421

More information coming  
in the summer newsletter.

## GUN RAFFLE BENEFITS ASSOCIATION

Ten Gun raffle tickets will be mailed to each PDFA member in February by first class mail. The proceeds from this fund-raiser goes to support our legislative efforts in Harrisburg. The Raffle Committee has worked very hard to put together an impressive number of guns, cash awards amounting to \$2,000.00 and the grand prize of a Hunt with up to a 145" class buck at Mountain Run Ranch, New Bloomfield, Pa., donated by Harry Strawser and Joe Peachy

The ticket stub and payment can be mailed back to the PDFA office by March 25th or brought to Lancaster the day of the drawing. If you need more tickets contact Bev Gruber at 610-767-5026. The drawing will take place at the Spring Meeting on April 9th at the Lancaster Host.

Be sure to make you checks out to PDFA Political Action Fund. **No corporate (business) checks can be accepted.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Seller \_\_\_\_\_  
 Return Top Portion and Payment by March 27th or bring to Meeting.  
 TO: Bev Gruber PO Box 5 \* New Tripoli, Pa 18066

**PA DEER FARMERS ASSOCIATION**

**ANNUAL GUN RAFFLE**  
 ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE POLITICAL ACTION FUND  
 Winners need not be present. Winners responsible for pick-up and clearance check. Corporate checks cannot be accepted. Make personal checks out to PDFA PAC Fund. Any questions contact Bev Gruber at 610-767-5026.  
 DRAWING WILL BE AT OUR APRIL 9<sup>th</sup> SPRING MEETING

**GRAND PRIZE:**  
 Up to 145" Class Buck at Mountain Run Ranch  
 donated by Joe Peachy & Harry Strawser

**OTHER GREAT PRIZES INCLUDE:**

- \* Benelli Nova 12Ga. camo 28" bbl.
- \* Browning A-Bolt II comp stalker 300 Win Mag
- \* Savage Edge Youth 243cal. Detachable box magazine
- \* \$100 CASH
- \* Harrington Richards Ultra slua 12ga lam stock
- \* Mossberg Mod. 500 12ga. Trophy slua gun
- \* Marlin Mod. 1894 lever rifle 44 Mag.
- \* \$100 CASH
- \* Savage Edge 223cal. Detachable box magazine
- \* Mossberg Mod. 535 slua gun 12ga.
- \* Harrington Richards Mod. 582 22-250cal.
- \* \$100 CASH
- \* Remington Mod. 770 7mm-08 with 3x9 scope
- \* Tikka Mod. T3 lite 300 Win Mag
- \* Savage Edge 25-06cal camo with scope. Det box mag
- \* \$100 CASH
- \* Remington Mod. 700 SPS 300 Win Mag
- \* Thompson Center Venture rifle 308 Win
- \* Remington Mod. 7600 30-06cal pump rifle
- \* \$100 CASH
- \* Savage Mod. 938TUS 22 Mag. Thumbhole stock
- \* CZ Mod 527 223cal rifle
- \* \$500 CASH
- \* Remington Mod. 700 CDL 300 Win Mag
- \* Browning Mod. A-Bolt II with boss 300 Win Mag
- \* \$1,000 CASH

**DONATION - \$10.00 PER TICKET**

## CERVIDAE LIVESTOCK OPERATORS LICENSE REQUIRED

It is now a Pennsylvania law that to operate a cervidae facility in Pennsylvania, you must be licensed by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

You probably have received the information by this time from Harrisburg. The fee is \$150.00, and it covers two years.

There are only two exemptions to the law:

1. Those with a menagerie permit from the Pennsylvania Game Commission
2. Farms which have less than 10 contiguous acres and have an annual gross ag in come less than \$10,000.00 (fenced acres have no bearing on this exception).

If you do not exceed 10 acres or \$10,000 gross you still must register with the department of ag through the required quarantine order.

If your operation qualifies for exemption from the Cervidae Livestock Operations license and the association fee, please complete the required part of the application including the signature page and return it to the Bureau of Animal Health at the address provided on the application.

### CORBETT NAMES GREIG SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

HARRISBURG, Pa. -- Gov. Tom Corbett has nominated George Greig, a farmer and agriculture leader from Linesville, Crawford County, as Pennsylvania secretary of agriculture.



"George Greig is an experienced farmer, businessman and leader," Corbett said. "His record of success and service makes him an ideal choice to lead this important state agency."

Greig, 59, has held many positions within the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau, where he has served as the state board director for the past six years.

Greig also owns and operates a 650-acre dairy farm in partnership with his brother in Crawford County. The Greig brothers also produce soybeans and hay.

Greig currently serves as township supervisor in Conneaut Township. Corbett said that Greig has also served on the USDA Farm Service Agency's Pennsylvania State Committee, the Crawford County Conservation District and the Great Lakes Regional Water Board.

Greig and his wife, Christine, have been married for 15 years and have six children.

Senate committees are expected to hold public hearings on many of Corbett's Cabinet nominations this month, but the timing may depend on how soon the nominees file required statements of financial interest with the State Ethics Commission, said Erik Arneson, a spokesman for Senate Majority Leader Dominic Pileggi, R-Delaware.

By law, the full Senate cannot vote on gubernatorial nominations until at least 10 calendar days after the nominees file those statements. Typically, the committees defer confirmation hearings until after the statements are filed, Arneson said.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

## MISSISSIPPI DEER FARMING FAILS BY TWO VOTES

A bill before the Mississippi state senate that would authorize deer farming in the Magnolia State fell short by two votes this week. The vote was 28-2 in favor of the bill, but the measure needed 30 votes to pass. Bill author and Senate wildlife chairman Tommy Gollott (R-Biloxi) has entered a motion to reconsider so there is apparently more behind-the-scenes discussions.

The bill was previously approved by the Senate Wildlife Committee and, if eventually approved by the Senate, would allow the import and export of farm-raised whitetail deer, semen, ova and embryos.

Agriculture is Mississippi's No. 1 industry and employs 30 percent of the state's work force. Deer farming is one of the fastest growing industries in rural America, and Sen. Gollott told the media in Jackson, Miss., that deer farming could generate millions of dollars for the state every year.

# 2011 SPRING MEETING AND BENEFIT AUCTION

**SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 2011**  
Lancaster Host Resort  
2300 Lincoln Highway East (Rt. 30)  
Lancaster, PA 17602

**DOORS OPEN AT 7:30 AM**  
with Trade Show

**ANNUAL MEETING 9:00 A.M.**  
**LUNCH 11:00 A.M.**  
(No charge for members & their families)

**AUCTION**  
**12:00 NOON - 5:00 P.M.**  
**SILENT AUCTION ENDS - 2:00 P.M.**

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**Ask for PDFA Rate of \$99.99**

3-6 YR. REFERENCES INCLUDE M&M WHITETAILS, SWAMP HOLLOW WHITETAILS, BLOSSER WHITETAILS, ROPP'S WHITETAILS, LEVEL CREEK WHITETAILS, SUMMIT CREST WHITETAILS AND H&E DEER FARMS

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## REDDING NAMED DEAN AT DELAWARE VALLEY COLLEGE

Doylestown, Pa. – Delaware Valley College has named Russell Redding, Pennsylvania secretary of agriculture in the Rendell administration, as dean of agriculture and environmental sciences.

“We consider ourselves extremely fortunate to have such a distinguished public figure transitioning to education at DelVal,” said President Joseph S. Brosnan in a prepared statement. “The commonwealth’s loss is our gain. Russell will focus on leadership and help us move forward with our new vision for the future.”

Redding starts immediately, replacing Judith Schwank, who is leaving to run for the state senate in her home district of Berks County.

Redding said the call from Brosnan came just as he was leaving Harrisburg with the rest of Rendell’s Cabinet.

“I was not expecting a call,” he said. “I was focusing on my options. I promised the family that after 16 years in government service I would reflect a

bit on my future, to think critically about the next logical step. All of a sudden, Dr. Brosnan is on the phone.”

After a visit to the campus and continued discussions, Redding decided that DelVal was indeed the next logical step.

Redding served a total of 16 years in the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture and was appointed secretary in 2009. His understanding of production in agriculture began from working on his family’s dairy farm in Gettysburg. For a time, he ran his own dairy operation with his wife, Nina.

Redding is a Penn State graduate with a bachelor’s and master’s in agriculture and Extension education. He has been involved with Future Farmers of America for about 30 years and served as vice president of the state organization.

As dean, Redding said he will concentrate on leadership, communications and outreach.

“The key is to keep the momentum

going that Dr. Brosnan has established.” he said. “That means providing leadership for the agricultural programs, meeting with staff, managing the farm properties and reaching out to the broader agricultural community to find the proper place there for DelVal.”



Redding, his wife and two sons – Garrison, 16 and Elliot, 15 – make their home in Adams County, south of Carlisle.

Delaware Valley College is an independent, four-year residential institution in Doylestown, PA. It enrolls 1,700 full-time undergraduates studying 27 majors.

Source: Delaware Valley College.



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## Renew Your Membership!

Dues notices for the Pennsylvania Deer Farmers Association will be arriving in your mailbox in mid-April. Send in your dues renewal right away and your member benefits will continue uninterrupted for the coming year. If you are an Associate, consider upgrading your membership to Voting Member and have a say in how your association is governed. You can also pay your dues at the Spring Meeting in Lancaster.

Dues are increasing this year for the first time since the association was started. Associate membership will be \$50 and Voting membership will be \$75





## THE HARRISBURG PERSPECTIVE

*Milliron Associates*

*John Milliron, Ken Brandt and Andrew Goodman*

**BY ANDY GOODMAN, MBA**

After a long election process the results are in. The Republicans have captured control of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives and the Governor's office. The Pennsylvania Senate will continue to have a Republican majority of 30 to 20. After four years of Democratic control of the House, Republicans have seized a majority ratio of 112-91. House Republicans are now being lead by Speaker Sam Smith (Jefferson), Majority Leader Mike Turzai (Allegheny) and Majority Whip Stan Saylor (York). House Democrats are being lead by Minority Leader Frank Dermody (Allegheny) and Minority Whip Mike Hanna (Clinton). Governor Tom Corbett was elected and sworn into office on January 18th. Governor Corbett selected George Greig to be the next Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture. Mr Greig will now go through the confirmation process. You can read more about Governor Corbett and Mr Greig on the internet at Governor Corbett's website. The address is [www.governor.state.pa.us](http://www.governor.state.pa.us) – you can read about Mr Greig under Cabinet Officials, which is located on the left side of the web page.

Here's the great news, Deer Farming is not a partisan issue. We will continue to work with supportive legislators

on both sides of the political field. It is critical to continue to build relationships with legislators "back home" through you and "on the Hill" in Harrisburg. Our Commonwealth has become one of the most friendly states in the Union for deer farmers. And it is imperative we continue to work together to maintain and build upon that foundation to insure our industry's future. Alongside your responsibilities of maintaining your herd, please try to uphold a relationship with your local House member and Senator. A phone call, letter of support or inquiry goes a long way for your business. If you feel comfortable doing so, invite your local politicians to tour your farm and educate them on your industry. It is amazing what interpersonal relationships accomplish.

Here's the bad news, Pennsylvania is, like many states, in a financial hole. The legislature is working with the Governor to accomplish a no increased tax budget for the next fiscal year. The figures change but the number continually used is a \$4 billion deficiency. Expect massive cuts. And, expect cuts in programs you use professionally and personally. Our office will continue to monitor where the cuts will happen. Because of the seriousness of this budget shortfall, we expect cuts to

occur nearly across the board including agriculture.

This summer into early fall, I have asked that the House Agriculture Committee hold a hearing at a local deer farm. We previously held one in September of 2008. The hearing and tour is to educate members of the legislature on how a deer farm operates and the financial impact our farms have on the local economy. I hope to have more information to you soon on this upcoming event.

To continue our political success, we must continue to follow the path we have over the past 10 years. That path includes 3 dynamic spokes to the wheel. The wheel includes Grassroots, which I wrote about earlier. A good lobbying team and a solid Political Action Committee or PAC. At the upcoming spring sale, the PDFA PAC will be raising money through its fundraiser. Although taking part in the fundraiser is critical... I urge you to contribute a little extra to the PAC. Contributing a few extra dollars to the fund will go a long way to help ensure our "political voices" in Harrisburg stay in office.

As always, do not hesitate to contact me if I can help. I have an open door policy and will do my best to help PDFA members.

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### AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED



You should have already been contacted by mail or by a fellow Deer Farmer for your donation for the Spring Auction. As most of you know this event is what keeps our association afloat.

A format similar to last year will be followed. We will have a silent auction as well as a regular auction. Last year's auction totaled almost \$60,000 so lets try to top that this year.

Send your auction item information to Kelly Pittenger, 4733 Warrensville Road, Montoursville, Pa. 17754. She

can be reached at 717-435-5809 or email [thundervalley@uplink.net](mailto:thundervalley@uplink.net). The form can be found on page 5 of this newsletter.

Our auctioneer will again be Aaron Kanagy, K&R Auctioneering Service, from Bellville, Pa. Only information received by March 12 is included in the catalog, but donations will be accepted up until sale time.

If you have time, please consider asking others in your community to support our association. You do not have to be a member to donate. We will recognize their donation and give them recognition.

# NOMINATING COMMITTEE PRESENTS SLATE OF BOARD MEMBERS

George Hazard, chairman of the nominating committee received the following nominees to the board of directors for the 2011 year. Five will be elected for a three year terms and one will be elected for a two year term. Election will take place at the April 9th Spring Meeting. If you are a PA voting member or a life member, you will receive your ballot in the mail within the next week. Just be sure to bring it with you to the spring annual meeting so your vote counts. This voting procedure allows those who attend our meetings to vote that day, while allowing members who cannot attend a meeting to vote as well. Remember—the chance to vote for your board of directors is an important responsibility for each member—whether you can attend the meetings or not.

If you do not plan to attend the spring annual meeting, return your ballot by mail to the PDFFA Office. All ballots must be postmarked by April 1.

Each candidate was asked to submit a short write-up about themselves. The candidates are:

Bob Byers  
David Esh  
Michael Gee  
George Hazard  
Tim Jordan  
Jim Loree  
Matt Lowans  
Henry Martin  
Joe Peachey  
Vern Troyer

## **Bob Byers**

My name is Bob Byers. My brother and I started in the deer business in September of 2007. We currently have a herd of 48 deer. My wife and I also raise beef cows and Missouri Foxtrotting horses and were in the dairy industry for several years.

I am currently an area manager with Agri-King, and have been with the company for the past 13 years. Agri-King is an animal nutrition company that is headquartered in Fulton, IL.

With the help of the lab at Agri-King we have formulated deer feeds to promote animal health through the use of nutrition and medication.

I have served as treasurer for the Clarion/Venango County Holstein Club for 20 plus years and treasurer for the Clarion County Farm Bureau for two years. AS part of my responsibilities in this position, I have helped organize and set up for Town & Country Day and other activities for the organization.

I am a member of Grace Evangelical Congregational Church and volunteer in various activities of the church.

In the past year I have attended several of the PDFFA board meetings and would like to expand my involvement. I enjoy being involved in the association and see there is a need for the development of more guidelines to help our industry meet the standard of quality that we as deer farmers would like to have. I would appreciate your vote to represent you on the PDFFA board.

## **David Esh**

My name is David Esh. I'm 26 years old and I am married with one child. My family has been raising deer since I was ten years old. We have a family operated business building storage sheds. Our breeding operation is called Blue Mountain Whitetails. We have between 100-150 head on our farm depending on the time of year. I have never held a position on a board or anything to do with politics so this will be a new thing for me. I'll do what I can to help the deer farmers, and try to be fair.

## **Michael Gee**

Hello my name is Michael Gee; I have been married to my wife Kathy for 34 years. We have a daughter Lindsey age 23 and a son Chase 19. Working on Tioga Ranch since the age of 11, has given me 42 years of experience in the hunting ranch and deer

farming industries. In addition, I currently serve as supervisor and chairman of the board for Tioga Township and am active on the board of directors for the Pennsylvania Deer Farmers. I continuously work hard and strive to promote and educate the public about the hunting ranch and deer farming industries.

## **George Hazard**

My name is George Hazard and I come from the Mifflintown area of Pa. My farm is Red Cedar Whitetails. We have been deer farming for 21 years. I have been a board member of PDFFA for the last seven years, and have served as your vice president for the past 4 years. I have contributed to and participated in nearly every activity in the association for years. I have been very active in the political activities where the association is involved.

My wife Mary Lou and I have been married for 42 years and we have 4 children and 12 grandchildren.

I would appreciate your vote in this upcoming election.

## **Timothy Jordan**

Hi, my name is Tim Jordan and I am honored to run for the board of the Pennsylvania Deer Farmers Association. My wife Connie and I own and operate a taxidermy shop in northupite, Pa., and we have been in business for 12 years.

This is how our deer farming began: We purchased two yearling bucks for reference to improve my deer mounts for my clients. We enjoyed them so much that we purchased a buck fawn and named him Cherokee. We enjoyed bottle feeding and raising Cherokee, and soon we started going to deer farms and auctions and asking questions about how to get started. We have met a lot of nice deer farmers that answered our questions and helped us in so many ways; and we have made so

*(continued on page 9)*

(Board, continued from page 8)

many new friends.

In 2006 we purchased a few bred does and that was the beginning of Just for Fun Whitetails, and yes, we are still having fun. We now have 43 deer and 10 acres of farm. Although I am still learning something new every day, I try to help new deer farmers just as so many helped me.

I served on the board of The Pennsylvania Taxidermist Association for 6 years. I believe when you serve on a board you serve the whole association and I will do my best to represent the association and its members with honesty and integrity. I believe in this industry and if elected, I will do my best to help the industry, the association and its members move forward in the years to come.

### **Jim Loree**

I have been raising whitetail deer for 27 years. I started Loree's Whitetails in September of 1983 and I am one of the original founding Board members of the Association. I have lived in Warren County my entire life, (northwestern Pennsylvania), and have been married to my wife Brenda for 33 years with two sons. Both my father and my sons have been involved in my deer operation and whitetails have been a way of life for us. I am currently pursuing a degree in Business Administration at a local college and will graduate in May.

I have been a very active Board member since the Association began, serving as Vice President for a few years, and was influential in the transition of the cervid industry from the Game Commission to the Department of Agriculture. My goal is to see the deer industry continue to grow and prosper in a way that will sustain its enjoyable and profitable existence. With proper planning and execution along with dedicated and committed people, we can move it to the next level.

We all have a great deal invested in this wonderful industry and this

Association, let's remain focused on what is best for it. Your Board has compiled an unbelievable list of accomplishments over the years thanks to countless hours of volunteer work. I have always tried to be the voice for the small deer farmer, yet keeping in mind the viewpoint of the larger farmer and the huge importance of the hunting ranches. Deer farming and PDFA remain a priority in my life, as they always have.

### **Matt Lowans**

My name is Matt Lowans, I live in historic Mont Alto Pennsylvania. About 10 minutes south east of Chambersburg. Our farm is nestled along the base of the Michaux State Forest. I live here with a great woman, who seems to have a positive effect on everyone she meets. Together we have 4 great kids, 3 boys and 1 girl. Who each have learned respect, responsibility, and hard work through deer farming. We are very family oriented and instill in to our children the morals and values that are often forgotten in today's culture. I'm just an old fashion guy that believes in honesty and integrity in words as well as actions. I am a self educated man who sees problems as ways of growing. I tend to handle all problems respectfully and in a professional manner. I have a business back ground, owning multiple businesses throughout the years. The latest being Per4mance Whitetail Designs. Where I offer affordable and creative marketing solutions to other deer farmers that can give them an edge in a sometimes crowded market.

Our Deer farm The Circle J Ranch Whitetails is co owned with my brother. And we have been raising deer together now since 2008. We have grown our herd from a hobby to a business the past 2 years. We were the first to break out of the hobbyist style deer farming in our local group of farmers. With CWD certification, TB and Bruce Testing, and purchasing 200 inch genetics. Since then we have helped

others find economical ways to follow suit and increase their overall herd value and quality. Though I have yet to grow a breeder buck I have however grown lasting relationships with fellow deer farmers both big and small. I support the PDFA and NaDeFA being a voting member for both organizations.

I am running for the PDFA board not so much as a notion of changing things but to help work towards goals to better help our industry. As some of you know that last year I worked with fellow PDFA members on a proposal to promote Fair Chase Hunting Ranches in our state. An idea that would educate the public and help eliminate some of the misconceptions surrounding that side of our industry. In return preserving the hunting traditions of the past and putting the sportsman back into our homes. I plan on continuing to work with the PDFA on this project to possibly put on this event or one similar to this in the future. It is through this project and working with key members on the board and the fellow deer farmers who helped with this project and my love for this industry that inspired me to put my name into the running.

I have been blessed with: a great family, good friends, and to be able to be a part of this wild adventure we call "Deer Farming"

### **Henry Martin**

My name is Henry Martin and I have been a life member of the PA Deer Farmers for close to 2 years now. I join lifetime because I believe in this business wholeheartedly. The deer business is a passion that you just can't help but love to be in. My passion for whitetails started when I was just a teenager and grew as I got older. My operation name is Alpha and Omega Whitetails and I keep my deer at Windy Hill Whitetails in Liverpool, Pa. I just made my first major doe purchase at the Mid West Select auction

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from Antler Run Whitetails and I am looking at the depth of the pedigrees in this doe in hopes of growing some Hugh bucks and does alike. While this is a hobby to me, I can't help but want that next big buck so I guess I have been bitten by the excitement of this animal. I currently work for Streamline Products, Inc., a distributor of many items to deer farmers across the country including fencing, shade cloth, darts and projectors, waters, jab sticks, hoods, MVE Tanks and many more items. I have been selling these items for the past 4 years and have come to know a great many people who have the same passion as I do for these fine animals. The reason I am looking to be a part of the board is to bring a different perspective to the board. As neither

a breeder nor a ranch owner, I would bring the hobbyist opinion to the mix. I thank you for your consideration for this appointment and if elected, I vow to do my best for all members of the PA Deer Farmers.

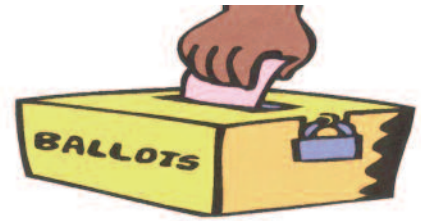
**Joe Peachey**

Hi, my name is Joe Peachey. With the help of my family we are striving to breed with some of the best deer in the industry. I have been nominated to serve on the PDFA board of directors and if elected will do my best to work for the best interest of the industry.

**Vernon Troyer**

My name is Vern Troyer and I live in the Mifflintown area of central Pa. My deer operation is Vern's Whitetails. We

have 130 deer at the present time and have been in the business for approximately 10 years. I have been a very active board member attending nearly every spring and fall sale. My eight years as a board member have been enjoyable. I get inspired working with the other breeders. I feel that our industry is heading in the right direction and would enjoy continuing as a board member.



**EDUCATIONAL MEETING  
PLANNED**

The combined Spring Education meeting of the PDFA is coming together very well. The date is Saturday March 26th in Snow Shoe, PA. A total of 75 members and veterinaries from across the state are registered.

The meeting is being held in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. The cost is \$25.00 per person. The day will begin with refreshments and check in from 8:00-9:00. Speakers will include Dr. Karen Martin, Dianne Miller; Dr. Jason Brooks from Pennsylvania State University and Sarah Yurisc from PDA.

A roast beef dinner will be served for lunch and the program will conclude by 3:00. A question and answer session will conclude the day's program.

Deadline for registering was March 7th, but a few extra dinners have been ordered so call the office if still interested and see if we can accommodate you.

**2011 DIRECTORY MAILED**



The 2011 PDFA directory and resource guide was mailed in late January. If there is an error in your listing please call the office immediately so the correction can be made. A big thank you this year goes to Lou Take, acorn Acres LLC and his photographer Timothy Flanigan for the fine photos in the publication.

Don't Forget to Check Your Listing on Our Website at

**www.padfa.com**

Call the office at 610-767-5026 or email [lowhill@rcn.com](mailto:lowhill@rcn.com) if you have any corrections.



## PDFA PARTICIPATES AND ATTENDS INAUGURAL FESTIVITIES

A call came from the Corbett-Cawley Inaugural Committee, would the PDFA contribute deer meat to the Inaugural Ball to be held on January 18th at the Farm Show Complex in Harrisburg. Venison was one item they wanted on the menu. They wanted to serve Deconstructed Pot Pies. After much deliberation and board consultation, it was decided that we would furnish the venison and give a donation – total investment not to exceed \$5000. This was done. 430 pounds of venison (value of \$2700) was delivered. We were recognized in both the program and at the tables. And two of our members George Hazard and his wife and Glenn Dice attended the event.

A nice thank you was received from the Corbett-Cawley Committee.



*George and Mary Lou Hazard on either side of the new Governor, Tom Corbett.*



### *Mark Your Calendar*



#### **The tentative Board Schedule is as follows:**

- Thursday March 24
- Friday May 13
- Thursday June 16
- Friday August 12 - Reedsville
- Friday October 14
- Friday November 18

Except where noted, all meetings take place at the Huntingdon Ag Extension Office

#### **The 2011 NADeFA Annual Conference and Exhibition**

March 17-19, 2011

Gaylord Opryland Hotel & Convention Center  
Nashville, TN

#### **PDFA Spring Sale & Annual Meeting**

April 8 & 9

Lancaster Host Resort & Conference Center  
Lancaster, Pa.

#### **PDFA Fall Meeting**

September 9 & 10

Blair County Convention Center  
Altoona, Pa.

**PDFA Newsletter**

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