



USP OFFICIALS OFF TO A BUSY START “2019”

SPECIAL PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE: Phil Wagner USP President

USP is involved in several issues with-in Pennsylvania. I believe that it is of the utmost importance that we make an attempt to keep all USP members up to date on these issues.

We have decided not to publish the Winter issue of Woods & Waters for several reasons. Nothing was been finalized in Harrisburg on Auditor General DePasquale’s audit of the PGC. He had stated in February of 2018 that he hoped to have it completed by the end of 2018. USP has provided him with hundreds of pages of printed material about PGC policy and expenditures since early 2000. We are confident that he is doing a thorough investigation and that is the reason for the delay. USP had been told last year that there will be no license increase in hunting licenses until after the audit is completed. USP is waiting on our old House Bills (HB2083(2017)/HB1483(2018)) to be reintroduced in the near future.

The second reason for not publishing W&W’s is that we can save a large sum of money that we can use towards CWD research. Last year USP donated \$8,000.00 and we are pledging another \$10,000.00 in “2019” towards Dr. Bastian’s research of CWD. USP has committed to raising \$100,000.00 per year for the next 3 years for his and his colleagues research to eradicate this terrible disease. We have already raised \$33,000.00 this year and we have only just begun. This CWD research may very well be the biggest issue that USP has ever been a part of, and we certainly don’t want to fail with the fund raising. Go to: www.gousp.org or www.unifiedsportsmenpa.org, print out the two-page flyer and pass it out to corporations, sportsmen’s clubs, hunting camps, bars, etc. in your area. We need all USP members’ cooperation in this matter.

USP has reserved the main Rotunda at the State Capitol on Monday, February 4, 2019 at 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. for a press conference before the State Legislators and the media. We need to have 150 to 200 people present for the press conference. Please plan to attend and invite others to attend. Spread the word around your area. Get 8, 16, 32 or 50 people to come. If you are coming any distance, perhaps renting or chartering a van or bus and dividing the cost of the trip to Harrisburg would be an option. Parking isn’t cheap around the Capital. You’ll need to go through a metal detector to enter the Capital. The press conference is the same day as the NRA Outdoor Show at the Farm Show building so attend the press conference with your wife and then attend the Outdoor Show. If you attend the press conference you will receive a voucher for either a new membership or a one renewal to USP and 10 free Cross Forks Raffle Tickets that you must return at our booth at the NRA Show that week.

At the NRA Outdoor Show stop by USP’s booth (Fishing Hall, Booth #2724) and pick-up all the latest information on the CWD research and how it may affect human health. While you are there make your donation to help fund Dr. Bastian’s CWD Research.

We are holding another raffle and the proceeds will go towards the CWD research funding. A special rifle (new condition) made for USP in 1998 to celebrate 25 years will be the 1st prize on the ticket with several other prizes listed as well.

SPECIAL TREASURER MESSAGE: Pete Kingsley USP Treasurer

To all our loyal members for so many years, I know many of you by name only as I see your checks that come to me as treasurer supporting USP and our vision to bring back better hunting in Pennsylvania.

Following up on our president’s message, who was been an active board member and North Central Director for years and “who is doing a great job as our new president”. I am personally asking you to please come to the steps of the Capital in Harrisburg on February 4th and bring with you as many people as possible to support the USP Board. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity for the sportsmen and sportswomen of Pennsylvania. If we can show a great turn out for the RALLY of CWD in front of the news media and the Pennsylvania State Legislators at the Capital, it will only help the cause of the results of the audit and the support for our new House Bill, which should come out again this year for better hunting in Pennsylvania.

I like to say, we are all like family! LORD willing, I hope to see you on February, 4, 2019 on the steps of the Capitol.