

2nd Annual South Mountain Chapter Grouse Challenge/Sporting Clays Shoot



Saturday, March 27, 2010

Elstonville

**Sportsman's Association
3133 Pinch Road • Mannheim, PA 17545**

Simple Directions:

From Manheim take Rt 72N through Elstonville. After passing through Elstonville, take the next left which is Pinch Road. Follow Pinch Road over the PA Turnpike and look for the sign.

It is well marked.

Times:

Registration & Breakfast: 8:00 a.m.

Shoot: 9:00 a.m.

Lunch: 11:30 a.m.

Last Shooter Out: 1:00 p.m.

Awards: After Last Shooter Finishes

*Money raised will be used for
local habitat projects.*

*"Grouse challenge has different rules
and is definitely a different and
challenging game -DON'T MISS IT!"*

PRE-REGISTRATION PREFERRED.

Limited number of walk-ins available.

Cost: \$45.00

Includes:

75 Targets • Full Breakfast

Lunch • Door Prizes

Awards To High Shooters

Random Awards

-----Cut & Mail-----

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

___ Cash ___ Check ___ Credit Card

CC Billing Address (if different from above):

CC#: _____ Exp Date: _____

Signature: _____

_____ @ \$45.00 Each = **AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$** _____

**Please Make Checks Payable To:
RGS South Mountain Chapter**

Send Registration To:

**Jan Christen
675 Old Pike • Lititz, PA 17543**

Phone: 717.940.1483

Email:

janchristen@utilitykeystone.com

Pennsylvania Habitat Update 2010

Pennsylvania continues to be one of RGS' most active states in terms of chapters, membership, fund-raising and habitat projects.

Because of the relatively large amount of public lands, there is excellent grouse and woodcock hunting to be found. We are very fortunate to have state and federal agencies that are proactive managers of their lands, equating to some of the best hunting in the Northeastern U.S. We are also privileged to have private partners that have facilitated unprecedented opportunities for hunting and management.

Advocacy remains an extremely important component of the RGS mission. Enthusiastic support for timber management on public lands by RGS members is critical, and RGS members have been vocal in support of habitat management. We must get our message out.

Most of our members want to know what RGS is doing in their neck-of-the-woods. The list of current projects that RGS is directly involved in changes each year. RGS has on-going projects at Bald Eagle State Park (Centre County), Raystown Lake (Huntingdon Co.), State Game Lands 110 (Berks Co.), Forbes State Forest (Somerset Co.) to name only a few, as well as many other state properties.

RGS is working with the Forbes State Forest and Appalachian Forest Consultants in Somerset County to manage thousands of acres of timber for grouse and woodcock. Thus far, 150 acres of timber has been cut to create dense cover and another sale is being planned. RGS has exclusive rights to the timber for 15 years.

The Jim Bashline project at Raystown Lake has now resulted in over 1,500 acres of timber management and is producing good numbers of grouse and woodcock. At last count, there were 7 timber sales going on simultaneously there. Many other habitat improvements totaling hundreds of more acres also have been completed.

RGS has identified and started work on a woodcock habitat project on State Game Lands 82 in Somerset County in memory of Bill Goudy, who died in January 2007. Bill worked tirelessly on behalf of the American woodcock throughout his career and for the Ruffed Grouse Society for many years before retiring a few years ago.

RGS is working on an agreement with CONSOL Energy to manage 7,000 acres of their forests in western PA. RGS will split the timber revenue with CONSOL 50/50 and create many acres of new habitat. We hope to finalize the agreement in early 2010.

If you have never attended an RGS event, written a letter or attended a meeting to support grouse and woodcock management, make it happen in 2010. To find out how, contact **Mark Banker, Regional Biologist, 814-867-7946, rgsbank@comcast.net** or **Regional Directors Lisa Rossi (Western PA), 724-693-9032, rgslmt@msn.com; Dave Hansroth (Eastern/Central PA), 412-303-1405, rgshans@comcast.net; and Tripp Way (Northern PA), trippway@gmail.com, 607-743-0760 or visit www.ruffedgrousesociety.org. Updated January 2010.**