

Thunderbird Chapter of the



29th Annual Conservation & Sportsmen's Banquet

Friday, November 6, 2009

Cocktails & Raffles:

6:00 p.m.

Dinner:

7:30 p.m.

The Calvin House

2135 Old 220 North Business
Duncansville, PA 16635

TICKET INFORMATION

- ___ Membership & Dinner Ticket @ \$75.00 ea. _____
 ___ Spouse Dinner Ticket @ \$45.00 ea. _____
 ___ Youth Membership & Dinner Ticket @ \$25.00 ea. _____
 ___ Early Bird Raffle Ticket Package @ \$100.00 ea. _____
 ___ Model 21 "Baby Frame" 28 Gauge Raffle @ \$100.00 ea. _____

SPONSOR INFORMATION

- ___ **Banquet Sponsor** @ \$295.00 _____
 1 Membership Ticket, 1 Guest Dinner Ticket, 1 Sponsor Gun Drawing
 Chance And A Choice Of Option 1 Or 1 Ticket For Option 2
 ___ **Conservation Sponsor** @ \$500.00 _____
 1 Membership Ticket, 3 Guest Dinner Tickets, 2 Sponsor Gun
 Drawing Chances, And A Choice Of Option 1 Or 2 Tickets For
 Option 2
 ___ **Sustaining Sponsor** @ \$1,000.00 _____
 1 Membership Ticket, 7 Guest Dinner Tickets, 4 Sponsor Gun
 Drawing Chances, And A Choice Of Option 1 Or 4 Tickets For
 Option 2
 ___ **Non-Attending Sponsor Membership** @ \$250.00 _____
 ___ **Anonymous Donation** Or Tax Deductible _____
TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Name/Company _____
 Attention _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State ____ Zip Code _____
 Phone Number _____
 Email Address _____

METHOD OF PAYMENT

___ Check/Money Order **Payable To: RGS**
 ___ CC# _____ Exp: _____
 CC Billing Address _____
 City _____ State ____ Zip Code _____
 Signature _____

*If A Total of 10 Dinner Tickets are Purchased, A Table Will Be
 Reserved In Your Name: _____*

2009 Sponsor Reward Program

Must Select One Of The Following Options

Option 1 - Sponsor Print

As a sponsor, you may elect to receive the RGS 2009 Unframed Print of the Year or an unframed print from a prior year (while supplies last). You will be sent the 2009 Print of the Year unless you specify a Past Sponsor Print. To view these prints, please visit our website. www.ruffedgrousesociety.org. List Year of Choice _____

Option 2 - National Drawing

Raffle Ticket(s) for Entry into the National Drawing for a chance to win 1 of 7 prizes drawn at the end of the 2009 Banquet Season. As a sponsor you may elect to participate in the National Drawing. Seven tickets will be drawn in the order listed below with the first ticket winning the first prize and so forth. The sponsors who elect this option will be assigned a ticket number(s) for the drawing from RGS National Headquarters.

The following are the seven prizes being offered:

1. AYA #2 Side-Lock With Detachable Lock, 20 Gauge, 28" Barrels, Double Trigger, Side-By-Side Shotgun
2. Connecticut Shotgun's RBL-28 Round Action, Box-Lock 28 Gauge, 26" Barrels, Single Trigger, Side-By-Side Shotgun; 3X Wood Grade
3. Caesar Guerini Magnus Over/Under 20 Gauge Shotgun
4. Smith & Wesson Elite Gold Side-By-Side 20 Gauge Shotgun
5. SKB Limited Edition RGS #7 Over/Under Shotgun in 20 or 28 Gauge, 26" or 28" Barrels
6. Choice Of Any Pair Of Steiner Binoculars \$1,600 or less
7. \$1,000 Cabela's Gift Certificate.

Donations Welcome!!!

Please Contact
Ticket Chairman!!

Mail To:
Samuel J. Marino
127 Lexington Avenue
Altoona, PA 16601
Phone: 814.946.4349

Cut Here



Early Bird Door Prize
 To Be Entered Into A Drawing
 For A \$150.00 Raffle Packet,
 Dinner Ticket Orders Must Be
 Purchased By **October 30, 2009**
 Order Your Tickets Early!!

*******Super Recruiter*******

Do you have what it takes to be the RGS Super Recruiter 2009?

When you introduce a new member to the RGS let us know! We'll track and post the top recruiters on www.ruffedgrousesociety.org. At the end of the year the Super Recruiter receives a special award, recognition on the website, magazine, and at their banquet. Email us your recruits at: membership@ruffedgrousesociety.org or write your name on the back of a banquet stub and say that you are a "Super Recruiter"



Our Corporate Sponsors
 Please Support Them As They Support Us!



Paper Donated By Flambeau River Papers

**Sponsor Contributions Received By
 November 2, 2009
 Will Be Listed In The Banquet Program**

**Special Early Bird
 Bonus Raffle Ticket Prices**

Purchase Your Bonus
 Raffle Ticket Packages By
Tuesday, November 3, 2009
 And Receive \$200.00 Worth Of
 Raffle Tickets For \$100.00.

If You Purchase Your Bonus Raffle Ticket Package At
 The Banquet, You Will Receive \$150.00 Worth Of
 Raffle Tickets For The Low Price Of \$100.00.

Use The Order Form To Purchase Your Bonus Raffle
 Ticket Package And Pick Up Your Tickets When You
 Register At The Banquet.

 For Every Ten Sponsors
 We Will Give Away A
 Fine Grade Shotgun

Pennsylvania Habitat Update 2009

Pennsylvania continues to be one of RGS' most active states in terms of chapters, membership, fund-raising and habitat projects. Like many states in the East, however, PA has lost a tremendous amount of grouse and woodcock habitat over the last 40 years. Since the 1960's, the amount of quality grouse and woodcock habitat has declined by nearly 1.6 million acres. These forests have not disappeared, they've just gotten older. PA has far more forest now than it did 100 years ago. This means that the trend in habitat is reversible!

Because of the relatively large amount of public lands, there is still excellent grouse and woodcock hunting to be found, especially in the northcentral part of the state. The potential for reversing the trend in grouse and woodcock habitat and populations is very good in other parts of the state, as well. Pennsylvania could easily be the premier grouse and woodcock hunting state in the East south of Maine. Last year's mild winter plus an apparent excellent hatch this spring may have contributed to excellent hunting in many areas of the state this fall and winter.

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. While RGS bases its unwavering support for forest management on sound science, there are plenty of well organized groups who base their opposition for forest management on deception, emotion and litigation. We have to 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 Co), Raystown Lake (Huntingdon Co), State Game Lands 110 (Berks Co), Forbes State Forest and many other game lands, to name only a few.

RGS is working with the Forbes State Forest in Somerset County to manage thousands of acres of timber for grouse and woodcock. An 85 acre timber sale is currently being cut and another sale is being planned.

The Jim Bashline project at Raystown Lake has now resulted in over 1300 acres of timber management and is producing good numbers of grouse and woodcock. 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. Please contact your RGS regional staff about financial support of the Bill Goudy Memorial Project.

Focusing on the bigger picture, RGS coordinated the development of the National Ruffed Grouse Management Strategy which is now approved and final. RGS biologists also authored several sections of the National Woodcock Management Strategy (still in preparation) and are co-authoring two chapters of a book on the ecology and management of grouse in the southern Appalachians.

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 2009. 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 PA), 412-303-1405, rgshans@comcast.net, and Ken Waite (northern tier), 315-406-5016, rgsknw@twcny.rr.com.** *Updated January 2009.*