

National News December 2010

New Biologists Hired

RGS has added new biologists to the staff this year – rounding out representation across the states. Larry Visser has been hired as the Michigan and Ohio biologist, and Ted Dick, due to a partnership between the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MN DNR) and RGS, is a MN DNR biologist devoted to developing and implementing the new strategic plan for ruffed grouse. Dick's position is shared between the MN DNR and RGS, in an innovative arrangement that is the first of its kind for RGS. You can read more about Visser and Dick in the upcoming Spring 2011 issue of *Ruffed Grouse Society* magazine.

CONSOL Energy Cooperative Project Gains Momentum

RGS sold its first timber sale on behalf of CONSOL Energy in southwestern Pennsylvania this past August in a joint effort to establish more young forest wildlife habitat on a landscape-size level. The initial timber sale, administered by Consulting Forester Bernie Braun, is about 60 acres in size. Several additional sales were subsequently completed and cutting is in various stages of implementation. All of the lands are open to public hunting.

The cooperative project between the Society and CONSOL Energy includes a core area of 7,000 acres, but has expanded to include other projects where a CONSOL-owned forest needs to be managed. One new opportunity is a 1700-acre project, designed to establish a quail population on a landscape owned by CONSOL Energy in Greene County. This project is being supervised by the Pennsylvania Game Commission and U. S. Natural Resources Conservation Service. RGS has been asked to handle the removal of the timber to make way for dense, brushy habitat that will not only benefit quail, but also woodcock and eventually grouse and likely many songbirds. Eventually, wild quail will be introduced from other CONSOL Energy lands in Illinois, where they currently thrive. Because of the rapid evolution of the project that has added considerable acreage to manage, RGS is in the process of adding additional consulting foresters.

RGS 50th Anniversary Publication Available

Celebrate 50 years of conservation by purchasing a copy of the unique, limited edition 50th anniversary publication of the RGS. This high quality, perfect bound publication will be a collector's item for years to come.

Issue price is \$14.95 plus shipping, *unless you use the discount code from the magazine and order by December 10, 2010*. Order online at www.ruffedgrousesociety.org, or by phone at (888) 564-6747.

Orders placed before January 1, 2011 will arrive mid-January, 2011. Orders placed after January 1, 2011 will arrive within 2 weeks.

National Raffle Continues

The 2010-2011 RGS national raffle offers three chances to win this year. Three winning tickets will be pulled June 30, 2011. First place will win a Remington Model 1100 F-grade, semi-auto 28-gauge with exhibition grade wood and engraved ruffed grouse, woodcock and the RGS 50th anniversary logo. The retail value is \$9,000.

Second place will win a Caesar Geurini RGS 50th Anniversary Commemorative Apex, an over-and-under 28-gauge with a retail value of \$7,850. Third place will win a Kimber Valier Grade II, a side-by-side 20-gauge with a retail value of \$5,000.

To find out more and purchase a ticket, contact RGS at (888) 564-6747, or by contacting your local Regional Director via their [newsletters](#) or via the RGS-Mart where new photos have been posted.

2011 – RGS 50th Anniversary

In 2011, the Ruffed Grouse Society celebrates its 50th Anniversary. Special items commemorating the anniversary will include a collector's knife, belt buckle, several unique shotguns, a unique lost-wax process cast of a ruffed grouse, carved woodcock and apparel with the 50th Anniversary RGS logo. These items will be at our 2011 banquets in limited quantities, and available for purchase through our website, some of them currently.

New Grouse Book has Wings

Serious Grouse Hunting, Book 1 is a book written for all grouse hunters looking for an edge this coming fall. The book, written by Jay Kumar and Brendan Haines, is an insightful treatise on how to up your grouse game, with and without a dog. A portion of the proceeds from the sale of each book will be donated to the Ruffed Grouse Society. You can order your book at www.SeriousBirdHunting.com, or by mail – send a check for \$34.95 (includes \$5 s/h) to Sasquatch Media, 11 Maple St., Lebanon, NJ 08833.

Pamphlets Available

Many RGS publications are available for your use at Sport Shows. Please contact RGS Headquarters to arrange having the brochures you need sent to you by calling: 1-888-564-6747.

Visit RGS at the Annual NRA Meeting in 2011

April 29 – May 1

Check out the RGS booth at the upcoming NRA annual meeting in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on April 29th through May 1st, 2011. We will be in booth #3626 on the main floor. More information to come at a later date or see the event website www.nraam.org for details on tickets and the schedule of events.