

SECOND QUARTER 2019



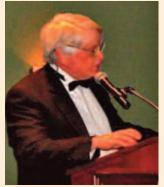
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Visit Our New Chapter Websites: www.kentuckianasci.com & www.kysci-lac.com

President's Message

By Larry Richards, Chapter President Email: LRichards@cobaltventures.com Phone: (502) 727-7700



I'm needing a little help with the ARK, Folks! Spring fishing is in doubt for the time being.

We have to discuss the ongoing marginalization of Kentucky's hunters by the current Tourism Cabinet and its leadership. As you know, our slogan, "Safari Club International – First for Hunters" is at the core of our organization. Historically, the League of Kentucky Sportsmen has been the watchdog of sportsmen's and

sportswomen's rights and desires with the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. They are no longer capable of that duty as recent events have shown they cannot respond to the fast pace of legislation pushed through Frankfort that adversely impacted us all. Dark of Night, backroom votes and old boy cronyism has taken the transparency out of leadership appointments and legislation that affects all hunters.

Many of us are LKS members, but its leadership has taken its eyes off the prize and we are left the worse for it. This Chapter's Board of Directors has withdrawn our membership in that organization. We did not take this step lightly, but felt that we had no choice. To further that end, your Board of Directors has established a Legislative Action Committee and asked SCI Life Member and long time Chapter member and supporter Colonel (Retired) Mike Abell to lead the Committee with two other board members to help.

Colonel Mike is intimately familiar with the processes and legislative structures to effectively provide us real time actionable information on the happenings in Frankfort and State government that we are going to need to coordinate our efforts with the sportsmen and sportswomen of the Commonwealth in restoring the League of Kentucky Sportsmen to its original purpose. In the interim, the Board feels we must lead the effort since no one else is as uniquely suited as we are and it is one of our core tenets to be "First for Hunters!"

Colonel Mike has a well laid out article explaining our goals in this newsletter. PLEASE take the time to read it and understand what it means. As members, I ask you to reach out to the various other like minded organizations of which you may be a member and share the new website with them. I ask all of you to call, write, and email your elected Senators and Representatives with your positions on all the legislation Mike has posted and will post in the future. That webpage should be going live on or about April 10, about the time you get this newsletter. This is an ELECTION year and, as hunting/fishing license buyers and voters, we can make our presence felt and our voices heard.

Please join with us in our efforts at whatever level you can. Fellow hunters need and appreciate your help. My door and inbox are always open!



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Offering Families A Fresh Way To Bond!

Learn Basic Elements Of Hunting & Outdoor Sport Skills

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What It Is To Be An Ethical Hunter

Register Online: www.kentuckianasci.org/apprenticeprogram

Avery Knochel Honored As Sam Monarch Memorial Scholarship Winner

By Alice Monarch



When introducing the Sam Monarch Memorial Scholarship, Chapter President Larry Richards commented, "Sam Monarch worked tirelessly within our organization for many years and always had opportunities for youth in the forefront of his efforts. We seek to honor Sam's legacy with this award..." Indeed, Sam would have been most honored by having his name attached to this scholarship award and especially for this outstanding youth! To be considered for this scholarship, a comprehensive application to include a 500-word essay and letters of recommendation from counselors, principals, or community leaders was submitted from each candidate. In addition, each candidate documented his or her academic accomplishments, community service, conservation/hunting/outdoors experiences, and extra curricular activities. KYSCI congratulates **Avery Danielle Knochel**, the winner of the first Sam Monarch Memorial Scholarship.

Avery, a senior at Breckinridge County High School (BCHS), is the daughter of Jayme and Corey Knochel and granddaughter of Norita and Leon Smiley, of Sam Monarch's home county, Breckinridge County. With great applicants from Kentucky and

Indiana, having such a deserving hometown youth win the first award is fitting. Not only are Avery's community service record and extra curricular activities outstanding, her GPA is an impressive 4.24 on



Colby, Corey, Avery (as Babette), Jayme, Larkyn, Leon & Norita

a 4.0 scale as she has chosen the difficult college bound curriculum which rewards successful students with extra grade point average points as well as college credits!

At the top of Avery's long list of community service is Shop

with a Cop, a wonderful local charity wherein volunteers raise money and take needy children shopping for Christmas gifts with local police officers. All of Avery's community service encompasses her high school career and is for charities like the Salvation Army, Christmas Angel Tree, Shoebox Ministry and Nursing Home Outreach as well as being a Youth Volunteer Teacher of Vacation Bible School and Dance Camp; Church Youth Leader and Tiny Tigers Coach; Volunteer Choreographer and Assistant Director of BCMA plays!

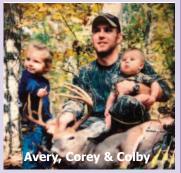


Some of Avery's extra curricular activities include all four high school years in academic, honorary, and leadership roles in the National Honor Society, Principal's Council, Y-Club, WKU Leadership Conferences, Gifted and Talented Student, Kentucky Youth Assembly Representative/Committee Chair, KUNA Outstanding Advocate, Student Leadership Challenge, Breckinridge County Board of Education Mission/Vision Committee and Profile of a Graduate Committee, BCHS's "Believe in You" video. Avery is also a member of the Pep Club and SADD all the while being a 4-year member of the extremely athletic BCHS Dance Team and highly respected musical Chorale and 4th District Chorus, as well as being one of the distinguished *Chamber Singers*. Avery was in the BCHS musicals, *The Sound of Music* and *Beauty and the Beast* wherein she did a fabulous portrayal of Babette, the flirtatious feather duster (see photo). Being voted in by her peers, Avery has served on both the Princess Homecoming Court and the Queen Homecoming Court. Last summer, her community honored her as *Miss Breckinridge County Fair* of 2018.

Avery's acceptance remarks at the Chapter Fundraiser in January revealed what an exceptional young lady she is in the hunting, trapping and outdoors community. After graciously thanking both the Kentuckiana Chapter of SCI and the Monarch Family for the scholarship award, Avery enthusiastically shared her love of hunting and the outdoors when she stated, "... this scholarship is particularly important to me, not because of the monetary value, but because this scholarship represents every-

thing I've been taught my entire life. From a very young age, I was exposed to hunting and the outdoors. I am my father's daughter, and I very quickly adopted the hobby."

The photo of Avery at a very young age with her father and brother, Colby, depicts her joyous introduction to hunting. All of us who have mentored young hunters can only imag-



ine her father's pride as Avery, at age 8, took her first gigantic buck which was larger than anything he had harvested. Her love of hunting was followed by her love of running traps with her dad. Avery shared with our members her appreciation for conservation and her family's rule of only harvesting what they would consume, stating, "Hunting has always been an exciting hobby for me and a bonding experience with my Dad, but the conservation aspect has also been ingrained into me. Every an-

imal we trap is skinned and the fur is sold. The deer we kill are processed and excess meat is donated. That's why this organization is truly inspiring to me, not only because of the passion for hunting and protection of hunting rights but also the emphasis on conservation."

Avery will attend the University of Louisville this fall with plans to pursue a

career in law with the possibility of one day becoming a Judge like Sam Monarch for whom this scholarship is named. Avery stated that Judge Monarch's life career is reminiscent of what she

hopes hers to be, "With this scholarship, I hope to honor his memory and pursue a career in the field to which he devoted so much time while continuing my love of hunting."



Have you ever felt an unexplainable, deep-seated need to "clean up" tall grass, weeds, or brush on your property without really understanding why? Do you worry that your neighbors will think you're lazy if your property doesn't look just like the nearest golf course fairway? If so, then you too may be suffering from RMS or Recreational Mowing Syndrome. RMS can lead folks to believe that the freshly manicured look of their lawn should be expanded to take in all of their open fields and woodland edges. Folks who live in urban or suburban areas and purchase parcels of land in the country often just don't know how to properly manage larger open spaces. They mistakenly think they need to do something right away, and since they've mown their lawns their entire adult life they think mowing and clearing is automatically the way to go.

Years ago, farmers didn't have the modern equipment and luxury of excess time and money for fuel to keep their farms mown cleanly to the fences or forests. During that time, many grassland wildlife species, such as bobwhite quail, rabbit, and grassland songbirds were thriving. Land cover and wildlife populations have changed drastically since then. The introduction of KY 31 tall fescue and the notion that the only good farm is a clean farm have led to dramatic reductions in the numbers of these animals across the Kentucky landscape. However, many folks who want to use their rural properties for home sites, recreation and even agricultural production often view the enjoyment of wildlife as an essential goal for country living.

So is there a cure for this widespread disorder? A fresh look at land management from a new perspective is a highly effective initial treatment. What may look to us like a weedy or brushy mess may actually be the only safe haven many smaller critters have to survive, thrive and reproduce. An overgrown fencerow, or a tall grass field may look a lot more like home to animals like quail and rabbit. Aside from letting these field borders thicken up a bit, larger open fields often also could use some treatment themselves. While a neatly mown fescue field may have a green and vibrant appearance, it may actually end up being a nearly sterile environment—a biological "desert." Through the careful use of herbicides, and possibly reseeding, these sites can be transformed to more natural, healthy habitats of native grasses and wildflowers that may only need to be maintained every couple years instead of several times a year. Not only will wildlife appreciate and enjoy it, so will your bank account. Land clearing and frequent mowing can result in expensive equipment purchases, labor expenses, and fuel costs, giving those afflicted with RMS reason to evaluate their symptoms and consider remedial measures.

Recreational Mowing Syndrone

By Clay Smitson
Private Lands Wildlife Biologist

For more information, visit www.fw.ky.gov and search for your county's private lands biologist. You can fight RMS, free up more time and money to spend with the grandkids or other pursuits, and help restore wildlife on your property, all with the same cure.



Habitat Improvement Checklist

"Spring Checklist"

- ___ Prescribe burn in preparation to eradicate fescue
- __ Strip disk to promote bare ground & new forb growth
- ___ Sow Clover or lespedeza
- ___ Sow cool season grasses
- ___ Apply lime & fertilizer per soil test to wildlife food plots

April-May

- Begin preparation of dove fields
- ___ Plant tree & shrub seedlings
- __ Spray herbicide to eradicate fescue
- Conduct timber stand improvement
 - & Create brush piles
- ____ Establish wildlife mineral licks

May-June

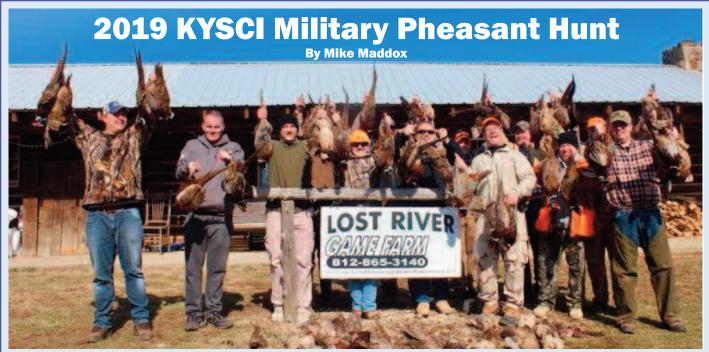
- _ Plant annual grain food plots/dove fields
- (Do not plant in same location as last year)
- Sow warm season grasses & wildflowers
- _ Hinge-cut cedar trees for living brush piles

[For more info, call KDFWR (800) 858-1549]

VISIT THE NEW CHAPTER WEBSITES

Chapter Website www.kentuckianasci.com

Legislative Action Committee Website kysci-lac.com



This year our chapter sponsored another pheasant hunt to thank some of our service men and women for their commitment to serve our country. The date of February 16th was selected as some of the group had been called up for active duty and were to leave within a couple weeks. We held the hunt at *Lost River Game Farm* just north of Paoli, Indiana again this year and the weather was perfect for pheasant hunting with clear skies and temperatures in the low forties. Each year, the chapter sponsors at least twelve service men and women to participate in the hunt, and coordinating the event is somewhat of a challenge trying to schedule a Saturday that would not conflict with their military schedules.

As each solider arrived, he was greeted with hot coffee and fresh donuts from Krispy Kreme. As I introduced our SCI team, we communicated what the agenda would be for the day. Everyone was excited to get started, so we had them break up into groups of three and assigned each group a guide. Each guide provided the game plan for the hunt along with going over the safety guidelines for hunting with a dog and as a group. Our club purchased eight pheasants for each person, so twenty-four birds were set out per group. Pheasants do not hold very long so the



birds were set out in three different sets of eight. That way each group would have a better chance of getting all twenty-four birds.

The nice thing about *Lost River* is they have enough property so each hunting group

would have their own field, private guide, and hunting dog and did not have to compete for space. As each group left for their designated fields, it didn't take long for shots to be heard from all directions. With twenty-four birds per group, we knew it would take two to three hours before the groups would be heading back to the lodge for lunch.

Alice Monarch volunteered to take pictures for the event. She went along with each group for a period of time and then rotated to the other groups so everyone was captured on her camera. She also took group pictures to share with the hunters.

The groups started returning from the hunts and were beaming with conversation about the fun they had shooting all their birds and watching the dogs hunt. Before lunch was served, Chapter Senior Advisor and Veteran, Mike Ohlmann, said a few words of appreciation for their service and commitment to protecting our great country. A delicious lunch prepared by the owner's wife included grilled pork chops, baked beans, hash brown potatoes and a selection of desserts that quieted the room as everyone enjoyed the feast.

Prior to leaving, every soldier was given an insulated cup with our chapter logo and gathered their bag of birds that were cleaned and divided evenly. It had been an exciting day and each man stated how much fun they had and thanked each of our

team for arranging and sponsoring the hunt. I would like to thank Alice Monarch, Mike Ohlmann, Jim Warren, Cheri Miller, Charlie Miller and Sherry Maddox for helping put on this great event for our service men.



LADIES DAY EVENT

Learn to Shoot Day
Rifles~Shotguns~Pistols~Archery
For Ladies of All Ages

Annie Oakley Day

Fern Creek Sportsman's Club Louisville, Kentucky June 15, 2019

Patient, Expert Instructors • No Fees - No Costs
All Equipment & Ammo Provided

Registration: www.kentuckianasci.org www.kentuckianasci.com



KYSCI Hosts 24th Annual Fundraising Gala

By Chapter President Larry Richards

I want to thank each and every person for making our 24th Annual Fundraiser such a huge success! Tons of work went into it and we are proud of the program of live and silent auction items we could make available to our membership. Many chapter members went home with wonderful items and fabulous hunts. This year's addition of the online bidding option helped tremendously with our fundraising efforts and we will be refining that option for next year's banquet.

Plan to join the fun and fellowship next year on February 22, 2020, as this is the date of our next fundraising event that will be held at the completely renovated Audubon Country Club in Louisville. Audubon's management team is in the throes of renovation as we speak and from the artist renderings, it is going to be spectacular! I hope you will mark your calendars now for our event and plan on bringing a friend.

As you know from past articles, 30% of what we raise is sent to SCI and we are pleased to announce that this is the third year in a row that amount has exceeded \$10,000. Those funds are used by SCI to help protect our hunting heritage and to fight for our 2nd Amendment rights. The good news is our Chapter is eligible to get as much as \$5000 of that \$10000 back in the form of grants for our various programs.

We had several new outfitters and hunts offered for sale this year that were well received and we hope to add even more next year. The picture above was taken in Spain last month of Chapter Member Gene Frazier and myself with Chapter outfitter/supporter of Spanish Mountain Hunts, Gonzalo Colomina, donor of the fine Iberian Red Deer in the photo and a great host who provided a great experience!

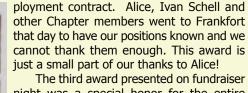
Those members who attended the annual fundraiser saw some new awards given this year. The OUTSTANDING YOUTH MEMBER award went

to Kris Miller for his never ending work and support of the Chapter at all levels. He volunteers at every function, doing whatever he can to ensure a good outcome. He has been invaluable as our youngest Board of Director in giving us that perspective of the younger generation that we are going to need in the chapter going forward. We are trying to "grow our own" in the



chapter with young people in the forefront. Congratulations, Kris, Job well done!

The next award, OUTSTANDING CHAPTER MEMBER, went to Alice Monarch. This award is a well-deserved salute for her tireless energy on behalf of the Chapter. She is the editor of this year's award winning Chapter Fundraiser Brochure and this year's award winning Chapter Newsletter, the Kentuckiana Hunter, virtually as reporter, photographer, editor and virtuoso of the written word. She organized her state elected Reps to hear us in response to the LRC contract hearing on the Commissioner's em-



night was a special honor for the entire Chapter and me! Ms. Avery Knochels was awarded the first SAM MONARCH MEMO-RIAL YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP AWARD. The Monarch Family and the Knochels Family were on hand and it could not have been a



prouder moment for the Chapter. That much-deserved award of \$2,500.00 will go toward Avery's University of Louisville education where

she plans to study law. Sam would have been so honored! Our next award that evening, OUTSTANDING CHAPTER MEMBER



ACHIEVEMENT AWARD went to charter member Ivan Schell for his leadership of the Kentucky Hunters for the Hungry Foundation which Foundation joined KYSCI in thanking Ivan! Ivan worked tirelessly on the behalf of the Foundation and we could not be prouder of his achievements on KHFH'S behalf. Such recognition is

the first time we have awarded it and hopefully other members who volunteers in like organizations can be recipients in the future. The next award was a SPECIAL THANK YOU AWARD presented to

Pam Noble of J & C Printing for her outstanding work as publisher of our 14 years of award winning Chapter Newsletters and this year's award winning Chapter Fundraiser Brochure. Pam has gone above and beyond all expectations to near perfection of these award-winning publications and we are very appreciative of her expertise and dedicated work.



evening, OUTSTANDING CHAPTER SPONSOR, went to Weststar Aviation and was accepted on their behalf by the VP of Operations, Mr. Sam Hay-



craft. Weststar has donated an elk hunt or a mule deer hunt in Colorado the last 6 years and this year they upped their game to a magnificent 6night/5-day Mountain Lion hunt! We cannot thank sponsors of this caliber enough. Donations such as these are the heart and soul of our live auction and directly affect our ability to pursue our Chapter's

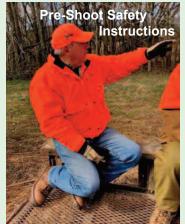




European Style Tower Pheasant Shoot

By Ivan Schell

Tower shoots for pheasants are not new in the United States or in Kentucky. Rick Davis introduced many Kentuckiana SCI members to tower shooting of pheasants a number of years ago



on one of his Kentucky farms. Since that exposure, I have participated in such events in Sebree, Kentucky and in Cecelia, Kentucky and this report is about *Don's Hunting Adventures* in Cecilia.

The concept of shooting tower released pheasants originated in Europe. I personally have participated in a tower shoot in Salamanca, Spain. There the logistics of the shoot involved a ring of shooting pits surrounding the tower about 60 yards from

the tower. Each pit contained a shooter and a loader with two double barrel shotguns. The birds would be released from the top of the tower and attempted to fly beyond the ring of shooters to the safety of distant woods and fields. Shooters would attempt to down the birds with the two shots from the double gun



and then exchange the empty weapon with the loader for a fully charged shotgun. This procedure continued until all the birds had been released. The loaders would then retrieve the downed birds.

Here in the US the system in my experience differs somewhat. Typical of hunts here, a release tower is surrounded by a ring of 10 to 20 shooting stations positioned

from 75 to 100 yards from the tower. Each station is manned by 3-4 shooters (who load their own guns) who space themselves around the shooting position. Don has each of his stations positioned around a bale of hay. In order to give the shooters an opportunity to tune up, the tower master prior to the main shoot, releases clay pigeons directed at each station. Shooters are advised to use low brass shells for this practice session. Next comes the main event and shooters use high brass 71/2 and 6 shot sizes in their 23/4 in shells. The ring of shooters is backed up by guides with dogs which are deployed to recover the downed birds. At the signal, the tower master releases pheasants, one or two at a time. The bird(s) then make a frenzied flight for the woods and fields beyond the ring of fire. The shooting is fast and furious with any shooter within range emptying his weapon until the bird is down or escapes. Typically the tower master releases a total of 200 or more birds. However after 10 or 12 birds are released the tower master gives the signal to rotate clockwise to the left to the next position. By the end of the shoot, each shooter will have had an opportunity to shoot from each position. This ensures to the extent possible that each



shooter will have a fair opportunity to shoot birds which might be influenced in the direction of their flight by the prevailing wind or other factors.

In Don's pre-shoot safety instructions, he emphasizes that no low birds are to be shot. However, once a low bird flies beyond the ring of shooters, the shooters may then turn around away from the tower and attempt to down the escaping bird.

Sunday, March 17, was one of those magical days in the field with a temperature of 35 degrees with bright sunshine and little wind. Bill Perkins, Mike O'Bryan and I traveled across state road 86 (Hardinsburg Road) several miles beyond Cecilia, Kentucky to

join about 40 other shooters for one of Don's regular tower events. Typically, Don has at least three or four shoots per year. The shooters this day were quite successful. Of the 200 birds released, only 10 made it to safety. Fortunately for the shooters,



the birds could not rely on a strong prevailing wind but had to make a midflight decision about how to escape.

When the shooting stopped, the harvested birds were collected, cleaned and packaged in plastic bags for equal distribution to all the shooters. While the birds were being cleaned, Don's wife served up venison chili, sandwiches and brownies to hungry hunters who warmed up in Don's dining hall and exchanged tales of great shots and woeful misses. Attached are photos from the hunt. Also on YouTube you can find videos of other tower shoots from across the Southern US. Contact Don Vittitow, 270-234-4670 for directions and hunt dates.



KYSCI's Sponsorship Of NASP Team Leads To An Awesome Success Story

By Alice Monarch



A few years ago, Sam and I visited with a friend, vouna Josh Bostrom, who had recently been appointed as the Cloverport Independent School's new Head NASP Archery Coach. Josh was excited about his new appointment, as he had benefited greatly from his experience as a youth NASP student archer a few years earlier. As Josh enthusiastically talked of his students' progress in the sport, he mentioned that they were working with

years-old, original "KDFWR Bows in a Box" archery equipment and his team had begun practice in earnest. He also shared that the team was raising money to update their much-used equipment. After a request, our Chapter stepped up and assisted the team with matching grants. Josh has kept the Chapter updated, always expressing his gratitude for our support.

Recently, while manning the KYSCI booth at the Kentucky NASP Tournament, our group was greeted warmly by Josh who was proud to announce that for the first time, he had 3 team members who were competing at State! Austin Black, Gabby Stinnett and Evony Beckmon had qualified in their respective Regional Tournament Divisions and were preparing to compete. As they had some time prior to competing, I went with Josh to meet them.

On the way, Josh shared with me that participating in the

National Archery in the Schools Program had dramatically changed the life of one of his archers, Austin Black, and I could not wait to meet him. Austin, his little brother and his parents were all



delightful! Austin's interest in joining the team had been sparked while watching his little brother, who was a team member, practice in their backyard. His parents shared that Austin had gone from being an unhappy loner who spent most of his time in his



room with computer games to a star on the NASP Team! Tears came to his mother's eyes as Austin described how wonderful it felt to have his name announced to the entire school that he was a Regional NASP Winner who was headed to represent Cloverport Independent Schools in the State NASP Tournament!

I watched in amazement as Austin carefully prepared his bow and talked with Head Coach Josh and Assistant Coach Joe Stinnett. Austin's little

brother looked at Austin as his hero and their father beamed. His dad confirmed that good grades and good behavior at school were mandatory to be on the team and he shared that since joining the team, Austin's grades



and his attitude at school were vastly improved and perhaps more importantly, Austin had developed a new appreciation for his family.

I was captivated and went back to watch Cloverport's three young archers compete among the thousands gathered in Louisville and all 3 competed well and brought honor to their school and to themselves. Austin remained totally focused



throughout the tournament and the hard work that went into getting to State showed. His every movement was measured as the arrows began to fly. One target in particular brought a massive smile to his face and his coaches and family were thrilled as a rare 49 out of a possible 50 was recorded. The smile on Austin's face was priceless and fulfilled our chapters objective of being a NASP supporter!

KYSCI & KHFH Join KDFWR & Other Outdoors Friends At Kentucky State NASP Tournament

Our Chapter and KHFH recently joined Rachel Young, Conservation Educator & R3 Specialist with the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (KDFWR) and a team

of KDFWR personnel along with other outdoor friend's organizations at the First Fish and Wildlife Outdoor Fair, that was held in conjunction with the National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP) State Tournament in Louisville.



Chapter Members Bob Edwards, Alice Monarch, Mike Abell, Mike Ohlmann, and Ivan Schell manned the KYSCI and KHFH booths along with Roger LaPointe and his grandson during the 2-day event greeting NASP participants, their coaches, parents and supporters. The event gave us and other outdoor friends an opportunity to tell participants about our organizations and to showcase opportunities associated with these programs.

"LEGAL BRIEFS"

By Ivan Schell, Esquire



KENTUCKY

KDFWR Commissioner: Recently Rich Storm was contracted by KDFWR Commission as the agency's new Commissioner. Kentuckiana SCI opposed the employment agreement, which was reviewed and approved by the Legislature's Contracts Committee in a session open to the public. The reasons for SCI's opposition were as follows: Mr. Storm's resume did not reflect that he could meet the fundamental threshold statutory requirements for the position of commissioner; Storm engaged in blatant conflicts of interest by interviewing all the other candidates for the position and then seeking the position himself; Storm submitted his application after the deadline for submission established by the Commission and which was applied to all other applicants.

State law KRS 150.061(1) provides in part: "... the commission shall appoint a commissioner of the department of fish and wildlife resources, who shall be a person with knowledge of and experience in the requirements for the protection, conservation and restoration of wildlife resources of the state." Mr. Storm submitted a one page resume which described his work as an HR manager, farmer, business manager and insurance agent. Nowhere in the resume is there any assertion that he has knowledge and experience relating to protection, conservation and restoration of wildlife resources, which is a threshold requirement.

Internal records of the Commission make it clear that Storm participated in the initial interview of all candidates for the position and in interviews of at least two of the three finalists for the job. After the filing deadline and on the same day that the finalists received a rejection letter from KDFWR, Storm announced that he would resign from the commission if he got the job himself.

In reviewing the contract, State Senators Hornback and Meredith commented that they had heard from hundreds of sportsmen and women who opposed the appointment. Hornback specifically noted that "the optics are bad," and Senator Meredith also noted that: "there is a credibility issue that this appointment has done nothing to dispel." Notwithstanding this opposition the committee approved the contract on 5-2 vote.

Concealed Carry Bill: Both houses of the Kentucky legislature and the Governor have combined to enact a new law which allows for the carrying of concealed weapons in the Commonwealth without a permit. Those in favor of the legislation note that single mothers and others with limited resources of time and money could now carry concealed without having to spend the money and time required to qualify for the permit. Supporters also noted that because open carry is legal in Kentucky there is no reason to limit concealed carry. Those who opposed the legislation noted that a person no longer is required to take a course which would teach him or her how to handle and clean their weapon, nor the legalities of when and where defense with a deadly weapon can be used.

Hunting Regulations: Resident elk hunters in Kentucky who wish to use archery equipment will now be required to purchase an either sex permit for \$100. Non-resident hunters will be required to pay \$550 for the same permit.

Deer hunters may now use a crossbow from the third Saturday in September to the third Monday in January. BUT no archers using any bow may take a doe during the modern gun season, the October muzzleloader season or the first 6 days of the December muzzleloader season.

Finally a hunter who takes a deer in another state cannot import the deer into Kentucky if it has its spinal column or head with the carcass. This means that a hunter must debone the deer and/or remove the antlers before bringing the deer into Kentucky for processing.

NATIONAL

East coast legislatures are now attempting to follow the failed California attempt to ban the import or ownership of the big six African trophies. In Connecticut for example there is a bill in the legislature to ban the trade of ivory or rhinoceros horn if taken after February 26, 1976. Antique dealers and collectors fear that their ivory purchases will be rendered worthless – not to mention the impact on hunters!

Continued from page 10

"LEGAL BRIEFS"

National African American Gun Owners Association: In the category of major surprises, The Sunday Review Section of the New York Times carried an article by a decidedly anti-gun black professor of history at Harvard. She went to visit the home of a black activist, Lewis Hayden, on the Black Heritage Trail in Beacon Hill, (Boston) and was dismayed to find an NRA sticker on the windowpane. This began an investigation by the author which uncovered a growing movement by blacks to exercise their 2nd Amendment rights. Hayden was a man who believed in firepower to repel slave catchers who showed up on his doorstep. One current Beacon Hill resident who attended the 2017 NRA convention, sees the NRA as an "important civil rights organization". Phillip Smith of Georgia, who has close ties to the NRA, formed the NAAGA which now has 75 chapters in 30 states. Black women make up 60% of the membership. The purpose of the NAAGA is to more specifically focus on the 2nd amendment issues as seen thru the eyes of black citizens. The Second Amendment is attracting support from ALL Americans who feel the need for self-protection.

KYSCI Introduces "Legislative Action Committee"



By Colonel Mike Abell, Retired

Historically, the League of Kentucky Sportsmen (LKS) has been the watchdog for Kentucky sportsmen and sportswomen; however, over the last few years, the LKS has attended to internal matters, at the expense of its mission, as is codified in their bylaws, which is "...to coordinate all agencies, societies, clubs and individuals which are or should be interested in the restoration, wise use, conservation and scientific management of wildlife and other natural resources

into a permanent, unified and active agency for the purpose of securing adequate public recognition of the needs and values of wildlife." This has left a void that has permitted the Department of Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet to take uncontested actions that appear to be contrary to the best interest of the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources and of Kentucky's Sportsmen and Sportswomen.

Fortunately, the dedicated men and women of the KDFWR are hard at work doing their jobs and we are here to support them while being *First for Hunters.* Unfortunately, as time has passed, it appears that the lack of clear and convincing communication from Kentucky's sporting community to our Fish and Wildlife Commissioners has led to the lack of direction for sportsmen's and sportswomen's interests, wildlife conservation and security of our sporting heritage. Accordingly, your KYSCI Board has decided it is time for KYSCI to move into that leadership void and fulfill our mission to be *First for Hunters.*

It is my honor to be nominated as the First Chairman of the **Kentuckiana Chapter of the Safari Club International, Leg-**

islative Action Committee (KYSCI-LAC) and I thank President Larry Richards and your Board of Directors for this appointment.

It is our plan to work with the LKS and other "societies, clubs and individuals" as well as the Fish and Wildlife District Commissioners to ensure that sportsmen's and sportswomen's interests and the viability of our flora and fauna return as the primary concerns of our District Commissioners. As the Legislative Action Committee Chairman, I will work to stay completely informed about the activities of our District Commissioners and our Legislature and inform all the "societies, clubs and individuals" about what action is being taken and is required to secure our hunting heritage.

As new technology has emerged, a new model to inform and support the 600,000 sportsmen and sportswomen is needed. This new model will include providing leadership by KYSCI to inform and to motivate those societies, foundations and clubs statewide to act, and then to organize for collective action by sportsmen to inform our Legislature and our District Commissioners of sportsmen's and sportswomen's goals.

Our new website www.kysci-lac.com is up and running. Now that it is live, you'll be able to see all the current Kentucky House Bills, Kentucky Senate Bills, Kentucky Administrative Regulation (KAR) changes, and other pertinent governmental action that affects wildlife, fisheries, habitat, conservation, sportsmen and sportswomen, and our sporting heritage all in one place. This website will also link you to your KDFWR District Commissioners.

KYSCI-LAC will also include a position statement on each Bill or KAR and a direct method to contact the governmental parties, elected or appointed, that have the power to act on the same. While KYSCI will post our position and advocate for it, we will not lobby, coerce or otherwise try to co-opt other foundations, societies, clubs or individuals to our position. Through positive, informed and honest dialogue amongst the sportsmen's and sportswomen's community, we believe change is possible and our hunting heritage and hunting grounds can be secured. Unity of purpose is necessary at this time and we plan to lead.



Easiest Peanut Butter Fudge EverBy Joyce Cook

2 cups sugar 1/2 cup milk 1 tsp. vanilla 3/4 cup peanut butter

Bring sugar and milk to a boil. Boil 2 1/2 minutes, remove from heat and stir in peanut butter and vanilla. THAT IS IT!



Calendar of Upcoming Events

April 26-28, 2019 - NRA Convention

- Indianapolis, Indiana
- Contact www.nra.org

June 15, 2019 - Annie Oakley Ladies' Day Event

- Fern Creek Sportsman Club, Louisville, KY
- Contact www.kentuckianasci.org

July 13, 2019 - Youth, Apprentice & Family Hunter Education Day

- Fern Creek Sportsman Club, Louisville, KY
- Contact www.kentuckianasci.org

September 2019 – **KYSCI Chapter Dove Shoot**

Contact: Mike Maddox <u>mmaddox@me.com</u>

February 5-8, 2020 - SCI Convention

• Reno, Nevada

• Contact: www.safariclub.org

February 22, 2020 - KYSCI Chapter Fundraising Banquet

- Audubon Country Club, Louisville, KY
- Contact: Sherry Maddox explorer111749@aol.com

February 2020 - Military Appreciation Pheasant Hunt

- · Lost River Game Farm, Paoli, Indiana
- Contact: Mike Maddox mmaddox@me.com

Renew Your KYSCI, SCI & NRA Memberships Today!

www.scifirstforhunters.org & www.nra.org & www.kentuckianasci.org

Legislative Action Committee

The political landscape for Kentucky hunters is changing! For info visit kysci-lac.com

To Join or Find Other Outdoor Friends Events Contact:

Friends of NRA Events

Contact: John LaRowe at ilarowe@nrahq.org

League of Kentucky Sportsmen Events

Contact: Bob Edwards at bedwardslouky@insightbb.com

QDMA Events

Contact: Pete Blandford at pete_blandford@yahoo.com

RMEF Events

Contact: Bill Carman at 859-489-1593 or

Bcarman@rmef.org

Quail Forever

Contact: Jack Dahl at j.dahljr@att.net

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

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KYSCI would like to express our appreciation to the sponsors & donors who helped to make our 2019 fundraiser a huge success.
We sincerely hope that you will remember these donors & sponsors in the future.

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