



News & Views

**West Chester Fish
Game & Wildlife
Association**

March 2020

President's Message by Gary Dunn, President

As the club plans for our busy time of the year I would like to thank a dedicated group of officers and board members for making things run smoothly. This past year we accomplished most of the goals we set for the club. The one goal we fell short of is our membership please help us on this by renewing or becoming a new member. Tell your friends neighbors and relatives about us and we will meet all of our goals in 2020. The club would like to thank the following, the many volunteers who feed and stock the fish and help on our many projects and rodeos. We would like to single out the following for special thanks:

- Andy Shaum and his Paradise Farm Group
- Jim Simetti and Dave Filano for the food
- Tom Tatum for write ups in the newspaper.
- Pa Fish and Boat Commission and WCO Officer Bob Bonney, and DWCO Officers Paul Marchese, and Don Finn
- The Friends of Fish for their donation

It is with gratitude that we say thank you to everyone and please continue to help and support the club so that we can make West Valley Creek and West Chester Fish Game and Wildlife Association even better in the years to come.



2019 Treasurer's Report

by **George Poole, Treasurer**

2020 is the beginning of our 83rd year as a non-profit organization. We currently have approximately 275 members in total; of which 120 are lifetime members. Total membership has not significantly changed over the past 5-10 years; as some existing members move on and new members join our ranks.

In 2019 Bernie McGovern, our Treasurer of more than 15 years, had to step down as Treasurer due to health reasons. I was then appointed by the Executive Committee to serve as our Treasurer; and David Goodroad was appointed to take over my prior position as Secretary until our elections are held this year.

One of the most challenging, time consuming tasks as treasurer is maintaining our membership list. This task also includes accounting for the collection of membership dues. For the past 10 years our Executive Committee has voted to hold the line on raising our dues in order to assure that joining and remaining a member of WCFGWA is very affordable to all. We must also continue to attract new and younger members to build the WCFGWA of the future. Our Board continues to believe that this decision is still the correct course, even though we have been operating at a loss for the past several years.

Continued on page 4

Events Calendar

March 28, 2020

Mentored Youth Trout Day-
Regional

April 4, 2020

Regional Opening Day of
Trout

April 11, 2020

Mentored Youth Trout Day-
Statewide

April 18, 2020

"Chip Gibson-Dave Dempsey"
Trout Rodeo
Statewide Opening Day of
Trout

May 2, 2020

Opening Day of Walleye

May 9, 2020

"Dave Heller-Bruce Riddell"
Trout Rodeo

May 16, 2020

National Safe Boating Week

May 24, 2020

Fish-For-Free Day

June 13, 2020

"Art Colley" Bass Rodeo
Opening Day of Bass

July 4, 2020

Fish-For-Free Day



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WCFG&WA Officers**2019—2020****President**—Gary Dunn**Vice President**—Fletcher Swanson**Secretary**—Inger & Dave Goodroad**Treasurer**—George Poole**Exec. Committee 2019-20**

Tom Anderson, Don Finn,
David Goodroad, Inger
Goodroad, Aidan Krechmoyer
(Jr. Mem.), Dawn Moyer, Liz
Rutter

Exec. Committee 2018-19

Mike Colley, Gary Dunn,
Steve Estberg, Andy Madsen,
A.J. Miller, George Poole, John
Rickards, Jim Semetti,
Fletcher Swanson

Helpful Contacts**PA Game Commission**

Hunting License Division: 717-
787-2084

SE Region Office: 610-926-3136,
610-926-3137

Report a Violation: Operation
Game Thief: 1-888-PGC-8001

PA Fish & Boat Commission

Pollution Incident 1-855-FISH-
KIL (1-855-347-4545)

Licensing – 877- 707-4085

Boat Registration/Titling – 866-
262-8734, (866-BoatReg)

SE Region Office: 717- 626-0228

**Turn In A
Poacher Or
Litterer**

**Call W.C.O.
Bob Bonney**

610-637-6398

Pay Your Dues and Donate on PayPal



You can now pay your dues and donate to WCFGWA via PayPal. WCFGWA is also enrolled in the PayPal Giving Fund. This means that WCFGWA is now able to receive matching donations from various sources including employers, GoFundme, eBay, and more. PayPal does not charge us a fee for these donations.

To pay your dues and donate, just go to *WCFGWA.org*, click on Contact Us and scroll down. To pay dues, just choose your membership level and click on Pay Now. To donate, just click on Donate.



Lets Go Camping!

Dates: July 12—July 18, 2020



If you like to have fun in the outdoors and enjoy learning about the environment through hands on experiences, then the Chester County Conservation Camp is for you!

The Chester County Conservation Camp is a one week, overnight adventure camp for boys and girls 11 to 14 held at Paradise Farm Camps, East Bradford Township, Chester County, PA. Spend a week in the outdoors with campers your own age hunting

frogs, catching fish, paddling a canoe, enjoying campfires and doing many other fun activities.

For more information and to register, visit www.chescocamp.org or contact: Margaret VanGilder, Director at: Email: conservation-camp@gmail.com; Phone: (610) 873-0830.



Hunters of the Sky



Dawn White, of the Indian Run Environmental Education Center, LLC (IREEC), joined us October 4, 2019 for an up close look at birds of prey, and their adaptations for survival. An engaged and appreciative audience listened as Dawn taught us about the lives and habits of these majestic and fascinating creatures.



Dawn brought owls and hawks for her presentation, as well as touchable biofacts about these amazing hunters of the sky. The children and adults in the audience were able to touch the objects and ask Dawn questions.



Non-releasable due to handicaps from injuries sustained in the wild, these birds now reside at IREEC, which is based in Glenmoore, Pennsylvania. The Center offers traveling educational programs with live birds and reptiles in order to promote stewardship of wildlife and its ecosystems.

Additional information on Indian Run EEC and the programs they offer can be found at <https://indianruneec.org/>.



FISH-FOR-FREE DAYS - 2020

Sunday, May 24, 2020

Saturday, July 4, 2020 (Independence Day)

Fish-for-Free Days allow anyone (resident or non-resident) to legally fish on Pennsylvania waterways on the designated days with ***NO FISHING LICENSE REQUIRED*** (Trout/Salmon and Lake Erie permits are also NOT required). *All other fishing regulations still apply.*



Fish-for-Free Days are great ways for families to “catch” the fun of fishing!

Courtesy of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission

2019 Treasurer's Report *continued*

Our costs associated with operating and maintaining the trout nursery, stocking the trout, continuing stream improvement programs and maintaining our website increase annually. However, these increased costs are not the primary cause of our current financial problems. The real problem is lack of revenue. We have 120 life members which are no longer required to pay annual dues. This means that we heavily depend upon annual dues from the remaining 155 members to provide the financial support necessary for our operations. Each year more of our members fail to remit their dues. Last year only 67 of these 155 members paid their annual dues.

As we begin our 83rd year we ask that you please consider the value of WCFGWA to you, your family and our community. If you have already paid your 2020 dues, I thank you very much. If you have not paid your 2020 dues, or prior year(s) dues, please complete the application on the back of this newsletter and mail in your membership dues for 2020. Also, please be aware that you can now donate, join or renew and pay your dues at our website: www.wcfgwa.org. Thank you in advance for your participation.

Finally, I would like to offer special thanks to all of you who volunteer their precious time to support our many programs. Without such dedicated individuals as you our club would definitely cease to exist.



Sunday Hunting During Deer Season



The state House of Representatives and Senate each voted in 2019 to allow Sunday hunting for the first time in 2020. Gov. Tom Wolf signed the bill into law on Nov. 27.

The law permits Sunday hunting on one day during rifle deer season and one day during statewide archery deer season. The third Sunday, which is the prerogative of the Game Commission, has tentatively been scheduled for bear season.

The final seasons and bag limits are expected to be passed in April. For more information, visit the PA Game Commission at www.pgc.pa.gov,



DMA's 2 and 3 Expanded in 2019

During 2019, due to the detection of CWD, in both captive and free-ranging deer, DMAs 2 and 3 have been expanded, while no changes have been made to DMA 4. In addition, CWD has been detected in wild or captive deer and/or elk in many other states and provinces. For the most up-to-date maps and descriptions of DMA boundaries, visit the interactive map at <https://pagame.maps.arcgis.com/>

Courtesy of the Pennsylvania Game Commission

Kids in the Wild

Hello, my name is Aidan Krechmoyer and I am a junior board member for the West Chester Fish, Game, and Wildlife Association. For ten days I had the privilege of visiting famous parts of western America to hike, camp, sight-see and fish. In the beginning, my family and I stayed in a town in Wyoming called Jackson Hole. If I am correct, Jackson Hole got its name because the mountains created a “ring” around the town. The area was very beautiful and felt like such views could only be found on paintings. The snow-covered mountains surrounded by the green, thriving vegetation below seemed unreal at first and later would become remembered forever. But the plants weren’t the only thing occupying the land. Animals ranging from prairie dogs to bison



made themselves at home in Grand Teton and Yellowstone.

We drove around the town until we discovered that there was a fish hatchery in Jackson Hole. The tour of the hatchery was fabulous and quite educational (I don’t mind that). There were rows of tanks filled with cutthroat trout and only cutthroat trout because other species like rainbow and brook eat the fingerlings at an alarming rate. With so many fish being put into the waters, we just had to take a fly-fishing class. During the class, we were edu-

cated on the fish, their diets and how to cast. Sooner or later, I got something on my line, but it wasn’t a trout. It was something called the Rocky Mountain whitefish. They are extremely tough fighters, kind of like trophy bluegills. I caught at least two of them when our guide told us to move downstream where I caught my first cutthroat trout and they were one of the toughest trout I have ever fought. I thought palomino trout were tough and was I wrong. It was an experience that I will never forget, and I recommend that you go to Jackson Hole and Yellowstone someday in your adventure called life. Thank you for reading.



2020 Fishing Rodeos

Mark your calendars for the 2020 WCFGWA Fishing Rodeos!

“Chip Gibson-Dave Dempsey” Trout Rodeo April 18th

“Dave Heller-Bruce Riddell” Trout Rodeo May 9th

“Art Colley” Bass Rodeo—Paradise Farm Pond, June 13th



Rodeos are open to those 15 years of age and younger. These are all open to the public and families are most welcome, so please let friends and neighbors know the dates for these events. Our nursery is located on the Paradise Farm Camp property: 895 Ravine Road Downingtown, PA 19335 Visit our web page at www.wcfgwa.org OR visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/wcfgwa/ for more information.





West Chester Fish, Game & Wildlife Association

Membership Application

Date: _____

Full Name (Please Print Clearly) _____

☐ New ☐ Renewal

Address: _____

☐ Regular \$25.00

City, State, Zip: _____

☐ Family \$30.00

Telephone No.: _____

☐ Junior \$10.00

E-Mail Address: _____

☐ Life \$500.00

☐ Donation \$ _____

Make your check payable to:
West Chester Fish, Game & Wildlife Association
P.O. Box 511
West Chester, PA 19381-0511
www.wcfgwa.org
wcfgwa@gmail.com



West Chester Fish Game & Wildlife Association
P.O. Box 511
West Chester, PA 19381-0511



Upcoming Events

Executive Committee

Meets the second Monday of each month at the East Bradford Township Building.

Please remember to send your email to: wcfgwa@gmail.com

March 28, 2020

Mentored Youth Day-Regional

April 4, 2020

Regional Opening Day of Trout Season

March 30, 2019

Trout Opening Day-Regional

April 11, 2020

Mentored Youth Trout Day-Satewide

April 18, 2020

"Chip Gibson-Dave Dempsey" Trout Rodeo

