



Letter from the President

Greetings Fellow Volunteers,

As the departing state president, I wish to thank everyone for their support and putting up with me during my tenure. I tried to be an effective communicator over the past few years and hope that I was able to live up to everyone's expectations. I am confident that Stacy Zerr will take over as a very effective leader for our state chapter. As many of you may have already heard, there are many changes occurring in the NWTF at the national level. These changes will undoubtedly affect the ND state chapter so we will have to stay on top of things. The requests for support of conservation projects has steadily increased over the years and now there are more requests than funding that can be allocated for these projects. This means we have to really look at the merits of each request and how it will affect the turkeys and how best we can spend our money. Well, I have really enjoyed interacting with each and every one of you and hope we can continue our friendship in the years ahead. It is going to take everyone pulling together and working hard to keep North Dakota moving in the right direction. Thank you for your dedication.



Sincerely,

DuWayne Miller
State Chapter President



Leadership Changes for the State Chapter

At the past summer meeting in Valley City a new president and vice president were selected by the committee attendees. Stacy Zerr of the Tioga chapter will take over as president while Marc Kurz of the Grand Forks chapter will fill the spot of Vice President. DuWayne Miller of Devils Lake is stepping down as president and David Paul of Oakes will leave the post as V.P. These changes will be effective after the winter meeting in Harvey concludes. We look forward to continued success in the upcoming year.

Grand Forks Chapter Supports Youth Shooting Event

The Grand Forks local NWTF chapter (Grand Gobblers) co-sponsored several youngsters from the area to attend a state-sanctioned sporting clay event in Bismarck. The kids were part of an 8-week sporting clays league that had been conducted by several volunteers from the area involved with the Scholastic Clay Target Program, the City of Grand Forks Park District, the local 4-H club, and the local NWTF chapter. Volunteers pitched in to instruct the youngsters in sporting clay shooting techniques as well as gun safety. The kids ranged in age from 8 to 15 years, and all those that attended the state competition received a trophy for their efforts! The program is scheduled to take place again this coming summer.



Young sporting clay competitors from Grand Forks display their trophies obtained in the state competition.

Havana, ND Youngster Harvests a Unique Turkey on NWTF-Sponsored Food Plots

A local hunter from Havana, Hillary Schreiner, took advantage of the turkeys benefiting from the food plots sponsored by the NWTF and was able to bag a beautiful and unique gobbler during the spring turkey hunt. She was also lucky enough to draw a once in a lifetime elk tag in North Dakota and was fortunate to take a whopping 6x6 bull elk near Medora. In a letter to North Dakota's regional director, Hillary stated that she really enjoyed turkey hunting and plans to continue going after spring gobblers every year she can. She also stated that she was grateful to have the opportunity to hunt on land that had been managed so well for the wild turkey. This is a great example of how the efforts of the NWTF are paying off for both wildlife and hunters alike.



Hillary Schreiner, a 16-year-old hunter from Havana, ND, poses with her spring turkey and her fall elk she harvested.

State Chapter Supports the Northern Plains Riparian Restoration Initiative

The North Dakota State Chapter provided \$2,500 in Super Funds to support the NWTF's Northern Plains Riparian Restoration Initiative in North Dakota. In 2007-08, the NPRRI project in ND was a Russian Olive removal project at the "Confluence" of the Missouri and Yellowstone Rivers in western North Dakota near Williston. Russian Olives are being removed in the riparian corridor, as they are out-competing native, more desirable, species such as cottonwoods. Removing the Russian Olives should allow for natural cottonwood regeneration in these areas in addition to increased vigor in understory grasses, shrubs, and other woody species preferred by wildlife.



Removal of intrusive Russian Olive trees



NWTF Chapters in North Dakota

James Christopherson – Regional Director

Map of Current North Dakota Chapters

Several new chapters have been added in North Dakota. The following map illustrates the distribution of all chapters throughout the state. If anyone has ideas and/or contacts in an area where a new chapter could be started, please feel free to discuss this with the ND Regional Director, James Christopherson, by calling him at (701) 724-3047.



State Chapter Takes Advantage of NWTF's Operation Big Sky and Superfund Programs to Sponsor Food Plots and Other Conservation Efforts

Several projects have been initiated in North Dakota through these programs including providing hay netting to landowners as an abatement method for depredation, and constructing food plots and tree and shrub planting to provide winter cover and forage for wild turkeys. These programs are NWTF National programs designed to provide assistance to landowners wintering large numbers of turkeys.



O'Brien food plot (10 acres) near Havana, ND.



Central Dakota Chapter tree/shrub planting in western ND.



Central Dakota Chapter tree/shrub planting in western ND.

Wildlife Benefit from Food Plots Near Cavalier, ND

As part of the NWTF Superfund Program, the state chapter provided round-up ready corn and \$250 in funding to assist in establishing a food plot near Cavalier, ND. The combined efforts of the NWTF and the local landowner really paid off as can be seen in these photographs. Several species of wildlife are benefitting from the corn including turkeys, deer and moose.



Wildlife taking advantage of food plots sponsored by the NWTF North Dakota State Chapter.

State Chapter Winter Meeting to be Held in Harvey on February 21st, 2009

The next state meeting will be held on Saturday, February 21st, 2009, in Harvey at the Eagles Club located on 931 Business Highway #52, beginning at 10:00am. The R&R Motel will accommodate overnight stays and rooms can be reserved by calling (701) 324-2271. James will give an overview of the changes at the national level and Jared will report on project issues. Following the meeting we will be hosting an NWTF banquet at the Eagles Club. Meeting attendees will help set up for the banquet which will commence at 5:30pm (social hour) with dinner to follow at 7:00pm. The banquet core package will consist of 2008 merchandise. Local chapter support would be greatly appreciated. Also, please inform DuWayne by phone at (701) 662-4488 or (800) 451-7087, or by e-mail at dmiller@wf-l.com if you plan to attend the meeting and/or banquet so he can anticipate the appropriate size of the group. Hope to see you there!

For More Information contact:

Marc Kurz, Communications Officer, (701) 740-2807

DuWayne Miller, ND State Chapter President, (701) 740-8019

James Christopherson, ND Regional Director, (701) 724-3047

National Wild Turkey Federation Web site: www.nwtf.org

Souris River Basin Longbeards (Minot chapter) Website: www.srblongbeards.com



Message From North Dakota's Regional Director



It is hard to believe that another year has passed and we are coming up on another banquet season. We have exciting new merchandise in the package this year, and I believe it will be well received. Once again I want to thank all of you for all of the hard work you put into making the NWTF what it is today. You are the reason we have grown so fast in North

Dakota. I want to especially thank DuWayne Miller for his great leadership by serving as the State Chapter President over the last few years. DuWayne did a superb job! As Stacy Zerr takes the reins as State Chapter President, let's let him know that we are all in this together and we are always here to help. I think Stacy will do a fantastic job! Thank you all for the support and help you have given me throughout the year. You are all remarkable people! I hope to see many of you at the upcoming State Chapter meeting.

Sincerely,

James Christopherson

Upcoming Events for 2008

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|---------------------------------|---------------|----------------------|
| ND State Chapter Winter Meeting | Harvey, ND | February 21, 2009 |
| NWTF National Convention | Nashville, TN | February 19-22, 2009 |
| ND Chapter Banquets: | | |
| Golden Valley | Beach | February 13, 2009 |
| Souris River Basin Longbeards | Minot | February 14, 2009 |
| Buffalo City Gobblers | Jamestown | February 21, 2009 |
| Goose City Gobblers | Kenmare | February 21, 2009 |
| Peaceful Valley Cutters | Tioga | February 28, 2009 |
| Central Dakota Strutters | Bismarck | March 7, 2009 |
| Dickey County Boss Toms | Ellendale | March 14, 2009 |
| Walsh County Longspurs | Park River | March 28, 2009 |
| James River | LaMoure | April 3, 2009 |
| Western Edge | Dickinson | April 3, 2009 |
| Grand Gobblers | Grand Forks | April 4, 2009 |
| Lake Region Longbeards | Devils Lake | April 4, 2009 |
| Missouri River Longbeards | Washburn | April 4, 2009 |
| Barnes County | Valley City | April 11, 2009 |
| Coyote Country Strutters | Williston | April 17, 2009 |
| Turtle Mountain Longbeards | Bottineau | April 24, 2009 |
| Maple River | Mapleton | April 24, 2009 |
| Griggs County Thundering Toms | Cooperstown | May 16, 2009 |