



2020 GOBBLER GOSSIP

MINNESOTA STATE CHAPTER'S
OFFICAL NEWSLETTER - DEC. 2020

**DUE TO THE CURRENT PUBLIC HELATH SITUATION:
THE STATE CONVENTION HAS BEEN
CANCELLED**

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State Presidential Address

Hello NWTF Volunteers,

I hope that all of you are well and in good health. To say that this year was a good year would be an understatement. The year started out great. Banquets were doing great. Fundraising was up. Then Covid-19 hit! Banquets were shut down and we weren't even halfway through the main banquet season. The state board held their March and June meetings as virtual conference calls. All of our mentor hunts and Jake's Days were cancelled. Then we got hit the hardest. Due to budget cuts at National 2 of our 3 RD's were laid off. To Todd Fairbanks and Kevin Fuerstneau - thanks for everything you guys have done for the NWTF of Minnesota!

That's enough of the bad news. In July, the volunteers of the NWTF started the comeback. Banquets started to happen again. Although smaller in size due to state regulations, these banquets turned out to be very successful. Chapters came up big in the call for all - an effort by National to raise 5 million dollars by August 31'st. That goal was reached and then some. Although our superfund money is frozen for now, chapters are looking toward next year and looking at fundraising in different ways.

With that, I would like to thank all of the volunteers for sticking with the mission of the NWTF. I truly believe that the NWTF will come out of this better than before.

I am writing this letter during uncertain times and as result I have been asked to continue as President of the Minnesota State Chapter. We will elect new officers as soon as it is safe to do so. It has been an honor to serve as President for the last 4 years. Thank you all and I'll see you all very soon when it is safe to do so.

Sincerely,

**Wayne Wiener
Minnesota State Chapter President**



Regional Directors Report

2020, a year that will live in infamy, although it can never be compared to the time when these words were muttered by Winston Churchill, it has been a year many will never forget. The National Wild Turkey Federation had to react to these changes in order to save our 47-year-old organization. At June 2020 we were nearly 11.5 million below where we were budgeted to be. This caused us to look at our company as a whole, and make some changes in order to survive. We laid off 40% of our staff, froze superfund expenditures, and started a campaign “Call for All” for the goal of reaching 5 Million dollars raised. These changes were uncomfortable, and for Minnesota it means that we had to make changes as well. Regional Directors Todd Fairbanks and Kevin Fuerstneau were part of the staff layoff. To fill in those blanks NWTF RD’s from Iowa, Shawn Jenkins and Hunter Voigts, have expanded their territories into southern Minnesota to help Kevin Hurst.

Spring forward to October we can successfully say the “Call for All” Campaign was a success. Volunteers rallied, like we always do, and contributed to the cause in many different ways to hit a total of 7.3 Million dollars raised!! The fight though is not over, an election year like no other and fears of lockdown and or more restrictions are all fears for our 2021 fundraising year.

I want to leave you with this, thank you, a sincere thanks that I know we will be saying again after local events, outreach, mentored hunts, and other gatherings return in 2021. Stay the course, keep those feet moving, and know you all are helping save a lifestyle.

God Speed,

Your MN RDS



The MN Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation will be offering Round-Up Ready Corn, Round-Up Ready Soybeans as well as Sorghum through our Conservation Seed Program. All orders and payments are on a first-come-first-serve basis. Your orders, along with your full payment, must be placed by January 16th, 2021. All orders are to be mailed to Jason Stucky (see website for further details). Orders must come through your local Chapter.

The cost of this year's:

- Corn Seed will be \$45.00/bag
- Soybeans will be \$25.00/bag
- Sorghum will be \$25.00/bag

The State Chapter needs to order at least a half truckload (429 – 50# bags) in order for them to ship the Seed. Delivery of the Seed will be at one location. Jason Stucky will be this year's program administrator in Minnesota. You will need to contact Jason as soon as possible to place your orders. Remember, this is a chapter-driven program and the chapters around the state will be responsible for paying, picking up, and delivering the corn to the individuals that will be planting the Seed in their area. You will also need to prepay for the Seed you order. The payment for the Seed is not a banquet expense as this is a program outside the banquet. Funds raised from Fall Raffle sales is an example of funds that may come from for payment. All sales are final. We cannot guarantee the number of DAY CORN it will be or when the shipment will arrive.

If your chapter elects not to order corn and you have a private citizen interested in the corn you may pass this information along to them. They will still need to go through the Chapter, but It will be the responsibility of that individual(s) to make payment and arrange for pick up.

Please see www.mnnwtf.org for more details.



The National Wild Turkey Federation's Dr. James Earl Kennamer Scholarship Program

Sponsored by



**The NWTF is now accepting scholarship applications.
To apply online visit <https://your.nwtf.org/scholarships/>**

Applications will be accepted November 15, 2020- March 1, 2021.

Purpose:

The purpose of the NWTF Dr. James Earl Kennamer Academic Scholarship Program is to recognize and reward an NWTF member, who is currently a senior in high school, for their outstanding academic achievement, community involvement and leadership roles. The National Scholarship Winner will receive a \$10,000 scholarship sponsored by Mossy Oak.

To learn more about possible eligibility visit us on the web at www.mnnwtf.org.