



To whom it may concern,

In 2009, the Keystone Elk Country Alliance (KECA) was formed to conserve and enhance Pennsylvania's "Elk Country" for future generations. KECA completes its mission through conservation, education, habitat enhancement and acquisition, partnering with land and wildlife management agencies, and funding an endowment for the long term viability of the Elk Country Visitors Center in Benezette, PA. All across the state, KECA chapters hold annual fundraising banquets to help raise funds to support the organization, which is focused on educating people every day about the history of elk in Pennsylvania and the conservation of wildlife. Additional details are available at www.experienceelkcountry.com.

In 2012, a local group formed the Appalachian Chapter for KECA which is based out of the Carlisle/Mechanicsburg, PA area. With the Appalachian Trail crossing through and connecting the entire Midstate region, it seemed fitting to name the chapter for the trail that unites our region. With the addition of the Appalachian Chapter, KECA has grown to 16 chapters across Pennsylvania in just 11 years.

One important aspect of KECA's mission is conservation education, which is being fulfilled with the Elk Country Visitors Center (ECVC) in Benezette, PA, and our "Distance Learning Program" which allows students of all ages from across our great Commonwealth to learn about conservation. The ECVC (www.experienceelkcountry.com/elk-country-visitor-center) opened in September 2010 and has been visited by thousands of people over the last seven years. The ECVC consists of a state-of-the-art 4-D theatre, interactive education programs, elk viewing, horse drawn wagon and sleigh rides and much more.

KECA is a 501 (c3) Charitable Non-Profit Organization (ID# 27-1804444/000) with its primary means of support coming from membership dues, donations and proceeds raised from fundraising banquets held by the 16 local chapters throughout the state. All local chapters consist of volunteers dedicated to the conservation and preservation of Pennsylvania wildlife and wild areas. All proceeds raised stay in Pennsylvania!

The Appalachian Chapter of the Keystone Elk Country Alliance is seeking donations for our 8th annual fundraising banquet which is being held the evening of Saturday, March 18th in Carlisle, PA. All donors will be recognized at the event or in the program (unless requested otherwise). Any contribution you could make may be mailed to either of the parties listed below or contact us and we would be happy to pick it up.

Thank you for your support!

Sincerely,

Terry Throne
Fundraising Chairperson