

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

It's Banquet Time! It is hard to believe that we are at the start of another banquet season for the Keystone Elk Country Alliance. We have been working very hard to get ready for our annual Conservation Banquet. We hope that it is an event that makes lasting memories and expresses our passion for Elk Country as we celebrate the Keystone Elk Country Alliance and their mission of Conservation and Education for generations to come. As always, we hope to have an entertaining evening with live music by The Arthur Arkestra, as well as our raffles, games, silent auction and live auction. In addition, there will be plenty of good food and drink for all. We also include gifts for the kids in attendance and pay honor to our veterans.

*EARLY BIRD TICKET SPECIAL* - We urge you to get your applications in early so that you can double your chances of winning with our *Early Bird Ticket Special:* PURCHASE YOUR GENERAL RAFFLE TICKETS BY April 8th AND WE WILL **DOUBLE** YOUR TICKETS. That's right 2 for 1! Also, for every \$200 of general raffle tickets purchased, not only do you get \$400 worth of general raffle tickets, but you are automatically entered into a special drawing for a WBY Vanguard Hunter caliber 6.5-300 with a Leupold Freedom 4-12x40 scope. Please keep in mind that these are an early bird offer only and will not be available the night of the event or available on any applications that are postmarked after April 8th.

*GOLD TABLE SPONSOR* - We will be offering a *Gold Table Sponsor* opportunity again this year! The Gold Table Sponsor includes 10 meals and 10 KECA memberships as well as some great bonuses like **\$1000 in General Raffle Tickets**, **50 Bonus Tickets**, **30 Top Shelf Tickets** AND a raffle drawing at each table for those attending the banquet! Someone seated at each Gold Table Sponsor table will win a \$500 VISA gift card! As a thank you to all Gold Table Sponsors, we will pay special recognition to them throughout the night as well as in our program.

*LIFE AND SPONSOR MEMBERS* – Won't you consider becoming a KECA Sponsor or Life Member? Each new Sponsor and each new Life Member is eligible to win our 2022 Life and Sponsor Member special handgun, a *Kimber R7 MAKO 9mm.* One winner is chosen for every five new Sponsor or Life Members who make the decision to support KECA at a higher level.

**PROGRESSIVE RAFFLE** - Again, we will have the very popular Progressive Raffle with a tremendous grand prize! For just \$20, you will get a chance to win a **Savage Axis II** .308-win rifle with a scope featuring hardwood stock with KECA logo engraved at the banquet. Then the winner of the rifle will be entered, along with the other rifle winners from our other 15 Chapter events, for a chance to win a free range, fully guided Companion Elk hunt for two (1 bull and 1 cow) at Fishtail Ranch in Chama, New Mexico! That's a "ONE IN SIXTEEN" chance to win the hunt. The winner of the hunt will be drawn at the final Chapter fundraising event of the year.

**BANQUET RIFLE RAFFLE** – Remington 700 SPS .30-06 rifle with custom engraved stock featuring the bull harvested by Roy Moon with the 2022 KECA Tag – this year we will be raffling off the banquet rifle instead of putting it on the live auction. Tickets will be sold pre banquet as well as at the banquet. Tickets will cost \$20 for 1 or 3 for \$50.

*LIVE AUCTION* - Another popular event during the evening is the Live Auction. Here is a sample of the items that will be auctioned off to the highest bidder:

- Elk Mountain Homestead Rental Friday-Sunday, August 4-6, 2023. Stay, with up to 10 guests, at the original
  homestead property that sits adjacent to the ECVC meadow. This stay also includes access to the overlook Silo that
  allows viewing on the entire Elk Country Visitor Center property.
- *Elk Calf Round-Up Experience* Friday-Saturday, June 9-10, 2023. This is a chance for you and your guest to assist the PGC elk biologist, Jeremy Banfield, on a field trip to hopefully capture and tag a newborn elk calf in the PA Wilds. The experience will also include a 2-night stay (Friday and Saturday) at Antler Shed Cabins, Friday night dinner and presentation on PA Elk by Jeremy and a luncheon that will follow your elk calf capture adventures on Saturday.
- **Private Elk Country Horse-drawn Wagon Ride** Opportunity for up to 24 people at the Elk Country Visitor Center on Sunday August 27th at 6:45pm. This is a 45-minute ride through elk country. This is a very exclusive offer for a very highly demanded wagon ride date and time.
- and many more great items too!



**DINNER, DRINKS and LODGING -** Attendees will enjoy a full course dinner with dessert buffet style, and a cash bar will be available during the evening. The Wyndham Garden connected to the Mountain View Country Club is offering a discounted overnight rate for our banquet attendees. Call (814) 466-2255 to make your reservation. Be sure to call by **March 21st** to guarantee your room at the discounted rate of \$199.99. If you call after March 21st and there are still rooms available, you will also get the discounted rate. The code for the Discounted Room Block is **042123KEY**.

We hope you will join us for a fun and relaxing evening to continue raising money for the Keystone Elk Country Alliance and their amazing projects and helping us continue to grow. **All money raised remains in Pennsylvania's Elk Country.** We look forward to sharing our passion for Elk Country with you!

Please complete a separate application (included) for each single, couple, or Gold Sponsor table applicant and if you have a group sitting together, please make that notation when returning your application. *Don't forget the applications need to be postmarked no later than April 8<sup>th</sup> to get the Early Bird Special on the General Raffle tickets!* **The final reservation deadline is April 15th, 2023.** 

Yours in Conservation,

Barry R. Dumm

Barry Gummo Chapter Chair