



Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation  
Chapter Annual Report Form  
For 12-month period ending 12/31/14

The Year in Review

Chapter Name: Friends of Pinchot State Park (FOPSP)  
Information Submitted By: Betsy Leppo, FOPSP Secretary  
(Name and position held in group)

Please complete and return this form by January 31, 2015 to:

Marci Mowery

PA Parks and Forests Foundation

1845 Market Street, Suite 202

Camp Hill, PA 17011

or via email: mmowery-ppff@pa.net and pmetzger@paparksandforests.org

**Board of Directors (required):** Use attached form or provide your own list. Click on [green](#) tab below.

*(PPFF's directors and officers insurance provider requires current information in order to provide coverage.)*

*(Whether you use your own form or the one provided, ALL directors must sign an updated conflict of interest form each year.)*

**Funds Raised (required):** Use attached form. Click on [blue](#) tab below.

**Projects and Activities:** Use attached form. Click on [orange](#) tab below.

**Please list your greatest challenge this past year:**

Obtaining new members continues to be a challenge, as is enlisting enough volunteers for routine jobs like splitting and bundling wood. March of 2014 marked our fifth year of FOPSP. As our group matures, it is a challenge to keep core volunteers engaged and feeling appreciated for routine work. Also, to stay fresh and interesting we need to be willing to try new activities but we also need more volunteers to help bring that additional energy.

**What do you view as the highlight or greatest accomplishment of the past year?**

We were honored this year with a Volunteerism Award presented at the eighth annual Parks & Forests Foundation's (PPFF) awards banquet. We were grateful for this recognition and are proud of all the work our volunteers accomplished during the 2014 calendar year. Volunteers worked on trail monitoring and maintenance, goat care (regularly relocating goats and goat fencing used to manage unwanted vegetation in the campground), cleaning out fire rings, public programs, administrative duties, our FOPSP website and Pinchot Eagle newsletter, and various work projects throughout the park. The Trail Care Day in conjunction with the Keystone Trails Association, the Mason-Dixon Trail Association, and DCNR, continues to be a productive and rewarding partnership. The firewood sales in the campground require a lot of work in cutting, splitting and bundling the firewood, but these sales along with bagged ice and clothing have allowed us to make purchases that benefit the park. This year those purchases included new floor coverings for two of the modern cabins, twenty-five wooden picnic tables, livestock fencing, plus funding to support public programs and the trail care day.

Do you have a current work plan? If yes, please provide a copy. If no, can we help you prepare one?

Do you have a budget for 2015? Please provide a copy.

Please make sure we receive your newsletter, either by mail at the office or email.

Please make sure we have a copy of your membership brochures.

Do you have any training needs or is there another way PPFF can help you succeed?

## Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation Information For Website Directory

**Point of Contact (POC) for Group :** Jim Merlino, Chair, merlino60@verizon.net  
(The person listed here is the primary person to receive information from PPF and is listed publicly as the chapter contact on our website.)

**POC Address :** Gifford Pinchot State Park, attn. FOPSP, 2200 Rosstown Road, Lewisberry, PA 17339

**POC Phone :** Gifford Pinchot Park Office Phone: 717-432-5011

**POC Email:** FOPSP email: fosp@aol.com

**Your web URL if you have one :**

[www.friendsofpinchot.org](http://www.friendsofpinchot.org)

**Your Facebook page if you have one :**

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Gifford-Pinchot-State-Park/175468372494927>

**Web/Facebook Contact :** Website: Pat Sabold, Director (psaboldFOPSP@aol.com)

Facebook: Melissa Merlino (THYME@comcast.net)

Does your chapter or board meet regularly?

Yes:

No:

(If yes, on what schedule and where?)

Every other month on the 2nd or 3rd Tuesday, from 6:00-8:00, at the Gifford Pinchot State Park office, at 2200 Rosstown Road, Lewisberry, PA 17339. The first meeting of 2015 has not yet been scheduled.

### Please list all special events planned for 2015

(please update to Pam Metzger at pmetzger@paparksandforests.org as scheduled)

- > FOPSP members day / open house (June)
- > Wild flower and bird watching walks
- > Possibly a trail poker event
- > Pinchotween (October)
- > January 1st, 2016 'First Day Hike'

### Please list all known volunteer days planned for 2015

(please update to Pam Metzger at pmetzger@paparksandforests.org as scheduled)

- > 'Spring into Action' park clean-up day
- > Trail care days(October)

### Please list any volunteer needs you may have

(e.g., web/Facebook/social media help, membership, trail workers, etc.)

- > Social media (e.g. Facebook)
- > Membership
- > Webmaster
- > Wood bundling
- > Trail maintenance
- > Event planning

Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation  
Board of Directors 2015

**FOPSP BOARD MEMBERS 2015**

<i>CHAIR</i>	<u>Jim</u>	<u>Merlino</u>
<i>VICE CHAIR</i>	<u>Ted</u>	<u>Prindle</u>
<i>SECRETARY</i>	<u>Betsy</u>	<u>Betsy</u>
<i>TREASURER</i>	<u>Sally</u>	<u>Ray</u>

<i>DIRECTOR</i>	<u>Dean</u>	<u>Gibbons</u>
<i>DIRECTOR</i>	<u>James</u>	<u>Grove</u>
<i>DIRECTOR</i>	<u>Kevin</u>	<u>Merlino</u>
<i>DIRECTOR</i>	<u>Pat</u>	<u>Sabold</u>
<i>DIRECTOR</i>	<u>Steve</u>	<u>Stroman</u>

**Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation**  
**PPFF Chapter Financial Report**  
**12-month period ending 12/31/14**

**REVENUE:**

Membership Dues	\$ 990.00
Contributions - Individual	\$ 1,266.00
Contributions - Corporate	\$ 390.00
Events (Revenue from sales, event admissions, etc.)	
Sales (Please specify: firewood, ice, etc.)	\$ 29,378.00
Grants (More information outlined below)	
Program Fees	
Small Games of Chance Proceeds	
Bureau of State Parks, Outdoor Other Programming Division	\$ 500.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 32,524.00</b>

**GRANTS**

Did you receive any grants in 2013?

Yes:

No:

If yes, please list. Attach additional page if necessary:

Grant Source:

Grant Amount:

Project Funded:

Do you plan to apply for grants in 2015?\*

Yes:

No:

If yes, please list prospective source, amount and project summary:

**\* Prior to applying for any grant, Chapters must contact Marci (717.236.7644 or mmowery-ppff@pa.net) to confirm that the application conforms to the PPFF Bylaws, the Chapter workplan and applicable DCNR regulations.**

Do you currently have an additional checking account?

Yes:

No:

If yes, have you submitted your year end paperwork to Lisa?

Yes:

No:

## Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation 2014 Projects and Activities

(Feel free to attach additional pages if needed)

Service Projects:	# Projects Hosted	1 special workday (Trail Care Day) on October 4. Hundreds of routine/recurring workdays.
	Estimated Attendance	21 volunteers attended the Trail Care Day. Throughout the year, but primarily during the camping season, a core group of ~16 people put in the equivalent of over 400 days of effort into the recurring tasks described below.
	Project Descriptions: Include recurring work days at the park, cleanups, any improvement projects at the park utilizing volunteers, outside service groups, etc. and dates held.	<u>Special workdays</u> : Trail care day. <u>Recurring workdays</u> : trail monitoring and maintenance, firewood sales in the campground, fundraising (firewood, bagged ice and clothing), campground host coordination, campground maintenance, general maintenance, goat care, cleaning out fire rings, public programs. Also administrative duties by the board, secretary, and treasurer, and coordination of membership, sales, volunteers, website and newsletter.
Special Events:	# Events Held	FOPSP Open House (June 21) and 3 nature walks
	Estimated Attendance	80
	Event Descriptions: Include type of events and date held. "Events" would include annual events such as craft and other fairs, concerts, etc.	The open house promotes the Friends Group membership and activities; the nature walks are an opportunity for the public to enhance their outdoor experiences by spending time with a naturalist and learning more about the wildlife of the park.
Other Activities:	Other Activities	FOPSP participated in the Pinchot Outdoors Day (Sept. 6) and worked with park staff to help host the 9th annual Pinchotween (Oct. 18)

Estimated Attendance

500

Descriptions: Include type of activity and dates held for any activity that doesn't fall into one of the above categories. Tabling at malls or other events might be an example.

Pinchot Outdoors Day is an event with activities for wounded veterans and their families. Pinchotween is fall Halloween event with activities for the public at the Nature/Interpretive center and a trick-or-treat and costume/campsite decorating contest for registered campers at the campground.

Volunteers:

Total number of volunteers your group has had for the year.

55

Estimated volunteer service hours provided

3620.35