

# PHEASANTS FOREVER NEWS

PHEASANTS FOREVER CALGARY NEWSLETTER  
Created for our members by our members

**SPRING ISSUE**  
2025



 **CALGARY**



# 30<sup>th</sup> CALGARY *Dinner & Auction*

## CALGARY DINNER & AUCTION

**SELLING FAST!**  
*Get your tickets today!*

**Wednesday, May 7, 2025**

**Doors open at 5:00pm**

Palomino Room BMO Centre  
Stampede Park, Calgary, Alberta

### Featuring *Keynote Speaker* **Marilyn Vetter**

Marilyn Vetter became the third CEO in Pheasants Forever's history at the beginning of 2023, succeeding longtime President & CEO Howard Vincent who was appointed in 2000.

She has over twenty-five years of strategic leadership, business management, and volunteer experience. Vetter formerly served as a member of the organization's National Board of Directors since 2015, as well as leadership positions at Horizon Therapeutics, Takeda Pharmaceuticals, and Organon, Inc.

We look forward to having Marilyn at the 30th Anniversary Dinner & Auction.



ON  
SALE  
NOW

**Buy your tickets here!**

<https://www.pfcalgary.ca/2025-dinner-auction/>





# CALGARY DINNER & AUCTION

We are only a month away from our very special 30th Anniversary Dinner & Auction. We are excited to share some of the world-class adventure trips and unique auction items we have planned.

## Live Auction!

*We are especially pleased to have so many returning live auction trips and items thanks to our dedicated sponsors!*

**Buy your single, table of 8 or 10 tickets here!**

## 2025 TACOMA TRD Sport Package - Terra



- Engine: 2.4L Turbo, 278 hp & 317 lb.-ft torque
- Transmission: 8-speed automatic
- Drivetrain: Part-time 4WD for all-terrain
- Suspension: Sport-tuned for a dynamic ride
- Safety: Toyota Safety Sense 3.0 (Pre-Collision, Lane Departure Alert, Radar Cruise)
- Display: 12.3" digital gauge & 8" multimedia screen
- Connectivity: Wireless Apple CarPlay® & Android Auto™
- Cargo Bed: 6-ft with tie-down cleats
- Tailgate: Reinforced, easy-lower & lift locking
- Fuel Efficiency: 12.4L/100km city | 10.2L highway | 11.4L combined
- Payload: 770 kg (1698 lbs.)
- Towing: 6294 lbs. (2855 kg)
- Style: Rugged yet refined for any adventure
- Tech & Safety: Built for confidence & convenience

### PREMIUM ADD-ONS & ENHANCEMENTS:

- TRD 18" Alloy Wheels – Flat Black
- P265/70R18 Goodyear Wrangler Workhorse AT Tires
- Door Panel Scuff Protectors
- Roof Rack
- ARB Sports Bar
- LED Tailgate Light Bar
- Tacoma Level Kit
- TRD Cast Aluminum Running Boards
- Exhaust Tip – Black Chrome
- Tailgate Insert Black Badge – Matte Black
- Black Out Badges – Matte Black
- Lug Nuts – Matte Black
- ECP 36/80 Platinum Warranty with Maintenance Package
- Custom Katzkin Leather Package



*Celebrating 30 years!*



## More Live Auction!

### LAS VEGAS VIP EXPERIENCE!

NOT TO BE MISSED!

An amazing experience for 4 people including tickets to a Raiders home game and Westjet Vacation package!



**NEW!**

**LAS Vegas**



### LAS VEGAS VIP EXPERIENCE

As Frank Sinatra once said, "I Did It My Way" Now, it's your turn!

4X Las Vegas Raiders tickets:

The winner gets the first choice of any home game in the 2025 season.  
25+ Home Opponents - Denver Broncos, Kansas City Chiefs, Los Angeles Chargers, Dallas Cowboys, Jacksonville Jaguars, N.Y. Giants, Tennessee Titans, Cleveland Browns, Chicago Bears

WestJet VIP Vacation Package, including:

4X Round-trip flights from Calgary to Las Vegas  
2X Luxurious Hotel Rooms for one night stay on the iconic Vegas Strip  
VIP Champagne Limousine Service for transportation to and from the airport and hotel.

### Yukon Dream Fishing Trip for 2 for 3 Nights Kluane Wilderness Lodge



You and a friend will enjoy 3 nights accommodations and 3 days fishing on Yukon's Wellesley Lake. Lakers over 50 pounds will make your dreams come true. With 24 hours of sun and fishing time during June and July or the Aurora Borealis in August and September this is a true angling paradise. Includes return flight from Whitehorse to the lodge, accommodations and meals.





## More Live Auction!

### Naden Lodge Three-Days | June 24-27, 2025 All-Inclusive Salmon Trip for 10



Naden Lodge is located on the doorstep of British Columbia's best known and world renowned salmon fishing grounds on the northern coast of Graham Island, the most northern major island in the Queen Charlotte Islands (Haida Gwaii). Includes direct flight from Calgary to Village of Masset on the lodge's private aircraft. Your group will have the lodge to yourselves from June 24-27, 2025!



Naden Lodge in Haida Gwaii is a 10-person, 6-bedroom waterfront fishing lodge located on the northern end of Haida Gwaii. They offer personalized one-on-one service, many luxurious details including private aircraft service direct to the fishing lodge, first class boats, top notch cuisine, and private rooms.

## Spruce Creek Upland Club Pheasant Hunt

This hunt is a **1-day hunt for 4 people** for 60 pheasants at the venerable Spruce Creek Upland Club at Torrington, Alberta. Your party will be guided by club manager & owner of *Teal's Gundogs*, **Ashley Gee**.





## More Live Auction!

Please note: Items are represented with our best information at time of publishing.

### Zulu Nyala Photo Safari Adventure 6-Days for 2 People



This safari is for two people for six days and six nights at the eco-friendly Zulu Nyala Heritage Safari Lodge or the Zulu Nyala Tented Safari Lodge situated in the heart of South Africa's Zululand conservation region – one of the richest conservation regions in all of Africa.



### Caesar Guerini Revenant Over/Under



*The Revenant starts with a round body action famous for its graceful curves* and adds radiused side plates to further enhance the lines of the action. To further the goal of making an extraordinary firearm, Caesar Guerini turned to a world leader in fine engraving Bottega C. Giovanelli and their Director and Master engraver Dario Cortini who drew a design of **maple leaves** and branches that are both elegant and evoke a hunting theme.

### South Africa Plains Game Luxury Hunt - 4 Hunters

**This hunt is for 4 hunters for two impala and two blesbok for four hunters for six nights/seven days.** Deko Safaris is situated in the North West Province of South Africa bordering Botswana in a landscape defined by mountains and bushveld. **Experience Africa at its finest.**





## Perennial Favourites!



### 19th Annual Stavely Elks Pheasant Derby TEAM OF 6



**For 19 years, the Stavely Pheasant Derby is a sellout. Over 20 teams have waited for years in hopes of a spot.** The only way to experience this event is buying it at our Auction.  
November 14-15, 2025



### Bow Valley Ranch Wild Game Dinner for Eight



**This annual favorite is back.** Enjoy an enchanting evening at the historic Bow Valley Ranch Restaurant for eight guests, featuring a four-course wild game dinner carefully crafted by their chefs, and wine pairings by their sommelier.



### Bone Ami - Private Bahamian Beachfront Retreat

**Another annual favourite at the Dinner & Auction. Tidal flats and Cherokee Sound - home of the World record bonefish!** Includes one week's accommodation for up to eight at the Bone Ami Beachfront Retreat on Abaco, Bahamas next to acres of salt-water tidal flats.



### Low Country Boil

In Your Backyard/Home - For 20 Guests!

**Earls**

**Featuring prawns, dungeness crab, lobster, kielbasa, mussels and clams,** the low country boil is prepared in a pot of delicious southern broth with baby potatoes, onions and corn on the cob. Beer & wine included. **Donated by Earls Westhills.**



### Numzaan Hunting Safari 7-Day Hunt for Two



**Seven-day safari and lodging for 2 including all meals, beverages and laundry services.** Enjoy a magnificent view of the Waterberg mountain range from your accommodations while hunting over 200,000 acres of wild African plains game.



## More Live Auction!

### Bow River Camp Overnighter July 23-25, 2025



**The ultimate Bow River experience. This is a 2 day, 2 night trip for 2 people fishing the 55 kilometre stretch of the Bow downstream of Calgary.** No rush to be anywhere, no dinner reservations and no boat launch to reach each afternoon. This is an incredible outdoor camping experience without all the hassles. Delicious, hot meals, spacious canvas wall tents and comfy cots and plush sleeping pads.

### Infield Suite for 12 at the COWBOY RANGELAND DERBY



**That pounding of hooves and trembling of the ground can mean only one thing; the world's premier Chuckwagon event has begun!** Enjoy an evening at the Calgary Stampede with this infield suite for 12 people during the Cowboys Rangeland Derby. Includes food & beverage. Buyers may purchase up to 4 additional tickets and upgrade menu if desired. This item includes infield parking for 2 vehicles.



## More Live Auction!

### Cut & Wrapped Beef Steer

From the Famous 66 Ranch



**A mouth-watering freezer full of AAA Prime Alberta beef from 66 Ranch.**

Over 60 years ago Lee Beasley had a vision that southern Alberta could produce good quality cattle, so he raised his family in that strong ranch life resulting in 66 Ranch after the original cattle brand. **Donated by Bonanza Drilling.**

### Breaking Waves Oil Painting

by Van Ginkel

VAN GINKEL



We are pleased to have on auction, **Breaking Waves** by artist Paul Michael Joseph Van Ginkel. 40x60 oil.

### Buck Fever by Rick Taylor

Artist's Proof

A long-time friend of Pheasants Forever, Rick Taylor is one of the most renowned wildlife artists on the contemporary sculpture scene.





## More Live Auction!

### Backyard Pulcinella Pizza Party for 30!



**Celebrating our 30th Anniversary Dinner & Auction, Pulcinella is offering the Pizza Party for 30! Watch as Pulcinella makes and cooks Napoletana pizzas right in your own back yard!**

Only the most authentic ingredients go into Pulcinella pizza – from Italian double zero flour, cheeses and olive oil, to farm-fresh herbs and toppings certified to Associazione Pizzaioli Napolitani standards.



## 15th Annual Kansas Governor's Ringneck Classic November 13-16, 2025

**A guided hunt in Northwest Kansas on private land. Classic guides, dogs and handlers are among the best in all of northwest Kansas. One of the premier pheasant hunting events in North America!**



## Georgia Quail Invitational for Two January 29-31, 2026



**The Georgia Quail Invitational provides an authentic quail hunting experience with attendees visiting some of the finest quail hunting plantations and farms in the United States.**

Four-day, three-night guided quail hunting package (two hunt days) for two people (2 hunters or 1 hunter and 1 non-hunter) as part of the **Georgia Quail Invitational**. Trip includes lodging, meals, shells, event transportation while in Albany, and event banquet tickets.



## Brand NEW Experiences - Just Added!

### Ram Falls Heli-Fishing Experience



**Bring your gear and get ready for an amazing ride into Ram River for rarely fished bull trout and cutthroats!**

Pat Powell will be your helicopter pilot and guide for this experience. The trip is to and from Ram Falls starting from Springbank Airport for 2 anglers for 1 day of incredible trout fishing on the Ram River. Helicopter time, lunch and refreshments are included. *Donated by LR Helicopters.*

### Dillon Montana Guided Fly-fishing Float Trip 2 Anglers - 2 Days - 3 Nights



#### The world-renowned Beaverhead River awaits!

Join Anderson & Platt Flyfishing for a fly fishing experience to be remembered on "Blue Ribbon" streams in Southwestern Montana.



### Thunderstik's Rooster Ridge Pheasant Hunting South Dakota



**4 hunters will be lodged at Rooster Ridge in Chamberlain, South Dakota at the amazing Thunderstik.** 3 days of pheasant hunting/4 nights lodging and 4 birds per day per hunter on 7,000+ acres of private hunting land. All meals. Professional guide with the famous *Thunderstik Dogs*.



## Brand NEW Experiences - Just Added!

### Chief Mountain Great Gopher Getaway

2 Nights - 2 Days at private guest house!

At 9,080 feet, Chief Mountain stands tall on the eastern edge of the Rockies overlooking southern Alberta's native grasslands.

This gopher getaway is for 3 people at a private guest house. All you need to do is arrive. The home will be stocked with all the necessities to make it your home away from home!



### Exclusive Resorts - 7 Night Luxury Holiday

You and your guests.



EXCLUSIVE  
RESORTS



**7 nights of luxury in one of the club's amazing destinations** including Cayman Islands, Costa Rica, Lake Tahoe, Los Cabos, Real Del Mar, Scottsdale, Sea Island and Steamboat Springs, Colorado.

### RETURNING ITEM!! Sunwest Aviation Private Jet Weekend for 8 Passengers



Indulge in a **luxurious private jet weekend retreat** (Friday to Sunday) featuring up to 3 hours of flight time aboard a private eight-passenger Learjet 45. This item includes a round trip private jet charter with two nights of holding for up to 3 hours of flight time.





## PREMIUM SILENT Auction Preview!



**Browning Citori CX with Adjustable Comb**



**Grass Finished Whole Lamb**  
from Flying Heart Meats.



**Henry Nanooch Original.** One  
of a kind art piece from Henry  
Nanooch.



**Conflict Resolution**  
Another unique linocut from  
longtime supporter Carol  
Mannas.



**STAMPS HOUSE - Labour Day Classic Ticket Package**

**Package Includes:** 4 Gold Zone Game Tickets vs Edmonton, 4 Stamps House Passes and 4 Pre-game Sideline Passes.



**Bow River Guided Fishing Trip for 2** from Trout Farmer.

**Buy your single, table of 8 or 10 tickets here!**



# Exploring a “Walk-In” Private-Land Access Program



**If you’ve hunted upland birds in the U.S., undoubtedly you’ve encountered one of the “walk-in” access programs on private land that are common in many states.**

The specifics of each program vary between states, but each is built on a foundation of enrolled private landowners that agree to allow hunters walk-in access for hunting.

The benefit for hunters is increased hunting opportunities on private land; for landowners, the advantage lies in reduced phone calls and visits by hunters seeking access permission, and some form of compensation for participating in the program.

Intrigued by the possibility of introducing a similar program in Alberta, Pheasants Forever Calgary (PFC) contacted wildlife managers in seven of the states that have walk-in programs to learn how each state’s programs was delivered and managed, what was working well, and what wasn’t, and what experience has taught them that might be applicable in Alberta.

PFC also reached out to several leaders in Alberta’s conservation community to identify whether a similar program would be accepted and supported in our province.

We learned that there is general support for a program of this nature, with a common agreement on the need and value of the hunting community to building stronger relationships with private landowners.

Two recurring themes emerged from those discussions:

1. Any access program that rewards private landowners must be tied to habitat retention or improvement
2. A reliable funding source that doesn’t take away from existing conservation programs needs to be identified and secured

With the benefit of the experience offered by U.S. wildlife managers, and the initial advice of Alberta’s conservation community, now in hand, PFC’s next step will be to refine our thinking about the feasibility of a walk-in access program on private lands.

If it appears that it may be viable, and of benefit to both the hunting community and landowner’s alike, we’ll develop an initial conceptual plan for program delivery to be considered by all relevant stakeholders.

*Look for updates on this initiative as we progress in the coming months.*



# SAVE THE EDGES

## For the Birds & the Bees

VISIT [SAVETHEEDGES.CA](https://www.savetheedges.ca)



**What do pheasants, grey partridge, butterflies, bees and farmers have in common? The answer's easy—they all benefit from Pheasants Forever's [Save the Edges](#) campaign.**

[Save the Edges](#) recognized from its inception that those small strips of habitat found in public roadside ditches and undeveloped right-of-ways, when left intact, are critical for the birds and the bees! And the farmers!

**Bees, along with butterflies, are our most important pollinators, and they're under threat in Alberta.**

Science tells us that these pollinators are a vital part of a healthy ecosystem while also playing a crucial role in crop production. And good pollinator habitat is good pheasant habitat.

Research also shows that when these linear strips are maintained in native vegetation, they provide ecosystem services well beyond their value as habitat for pollinators that are critical to food and crop production, and to the birds and wildlife that we all enjoy.

Naturally-vegetated public roadside ditches and undeveloped right-of-ways also:

- Filter excess nutrients including phosphorous and nitrogen, preventing them from entering our rivers, lakes and groundwater systems.
- Minimize overland flooding by storing, slowing and absorbing excess water, helping to protect roads, culverts and agricultural fields.
- Store thousands of tons of carbon, preventing it from entering the atmosphere.
- Sustain species that prey on agricultural pests.
- Provide thousands of acres of habitat for grassland-dependent mammals and birds, including pheasants and grey partridge.

To learn more about the importance of pollinators on our landscape, and their link to pheasants, check out the latest issue of the *Pheasants Forever Journal of Upland Conservation* you receive as a Pheasants Forever member.

And watch, too, for our spring roll-out of [Save the Edges](#) ads in print and on the radio starting later this month.



The primary objective of our [Save the Edges](#) campaign is to increase awareness of trespass farming, which eliminates natural non-cropped areas, specifically in roadside ditches and undeveloped right-of-ways. When left intact, these linear strips of habitat provide a broad suite of societal benefits.

[View the infographic for all of the benefits of saving the edges.](#)

# CHINOOK CHAPTER 2025 BANQUET RECAP

Chinook Pheasants Forever's 31st banquet and fundraiser held on March 14, 2025 was a great success grossing 10% more money than in previous banquets.



The **Chinook Banquet** is Medicine Hat's premier habitat fundraising event where over 250 people were treated to an outstanding meal while bidding on great merchandise geared for the outdoor enthusiasts. Float trips on the Bow and South Saskatchewan Rivers for trout and sturgeon were offered along with a Safari to South Africa. Items displayed to bid on varied from upland hunting clothing to an amazing hand-made wooden train.

Caesar Guerini Canada once again had a table



displaying high end sporting and field shotguns for people to view, hold and dream of owning.

**The Outdoorsman**, a local sporting goods retailer, partnered again with Chinook on a playing card raffle with winners choosing items displayed on his table.

**Chinook's banquet committee** wants to thank the businesses, merchants and individuals who donated the merchandise and sponsorship dollars to make this event so great. We also want to thank our volunteers who made this evening such a success.

**Chinook Chapter Raffle  
NOW SELLING!**

Win an  
Ellipse Evo  
20ga  
Shotgun

**\$50  
400 tickets**

**CAESAR  
GUERINI**

**PHEASANTS  
forever**



**Support the Chinook Chapter  
Click for Raffle Tickets**





## PHOTOS FROM PHEASANT FEST

The 2025 *National Pheasant Fest and Quail Classic* was recently held in Kansas City, Missouri from March 7-9. It was another highly successful event with action-packed seminars, activities and vendors for the whole family. This event was sold out two months prior to the event.



President and CEO Pheasants Forever Marilyn Vetter with Perry McCormick.

**Over 30,000 people attended the trade show and convention.** Pheasant Fest 2026 takes place **February 20-22, 2026** in **Minneapolis** – book your tickets early to avoid disappointment.

[Visit Pheasant Fest](#)



Danielle Prewett seminar - check out the featured recipe in this issue.



A packed house for the Bobwhite Ball!



Chris Dorsey - keynote speaker at the Bobwhite Ball.

[Link to the Keynote Address](#)





Geared out for pheasants!



SEE MORE HIGHLIGHTS



Pheasants Forever Board Meeting during Pheasant Fest.

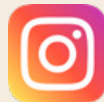


Geared out for pheasants!



## Pheasant Thighs with Apples and Rice

by Danielle Prewett



SEE THE RECIPE

Author of the *Wild + Whole* cookbook and Meateater team member.



## Perry McCormick Receives King Charles III Coronation Medal



The *King Charles III Coronation Medal* is presented to deserving individuals for their outstanding service to our province and country. This special distinction was recently presented to Perry McCormick alongside a group of other extraordinary Albertans, who have each worked tirelessly towards the betterment of our province.

Perry received the medal from Environment and Protected Areas Minister Rebecca Schulz (photo left). This is Perry's second award of this prestigious level for his contributions to conservation. He received Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee Medal in 2022.

**Congratulations Perry!**



## STAY CONNECTED

**Help conserve pheasant habitat!**  
**Annual Membership Only \$35**



**Buy Your Membership Online**

<https://www.pfcalgary.ca/membership/>



On the Wing from Pheasants Forever Inc. is your destination for conversations about upland bird hunting, wildlife habitat, public lands, bird dogs, wild game cooking and epic adventures in search of pheasants, quail and grouse. **Click to have a listen.**

# JOIN OUR INCREDIBLE GROUP OF SPONSORS

All sponsor logos will be included on pfcalgary.ca's homepage and in Pheasants Forever Calgary's quarterly e-newsletters.  
Deadline for yearly logo recognition is April 15.

## Gold Patrons

Contribution of \$25,000



## Patrons

Contribution of \$10,000



### Gold Patron - \$25,000

(\$25,000 and up)

The most prestigious sponsorship with extra large logo recognition as a **Gold Patron** at all annual events, within the printed Dinner & Auction program and powerpoint presentation during the Dinner.

### Patron - \$10,000

(\$10,000 to \$24,999)

Extra large logo recognition as a **Patron** on Patron's banner at all annual events, within the printed Dinner & Auction program and powerpoint presentation during the Dinner.



# JOIN OUR INCREDIBLE GROUP OF SPONSORS

All sponsor logos will be included on pfcalgary.ca's homepage and in Pheasants Forever Calgary's quarterly e-newsletters. Deadline for yearly logo recognition is April 15.

## Gold Sponsors

Contribution of \$5,000



### Gold - \$5,000

(\$5,000 to \$9,999)

Large logo recognition as a **Gold Sponsor** on Gold Sponsor's banner at all annual events, within the printed Dinner & Auction program and powerpoint presentation during the Dinner.

## Silver Sponsors

Contribution of \$2,500



### Silver - \$2,500

(\$2,500 to \$4,999)

Large logo recognition as a **Silver Sponsor** on a banner at all annual events and within the printed Dinner & Auction program.

## Bronze Sponsors

Contribution of \$1,000



### Bronze - \$1,000

(\$1,000 to \$2,499)

Standard logo recognition as a **Bronze Sponsor** on a banner at all annual events and within the printed Dinner & Auction program.

## Friends

Conservation Partners



# IMPORTANT DATES

## IMPORTANT DATES OF 2024

- **May 7**                      **30th Anniversary Dinner & Auction – BMO Centre - Palomino Room**
- June 3                      Board of Director's Meeting - TBD
- September 10              Board of Director's Meeting - TBD
- September 11              Auspice Director's Invitational – AHEIA Calgary Firearm Centre
- TBD                          First Pheasant Mentor Hunt – Spruce Creek Upland Club
- September 27              Youth/Novice Fall Shoot and Provincial Hunting Day – AHEIA Calgary Firearms Centre
- December 3                Board of Director's Meeting – The Ranchmen's Club



PHEASANTS FOREVER CALGARY  
P.O. Box 5021, Station "A"  
Calgary, AB T2H 1X1

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF

Scott Price - President | Bob Merkley – Vice President | Tim Pickering - Past President  
Mike Mannas – Treasurer | Grant MacKenzie - Co-Secretary | Mike Perkins – Co-Secretary | Perry McCormick – Managing Director  
Beth Barrett | Chris Kolozetti | Grant MacKenzie | Doug Ramsey | Glen Rumpel | Nick Stanford  
Terri Bass – Administration