

Sports



FROM THE PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION
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Most turkey hunters have heard of using an owl call to locate gobblers before dawn. But, while hunting during the spring turkey season, I let out a few yelps on my diaphragm call late one morning before leaving the woods and got an answer from a great horned owl perched high up in a hemlock stand. - DGP Edward J. Zindell, Wilkes-Barre.

While assigned to a hunter education camp in my district, one of the group of students I was in charge of asked me what was on the agenda for the next day. I read off a list of activities and their evening course was on game law. One student's replay was, "Game Law? What do we have to know that for?" I told him that it was better he didn't learn the hard way. - DGP Edward J. Zindell, Wilkes-Barre.

My wife, a city person, learned firsthand all about wildlife's conflict with humans. She'd been admiring the small groundhogs that were seen feeding in the yard near our fenced garden and several times stated how cute they were. Then, one day she came home to find that they had tunneled under the fence and had eaten all the beans, half the peas and all but two of the cabbage plants during that morning's attack. Yes, I got both barrels and was ordered to get them out of here! - DGP Robert W. Nolf, Conyngham.

My wife and I were recently working in the garden when I heard a familiar shriek overhead and looked up to see a red winged

blackfoot courageously attacking a cooper's hawk which evidently was clutching a nestling in her talons. My wife asked, "How can they kill little birds?" I explained that predator birds and animals have their young first and they prey on the smaller birds and animals to feed their young which is nature's way of population control. - DGP Robert W. Nolf, Conyngham.

Don Fisher and George Oberst of Sugarloaf had heard the bleating of a fawn deer for two days and were unable to find and assist it. Finally, as they stood at the edge of the woods, they heard it nearby again and looked into the field toward a woodchuck hole. Doubting it came from there, they approached and soon saw the top of the head and ears sticking out of the groundhog hole! It's shoulder was caught on a root, hair was rubbed off the head and front legs had been rubbed and cut. The men got picks and shovels and rescued the fawn which was very weak. They concluded that the fawn must have gone in one end of the hole, crawled through and got caught on the root trying to get out. Don had given the fawn milk and called me. My wife and I did the same, cleaned it up and took it to the veterinarian for an area zoo and when we left, the fawn was getting lots of tender loving care and medical attention. I guess we will never know what really happened but whatever, he at least got a second chance. - DGP Robert W. Nolf, Conyngham.

Frank Joyce!

His efforts have made a big difference

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Correspondent

While the spotlight of success draws attention to the Back Mountain Baseball All Stars advancing in competition, few fans realize the work being done, quietly behind the scenes by one volunteer - Frank Joyce of Bunker Hill, Trucksville.

Joyce, president of Back Mountain Baseball Inc., is in his second year in office. Active in the organization for the past eight years, like most of the volunteers, he has put in a lot of time coaching. He first coached the T-Ball Expos, then later took over the coaching reins of the Minor League Astros guiding them to the championship in 1981. This season he has been coaching the Yankees and two of his players, John Tinner and Chris Givens, are on the All-Star Nationals team.

As president of the organization, Joyce spends many hours of his time involved in projects which usually go unnoticed. He was instrumental in incorporating Back Mountain Baseball. Last year, he initiated the formulation of an auxiliary and this year appointed a public relations man, Robert Graver.

This year under his direction, the organization took in seven year olds and last year they took 13-year olds

into Teeners. Last year they also took in Northwest in softball and Harveys Lake Teeners boys team.

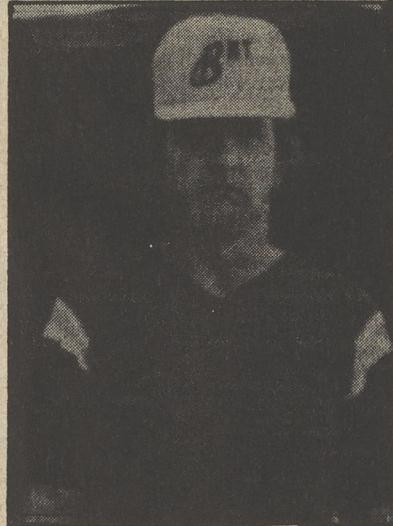
Joyce also spends hours on the phone, trying to resolve problems, aiding new volunteers and assigning duties. He handles many of the duties himself such as repairing a microphone, working on the field, getting transportation for some team members and countless other day-to-day chores.

This year, he worked at arranging the program so more kids could play. The organization went to the open draft in the Teeners Division making more Kingston Township boys eligible to play by assigning them to some of the Dallas Teeners teams.

At the beginning of the year he set up the first coaches clinic which was held at Lake-Lehman with about 65 participants. There also were umpire clinics which the organization hopes to have another one next season.

Joyce also presided over the general meetings every month and the regular board meetings, the latter of which were held bi-monthly from February through May. April, he said, was a busy month with supplies and equipment needing to be ordered, schedules to be set up and registration completed.

This season was dedicated to the late Betsy Snyder, a faithful and



FRANK JOYCE

hardworking volunteer and the teams played as though inspired. There were 10 tournament teams entered in district competition.

Joyce became involved in the Back Mountain organization through his children, two sons and a daughter. His daughter, Joan, now 16, played softball; his son, John, played on the Teeners Yankees team; and his younger son, Terrance, plays on the Major League Indians team.

Joyce, who is a service technician for Bell Telephone, was also active

in Back Mountain Baseball approximately five years. He is presently secretary of the Communication Workers of America and is running for president of the CWA.

"Baseball takes a tremendous amount of time but I enjoy it," said Joyce. "From September through February, you get a chance to slow down a little."

Nominations for next year's officers will be held at the August meeting and elections held in September.

"I have had excellent cooperation from the volunteers," said Joyce. "Our commissioners did a great job, they got a lot of work done."

Modest as he might be, there is no doubt Joyce has played an important role in keeping the organization running smoothly. The time and effort he has put in shows in the results.

This year the organization spent hundreds of dollars in erecting a new scoreboard at the field and other capital renovations to better the parking area and the field.

Joyce's wife, Joan, also helps in the stands and doing other behind-the-scenes work necessary and perhaps most important, puts up with her husband's spending many hours away from home working for the benefit of Back Mountain youth.



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