



Everyone welcome to attend—dinner, auction, giveaways, games. Call 308-352-2114 for tickets and more information.

By Jan Rahn
Managing Editor

In February 2009 Perkins County launched a newly formed Pheasants Forever Chapter with a banquet. Saturday will mark their third annual banquet—and what a successful tale they have to tell.

The Pheasants Forever banquet and auction is set to take place on Saturday, Feb. 12 at the Perkins County Fairgrounds with a meal, raffle, games, a silent auction and a live auction.

Chapter committee member Jeff Wallin, who released figures on what the chapter has accomplished, said, “The continued success of our banquets will lead to more great things from our chapter.”

Net proceeds from the banquet Saturday night will stay in Perkins County and will be put toward habitat projects that benefit area landowners and wildlife, as well as support youth mentor hunts that give area youth a chance to experience pheasant hunting.

One such hunt was held during 2010 with nine youth attending. The chapter furnished the birds, food and hunting materials for a fun, educational day with the kids and their mentors.

The chapter also sponsored a trap shoot/fun shoot last year with several participants.

During its inaugural year in 2009, the chapter hosted 13 youth for a hunt.

Since its inception the local Pheasants Forever chapter has sponsored 35 projects involving 3,780 acres in Perkins County at a cost of approximately \$15,950.

Even prior to the formation of a local chapter, Perkins County has benefited from Pheasants Forever since 1997.

A total of 100,873 acres in Perkins County have been impacted by the national organization of Pheasants Forever that has been around for 28 years.

Approximately 8,100 acres in Perkins County are enrolled in CRP-MAP each year. Nearly \$300,000 has been spent that benefits hunters and landowners in the county.

The creation of pheasant habitat through the "Corners for Wildlife" program has added 313 acres of irrigation pivot corners planted to grasses and trees to establish wildlife cover. The Natural Resource District and Natural Resource Conservation Service have aided 49 projects by planting 4,159 trees at a cost of \$64,148.

The success of Pheasants Forever in Perkins County has escalated over the past two years, with members of the organization enthusiastically looking forward to another banquet and another chance to share their experience and expertise with youth reaching the age to hunt.

Tickets for the banquet cost \$10 for adults, \$5 for Ringnecks. Kids eight and under eat free. Tickets can be purchased from Wallin prior to Saturday's event by calling 352-2114. Tickets for the gun giveaway are also on sale.

"If you love the outdoors, keep supporting us, we're a good cause," said Wallin.

About Pheasants Forever

Established in 1982, Pheasants Forever is a non-profit organization dedicated to the protection and enhancement of pheasant and other wildlife populations in North America through habitat improvement, land management, public awareness, and education.

Such efforts benefit landowners and wildlife alike. Pheasants Forever's unique system of county chapters allows 100 percent of net funds raised by its chapters to remain at the chapter level for local habitat projects.

Headquartered in St. Paul, Minn., Pheasants Forever has more than 125,000 members in over 600 local chapters across the United States and Canada.

Chapters work hard to pass along their passion for the outdoors, their land ethic and their hunting heritage. In accomplishing these goals, chapters host events such as youth mentor hunts or other activities.

Members are a diversified group of hunters, non-hunters, farmers, ranchers, landowners, conservation enthusiasts and wildlife officials.

Pheasants Forever is for those who want to make a difference for wildlife by creating habitat, restoring wetlands and protecting prairies.

Since its inception in 1982, Pheasants Forever's wildlife habitat projects have benefited more than 5.3 million acres across the continent.

In that time, Pheasants Forever has participated in over 1,000 different land acquisitions totaling over 135,000 acres.

For additional information about Pheasants Forever, please visit www.NebraskaPF.com or call Drew Larsen at 308-534-2807.

