



Evergreen Chapter KECA  
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Happy New Year!

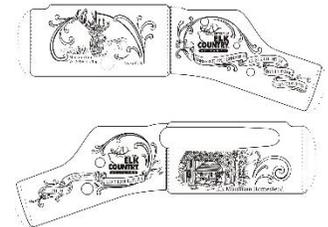
Be a part of this year's grand celebration of our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary and attend our Annual KECA Evergreen Chapter Banquet on **Saturday, March 9, 2019** at the Rustic Lodge in Indiana!

We are a Pennsylvania-based 501(c)(3) non-profit wildlife conservation organization. KECA operates the Elk Country Visitor Center located near Benezette and manages the surrounding properties to benefit the future of Elk Country. Since our inception, conservation education continues to be our organization's number one mission priority. Here are some highlights of what we've accomplished over the past few years. Since opening the Visitor Center in September 2010, KECA has welcomed over 3.1 million visitors, and the instruction staff has educated thousands of students and visitors in structured KECA programs. Our guests have enjoyed conservation education programs provided by KECA, our 4D story theater, and our new Elk Country Campus Outdoors Building.

Habitat enhancement is our second highest priority. In the last 9 years, KECA has enhanced over 3,100 acres across Pennsylvania's elk country on both public and private lands! KECA's elk tag raffles have raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for Pennsylvania's elk country. Raffle revenue helped to purchase the Kimmel Run nine-acre property, as well as complete conservation education programs and habitat enhancement projects. KECA's staff is working closely with the PA Game Commission and PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to plan additional projects for this year.

We can't do all this great work without your help, so keep the momentum going and come to our 10<sup>th</sup> Annual KECA Evergreen Chapter Banquet at the **Rustic Lodge in Indiana**. The **doors will open at 4:00 p.m.** to start the evening off with cocktails. **Dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m.** - see the enclosed application for meal choices.

During the cocktail hour and dinner, you will have the opportunity to look over the raffle and live auction merchandise as well as to participate in our silent auction (bids to close at a designated time during the evening). This year's Live Auction will have its surprises and some really great items found only at the Evergreen Banquet. One of the prized items we auction is the banquet rifle. This year is the fifth year in our 5-year series of Henry rifles with a Brass Frame Lever Action .30-30. The receiver is especially engraved on one side with the elk taken by the 2018 tag raffle winner and engraved on the other side with a scene of the Elk Mountain Homestead.



To help us plan the banquet, we are again offering **Early Bird registration** and ticket bonuses. To qualify for Early Bird status, we must receive your completed ticket application (enclosed), reservation money, and ticket money by February 9<sup>th</sup>. "Early Birds" will also be eligible to order Raffle tickets 2 for the price of 1 (\$20 minimum order and in multiples of \$20). In order to qualify for the "Top Shelf" items, you must spend \$100 or more. As an "Early Bird," you also qualify for a special gun drawing during the night of the banquet.

Thinking about becoming a **Sponsor or Life Member**? We'll make your decision "easy-peasy"! Sponsor and Life members who sign-up at our banquet are eligible to win a Kimber Micro 9 9mm with Crimson Trace laser grips. One gun winner is chosen for every five Sponsor or Life Members who make the decision to support KECA at a higher level!



To be able to enjoy the evening seated with your friends and be eligible for exclusive drawings, you have the option to **sponsor and reserve a table for 8** at the banquet. Simply complete an application for each individual/couple and send in all the applications and money for the table together. Be sure to mark and pay for the table reservation only on 1 of the applications (the \$60 is per table, not per person).

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Again this year, we have our unique Elk Calf Round Up Raffle. This is an exciting opportunity for two to accompany the elk biologist Jeremy Banfield to search for and collar a newborn elk calf in early June. We will have more details at the banquet about this once-in-a-lifetime adventure in Elk Country.

This year's **KECA 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Raffle** celebrates our founding chapter's anniversary! These great prizes celebrate in 10's. We'll draw for the following the night of our banquet:

- First prize is a Henry Lever Action .410 shotgun
- Second prize is a Ruger Limited Edition 10th Anniversary LCP
- Third prize is 10 bottles of Pennsylvania wines
- Fourth prize is a 10K gold rope 8-inch bracelet
- Fifth prize is 10 pounds of Pennsylvania chocolate
- Sixth prize is 10 crisp \$10 bills
- Seventh prize is 10 crisp \$10 bills
- Eighth prize is 5 crisp \$10 bills
- Ninth prize is 5 crisp \$10 bills
- Tenth prize is 5 crisp \$10 bills



You can order tickets for this raffle pre-banquet in the ticket application enclosed.

Returning this year is our exciting **Progressive Raffle!** A \$20 ticket gets you a chance to win a Ruger American .30-06 at our banquet. AND our chapter's winner will be entered with the rifle winners from KECA's other 15 banquets for a chance to win a companion elk hunt (1 bull and 1 cow) at Fishtail Ranch in Chama, New Mexico. That drawing will be held later in the spring. You can order tickets for this raffle pre-banquet in the ticket application enclosed.



The night of our banquet, we'll auction a **weekend stay at the Elk Mountain Homestead**. It's reserved for the weekend of October 17-20, 2019, during the elk rut season! Picture you and your friends/family enjoying the wildlife, especially elk and the spectacular views of the Allegheny Mountains in this three-bedroom farmhouse that includes: a 20' x 20' living room with fireplace and furniture; a fully equipped kitchen with a stove, refrigerator, microwave and coffee maker; and a dining room table that seats eight. The three bedrooms sleep up to 10 people. Check your calendar now and be ready to bid!



Another fun and exciting elk country experience you can bid on during our banquet is a **horse-drawn wagon ride** for up to 22 people. The scenic ride will be held at 6:30PM on September 15, 2019. Talk with your buddies about bidding on this unique ride through the picturesque grounds of the Elk Country Visitor Center.



To show our appreciation to those who purchase at least \$100 of general raffle tickets before the banquet, we'll have an **exclusive KECA cap waiting for you** when you pick up your tickets the night of the banquet (one hat per purchaser, no matter the amount of tickets purchased above \$100).

Won't you or your business consider playing a greater role in KECA's mission? You can help make our fundraising banquet even more profitable by donating an item or gift card to be used as a prize for one of our raffles. Or perhaps you would consider making a monetary donation to sponsor an auction or raffle item. Any donation will help. If interested, please contact Cathy Kimmel at 724-397-4008 or 724-397-8640. You will be recognized in our program.

Be sure to visit KECA's website: [www.ExperienceElkCountry.com](http://www.ExperienceElkCountry.com). It has lots of great information as well as a link to "like" our Facebook page to keep up with what's happening.

***Together, we have accomplished so much in 10 years. Let's keep the momentum going as we conserve and enhance Pennsylvania's Elk Country for future generations!***