

Press Release

Local Woman Featured in National Publication of the Pheasants Forever Journal

"Minnesota's Multi-Talented, Multi-Faceted Stacy Dvorak"



Stacy Dvorak leads dual lives.

By day, she's the epitome of Corporate America working at one of the nation's leading commercial real estate investment and management firms in Bloomington, Minn.

The rest of the time, Stacy Dvorak thinks, lives, and breathes the outdoors. Her idea of a perfect birthday isn't a day at the spa; it's time with family and friends at the local hunt and gun club.

When she's not hunting, shooting, or spending time training her Labrador retriever-German short-haired pointer puppy, Charlie, she's developing ideas and projects for the Scott County Pheasants Forever Chapter. The once rural farming area finds itself increasingly immersed in suburbia with skyscrapers, industrial parks, and retail strip malls forever altering its horizons.

Her love of hunting and the outdoors emerged at a young age living on her family's dairy farm in Scott County. Her Pheasants Forever involvement comes naturally – she was eight when PF National organized. Her stepfather, Jim Legg, is president and her mother, Mary, is the secretary of the SCPF Chapter.

Stacy's official titles include banquet co-chair, marketing and public relations director, youth coordinator, and community outreach coordinator.

Oh, and she helps with habitat projects and land acquisitions in between.

With Charlie's help – and Sugar, a yellow lab owned by a friend - Stacy produces "On the Back Fence, Charlie and Sugar Tigger's Ringneck Newsletter" for all chapter Ringneck members. Stacy's lab, Tobie, and Sugar started the newsletter but Charlie now fills those huge paw prints after Tobie's passing. Charlie passes on hunter safety tips to Ringneck members. "Chef" Sugar has a favorite recipe she shares. And in between, Stacy provides information and education for young chapter members.

Stacy is hopeful one of her most recent ideas takes roots throughout the country: With Stacy spearheading the way, the Scott County Chapter hosted its inaugural "Operation Upland Pheasant Hunt", an opportunity for Minnesota military personnel who returned home within the past two years to participate in a day of hunting, lunch, and sporting clays.

The hunt has always been in Stacy's mind and after teaming with Pheasants Forever's Anthony Hauk and Bob St. Pierre, the idea became a reality. One soldier heard about the hunt while en route home from a 15-month deployment in Iraq. The soldier called Stacy while on a layover in Germany. He arrived home to Minnesota in time for the hunt, participating with his two pointers and hunting for the first time since going overseas.

"It's exceeded my expectations...to hear how thankful these guys are that someone will do something like this for them..." she said.

Stacy encourages other chapter to conduct similar events for returning service members. Even if it's not on the scale of Operation Upland Pheasant Hunt, she said just the opportunity to have someone invite them to go hunting can be meaningful, "It's a circle, they're so appreciative, yet it's a thank you for them," Stacy said.

Another project involves developing the Scott County Chapter's Web site, which Stacy views as an opportunity to spread the word about chapter projects and programs as well as the Pheasant Forever mission and model.

Stacy isn't one to be shy about her love of hunting and the outdoors. She believes it's through education and talking openly about hunting and conservation that other non-hunters – and perhaps even anti-hunters – gain an understanding of the import role hunting and firearms play in this country by creating and improving habitat for all species.

"As a hunter, I'm hoping you'll be involved with habitat and conservation. It's a life cycle; it's not just about taking an animal. Educate people about hunting and guns. It's hunting, habitat, and conservation. You are a true hunter if you act on all of these things."
Scott County Chapter's Stacy Dvorak acts on all of those things – and more.

Article written by Pat Stockdill - Garrison ND