

Rural Lifestyle Alliance Update

February, 2019

During the past calendar year RLA met with more than 80 Congressional Representatives in our efforts to delay or defeat the PACE Act (an act which will make it unlawful for someone to ship Gamefowl to the US Territories for the purpose of sponsoring or exhibiting fowl at a cockfight there). That this new Law will eradicate many thousands of jobs in those territories as well as have a chilling effect on tourism there is unquestioned.

Unfortunately despite many hours of work, myriad meetings with legislators and promises from some members of leadership we were not successful. The Farm Bill (HR2) with PACE in it passed both houses and was signed into law in late December 2018.

While this is a setback it also has revealed how much the Territories are committed to Justice for their people. On January 29 this year a crowd estimated at some 15,000 aficionados marched to protest in San Juan and more than \$200,000 was raised to seek that the law be declared invalid. As the other Territories join hands to overcome the injustice that has been done to them a formidable coalition may form very shortly. If there is any way RLA can assist, we will.

Also over the past year RLA managed its financial resources more favorably than previously to the extent that we met our Budget for the year and still managed to “bank” some funds for our continuing work. With an organization that can only exist by donations this is a significant achievement indeed.

It will be well going forward that everyone understand that the vigilante-type activities we have seen against all aspects of animal agriculture began many years ago when the opportunists in the HSUS and ASPCA recognized the financial value of Bambi. And these attacks are growing ever more aggressive against small farm owners. Not just Game fowl and Greyhounds or even Elephants and Circuses. Animal Welfare DOES have a place in Society but the people that are perpetrating the outrageous and unconstitutional acts we now see are only interested in ONE thing....and it is NOT “animal welfare”.

Knowing this salient fact, RLA simply MUST keep contending with these opportunists, these hypocrites posing as compassionate “rescuers”. Through the coming years we will try in the hopes that those who are threatened will come to know that **everyone** is threatened when an organization yields itself to gestapo-like raids and terror tactics. We are small but growing and we need your help.

Please address any contribution to “RLA, 1855 Chrisman Lane, Danville, KY 40422 Attn: Jerry Leber

Don Perdue

CEO, Rural Lifestyle Alliance

2/2/19