

Washington Waterfowl Assoc.

HUNTERS FOR CONSERVATION

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February 12, 2013



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Letter from the President



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Tri-Cities Chapter

Chair Tracy Miles (509) 727-2942

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Chair Scott O'Day (360) 966-4112

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Chair Abel Cortina (509) 786-9196

First off, I want to thank our very good friends at **Wholesale Sports in Federal Way** for their generous donation of a Mossberg Model 935 to the SW Chapter for their annual raffle fundraiser. Many thanks to Hunting Department Manager and long-time **WWA** Member, **Ken Ehreth** and Store Manager, **John Powell**, not only for the Mossberg but also for allowing **WWA** to display one of our State Duck Stamp Prints to the public in the hopes of further fundraising. Please stop by and make sure to thank them if you're in the neighborhood.

While I'm on the topic, there are still tickets available for the SW Chapter raffle, the prizes include the aforementioned Mossberg 935, 3.5" capable 12 gauge, a 2012-2013 Washington State Duck Stamp Print with a great custom matte & frame, and a very nice Salmon fishing outfit with Okuma reel! Also, on the back of the raffle ticket is a 10% discount coupon for Wholesale Sports!! Contact Terry Satre at (253) 845-2398 for tickets.

Have you "re-upped" your **WWA** membership yet??

One of the big challenges we face each year is membership 'churn' we gain some members and we lose some members. There are a few good reasons for churn... people move from the state, pass away but the bottom line is we at the **WWA** can't afford to lose our members.

The fact of the matter is that a) the **WWA** is a worthwhile and growing organization (with 12 chapters around the state!). IF you have any questions about the worthwhile endeavors of the **WWA**, go to the back page of this newsletter and read through the list of our activities. NO other organization does as much to help waterfowl and promote waterfowling in Washington. If that doesn't convince you to re-up, call me — **(206) 612-8772**

Next, it is time for YOU to bring a new member into the **WWA**; 2013 can be the year when the **WWA** goes over 1,000 members for the first time. Further, we need members of all ages and genders to both pass-on and inherit our hunting

(Continued on page 2)

EVENTS CALENDAR

(See Page One for Contact Phone Numbers)

- Tuesday, Feb. 12** Northwest Chapter Meeting;
7 p.m. @ Conway Fire Hall.
Contact Rone Brewer.
- Tuesday, Feb. 26** Southwest Chapter Meeting;
7 p.m. @ Tacoma Sportsman's Club.
Contact Terry Satre.
- Wednesday, Feb. 27** Seattle Chapter Meeting; 7 p.m. @
Kenmore Gun Club, in Bothell.
Contact John Arrabito.
- Thursday, Feb. 28** Lower Columbia Chapter Meeting
7 p.m. @ Vancouver Trap Club.
Contact Rick Scott.
- Saturday, Mar. 2** Olympic Peninsula Chapter Meeting;
HJ Carroll Park, 9884 Rhody Drive,
Chimacum, WA 98325. 10 a.m.
Contact Don Brickey.
- Tuesday, Mar. 5** Whatcom County Chapter Meeting
5-7 p.m. @ Tenant Lake Interpretive
Center, Ferndale. Contact Scott O'Day.
- Wednesday, Mar. 6** Kitsap Peninsula Chapter Meeting
6-8 p.m. @ Bremerton Trap & Skeet
Club. Contact Richard Bazzell
- Thursday, Mar. 7** Grays Harbor Chapter Meeting.
7 p.m. @ Evergreen Sportmen's Club,
near Littlerock. Contact Kurt Snyder
- Thursday, Mar. 7** WWA Corp Board of Directors Meeting
6:30 p.m., @ Canyon Park Denny's or
Wild Fin in Issaquah (Gilman Village)
All members always welcome.
- Monday, Mar. 11** Tri Cities Chapter Meeting;
7 p.m. @ Benton County PUD
Auditorium at the corner of 10th Ave.
and HWY 395 in Kennewick, WA.
Contact Tracy Miles.
- Tuesday, Mar. 12** Northwest Chapter Meeting;
7 p.m. @ Conway Fire Hall.
Contact Rone Brewer.
- Thursday, Mar. 14** Yakima Valley Chapter Meeting; 6:30
p.m., @ Café Villa in Prosser.
Contact Abel Cortina.
- Saturday, Mar. 16** All Chapter Meeting
Location & Time To Be Announced
Contact Jim Cortines.
- Saturday, May 4** WWA sponsored 39th Northwest
Decoy Show; 10 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Bellevue Coast Hotel, 625 - 116th Ave
NE, Bellevue; See Flyer on Page 13.
Contact Brett Stark: 206.963.8800

(Continued from page 1)

heritage; sign-up your grandkids, grandmas, your brothers and sisters and neighbors! We still have chapters we hope to form in the future. We need leaders who understand that hunting and fishing and experiencing the outdoors is a foundation of a respect for nature and for life as it should be.

We are not going to have a big membership drive this year like we have had the past couple years. It's up to you.

We have the annual **WWA All-Chapter** meeting coming up on March 16th. Chapter officers are invited, and I ask you to give them some input for topics to be covered. This is **THE MEETING** where we try to set some direction for the overall organization for the coming year and respond to member suggestions and concerns. Place and time of the meeting has yet to be confirmed, but will be timely sent out to all Chapter Chairman around the state.

The State Duck Stamp and Print are available and for sale by WWA. If you have yet to see one, get a hold of one of the Board members or your Chapter Chairmen for a viewing at a forthcoming chapter meeting. I really do believe it is a great piece of art. The depth of field on the beach with Mt. Baker in the background just seem to make the Brant jump off the paper. And your purchase of these stamps and prints helps to directly fund waterfowl and migratory bird conservation.

Lastly, if you have any suggestions that would help the **WWA** grow and improve, I'd be glad to hear from you at: wawtrfwlr@comcast.net.

For the Resource,

Jim Cortines

Saturday, May 11 WA Brant Foundation sponsored Puget Sound Open Decoy Contest; 10 a.m., Holiday Sports, Burlington, WA
Contact Kurt Benson, 425.231-6497

Saturday, May 11 National Duck Dog Challenge
Cascade Hunting Retriever Club
15930 SR 2, Snohomish, WA 98290
See Flyer on Page 14.
Contact Don West: 206.786.2714
www.nationalduckdogchallenge.com

Sat./Sun., June 29-30 12 Annual Oregon Waterfowl Festival
Columbia Fair Grounds; St. Helens, OR
See Flyer on Page 15.
www.oregonwaterfowlfestival.com

Projects and Programs

Island County No Shooting Zone Petition Ordinance

We have heard no new word on this ordinance.

Thurston County Marine Shoreline No Shooting Zone Ordinance

No word on this ordinance

Expect more no shooting/hunting ordinances to pop up in Thurston County.



Duck Stamp Program

(Statewide)

State duck stamps and prints now available from WWA.

Contact Doug Graef if you are interested in helping WWA with this great program: (425) 883-1150

Willapa National Wildlife Refuge and Eelgrass

(Pacific County)

We have not received the detailed waterfowl count data from the **US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)**. Still waiting. The **Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife (WDFW)** finished up its waterfowl counts for the year at Willapa Bay and **WWA** met with **WDFW** to discuss use of the data. There were a lot of ducks in Willapa Bay this past year compared to the 1982 to 2002 period, and most of the ducks were wigeon. Eelgrass is coming back after years of Spartina spraying with Imazapyr, and we don't think it has stabilized yet within the bay. Thus, **WWA** will be helping **WDFW** to determine what eelgrass data is available, and possibly in gathering new data on eelgrass presence and density. **WWA** is working toward an acreage limit on the spraying of eelgrass with the erbicide Imazamox on commercial clam beds.

Willapa Refuge Porter Unit Dikes are scheduled for removal on the next unit this summer.

In regard to Willapa Refuge dike removal, **WWA's** complaint to the **Office of the Inspector General (OIG)** to review the **Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP)** public hearing process was downplayed by the **OIG**, sent to the **USFWS** for a response, then that response was filed away by the **USFWS**. After waiting for a reply from the **OIG** on **OUR** original complaint, **WWA** finally contacted the **OIG** to find out what had become of the complaint. They replied that if we wanted to get the results of **OUR** complaint, we would have to file a **Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)** request and pay \$100. We have done so, and await the results.

Leque Island

(Snohomish/Island County)

The **DU/WDFW** groundwater study is complete and it shows that groundwater from a "restored" Leque Island (that is, with the dikes removed) will flow from Leque Island toward Camano Island into the dedicated sole source drinking water aquifer. The model predicts the Leque Island groundwater would meet groundwater flowing out from under Camano Island at the base of the bluff, and then all the groundwater would exit the site via the drainage ditches. Thus, the conclusions of the groundwater study were that even though salt-infused groundwater would flow into the sole source drinking water aquifer, it would not flow far enough west to reach current drinking water wells. However there was no mention of the potential for future drinking water wells closer to the bluff, and there were some other shortcomings in the model/report. **WWA** spent 60 hours and provided 19 pages of comments on the groundwater study. **Juniper Beach Water District** is also reviewing the study. We all meet with the **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency** on February 14th to discuss the groundwater study and the comments.

Projects and Programs - Continued

Heritage Lands

(Statewide)

Want to preserve some farmland for waterfowl and hunting into the future? Imagine thousands of acres of farmland statewide, managed for farming and public access, by a hunter's non-profit Organization, all paying for itself.

It's called Heritage Lands

WWA wants to use **private dollars**, to establish this program, then after established, not only will it will pay for itself, as it grows it will pay for its own expansion. Why private dollars? Because most of the available public grant money comes with requirements for restoration. We are trying to save the farmland! **A waterfowl hunting access program that pays for itself, managed by waterfowl hunters and farmers!** It is a powerful match up.

You can invest in the future of hunting in our state at WWW.WADUCK.ORG

Youth Hunting/Shooting Programs

(Statewide)

The **WWA Northwest Chapter** is looking to develop a small network of individuals and private blinds to help make our youth waterfowl hunts a multi-outing annual success. Let us know if you can help (nwducks@frontier.com).

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Lower Columbia Chapter News

By Doug Hargin

Our first meeting of the New Year on January 31st was productive and well attended. Many rounds of trap were shot. We enjoyed a fantastic standing roast prepared by **Arlan Hackett**, and **Rick Scott's** baked potatoes. With 25 members in attendance we covered a number of topics relevant to what is shaping up to a very busy and productive 2013.

Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge Work Party

Please join us on Saturday February 23rd at 8:00 AM for our annual clean up and shut down of the hunt area at Ridgefield. We will muster at the hunter check station promptly at 8:00AM. Bring your chest waders, gloves, buckets, siphons and square end shovels. Lunch will be provided.

NW Sportsmen's Show Booth

By the time you read this the **2013 NW Sportsmen's Show in Portland, OR** will have come and gone. Due to the newsletter deadline we will give a report on how it went next month. We will also have our **WWA** booth at the annual **Spring Sportsman's Show** at **Bob's Sporting Goods** in Longview on March 9 & 10th. Sign up to volunteer.

Wood Duck Box Maintenance

We can use your help opening wood duck boxes and cleaning and refreshing those not done this last fall. We have a number of boxes placed by our chapter as well as dozens already in place by the **WDFW**. Please contact **Arlan Hackett** if you can help at aghackett@aol.com

Shillapoo Wildlife Area Dike Breach on Hold?

Al O'Connor has been diligently making our case for opposition to this potential project to breach the **Columbia River** dike into the **Shillapoo Wildlife Area** for juvenile salmon habitat. **Al** has communicated with **Shari Hildreth** in Congresswoman **Jaime Herrera Beutler's** office and the **Army Corp of Engineers** who would lead the project. The message from **Shari Hildreth** is that the project will not go forward at **Shillapoo**. Wildlife Area Manager **Darren Hauswald** has not received that indication yet from the **Corps**. We are hopeful it is dead but wait for confirmation with the **WDFW**.

New Gun Raffle

We have a new gun to raffle for the **Sportsmen's Show** but encourage our members to get in on the opportunity also. A Remington 11-87 Super Magnum Waterfowl 12 gauge shot gun in Mossy Oak Duck Blind Camo. It will fire 3.5" shells and has a 28" barrel with three chokes.



Memories From the Season. **WWA Member Doug Hargin** and his puppy **Riley** having one fine day.

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Yakima Valley Chapter News

By Abel Cortina

Yakima Valley Chapter Meeting

The Yakima Valley Chapter is meeting on the 2nd Thursday of each month at the Café Villa in Prosser. Meetings start at 6:30 p.m. We will

The **Yakima Valley Chapter** is meeting on the 2nd Thursday of each month at the **Cafe Villa** in Prosser. Meetings start at 6:30 pm. We will discuss up and coming projects for this year to include banding of Waterfowl, blind cleanup (in March) as well as finally building a handicap blind.

Thanks for the Support at the World Championships

I would like to thank everyone who supported me on my Thanksgiving week trip to Stuggart, Arkansas last year for the **World Duck Calling Championships**.

I would like to thank the **WWA** board of directors for approving the prize money to help cover expenses.

A special thanks go out to **Chick Chaser Farms** out of Richland, WA for their \$500.00 dollar donation to the **WWA Yakima Valley Chapter** to use for expenses at the contest. Thank you **Chad Cottrell and Tiffany Mullen** for your generous contributions as well.

Whatcom Chapter News

By Scott O' Day

Whatcom Chapter Meeting

The Whatcom County Chapter Meets the first Tuesday of each month, 7 pm. @ Tenant Lake Interpretive Center near Ferndale. Join us if you can.

OLD SKAGIT GUN CLUB
 14933 Josh-Wilson Rd
 Burlington WA 98233
 (360) 757-4326



Dane Widen
 (360) 424-9234
 dw687eell@msn.com

Spokane Chapter News

Hey there all you **Spokane duck hunters**...we need someone to step up and manage the Spokane Chapter and carry on all the good things **Thor Ostrom** had started there.

Chairman wanted!

Moses Lake Chapter News

By Dick Price

Rosann Green, Jeff Waltz, Bruce Feagan, Robin Hickok, and Rich Finger's wife, Mel prepared 9,000 basin wildrye tubelings on January 17th. **WWA's** cut from the cooperative effort with BFI is \$2,000 (\$1,200 street value). BFI will grow them out in exchange for the 7,000 tubelings that volunteers prepared for them. The project took about 3 hours with 6 people. They will be ready in about 10 weeks.

The plan is to plant our share around the Winchester Blinds. Maybe we could build Frenchmen Blinds and install grasses there at same time. Anyway, if you have any other ideas on where to put them let me know.

Nest Tubes/Wood Duck boxes

We will need to try and do the maintenance of the tubes and boxes in the **North Potholes Reserve** before it is closed on March 15th. Once the ice has cleared I'll send out an e-mail to let you know when we'll try and service them.

We also need to service the tubes and boxes that are in the **Frenchman ponds** and the tubes located in the **Winchester Reserve**. They have not been serviced for a couple years now. I'll send out an e-mail to cover that activity also.

ALEA (Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account) Grant Project

We still need to put down the fabric mulch around the shrubs we planted last fall once the ground thaws, and we can get the ground around the shrubs rototilled so the fabric can be laid. More on this later.

Renew your membership if it has expired!!

Contact me at (509) 762-9027 or dickprice@nctv.com

Grays Harbor Chapter News

By Kurt Snyder

Hi all.

I hope you all had a fun, safe and successful hunting season. As of this writing our Chapter has not had our first meeting of the year, but here are some of the things we will be planning.

We have secured three more locations for our **Wood Duck nest boxes** and should have several up and ready for occupation the third weekend of February. We will be replacing the last three boxes on **Scatter Creek** and hopefully will have our **Mallard nesting tubes** installed there as well.

We plan to start our work parties at the **Chehalis Wildlife Area near Elma** and may put up some nesting boxes near there on some private property. I'm waiting on permission from the land owners.

Junior Duck Stamp Program

Something I would like to do if we can generate some interest is get involved with the **Junior Duck Stamp Program and Contest** along with the **USFWS** at Nisqually. It would be a shame if this program went away because of non-support. The **Junior Duck Stamp** has become a collectors item and provides incentive and awards to the students that are learning about wetland habitat and the waterfowl that use them. All members of the **WWA** are invited to participate in this program, so if it is something you think you would like to do, get with me and we can make it happen. If we don't get support for this it will probably go away as soon as this year.

Youth Shoot News

We will be hosting our second Youth shooting event at the **Evergreen Sportsman's Club** this September. We expect more kids at this event than last year so if you know anyone that wants to donate to the program have them contact me or let me know who they are and I will come-a-

calling. One of the things we need is inexpensive duck calls to give to every youth that participates.

Thanks to The Jochimsen Fund for the Donation to Youth

We just received a huge donation of **One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000)** from a couple from Texas that I took sea duck hunting last December. The gentleman shot a VERY nice Longtail for his collection and he and his wife were happy to donate the money for our youth program!

More Huge Thank You's

The following photos are of two hunts that were donated to the **WWA** by member **Jon McAninch** of the **Cedarville Farms Waterfowl Club**. The hunts were raffled and sold as fundraisers for our efforts. We can't thank **Jon** enough for these generous donations! It goes to show how giving waterfowlers are to the resource!



The first is member **Mike Nesbitt** and **Matt Gillham**, Grays Harbor Chapter raffle winners. They hunted on **Cedarville Club** property with trade guns and in traditional historic garb! These are flintlock shotguns!!! They got a lot of shooting and bagged a couple of very nice Ringnecks. A/K/A Ringbills, they come in jet fast and are a challenge

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for modern shotguns, so hats off to **Mike and Matt!** It was a fun and successful hunt!



This second photograph includes members **WWA** members **Dick Jensen** (left), **Norm Westby** (right) and yours truly with a limit of cacklers and lessers. The geese came in by the droves, making for a very fun, highly successful and relatively short hunt — it was all over by 9:30 a.m.!!! A truly awesome hunt!

Thank you all for being involved with the **WWA**. We cannot do what we do effectively without you! Also I would like to welcome all the new members!

Feel free to contact me with anything waterfowl at: kurtsnyder@outdrs.net

For the resource and the future,
Kurt Snyder
360-485-9353

Tri-Cities Chapter News

By Tracy Miles

The **Tri-City Chapter** meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at the Benton County PUD building in Kennewick. Our next meeting will be at 6 pm on March 11.

On A Sad/Happy note **Zack Watts**, our treasurer, has stepped down to follow a career opportunity as a lineman for a public utility, and will be out of the area for a extended period of time. We wish him the best and thank him for his continued support. He assured me even when he's gone he will still be right here with us — one of our brothers, and always will be. **Zack** see you when we can hunt together again. I will always have an open spot for you since you have your own blind now.

Steve Loreng was elected as our new treasurer at the request of **Zack** and seconded by almost the entire chapter. **Steve** glad you accepted the responsibility.



Points of Contact

We have started to delegate some Points Of Contact (POC) in the Tri- City

Chapter. **Steve Loreng** is now the POC for the **WDFW**, and has recently submitted a Duck Stamp Grant



proposal for a **WDFW** project/chapter project more info forthcoming if approved. Thanks to the "retired" **Rocky Ross**, and **Steve** for your help making this happen.

Brook Newell is now the POC for public speakers at our meetings, thanks **Brook** for volunteering.

Work Parties

The Tri City Chapter did a **clean-up project** the weekend of **Feb 2nd and 3rd** on public ground along the Columbia River. [See photos above]. The **Friends of the McNary Refuge** cleanup is scheduled for the weekend of Feb 23rd, according to **Lamont Glass**, **Refuge Manager** at the **McNary National Wildlife Refuge**. **WWA** will have access to the otherwise closed refuge for the purpose of blind cleanup. Thanks to **Lamont** for the help.

On Saturday February 2nd we cleaned up the **Hov-er Park Area**, and took a pretty good haul. However on Sunday the 3rd we went to **Crescent Island** and the **Peninsula Area** where we found the **mother load of garbage**. Our Chapter's total haul for the weekend was **1,157**

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a successful haul for our efforts, but a sad commentary on the "slob" hunters on public land who put us all in a bad light, unless we do something about it like cleaning up after them.

Some special thanks need to be given to **Chapter members, Joe Hansen, Joe Sundal, Larry Stacy, Steve Loreng and Curtis Kimbell** for your efforts.

We also need to extend thanks to **BDI Transfer**, for allowing us to dump our "treasures" for free, and then thank us for what we are doing for habitat and conservation.

Chuck at BDI Transfer: You and your guys are a class act.

Kitsap Peninsula Chapter News

By Richard Bazzell

This will be Kitsap Peninsula's first full year as a Chapter with **WWA**. Despite starting late in 2012, the group finished strong with the help of other Chapters across the region. At our first **Chapter meeting** for 2013, it will be a priority for Kitsap to plan for the year and provide opportunities for members to take lead on various projects. So bring your ideas.

Our meeting will be Wednesday, March 6th at the Bremerton Trap & Skeet Club, 6-7p.m. Each Chapter meeting throughout the off season will be followed by a range night provided by **Kitsap Ducks Unlimited**, shooting hours will be from 6 – 9:30p.m. **Future meetings will take place the 1st Wednesday of each month.**

Please call or email Richard Bazzell at rlbazzell@yahoo.com or 360-509-7900 for further details.

Also, be sure to check us out on **Facebook at Kitsap Peninsula Waterfowlers** for meeting agendas and updates. Hope to see you there.

Olympic Peninsula Chapter News

By Don Brickey

Well folks, we held our end of the season meeting at the **Chimacum Grange**, attended by new members, **Ken McMillan** from **Oak Bay**; **Tim Adams** from **Port Angeles**; second year member **Charlie Cox** of **Port Townsend** and myself.

As previously advised on our **Facebook Page [Jeffco Duck Hunting]** we discussed the past season's successes and the goals for future hunting seasons. Topics Discussed:

- How to get more members to the meetings. **Ken** suggested meeting at the **Valley Tavern**. I agree let's try it;
- Memberships roll in keeping the progress we have made going;
- Recycling activities, all members a can contribute to our treasury by taking your recyclable metals to **Peninsula Recycle** and having it added to the Chapters account instead of giving it to the county;
- Blinds design and locations created by members.
 1. Rodger Shorts Farm, is WDFW going to lease the whole farm and if so what kind of blinds will we build and where will be locate them?

I have to report that our Chapter bank account is almost empty, and that we really need members to participate in the recycle plan (set forth above) to build up our Chapter funds. The Aluminum can plan is a simple passive way of converting your trash into Chapter cash. Additionally, junk runs with trailer loads of washing machines, dryers and other metal crap can really help us help ourselves.

Call to Action

Lastly Chapter apathy is rampant among our ranks and this needs to change. I will be calling members personally to see what the problem is. To those of you who have contributed time, money and sweat to the effort, Thank You! To the free loaders who just want to hunt without making any contribution, WAKE UP! This waterfowl hunting heritage you enjoy literally in your backyards will be pushed into extinction unless YOU CONTRIBUTE!

I will be stepping down as Chair of the Chapter and if by the lack of will, no one stands up to take over, I will close the Chapter and send what remains of our Chapter bank account back to the WWA Board of Directors.

I will remain a **WWA** member and continue to hunt on my private lease hunting grounds, but you, for lack of commitment may lose your chance to hunt Indian Island. This because apparently no one can write a simple email to **WDFW District Biologist, Jeff Skriletz**, [Jeffrey.Skriletz@dfw.wa.gov] in support of his effort on your behalf, to reclaim public access for Washington duck and goose hunters to **Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR)** marine hunting opportunities.

Opportunity met by preparation creates success. Let's plan, participate and produce a better season. If you have any question regarding any of the above (hopefully, how to help out) call me 360 301 3380.

Northwest Chapter News

By Rone Brewer

NW Chapter Meetings

The **Northwest Chapter** meets the second Tuesday of each month, 7 pm at the **Conway Fire Hall**.

Samish Unit

We are working with the **WDFW** in an attempt to reduce some of the overcrowding at the **Samish Unit**. We'll be meeting with **WDFW Enforcement** and **Skagit Wildlife Area** folks to try to figure out what might work.

Some Possible Solutions

We may be installing some blinds on the ponds this year. Other possibilities include limiting the parking to a number of vehicles that would hopefully limit the number of hunters at any given time. An odd/even weekend morning system is another option similar to that used for pheasant hunting on the west side. If you have some input, let me know at nwducks@frontier.com.

Calling Lessons

We have provided some calls and supporting materials for Member **Nick Handley** to provide duck calling and outdoor instruction for 2nd through 6th graders from **Clear Lake Elementary**. Thanks **Nick**.

Black Cloud Shotshells — From Behind the Gun

Last month I mistakenly said the 20 gauge Black Cloud shells only came in #4 and #6 shot. Thanks to Jan Sabin, I got to try some Black Cloud #2 shot. Overall this season, I found that the #4 shot was indeed very deadly within 30 to 35 yards and the #2 shot was effective out farther, but I'll need some more testing with the #2 shot to make any solid conclusions on its performance.

However, be fore warned, if you are used to 1550 fps muzzle velocity, it may take some time to get your lead right with the 1300 fps Black Cloud, especially for longer shots. I still really wish they made them in 20 gauge #3 shot though! Next year I hope to test out Winchester Blindside shells for 20 gauge.

State Calling Contest at Cabela's Lacey

Watch for the state sanctioned duck calling contest to be held at Cabela's Lacey in July or August of this year. Let us know if you would like to help out.

Keep on Keepin' On
Rone
206-595-7481

Southwest Chapter News

By Terry Satre

Southwest Chapter Meeting

Our next meeting will be February 26th at **Tacoma Sportsman's Club (TSC)** on Canyon road. Meeting is at 7:00 pm in the Hunter Education building. Come early and eat or shoot trap. Remember if you show your **WWA ID**, you will get **TSC** member pricing when shooting trap or skeet.

Seattle Chapter News

By John Arrabito

Seattle Chapter Meetings

Just to clarify for some members who missed last month's meeting by showing up on January 30th— The Seattle Chapter meets the **4th (which is not necessarily the last) Wednesday** of each month from January thru October, at the **Kenmore Shotgun Range**, 1031 – 228th Street SW, in Bothell. Trap and 5-stand shooting is open all afternoon, followed by a catered dinner [\$9.50] at 7 p.m., followed by a short business meeting; and usually followed by program.

Program - History of Decoy Carving and Collecting

In anticipation of the **39th Annual NW Decoy Show** to be held in Bellevue on May 4th at the **Bellevue Coast Hotel**, [See Flyer on Page 13], **WWA-Seattle Chapter** member and **NW Decoy Show** originator, **Brett Stark**, will put on a power point presentation at our February 27th meeting on the history of waterfowl decoy carving and collecting.

Brett recently returned from Minneapolis where he observed the No. 3 rated Decoy Collection in the country consisting of many decoys in the \$500K+ range. Want to see a what a \$1.13 million decoy looks like? Be sure to attend the meeting.

In addition, **Brett** invites all **WWA** members to bring in their Hunting and Fishing Collectibles and he will give them a "free" appraisal (decoys, gun advertising, shell boxes, calendars, etc...). Unfortunately he is not qualified to give appraisals on firearms. If you can stump him, he will photograph the item and get back to you with responses from experts.

Upcoming Work Parties

WWA-Seattle will be teaming with the only **Delta Waterfowl** Chapter in the state, to construct and place some new Wood Duck Boxes. In addition, we as a Chapter need to schedule the refurbishing of existing boxes in both nearby urban and rural settings, so bring your calendars.

(Continued on Page 12)

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News for the Flock

TREASURERS. REPORT (2-7-2013)

Corporate Checking	\$ 19,221.05
Chapter (LC, ML & SEA)	
Trust Monies for Goose	
Satellite Transmitters	
For WDFW	\$ 8,250.00
Corporate C.D.	\$ 17,533.54
Corporate Total	\$ 45,417.09

CHAPTER FINANCES

GH Checking	\$ 1,315.71
Kitsap Chapter	(To Be Funded)
LC Checking	\$ 16,292.36
ML Checking	\$ 10,459.42
NW Checking	\$ 3,518.51
OP Checking	\$ 320.00
SEA Checking	\$ 36,092.61
SEA CD Amount	\$ 9,730.32
SEA Robert Hickok Fund	\$ 1,316.21
SPO Checking	\$ 170.50
SW Checking	\$ 3,282.65
Tri-Cities Checking	\$ 300.00
WH Checking	\$ 7,175.34
YV Checking	\$ 3,426.33



Brett and Katie Stark refurbishing a Wood Duck Nest Box on January 26th.

Seattle Chapter News
(Continued from Page 10)
More about the Decoy Show

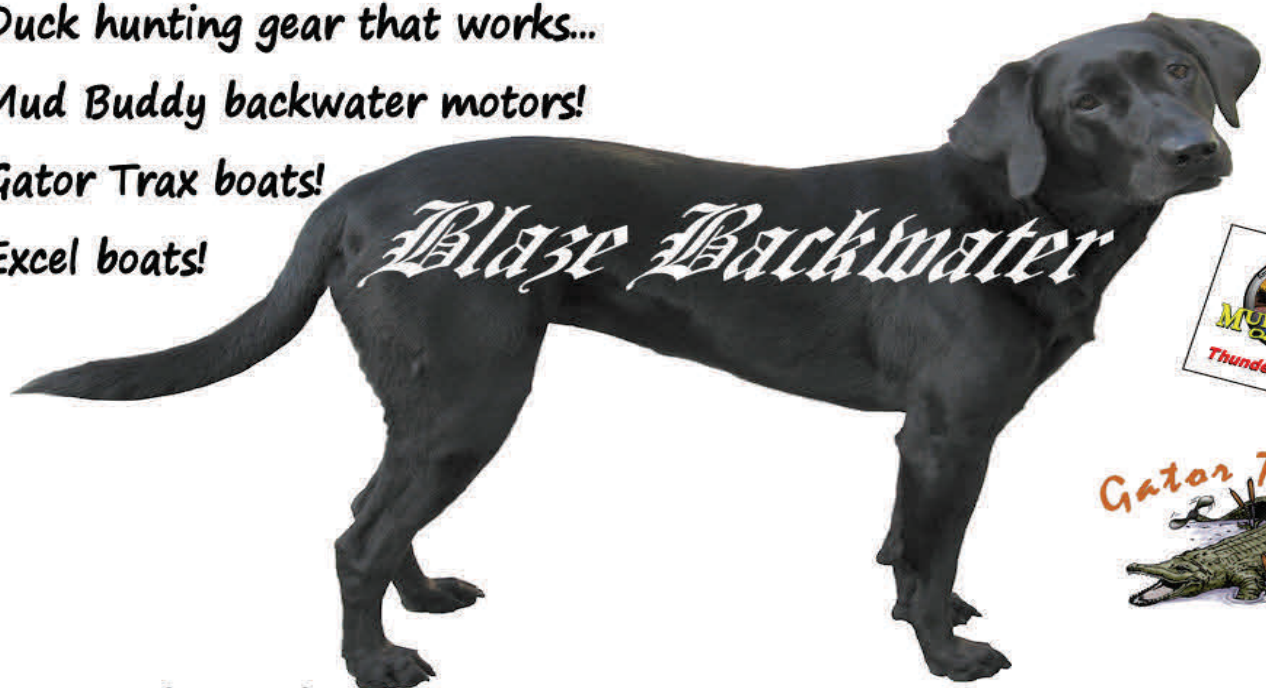
There will be some 50 tables full of more than 1,500 decoys on display with many fine examples of past and present carvers from **Washington, Oregon,** and the western **U.S.** and the **Canadian Provinces,** including **WWA** carvers, **Jack Westerfield** of the **SW Chapter,** and **Brad Forgey** of the **Spokane Chapter.** **Ken Packard** of the **NW Chapter** is also usually in attendance at this Show displaying and marketing some of his extensive waterfowl and shorebird decoy collections.

WWA-Seattle will also have it's duck mount booth at the Show.

Admission is free and open to the public

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News for the Flock

39th Northwest Decoy Show Bellevue, Washington

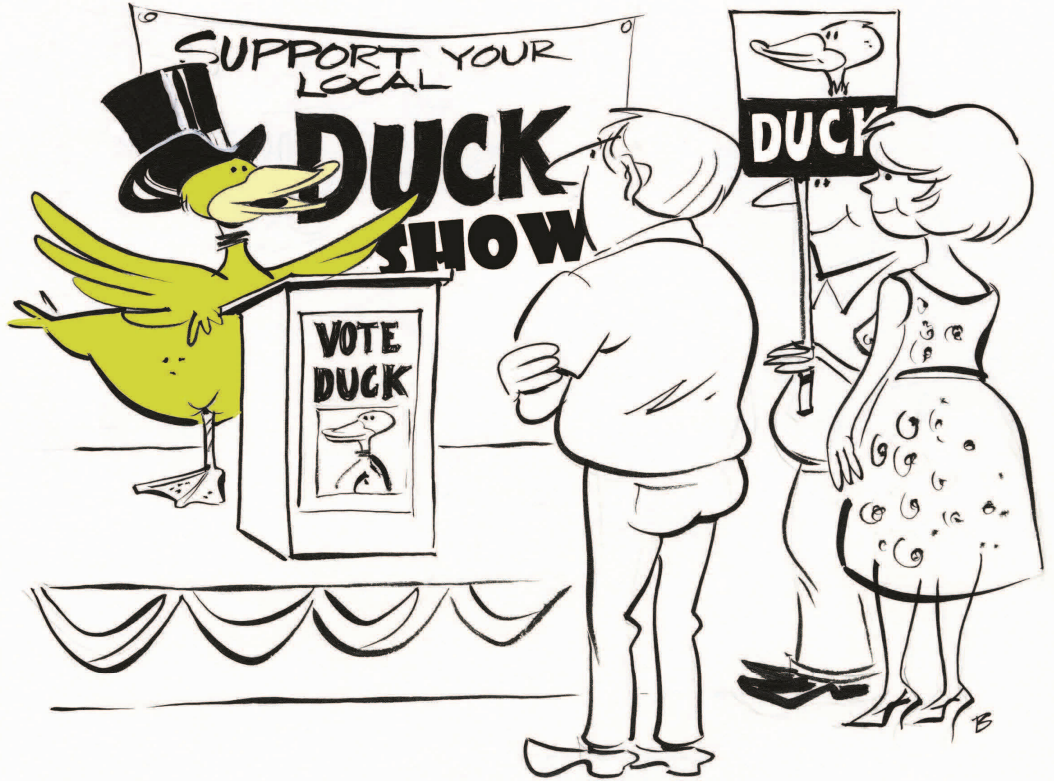
Bellevue Coast Hotel
625 116th Avenue NE
Bellevue, WA 98004

Friday - May 3rd, 2013
Room to Room Trading
6:00 PM

Saturday - May 4th, 2013
Decoy Show - Ballroom
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Details:

Brett Stark
(206) 963-8800
NWDecoy@gmail.com
BrettStark2003@yahoo.com



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www.NationalDuckDogChallenge.com

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Donations

The WWA is based on volunteer efforts and donations from folks that care about the waterfowl hunting heritage. Our success rides on the shoulders of these volunteers and generous benefactors. Below is a listing of recent [since the January 9, 2013 Newsletter] contributions to four primary funds established by the WWA.

[Thanks to Kevin Van Elst for giving his recently raffle-won WWA shotgun to Corey Getz and the resulting \\$200 donation; \\$50 of which was deposited into each of the four dedicated funds](#)

WWA Youth Fund—\$1,305

Alan and Marcheta Jochimsen — \$1,000 to GH Chapter
R.A. “Doc” and Dee Hublou — \$65

WWA Legal Fund—\$14,727

WWA Habitat Fund—\$285

WWA Heritage Lands Fund—\$1,208

WWA General Non Specific Donations —\$123

You can contribute in so many ways to the WWA, from locally to statewide, helping the WWA carry on!
The WWA wishes to thank you for your generous contribution to the Waterfowler’s Heritage.



Photograph of the Month



Jiles Pauole on his first duck hunt on the last weekend of the 2012-13 Season. **Jiles** has attended numerous **WWA** meetings and volunteered on several blind builds with his father. The **Kitsap Peninsula Chapter** is pretty darn proud of our kids!



IN MEMORIAM

If you have someone you would like to honor in this column, please contact newsletter editor Rone Brewer (nwducks@frontier.com or 206.595.7481) before the 10th of the month you would like the memorial to appear. We would prefer a note written by the contributor. A picture is also requested.

There is no charge for this service but donations at your discretion are always appreciated.



WWA Photo Contest

Send us Your Great Waterfowling Photograph

The **WWA** photo contest is to promote sharing of wing shooting experience of the Club's membership. Photos from the current or previous season must be submitted by September 30th of the following year. Members may submit digital photos (jpg file) to mikkelse@mindspring.com. Monthly winners photos will be posted on our website and newsletter and may be used in a **WWA** calendar. **WWA Photo Contest Guidelines:** Must be taken in the last license year; Is limited to the wing shooting experience; Must include a member (or family member), harvested game, and/or a bird dog.

WWA retains right to use all submitted photographs (submittal of a photo including a person under 18 years old gives **WWA** consent to use the file for **WWA** purposes).



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Membership Type:

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- Regular — \$ 30.00
- Life — \$ 500.00
- Sustaining Life — \$ 750.00
- Senior (65 or over) - \$ 15.00
- Junior (under age 18) -- \$ 15.00

Chapter & Newsletter: (Please specify your preferences)Newsletter by email or hard copy

- Grays Harbor/Chehalis Valley Chapter** meets the 1st Thursday of the month (Jan – Oct) at the **Evergreen Sportsmen's Club**, 12736 Marksman Road, SW, Olympia.
- Kitsap County Chapter** meets the 1st Wednesday of the month (Jan – Nov) at **Bremerton Skeet & Trap Club**.
- Lower Columbia Chapter** meets the last Thursday of the month (Jan – Oct) at the **Vancouver Trap Club**, 11100 NE 76th Street in Vancouver.
- Moses Lake Chapter** – Dates and places TBD.
- Northwest Chapter** meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at the **Conway Fire Hall**.
- Peninsula Chapter** meets the 1st Saturday of the month (Jan – Nov) at **10 a.m. at HJ Carroll Park**, 9884 Rhody Drive, **Chimacum, WA 98325**.
- Seattle Chapter** meets the 4th Wednesday of the month (Jan – Oct) at **Kenmore Shotgun Range**, 1031 – 228th Street SW, Bothell.
- Southwest Chapter** meets on the last Tuesday of the month (Jan – Oct) at the **Tacoma Sportsman's Club**, 16409 Canyon Road E, Puyallup.
- Spokane Chapter** – Dates and places to TBD.
- Tri Cities Chapter** meets the 2nd Monday of the month (Jan – Oct) at the **PUD Auditorium**, corner of 10th Avenue & HWY 395, **Kennewick**.
- Whatcom County Chapter** meets the 1st Tuesday of the of the month (Jan – Nov.) at the **Tenant Lake Interpretive Center**.
- Yakima Valley Chapter** meets the 2nd Thursday of the month (Jan – Nov) at **Café Villa, Prosser**.

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A few facts about the WWA:

- Established in 1945
- Non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization
- 10 chapters throughout Washington
- *We spend all of our resources within Washington State*

Our projects include:

- Working on behalf of Hunter's Rights issues to keep public access open and available
- Administration of the WA Migratory Bird Stamp and Print Program
- Hosting and sponsoring the Washington State Duck Calling Championships
- Wood Duck Nest Box & Mallard Nest Tube, Goose Nest Pot & platform construction, installation, & maintenance
- Working with the Boy Scouts of America on Eagle Scout projects
- Hosting Youth Mentor shotgun shooting one-on-one instruction events
- Conducting NRA sanctioned Hunter Education classes for Youth & donation of funds to offset WDFW printing costs for youth gun safety classes
- Donation of funds to support high school shooting teams in Washington
- Teaching adults and youth decoy carving arts
- Working with thousands of children at Sportsman's Show painting decoys, and with seriously ill youngsters on a decoy painting project
- Providing scholarships for boys and girls to attend a week at Youth Conservation Camp on Orcas Island, WA
- Working with the WDFW in the creation of premium quality hunt waterfowling areas
- Building and rehabilitating blinds in public hunting areas
- Distribution and planting of thousands of pounds of donated corn seed for waterfowl consumption
- Working with the Yakama Tribe in banding upland birds and waterfowl, and building duck "blinds" on tribal lands
- Goose and duck nest counts and banding of both with the WDFW and USFWS
- Working with the WDFW on dove counts & planting WDFW food plots in Eastern WA with WWA owned tractor and farming implements
- Sponsoring of the Annual NW Decoy Collector's Show
- Participating in multiple Sportsman's shows annually
- Donation of funds and volunteer man hours for Swan Mortality Mitigation Studies
- Donation of funds and man hours to WDFW for goose banding and satellite tracking
- Litter pickup projects at public hunting areas, boat ramps, and along highways; and Conducting multiple fund raising banquets annually to fund all of these "hands on" conservation projects.