

Washington Waterfowl Assoc.

HUNTERS FOR CONSERVATION

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March 25, 2013



Letter from the President

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Hi All,

It's that time of year again; the Waterfowling season has ended and the Super Bowl has passed, the doldrums. Hopefully all our nest tubes and duck boxes are up and/or refurbished by now. Perhaps you're feeling a bit of melancholy creeping up on you, needing to assess the damage Mother Nature inflicted over the winter. You know, putting down another application of 'Moss Out' on the roof, spraying a few gallons of '30 Seconds' on the walkways and patios to keep your friends and neighbors from breaking their tailbone before spring emerges. Oh, we can't forget that with these mild winters come record numbers and species of weeds cropping up in the flower beds, walkways, and the cracks in the driveway. Thank God for 4G Casaron! AND, don't forget the Corry's Slug & Snail killer I'm sure bazillions of those little buggers are out there just waiting for my Hosta's to bloom! And I'm not even going to think about the paint and the gutter repairs until August. I sometimes find myself very envious of you members that are full-time eastern Washington residents! Many of you get to jump straight into fishing season soon after the hunting season ends.

Putting those thoughts aside, it is time to get ready for the upcoming hunting season. I trust you all have stripped and lubed your favorite shotgun, dismantled some of those blinds no-one knows about, and cut back on old Max's kibbles (so he doesn't turn into a blimp in the off-season). Our good friend and **Southwest Chapter member Rod Boyer** makes a habit of riding his mountain bike in the off-season.... 5 miles per day as I recall. Just as important as keeping himself fit, he takes his Chesapeake, Stella along for the run. Stella is one of the best dogs I think I've hunted around. She is so fit, that when Rod and I take an occasional break while pursuing upland game, she barks at us to get rolling. So, my point here is...hunting is a lot more fun if you and your dog are in condition. October is coming fast....even faster for those of us in our 60's.

I've thought a lot about the **WWA's youth activities** over the past few weeks. Maybe some of you are unaware of our efforts on behalf of youth. **WWA** members have worked with **Boy Scouts** throughout the years to facilitate their earning their Eagle Award. **WWA** members/chapters are conducting and

(Continued on page 2)

EVENTS CALENDAR

(See Page One for Contact Phone Numbers)

- Tuesday, Mar. 26** **Southwest Chapter Meeting;**
7 p.m. @ **Tacoma Sportsman’s Club.**
Contact **Terry Satre.**
- Wednesday, Mar. 27** **Seattle Chapter Meeting;** 7 p.m. @
Kenmore Gun Club, in Bothell.
Contact **John Arrabito.**
- Thursday, Mar. 28** **Lower Columbia Chapter Meeting**
7 p.m. @ **Vancouver Trap Club.**
Contact **Rick Scott.**
- Tuesday, Apr. 2** **Whatcom County Chapter Meeting**
5-7 p.m. @ **Tenant Lake Interpretive**
Center, Ferndale. Contact **Scott O’Day.**
- Wednesday, Apr. 3** **Kitsap Peninsula Chapter Meeting**
6-8 p.m. @ **Bremerton Trap & Skeet**
Club. Contact **Richard Bazzell**
- Thursday, Apr. 4** **Grays Harbor Chapter Meeting.**
7 p.m. @ **Evergreen Sportmen’s Club,**
near **Littlerock.** Contact **Kurt Snyder**
- Thursday, Apr. 4** **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.
- Saturday, Apr. 6** **Olympic Peninsula Chapter Meeting;**
HJ Carroll Park, 9884 Rhody Drive,
Chimacum, WA 98325. 10 a.m.
Contact **Don Brickey.**
- Monday, Apr. 8** **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, Apr. 9** **Northwest Chapter Meeting;**
7 p.m. @ **Conway Fire Hall.**
Contact **Rone Brewer.**
- Thursday, Apr. 11** **Yakima Valley Chapter Meeting;** 6:30
p.m., @ **Café Villa in Prosser.**
Contact **Abel Cortina.**
- Saturday & Sunday** **Quilceda Carvers presents Artistry in**
April 20-21 **Wood—Carving the Northwest,** its 28th
10am-6pm; 10am-4pm **juried Show. Building 600, Evergreen**
State Fairgrounds, Monroe, WA
Contact **Kurt Benson, 425.231-6497**
- 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 15.
Contact **Brett Stark: 206.963.8800**

(Continued from page 1)

contributing to **Hunter Ed classes** and even contributed to the **WDFW’s** funds to print the necessary materials to conduct the classes in years gone by. **WWA** chapters have contributed to **high school shooting teams** (I hope we continue to do this wherever and whenever possible!), and **WWA** chapters have sponsored youth **hunts and shooting events around the state.** And, let’s not forget about all the young people we have sent to **WA Youth Conservation Camp** over the years. Now we have youth hunts offered in many chapters across the state, and are working to expand this program

The **WWA** has a lot to be proud of when it comes to promoting the tradition of shooting sports and hunting for Washington’s youth.

For the Resource,

Jim Cortines

EVENTS CALENDAR

(Continued)

- 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 16.
Contact **Don West: 206.786.2714**
www.nationalduckdogchallenge.com
- Sat./Sun., June 29-30** **12th Annual Oregon Waterfowl Festival**
Columbia Fair Grounds; St. Helens, OR
See Flyer on Page 17.
www.oregonwaterfowlfestival.com

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Projects and Programs

Island County No Shooting Zone Petition Ordinance

This ordinance was defeated! Big thanks to Whidbey Island hunters and shooters who attended commission meetings and testified against it.



Thurston County Marine Shoreline No Shooting Zone Ordinance

A homeowner reported a Henderson Inlet waterfowl hunting incident to the County Sheriff and the **WDFW**, and he contacted the commissioners. **WWA** is likely to meet with the homeowner to better understand the situation.

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 finally received detailed waterfowl count data from the **US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)**. We are now tabulating all the data to get a sense of waterfowl trends in Willapa Bay. We are reviewing a basic carrying capacity study provided by the commercial shellfish growers and continue to push for protections of eelgrass such that waterfowl numbers are not significantly impacted. It also appears some eelgrass monitoring will be conducted to help verify current conditions. Overall, **WWA** is still working toward an **acreage limit** on the spraying of eelgrass with the herbicide 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, the **Office of Inspector General (OIG)** sent our complaint to the **USFWS for a response**. After filing a freedom of information (FOIA) request and waiting 90 days, **WWA** finally received the USFWS response, **which we find out was completed by the Refuge management**. So, we have the same folks who perpetrated the dike removal plan, writing the defense of the plan, instead of an independent review of said plans by the **OIG**. And what do you know...the response says they did everything just fine, and they consider the case closed now. **WWA is conducting a detailed review of the USFWS responses** and based on results will decide whether to file suit against the **USFWS** for their lack of due process procedures during the Willapa NWR Comprehensive Conservation Plan (**CCP**).

Leque Island

(Snohomish/Island County)

WWA, Juniper Beach Water District, and the Snohomish County Farm Bureau met in Seattle with the **U.S. EPA, Ducks Unlimited, and Pacific Groundwater Group (PGG)**, to discuss the **PGG** Leque Island restoration groundwater impact model report. Two representatives of the **Recreation and Conservation Office (aka, the salmon recovery funding board)** were also present. The **DU/WDFW** groundwater study was forwarded by U.S. EPA Seattle for technical review by a Ph.D. hydrogeologist at **U.S. EPA** in Cincinnati. 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. Both the **WWA** and the **Juniper Beach Water District** have further concerns regarding impacts to the drinking water of northeast Camano Island, particularly in light of another planned restoration at the farm fields near Terry's Corner on Camano Island. This proposed project would put salt water on both sides of the current freshwater aquifer. **We are now awaiting the study review from Cincinnati.**

Projects and Programs - Continued

Heritage Lands

(Statewide)

Folks, **this is a future for public hunting and fishing access.** The **USFWS, WDFW**, and other agencies are dropping out of the public access and lands management scene. Restoration and conservation (even wetland mitigation) all are keeping most hunting off of the restored and "conserved" lands. If we want to have some public hunting lands we need to take the bull by the horns and manage it ourselves.

Are you interested in helping to preserve 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 through the lease of the land for farming.

It's called Heritage Lands

WWA wants to use **private dollars**, to establish this program, then after established, not only will it pay for itself, as it grows it will pay for its own expansion, including additional opportunities to lease land for waterfowl plantings and hunting access on other private lands. Why private dollars? Because most of the available public grant money comes with requirements for restoration. We are trying to save the farmland, not restore it!

A waterfowl hunting access program that pays for itself, managed by waterfowl hunters and farmers!

It is a powerful match up.

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Moses Lake Chapter News

By Dick Price

Nest Tube refurbishment March 30, 2013

Meet at the #3 parking lot of the Frenchman Wildlife Area at 9:30 A.M., and we'll go in and work on the nest tubes and wood duck boxes on the ponds in TD-2. When we get done there we'll go to the Winchester Reserve and work on the tubes in those ponds as time allows. You'll need wire cutters, rubber boots, etc. for the project. Moses Lake WWA will furnish lunch and refreshments.

Goose Nest Count

Set aside the weekend of **May 4th and 5th** for our annual **Goose nest count** in the basin. This year we will be counting **Potholes Reservoir** on Saturday May 4th and the islands in **Lake Lenore** on Sunday May 5th. On Saturday May 4th we'll meet at 9:30 a.m., at the boat launch under the power lines off the **WDFW** access road from the south Frontage Road. If you have a boat and it has all the safety items required, feel free to bring it. The more boats we have the faster the project will go.

Potluck After Saturday's Work Party

Saturday afternoon there will be a picnic/potluck at the waterfront home of **Robin & Susan Hickok**, just across from **Cascade Park** in Moses Lake. Burgers, hot dogs and fixin's will be provided. Please bring a dish to complement them.

Sunday May 5th, a small party will go to Lake Lenore and count the island if required. Saturday's count will determine the necessity of Sunday's count.

NOTE: Because dogs are not allowed to run loose at these areas at this time of the year, please leave your dog home for the goose count work parties.

For more info on either work party, contact me at (509) 762-9027 or dickprice@nctv.com

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.

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!

Do you know anyone in the Spokane area interested in spreading the waterfowling heritage?

Let us know!!!

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Grays Harbor Chapter News

By Kurt Snyder

Hello everyone

First I would like to welcome any new members. If you know or think you are in the **Grays Harbor Chapter**, please get a hold of me so I can get you on my Chapter contact list. We have a lot going on this year, and I like to keep all the members informed.

Raffle

GH Chapter member, **Jon McAninch of Cedarville Farms Waterfowl Club** has generously donated TWO (2) hunts this year to benefit all of **WWA**. These hunts are available to all Chapters to be used as a fundraiser. **Both hunts are a one day waterfowl hunt for two (2) people, with lodging included at his beautiful Cedarville Lodge in Oakville, WA.**

The raffle tickets will be sold for \$5.00 each or discounted for a package of five (5) for \$20.00. **Each ticket will have two chances — one for each hunt.** The drawing date will be on the 30th of September, 2013 so the winner will have time to schedule their hunt for the 2013/14 season. The Chapters that sell the tickets will get to keep the money from the proceeds after a small ticket printing fee of \$20 from the first tickets sold. This is an outstanding way for all Chapters to raise funds, and we cannot thank **Jon** enough for his generosity! Personally I'm going to buy several for gifts.

Wood Duck Nest Boxes

Our Chapter was invited to access private land on Lincoln Creek to **install some new Wood Duck nest boxes**. We have installed eight (8) so far with eight (8) or more going in soon. **Bob Jorgenson of The Northwest Waterfowl Club** has volunteered to maintain the boxes with our help. This is a very big expansion of our nesting box program and will lead to even more. We welcome their **Club** to the **WWA**.

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



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

Youth Shoot

The **Southwest Chapter** has volunteered to help out with our **Pre-Season Youth Shoot**. On that note any Chapter or **WWA** member is invited to help out with this event. The more help we get the more successful it will be for the kids. We are always looking for donations of prizes, so if any of you have contacts that would be interested in supporting this important event let me know or make the contact yourself. Never forget that **these kids ARE the future of everything waterfowl**. And I may need one of them to help me get into the blind someday!

Thanks!

Lastly I want to personally thank all the **WWA** members for all the clean up work after the season. This is a very important thing for the future of our hunting, and you guys have contributed well over and above the call of duty! Not only do your efforts make up for the damage "slob hunters" have done to hunter's reputations, but you have shown our youth that you really care. The kids will take this with them and pass it on. Very good stuff!

As usual any of you can contact me about any of this 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 Tuesday of each month at the Benton County PUD building in Kennewick.

Work Parties

We continue to work with the **McNary National Wildlife Refuge** to develop a plan and schedule for the construction of public access blinds at the Refuge.

Similarly, we are still working on joining the duck trap project with **WDFW's, Pasco Field Office**.

Stay tuned for information as soon as we get it.

Kitsap Peninsula Chapter News

By Richard Bazzell

The Kitsap Peninsula chapter will be planning for this year's calendar at our first meeting on March 6th at

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Bremerton Trap & Skeet Club. Come join us at 6 pm for discussions regarding fundraisers, blind builds, restoration projects and this year's shooting/dog training clinic. We will be also discussing how our chapter can improve our local **WDFW** hunt sites by providing suggestions to **Jeff Skriletz**, our area **WDFW Wildlife Biologist**.

Each Chapter meeting throughout the off season will be followed by **shooting and dinner provided by our local Kitsap Ducks Unlimited (DU) Chapter**. Shooting hours will be from 6-9:30 p.m., and dinner is \$5 per person. Meetings will take place the 1st Wednesday of each month.

Please call or email me 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.

Olympic Peninsula Chapter News

By Don Brickey

We could use some members to participate in the recycle plan 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

The waterfowl hunting heritage you enjoy literally in your backyards will be pushed into extinction unless waterfowl hunters get involved. If no one can step up and manage the Olympic Peninsula Chapter, we will close the chapter and send what remains of our funding to the Kitsap Peninsula Chapter.

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 at (360) 301-3380.

Northwest Chapter News

By Rone Brewer

NW Chapter Meetings

We had a very good meeting last month and thanks go out to **Martha Jordan** from the **Trumpeter Swan Society** for her entertaining and informative slide show.

The **Northwest Chapter** meets the second Tuesday of each month, 7 pm at the **Conway Fire Hall**. Snacks provided. **April's guest speakers:**

- **Nick Handley** talking about his calling and outdoor class at **Clear Lake Elementary**, sponsored by **WWA**.
- **Hopefully, Michael Terrell** of **Run-n-Gun Waterfowl Products**.

We will also be planning the blind building work party at the **Samish Unit** and review progress on the **Farmed Island Planting**.

Litter Cleanup

Several members have worked to clean up shotgun shells and hunter related litter from local WDFW hunt units. On Saturday March 9th **Reb Broker, Rick Skiba, Timon Gasowski, Art Kendall**, and I picked up litter over much of the **Farmed Island**.



Art Kendall and **Rick Skiba** gleaning the fields, **Reb Broker** and **Timon Gasowski** grubbing in the blind.



A portion of the gatherings.

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JOHN T. ARRABITO, P.C.

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Spring Migration in Progress

I live a few miles inland from Puget Sound, but still west of I-5. Over the past couple weeks I have noticed a good number of ducks and geese flying high over my home at night. It is especially noticeable on cool clear windless nights. Snow geese, Canada geese, and widgeon seem to be the most vocal, but I occasionally hear a mallard quacking as it flies. Along with my fruit trees budding over the past week and the ornamental cherry trees blossoming, I believe Spring is springing upon us.

Snow Goose Transmitters

The **WDFW** implanted satellite transmitters into 10 snow geese this winter. We will be tracking these geese over the winter (see News for the Flock later in this month's newsletter for the most recent map) and through the next couple years. **WDFW** has asked if **WWA** would provide funding for some of the up to 10 more transmitter they hope to put out next year. One of the study goals is to track snow goose dispersal within Washington state and within the Fraser River Delta in Canada. With flocks of snow geese showing up in Tri-Cities, and many other Washington locations, it will be interesting to see how they get there. Do they all come here to the Skagit first and then disperse? So stay-tuned and watch for the maps to learn more about our snow goose populations.

Samish Unit

Some new blinds have already been built by **WDFW** and **WWA** will be building at least two more on April 13th (**Work Party!!!**). The goal is to spread hunters out a bit, and reduce overcrowding on weekend mornings. Watch for more information at the **Samish Unit** reader board next season. We are looking for solutions that reduce hunter conflicts, increase the quality of the hunt a bit and don't contribute to additional enforcement effort. Let us know if you have ideas.

Calling Lessons

Nick Handley will be at our chapter meeting on the 9th of April to relay his experience providing duck calling and outdoor instruction for 2nd through 6th graders from **Clear Lake Elementary**. Join us and give **Nick** some thanks. The class went great! We had 20 kids participate, about half of whom had ties to the outdoor world, and the others were very new to the outdoor world — five of which were girls! We discussed ethics, the importance of conservation efforts, bird identification, and of course how to run a duck call. Some of the kids sounded great and others just wanted to make noise. All the kids were engaged and wanted to get involved. The "**Visions**" Program at **Clear Lake School** is

dedicated to teaching kids the fundamentals with a fun hands-on approach. Everyone enjoyed themselves, and we would like to offer the class again next year.

Waterfowling Museum Anyone?

WWA-NW member **Art Kendall** has begun a process to try and develop a waterfowling museum in the Skagit Valley. Goal is to provide a place to preserve the rich waterfowling heritage of the area and display waterfowling art, decoys, and area history. This is a very significant undertaking that would require substantial funding. If you are interested, give me a call and I'll get you in touch with **Art**.

Restoration Losses and Replacement Lands

Well, we all knew it was coming, and rumors of a restoration project on the **Farmed Island** have surfaced recently, with admission from **WDFW** that managing the **Farmed Island** into the future is not a current priority. **WWA** is beginning a process to engage the agencies to support our **Heritage Lands Program** (See write-up on Page 4). The initial contacts have been made and I'm sure, many meetings are to follow. As part of this process, in the near future **WWA** will be providing a tour of the lower **Skagit River System** to **WDFW's** new "**restoration coordinator**", with a historical perspective from the waterfowler's viewpoint.

Keep on Keepin' On
Rone
206-595-7481

Southwest Chapter News

By Terry Satre

Southwest Chapter Meeting

Our next meetings will be tomorrow, March 26th and April 23rd at **Tacoma Sportsman's Club (TSC), 16409 Canyon Road East, Puyallup**. Meeting is at 7:00 pm in the **Hunter Education Building**. Great food is available from the **TSC** kitchen, so arrive early and have a hearty meal before the meeting or shoot some trap! Remember if you show your **WWA ID**, you will get **TSC** member pricing when shooting trap or skeet.

Wood Duck Nest Boxes

Jack Westerfield and volunteers will start working on boxes soon. **Jim Cortines** reported the boxes in Green River have all been cleaned out and refurbished by a volunteer seeking **Master Hunter** accreditation. We discussed adopting about 50 Wood Duck boxes installed by a Boy Scout in Morrow Park in Kent. We are out of raw

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material for new box assembly. After some discussion we voted on a motion to purchase enough raw materials to assemble 20 boxes out of 5/8 inch plywood and put them outside to see how they last. Intent is two fold — how will plywood hold up and will treating the roof help them last longer. Options include rolled roofing, paint, linseed or other type of oil on roof.

Youth Shoot

The **SW Chapter** is planning to work with the **Gray's Harbor Chapter** for a combined 'Youth Shoot' at the **Evergreen Sportsman's Club** this coming year! **Update:** **Gray's Harbor Chairman Kurt Snyder** says he looks forward to the additional help, and the **SW Chapter's** ability to bring many more kids to the shoot.

This year's raffle/fundraiser has been very successful and looks like it is going to be completely sold out by drawing time. As has been the tradition for some years now, **Lance Kintrea** has set the pace for ticket sales outside of the **Puyallup Sportsman's Show**. In-Show sales were successful due to the efforts of a great group of volunteers led by **Teresa Bravo** and **Jack Westerfield**.

Thanks!

Again, the **Southwest Chapter** wants to acknowledge the generosity of our good friends at **Wholesale Sports in Federal Way** who donated the Mossberg 935 12gauge shotgun for our fundraiser! With their help, the **Southwest Chapter** raised nearly \$1500!

SW CHAPTER MEMBERS WE WANT ALL OF YOU TO MAKE THIS MEETING, BRING A FRIEND, AND THE KIDS & SPOUSES AND SHARE A FUN TIME WITH US!!!!

Lower Columbia Chapter News

By Doug Hargin

Pacific Northwest Sportsmen's Show

Our inaugural foray into a booth at this show was a success! We sold 268 raffle tickets putting us over the half way mark right out of the gate for our fund raiser. We signed up two (2) new members and another member rejoined. We obtained 132 signatures for the Shillapoo petition.

A great big thank you to the following members for helping man the booth: **Arlan Hackett, Chris Stalcup, Gerry Piazza, Don Bonstein, Dan Haffenbrack, Bob Taylor, Al O'Connor, Doug Hargin, Dino Mastri, Chuck Cheshire, Michael**

Andreotti, David Weston, Mark Weston, Doug Majury, David Chavez, Derrick Tackett and Rick Scott.



Chapter president **Rick Scott** and **VP Arlan Hackett** at the Pac NW Sportsman's booth set up.

Ridgefield NWR Work Party

Another successful clean up and shut down of the hunt area at **Ridgefield** was completed on Saturday, February 23rd. A large bald eagle kept an eye on us from a perch near the check station as we made the rounds cleaning out the blinds. After a very stormy Friday evening the weather was comparably pleasant for our task.



Doug Majury (foreground) and **Larry Main** finish picking up all the signage to the blinds

Eric Anderson with the **USFWS** kept us company and cleaned out a pit blind to help out. Each work group filled out a blind assessment that we will review and compile a list of maintenance and repair suggestions for this year.

Ridgefield Complex Leader Chris Lapp came out to talk with us and inspect blind #17. There had been a report of pellets making it to the tour route from that blind. After an inspection of the blind, **Chris** indicated he will have a sign placed in the blind to instruct hunters not to shoot back towards that area. We would hope that will be enough to

(Continued on page 10)

(Continued from page 9)

solve the problem. We also discussed the possibility raising or replacing blind 12 due to late season high water issues. These are preliminary discussions and will be paired with improvements to the Kiawa trail nearby.



(Left to Right) David Chavez, Arlan Hackett, Dan Hafenbrack, Derrick Tackett, Jerry Piazza, Mark Weston, Chris Lapp, and Eric Anderson compare notes after the clean up at the Ridgefield NWR.

Thanks to the following members for their work: Joe Murphy, Alex Murphy, Michael Andriotti, David Weston, Mark Weston, Dion Hess, Kirk Benson, Joe Siegel, Al O'Connor, Dan Haffenbrack, Jerry Piazza, Doug Majury, Larry Mains, David Chavez, Derrick Tackett, Doug Hargin, Rick Scott and Arlan Hackett.

Bob's Spring Sportsman's Show March 8th & 9th

Once again WWA-LC staffed a booth at Bob's Annual Spring Sportsman's Show. We do this to promote our cause and membership at this popular outdoor venue. We sold some more raffle tickets also!

Gun Raffle in Full Swing

As previously mentioned we have raffle tickets available for a Remington 11-87 Super Mag Waterfowler 12 gauge. With only 500 being offered these tickets are going fast. We have over half gone at this writing (early March). Please contact Arlan Hackett at aghackett@aol.com if you cannot make a meeting and would like to buy or help sell tickets.

New Wood Duck Display

If you were able to make it over to our booth at the Pac NW Sportsmen's Show you may have noticed our eye catching wood duck display. Dave Herbenson of

Dave's Gamebird Taxidermy created and donated a beautiful display with a wood duck hen and drake taken by our members. The WWA wood duck box was mounted on a limb from Cedarville Farms Hunt Club to create a very realistic display for our booths at various events. Thank you Dave!



Wood Duck Boxes

Thanks to Ted Blade, Bob Taylor, Dan Hafenbrack, and Arlan Hackett for servicing the wood duck boxes at the Shillapoo Wildlife Area. We still have a few to go. If you are interested please contact us.

New Member

We would like to welcome new member Dave Pierce to our chapter. Dave is new to the area and joined at the Pac NW Sportsman's Show. We look forward to getting to know you Dave!

Yakima Valley Chapter News

By Abel Cortina

The Yakima Valley WWA had a booth at the Central Washington Sportman's Show in Yakima a few weeks ago and had a great turn out. We signed up a couple of new members and a lot of new prospects.

Stay tuned for new projects coming out this summer.

Seattle Chapter News

By John Arrabito

Talking Turkey

Back by popular [and timely demand] for our March 27th meeting is wildlife biologist and professional hunting guide, Matt Stevens, who will put on his program/seminar on turkey hunting in Washington State. Matt, a ProStaffer with Point Blank Hunting Calls, has been hunting turkeys for 20 years now, and he'll speak on everything from the basics, to different types of turkey calls, to how to use them, when to use them, and how and where to scout.

See Point Blank's promotion on their Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/#!/Pointblankcalls>

(Continued on Page 11)



Raffles for Turkey Hunting Equipment

As part of his presentation, **Matt** will entertain and Question and Answer session, then give away a few turkey calls. As an added fundraiser for WWA-Seattle, Matt has come up with the idea of a special \$5 raffle for a “Turkey Hunting Package” from **Point Blank Hunting Calls** consisting of 1 slate call, 1 box call, 3 mouth diaphragms and a package of their Spring colored face paint, with **All proceeds going to WWA-Seattle!**

If you didn’t win a free call, **Matt** will have some additional calls for sale — again with **All proceeds going to WWA-Seattle.**

Turkey season opens on April 15th and runs through the end of May. Find the current regs at:
<http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/01472/wdfw01472.pdf>



In previous **WWA** Newsletters, the **Seattle Chapter** has been challenging other Chapters to match our donation of a **Moultrie** Game Camera for a duck nest project by member, **Ted Burris**. For the price of a new camera, **Ted** found two (2) on eBay and set them up in a King County wetland where he services 18 other boxes. One was rigged for still shots [day or night] and the other for video. This **camoed** box has produced the last two (2) years. Can’t wait to see what the cameras catch on tape/video this year!

Interested in a Non-Member Cedarville Farms Waterfowl Hunt?
(Oakville, Washington)

The **Washington Waterfowl Association** is raffling off two (2) Cedarville Farms Hunt Club guided waterfowl hunts for the 2013-14 season. These hunts are likely to be the only means for a non-member to procure a hunt with Cedarville this season. The tickets are \$5.00 each, or 5 for \$20.00 and each ticket will get two (2) chances to win one hunt with **Cedarville Farms** in the upcoming season. The hunts are for two (2) people and include lodging.

The drawing for the two lucky winners will be held on September 30, 2013. If you are interested in purchasing tickets for this worthy cause, contact any **WWA** Chapter Chair. Check out the photo [to the left] of one of the two hunts donated by **Cedarville Farms** to the **WWA** from the 2012--13 season.

News for the Flock

[HSUS Sets Their Sights on Kohl's Department Stores](#)

The **Humane Society of the United States (HSUS)** is teaming up with the granddaughter of the founder of Kohl's department stores, Dr. Jana Kohl, to push for a "fur-free environment." **HSUS** submitted a proposal for their upcoming shareholder meeting asking Kohl's to create a policy clearly stating the company's future plans for banning animal fur sales. **HSUS** claims that such a policy would lead the company away from the inhumane treatment of animals killed for their fur. **HSUS** has fought many retail clothing stores with their "Fur-Free Campaign" that pushes department stores and others to end the use of fur in their clothing lines, instead pushing the use of synthetic materials. According to Dr. Jana Kohl, "it brings me great sadness that my family name is associated with the fur business, an industry marked by such barbaric cruelty against animals that it's nothing short of legalized torture." Kohl's, a national department store chain headquartered in Wisconsin, is a leading family-focused, value-oriented, and specialty department store. **HSUS**, which opposes hunting and trapping, animal agriculture, and most uses of animals, are number one on the **U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance "Dirty Dozen" list**.

[School Animal Rights Propaganda Bill Introduced in Connecticut](#)

In addition to the deluge of gun control legislation being deliberated in the Connecticut General Assembly, an equally insidious proposal has quietly been introduced into the state's House of Representatives. House Bill 5024 "permits local or regional boards of education to offer humane education courses and use curriculum's developed by the **Humane Society, ASPCA** or other animal welfare organizations."

Allowing animal rights groups such as the **Humane Society of the United States (HSUS)** or the **ASPCA** to have direct access to children during their formative years may ensure a future adult population that will be pre-disposed to oppose legitimate uses of animals including livestock farming, veterinary practices, lifesaving research on animals, and of course, hunting, trapping and fishing. The bill is all the more dangerous given how the public confuses **HSUS** with the good work accomplished by many local humane societies. **HSUS'** main focus is to eliminate the use of animals in society. The **ASPCA**, which is involved in animal shelters, advocates for over-reaching bills that would eliminate law abiding dog breeders, opposes trapping, and many forms of hunting.

While not the first time such a bill has been introduced it should serve as a wakeup call for sportsmen who, while understandably concerned about gun control legislation, also need to keep a watchful eye on bills that could change the outdoor heritage culture of the United States for future generations.

[HSUS Sues to Overturn Wolf Delisting](#)

On Tuesday, February 12th, the **Humane Society of the United States (HSUS)** and other animal rights organizations filed a lawsuit against the **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)** to overturn the removal of the Western Great Lakes region wolves from listing under the **Endangered Species Act (ESA)**. The lawsuit was filed in the U.S. District Court in Washington D.C. Wolves in the Western Great Lakes region, which consists of Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan, and parts of bordering states, were removed from **ESA** protection in January of 2012 after exceeding population recovery goals. This allowed state wildlife professionals to manage exploding wolf populations that have become a danger to livestock, pets, and wildlife populations. If successful, the lawsuit would unnecessarily return wolves in the region to federal protection under the **ESA**, a move that would again prohibit state wildlife agencies from managing them.

"This lawsuit undermines both the **ESA** and the **North American Model of Wildlife Conservation**," said Jeremy Rine, **U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance** In-House Counsel. "Wolves in this region have far exceeded the population recovery goals established and should be managed by the individual state wildlife agencies to ensure sustainable populations and public safety. This is just another example of the animal rights lobby trying to abuse the **ESA** which was never intended to permanently protect species that have recovered." Joining **HSUS** in filing the lawsuit are **Born Free USA, Help Our Wolves Live, and Friends of Animals and Their Environment**.

USSAF and Wolves: The **U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance Foundation (USSAF)** and its partners have been on the front lines working to ensure that wolves in the Western Great Lakes region were removed from the **ESA** and rightfully returned to state management. In 2010, **USSAF** helped initiate the delisting by threatening to sue the Service if it did not start the delisting process. **USSAF** also represented sportsmen in lawsuits by **HSUS** to overturn previous delisting attempts. Those cases were decided on legal technicalities that were not based on whether or not wolves were recovered. Additionally, **USSAF** represented sportsmen in a lawsuit in Wisconsin challenging portions of the state's wolf hunting season.

News for the Flock

AKC American Yellow Pointing Lab Puppies

Tri-Labs Ginger Farrow JH x MPR Devin's Yellowjacket JH of Sam's Creek Kennels. This is a "sort of" 4:2 linebreeding on 2XGMPR Wannamaker's Hot Tub (Jade's Foxy Roxy is Tubbs' half-sister). Both dogs have pedigrees riddled with GMPR's and FC/AFC's. Sire and Dam are OFA & CERF clear, and are EIC and CNM clear through parentage and testing. These will be incredible pointers and retrievers with mellow temperament.

Puppies expected to whelp 3/18/13 and are available for adoption near 05/04/13. Puppies come with front dewclaws removed, dewormed, first inoculation, microchipped, and 26-month guarantee on hips and eyes. \$800 per puppy for **WWA** members, and a \$200 deposit gets you placed in picking order for specific gender. See dogs at: <http://www.eastharborgundogs.com/id66.html>. For questions contact (360) 402-5605 or eastharborgundogs@comcast.net.

AKC American Chocolate / Yellow Pointing Lab Puppies

Snake River's Southern Comfort of East harbor x East Harbor's You Don't Know Jack of TGK. "Belle" has 5 GMPR hall of Fame dogs in her pedigree, and "Jack" was sired by a MPR and whelped by a GMPR. This breeding is going to produce some absolutely awesome hunting dogs with great family dispositions! Both dogs were evaluated in the Penn Hip program with favorable results, are EIC/CNM clear through testing/parentage, and CERF certificates are pending.

Puppies expected to whelp 3/20/13, and are available for adoption near 06/06/13. Puppies come with front dewclaws removed, dewormed, first inoculation, microchipped, and a 26-month guarantee on hips and eyes. \$800 per puppy for **WWA** members, and a \$200 deposit gets you placed in picking order for specific gender. See dogs at www.eastharborgundogs.com/id64.html and www.eastharborgundogs.com/id62.html. For additional questions contact **WWA** member **John Farrow** (360) 402-5605 or eastharborgundogs@comcast.net



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News for the Flock

TREASURERS. REPORT (3-7-2013)

Corporate Checking	\$ 21,354.31
Chapter (LC, ML & SEA)	
Trust Monies for Goose	
Satellite Transmitters	
For WDFW	\$ 8,250.00
Corporate C.D.	\$ 17,538.01
Corporate Total	\$ 47,272.32

CHAPTER FINANCES

GH Checking	\$ 2,249.56
Kitsap Chapter	(To Be Funded)
LC Checking	\$ 16,734.65
ML Checking	\$ 10,459.42
NW Checking	\$ 3,135.51
OP Checking	\$ 320.00
SEA Checking	\$ 35,524.61
SEA CD Amount	\$ 9,730.32
SEA Robert Hickok Fund	\$ 1,316.23
SPO Checking	\$ 170.50
SW Checking	\$ 4,584.65
Tri-Cities Checking	\$ 300.00
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News for the Flock

39th Northwest Decoy Show Bellevue, Washington

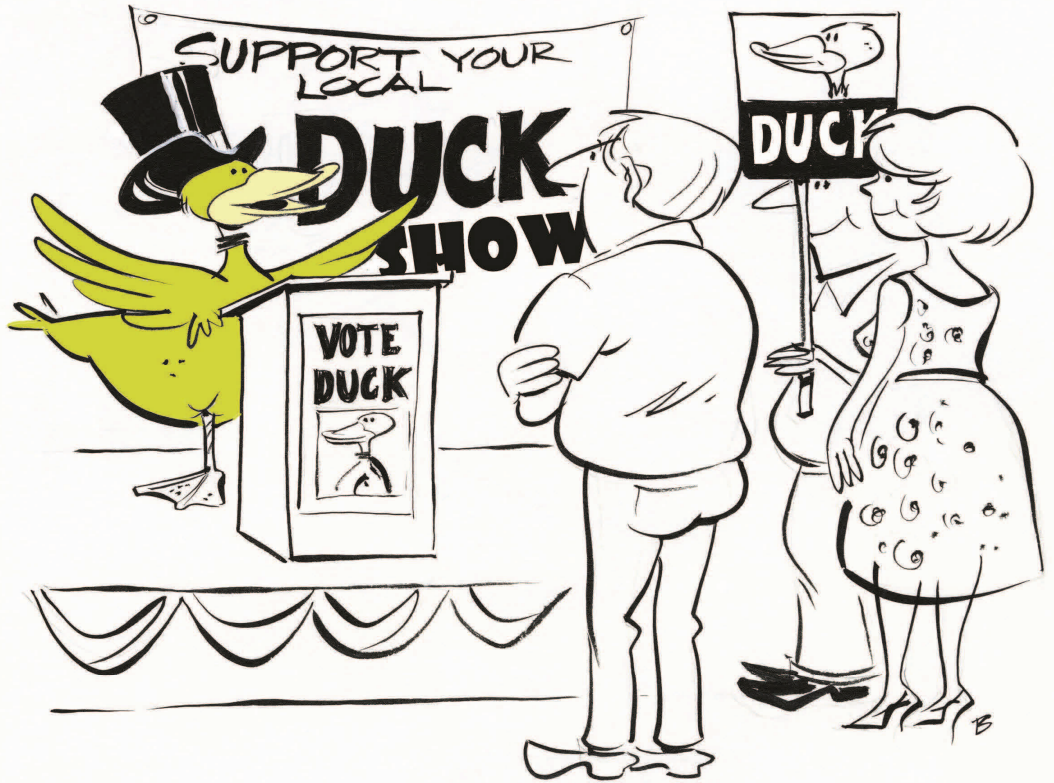
Bellevue Coast Hotel
625 116th Avenue NE
Bellevue, WA 98004

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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For More Information:

NDDC Contact: Jerry Rainwater (503)349-1892
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Special Thanks to Our Sponsors:



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 February 12, 2013 Newsletter] contributions to four primary funds established by the WWA.

Last month we attempted to thank Steve Van Aalst...we got his name wrong...sorry Steve and thanks again for you generosity.

WWA Youth Fund — \$1,305

WWA Legal Fund — \$14,827

Peninsula Sportsman, LLC—Capt. David Drewry — \$100

WWA Habitat Fund — \$285

WWA Heritage Lands Fund — \$1,296

Rone Brewer — \$60; John Arrabito — \$28

WWA General Non Specific Donations —\$123

Ron Larson —\$35

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



Submitted by Member **Ken Boyer**. Wow.... Thanks Ken!

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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Email Address: _____

Best Phone Contact: () _____

Membership Type:

- Family (immediate family up to age 18) — \$ 35.00
- 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.