

Washington Waterfowl Assoc.

HUNTERS FOR CONSERVATION

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April 19, 2006

GENERAL MEETING – Wednesday, April 26, 2006 KENMORE GUN RANGES, 1031 – 228th Street SW, Bothell. Open for trap shooting and sporting clays all afternoon. Dinner at 7:00 PM. Business meeting and program to follow. Please call **Mel Monro** at **425-377-8831** by **Monday, April 24th** for **Dinner Reservations**. **John Garrett, WDFW Manager** of both the Skagit & Snoqualmie Wildlife Areas will speak.

OFFICERS

Seattle Parent Chapter

Pat Shearer, President , (253) 826-6326
 Gary Webster, VP , (206) 783-9994
 Bob Hermann, Sec (425) 821-4386
 John Arrabito, Treas. (425) 774-8291

L.C. Chapter

Chair Gene Teel, (360) 263-1863

N.W. Chapter

Chair Dave Engel, (360) 629-6787

S.W. Chapter

Chair Jim Cortines (253) 833-7102

Whatcom Chapter

Chair Randy Johnson (360) 366-2253

BOARDS OF DIRECTORS

SEATTLE:

Jim Cortines (253) 833-7102
 Bruce Feagan (425) 481-8936
 Larry Gordon (425) 483-8855
 Doug Graef, (425) 883-1150
 Rich Greenshields (360) 659-3098
 Howard Hicks (253) 847-6274
 Jim Kline (360) 668-7066
 Earl Mikkelson (253) 862-4509
 Ken Ploeger (425) 308-7287

TREASURERS REPORT:

(as of March 31, 2006)

Cash	\$	60.00
Checking	\$	9,322.42
Savings	\$.11
R Hickok Fund	\$	1,299.10
C.D.'s	\$	27,859.98
TOTALS	\$	38,541.61
E WA Checking	\$	300.00
LC Checking	\$	12,766.65
NW Checking	\$	2,802.34
NW Savings	\$	298.47
SW Checking	\$	3,908.45
WH Checking	\$	1,087.00



9792 Edmonds Way
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 Edmonds, WA 98020



Letter from Vice-President

Greetings to all fellow members and friends of the **WWA!**

By now most of you are aware that **WWA By-Laws** would not allow **Pat Shearer** to succeed himself after two consecutive two-year terms as President. Accordingly I agreed to accept the nomination of the Board of Directors as President and look forward to working for you in this capacity.

First I would like to extend my sincere appreciation and congratulations to **Pat** for a job well done. Under **Pat's** leadership **WWA** expanded from two to six Chapters; saw its statewide exposure expand from two sports shows to five (including one show in Oregon); and saw record fund raising for the years 2001 thru 2003.

Pat and I are both aware that these results don't happen without broad participation from the general membership. Along these lines I ask your help.

First, I would like our seasoned members to go out of their way to make new members feel welcome at meetings and work parties and to explain what we do to improve waterfowl habitat. **Secondly** I would ask new members to get involved. Go to page 7 of this Newsletter and find an area that interests you. Then contact any officer, director or Chapter Chairman and let them know where you want to participate. **WWA** has many projects

(Continued on page 4)

EVENTS CALENDAR

(See Page One for Contact Phone Numbers)

- Sat., April 15 thru Mon., May 15th** **Spring Turkey Season** begins statewide for turkeys with visible beards only.
- Wed., April 26th,** **April General Meeting,** 7 p.m. at **Kenmore Gun Club.** Program will feature **John Garrett, WDFW Manager** of both the Skagit & Snoqualmie Wildlife Areas.
- Thurs., April 27th,** **Lower Columbia Chapter Meeting.** 7 p.m. at **WDFW Region 5 Headquarters,** 2108 Grand Blvd., Vancouver, WA. Contact **Gene Teel or Doug Hargin.** (See Story on page 5.)
- Thurs., April 27th,** **SW Chapter Meeting.** 7 p.m. at **Sunmer Sportsmen's Club** Contact **Jim Cortines.** (See story on Page 3)
- Tues., May 2nd,** **Whatcom Chapter Meeting** 7 pm in **Ferndale** at the **Tenant Lake Interpretive Center** Contact **Randy Johnson or Brad Otto** (See story on Pg 3)
- Thurs, May 4th,** **May Board of Directors** 6:30 p.m. at **Denney's** in Canyon Park Shopping Ctr. SW Corner of Exit #26, I-405.
- Thurs., May 11th,** **NW Chapter Meeting, 7 p.m.**
*****NOTICE***** **NEW LOCATION, Twin City Sportsman's Club, Stanwood;**
Trap Shooting starts at 6 p.m. Contact **Dave Engel.** See Pg. 3.
- Sun., July 16th** **WWA Family Picnic**
Sunmer Sportsman's Club
- Sat., Sept. 30th** **Annual Fund Raising Banquet**
West Coast Hotel in Bellevue

Ferd Nist Shoot Begins in May

Once again in order to promote more member participation in shooting events, **WWA's Shooting Chairman Wes Underwood** has set up the annual **Ferd Nist Shooting Competition** into two divisions — a Championship Division and a new Hunter Division for those who may never have participated in shooting competition before. The event, named after the founder of **WWA** (established in 1945 as **Washington Duck Hunters, Inc.**) is held every year to determine the best shotgunner in the entire Club. This year in order to encourage participation from all Chapters, **Wes** is requesting that each Chapter select a Shooting Chairman to run the competitions at each Chapter meeting venue and report the results to him.

Competition will run four (4) consecutive months from May through August, with presentation of trophies at our annual September banquet. Shooting events for the Championship division will include continental trap, doubles and a slider. The Hunters division will consist of 16-yard trap, doubles and a slider.

Participants can shoot as many rounds as they want at each Chapter meeting night for practice, but must declare before shooting (to either the local Shooting Chairperson or the range master) which round is going to count for the competition.

Contact **Wes** at (425) 672-3464 or at WWRU@earthlink.net for more information.

WDFW Expands Electronics Decoy Ban

At its April 8th meeting, the **WDFW Commission** adopted new hunting rules for 2006-08 that will expand restrictions on the use of electronic decoys and calls to turkey and deer hunters. "One challenge we face as a Commission is to provide access to hunting, while maintaining the ethic of fair chase," said **Commission Chairman Ron Ozment.**

In other action of interest to bird hunters, the Commission increased the annual bag limit of wild turkeys to five birds - three in spring and two in the fall - and expanded turkey hunting seasons throughout the state. Starting in 2007 in all areas of the state, the spring turkey hunt will be expanded by one week through the end of May.

Whatcom County Chapter News

By Brad Otto

This past month or so have been real busy for us up here in the Whatcom Chapter. From our wood duck box maintenance work party, to a booth at the **Wings Over Water/Brant Festival** along with on-lake boat tours of **Lake Terrell**, we have really had our hands full.

I would like to thank many of the volunteers that helped with these events, without you, these programs would not exist. **Chris Brueski** and **Mike Vandehey** who are now our wood duck box coordinators, did an excellent job getting our March work party in order. We have been able to clean, maintain, GPS and data survey over 75 boxes in the area. I hear that we will be able to view a map soon with all our boxes overlaid on it. Great job guys!

Ken Miller, Rodney Vandersypen, Lyle Galloway your help transporting the **WWA** trailer, setting up the **WWA** booth and staffing it at the Festival was flat out awesome! Even though this event does not generate many folks in our targeted demographic, it does an excellent job showcasing our conservation efforts and what the **WWA** does for our wildlife.

Steve Christensen, Timon Gasowski, and Paul Bunn all drove over 2-hours pulling their boats up here for the on-lake tours of **Lake Terrell**.

(Continued on Page 4)

Northwest Chapter News

By Dave Engel

Our first monthly meeting at the **Twin City Sportsmen's Club** in Stanwood went well. Hopefully turnout will improve as the weather gets better. Please come out, bring your families, shoot some trap and enjoy the company of fellow waterfowl enthusiasts.

Due to a job and shift change, I will be stepping down as chairman of the **NW Chapter** effective May 1st. It has been my pleasure to serve as chairman for the past three (3) years working with the good folks of the Chapter. **Rone Brewer** has graciously agreed to take over duties as Chairman at that time.

Thank you all for your support over the past three (3) years. I hope to stay involved as my work schedule will allow.

Southwest Chapter News

By Jim Cortines

This month's meeting of the **Southwest Chapter** will be held at the **Sumner Sportsmen's Club** on Thursday, April 27th. With Mother Nature's co-operation, shooting will start at 5:30 p.m. and dinner at 6:30 p.m. For dinner reservations, contact **Jack Westerfield** at (360) 832-3830 or me at (253) 833-7102 by April 26th. Please note; this past month we ran out of grub due to a pleasant increase in attendanceyour call would be greatly appreciated.

DIRECTIONS to the **Sumner Sportsman's Club** — From Hwy 167 N or S, take Hwy 410 E about 1.5 miles to the **Sumner-Orting Highway**, (Exit 162). Turn right and go south on Hwy 162 for 1.5 miles to 96th St E. Turn left at the Alderton Store. The Club is ½ mile east on the left.

Our guest speaker this month will be the **"Swan Lady" Martha Jordan**. **Martha** is the center piece of the **Trumpeter Swan Society** in Washington state. She will share with us her considerable knowledge about these beautiful waterfowl and their susceptibility to lead shot poisoning.

Jack Westerfield (you may have already guessed this) will be stepping up as this month's cook de jourand he has promised not to use anything with freezer burn or hair on it in his "chef's surprise".

Emphasis to Improve Our Shooting

Pat Shearer and **Kelsey Kingsolver** will be teaming-up on our shooting efforts commencing with this month's meeting. We have planned our shoots to start at 5:30 p.m. this season. Ladies & Gents don't forget to throw the shotgun in the wagon before leaving for our meeting. By starting now, the **SW Gang** should be able to produce some contenders for the Hunter and **Ferd Nist** shooting competitions ending this year.

Interurban Wood Duck Boxes

I recently met with officials from the **City of Auburn** and found them optimistic and enthusiastic about the prospects of Wood Duck Nest Boxes or Mallard Nest Tubes off the Interurban Trail. I hope to have the proposal in writing by month's end.

(Continued on Page 4)

(President's Letter Continued from Page 1)

in the works this year. Remember **WWA** projects impact public opinion in a positive way. Through **WWA** and our projects we are portrayed to the public in general as "ambassadors" of our sport, as opposed to being just more "hunters". We are contributors not just takers. These are critical issues for all of us for the future of our hunting heritage.

For the Resource,

Gary Webster

(Whatcom County News Continued fr Page 3)

This was a very, popular event, with full boatloads all day long. The **WWA** was able to showcase a waterfowlers' vast knowledge of habitat, bird identification and wetland ecology, to many that have never experienced it before — let alone from a duck hunter's boat. This really goes a long way to "bridging the gap" between consumptive and non-consumptive users. Thank you all for your continued support and enthusiasm. It is very much appreciated!

Hunters Ed Training Session

Some upcoming projects we are working on up here include scheduling a training session for **Hunters Education Instructors**, so we can offer more localized Hunters Ed classes to our up and coming youth. **Rodney Vandersypen** is the chairperson for this really important project. Please contact him at (360) 332-2293 if you would be interested in participating.

(SW Chapter News Continued from Page 3)

On another front, we have made contact with **WDFW Officer Jack Smith** and are awaiting word as to whether we will be able to build blinds for public use on state lands prior to the 2006 hunting season.

Personal Notes

Board member Howard Hicks is recovering nicely from his recent surgery. He will be back among us soon.

The brightest smile in Thurston County recently is on the face of our own **Mark Curtis**. **Mark** retired in April from the Thurston County Sheriff's Department. **Congratulations Mark!!!**

Work Party Schedule

(See Page One for Contact Phone Numbers)

Sat., April 29th **Southwest Chapter** — Wood Duck Nest Box egg count and refurbishing at **Scatter Creek & Chehalis**
Contact **Jim Cortines**.

Sat., May 6th **Southwest Chapter** — Wood Duck Nest Box egg count and refurbishing at **Auburn & Puyallup**.
Contact **Jim Cortines**.

Sat., May 6th **E WA** — Annual **Duck & Goose Nest Count** on **Moses Lake**. **BBQ** at the waterfront home of **Robin & Susan Hickok** after. This is a great outing for families and children
Contact **Robin** at (509) 765-3541.



Moses Lake Chapter News

By Robin Hickok

Our recent purchase of \$1,900 worth of steel has been turned into 50 new duck nesting tubes thanks to the welding class at **Moses Lake High School** — at **ZERO** cost to **WWA**.

The new **Moses Lake Chapter** also checked and refurbished a number of existing tubes in the field a two weeks ago. Some of these tubes had not been serviced in over two (2) years. Nesting tubes in the right location are still running at about a 75% successful hatch rate.

Board member Bruce Feagan recently transported 30 wood duck nest box kits and 12 constructed boxes to us for placement.

Upcoming Work Party

Just a reminder that our annual goose nest count is scheduled for May 5-6-2006 on **Moses Lake**. This is a fun work party for kids. If other chapters are interested, please notify me at rhod007@aol.com. Campers are welcome to stay either at my place in **Moses Lake** or at **Leo Pfeifer's** place in **Royal City**.

2006 Membership Dues are Due!!!

Last Call — To keep this Newsletter coming your way, we need your membership renewal by May 15, 2006. Membership rates are as follows:

[]	Family memberships	\$25
[]	Individual membership	\$20
[]	Seniors (over 65)	\$10
[]	Juniors (under 18)	\$10

Congratulations to New Board Members

Youth Mentor Shoot Organizer, **Larry Gordon** of **AMS Guns, Inc.**, **Jim Kline** and **Ken Ploeger** are the newest members of the **WWA Board of Directors**. They join **Rich Green-shields** who was re-elected to a 2-year term. **Gordon**, who received the most votes received a three-year term. **Jim** and **Ken** tied for 3rd place in the voting and a flip of the coin gave **Ken** a 2-year term and **Jim** a one year term.

Nine (9) members took advantage of the Absentee Voting process first made available to members in 2000. Strong write-in campaigns for **Bob Graham** of the **SW Chapter** and **Chip Holverstott** of the **Whatcom Chapter** came up short just five and six votes, respectively, of election to the Board. Welcome and Congratulations to all the election night victors! Thanks to all of the nominees for your willingness to serve **WWA**, and you can be sure that the newly constituted Board will look to get you more involved with future **WWA** Committee assignments. (See Page 7 for options).

Vice President, Gary Webster, has stepped forward to accept nomination for President to succeed **Pat Shearer**, who was ineligible to serve more than two consecutive terms. **Leon Kollman** has agreed to accept nomination for Vice President. The formality of vote (including absentee votes) at the April meeting will make it official.

Parent Chapter Absentee Ballot

(must be post-marked by April 26, 2006)

President

[] Gary Webster

[] _____

Vice President

[] Leon Kollman

[] _____

Lower Columbia Chapter News

By Doug Hargin

Thanks again to all who were able to attend the cleaning and sealing of the blinds at **Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge (NWR)** in late February. The heart of much of what we do is accomplished from our members carving time out of busy schedules to just "show up". Once we do, the satisfaction of giving back to the ducks and assisting various agencies is very rewarding! With that in mind, members will be gearing up for spring work parties on the **Shillapoo Wildlife Area**. As things begin to dry out a little (hopefully), we will be spraying and mowing. We will be meeting with **Brian Calkins** with **WDFW** to assess other projects for **Shillapoo**.

Upcoming Meeting

Tim Bodeen, Ridgefield NWR Complex Manager, will be our featured speaker at our April 27th meeting. It will be our first opportunity as a Chapter to meet with him and hear his vision for the refuge. Among the topics will be a change of access to the refuge via a new bridge from the city of **Ridgefield**. Come out and hear what he has to say.

Thanks to **John and Cathy Simmons** for bringing their small **Musterlander** pups and their mother to our March meeting. The breed offers the qualities of a fine pointing upland bird dog with the ability to enthusiastically find and retrieve waterfowl. **The Simmons** are trying to encourage the growth and popularity of the breed in the USA by offering a very generous placement program. If you are interested please contact **Gene Teel** or myself.



Paul Sullivan - Chief Guide

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WWA To Once Again Host Youth Mentor Shoot at Kenmore

On May 24th, **WWA** along with the **Wildlife Committee of Washington (WCW** and more commonly known as the **Kenmore Gun Range)** and **AMS Guns of Woodinville** will once again host a **Youth Mentor Shooting Program** at the Kenmore shooting facility.

This is the 2nd of what **WWA** hopes will be an annual event intended to introduce young people to the shooting sports and thus perpetuate our shooting (and hunting) heritage.

We are asking members of **WWA** to sponsor a parent or guardian of a youth this year and introduce this youth to trap shooting. Your first step is to get the youth signed up for a hunter education class. Invite a parent or guardian and a youth to our general meeting on Wednesday, May 24th. Participants will be provided with firearms safety instruction; one-on-one shooting instruction and supervision, and the following "freebies": a box of shot shells, a round of trap, use of a shotgun, a **WWA logo'd** hat and finally dinner on us.

Participants will be limited to the first 24 signups and will be encouraged to become members of **WWA** and to stay involved with our numerous family oriented activities.

Reservations must be made no later than May 10th by calling **Larry or Kathy Gordon** at **AMS Guns**, (425) 483-8855. If a youth **WWA** member wishes to purchase a youth shotgun, purchases can be made **AT COST** from our co-sponsor, **AMS Guns**, 18144 Woodinville-Snohomish Road, Woodinville.

Examples of youth shotguns that are available include:

- H&R "Pardner";
- Mossberg "Bantam";
- Remington 870 & 1100;
- Rossi; and
- Winchester 1300.

Hunter Education Class Information for the 2006 hunting season can be found on the internet at: "http://www.wdfw.wa.gov/enf/huntered/basic_class.htm

Remember that classes fill up quickly, so get your sponsored youth involved now!

Youth Conservation Camp Applications Now Available

Once again **Washington Waterfowl Assoc. (WWA)** will be sponsoring no less than four young people (two boys and two girls) to the **Washington State Junior Sportsmen's Conservation Camp**. Campers must be no younger than 12 years and no older than 16 before the onset of Camp.

The Girls Camp will be held from Sunday, **July 16th through Saturday July 22nd**. The Boys Camp is scheduled for **Sunday, July 23rd through Saturday, July 29th**.

WWA will pay the full \$250 tuition for each of the four (4) lucky young people. Two separate drawings will determine the young people to be sponsored by **WWA**. One drawing will give preferences to children of **WWA** members — one boy and one girl.

The camp, located at **Moran State Park** on **Orcas Island**, offers a broad range of outdoor experiences including Wildlife Management, Ecology, Firearms and Archery Safety, Water Safety, First Aid and CPR, Outdoor Survival, Fly Tying and Casting and plenty of hiking. Camp starts with a ferry ride to the Island.

Campers are responsible for providing their own transportation to **Anacortes Ferry Dock**. Once at camp, each child is assigned to a comfortable cabin which is supervised by responsible and experienced Junior and Senior Counselors, all of whom are former campers themselves, and are hand picked by the Camp Directors. Staff to camper ratio is better than one to four, so parents can rest assured their young people are well cared for. Applications will be available at the April General Meeting or by mail. Contact Treasurer, **John Arrabito**.

AMS GUNS

P.O. Box 477 18144 Woodinville-Snohomish Road
Woodinville, WA 98072

amsguns@aol.com
amsguns.bizland.com

Larry Gordon
Kathy Gordon
Owners

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PAINTBALL

**WASHINGTON WATERFOWL ASSOC.
STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON**

Adopt-A-Road Projects	Bob Stephens Doug Hitchcock Brad Otto
Art & Duck Stamp	Bob Swartz
Audit	Leon Kollman YOU?
Banquet	Chairperson YOU? Jim Cortines Doug Graef Leon Kollman Dan Stearns John Arrabito
Cereal Grain Projects	Doug Graef Doug Hargin
Citizen's Advisory (Skagit)	Rone Brewer Elis Lark YOU?
Email & Mailing List Project	John Arrabito YOU?
Habitat	Doug Hargin Bob Hermann Robin Hickok Howard Hicks Brad Otto Dick Price Jack Westerfield YOU?
Hunting Heritage Council	Allen Hodges Leo Pfeifer YOU?
Legislative	Allen Hodges John Arrabito Rone Brewer YOU?
Liason with Kenmore Gun Club	Gary Webster
Liason with Sumner Gun Club	Jim Darby
Lower Columbia Chapter Chair	Gene Teel
Memorial, Roger Connelly	Dick Schweiter
Memorial, Robert Hood Hickok	Robin Hickok

**WASHINGTON WATERFOWL ASSOC.
STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON**

Membership	YOU?
Merchandise	Wes Underwood
Moses Lake Chapter	Robin Hickok
Newsletter Preparation	John Arrabito YOU?
Northwest Chapter Chairman	Rone Brewer
Pacific Coast Joint Venture	John Arrabito Rone Brewer YOU?
Programs	Pat Shearer YOU?
Picnic	Leo Pfeifer YOU?
Shoots, Ferd Nist, Competition	Wes Underwood YOU?
Southwest Chapter Chairman	Jim Cortines
Sports Shows	Rone Brewer Jim Cortines YOU?
Telephone Tree	YOU?
Upland Advisory Group	Robin Hickok
Waterfowl Advisory Group	Pat Shearer
Whatcom Chapter Chairman	Randy Johnson
<u>Work Parties</u>	
E. WA Surveys	Bob Hermann
Waterfowl Area Tours	Pat Shearer
Chapter Work Parties (See Chapter Chairman)	YOU?
Youth, Mentor Shoot Program	Larry Gordon
Youth, Conservation Camp	John Arrabito YOU?