

# Washington Waterfowl Assoc.

HUNTERS FOR CONSERVATION

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February 15, 2017



10610 66th Ave E.  
Puyallup, WA 98373

Letter from the President



## Habitat, Hunting, Legislation, Legal

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Hello All,

First of all, I want to thank those of you who have penned the **many, many** letters to **WDFW** regarding **WWA's** view of their planned destruction of the **Shillapoo Wildlife Area**. If you have yet to voice your concern, **please do so now.**

I fear what is at stake here is going to be an ongoing list of these types of proceedings by the **WDFW**...further reducing access and opportunity for waterfowlers throughout the state.

As I recall in 1937, the Federal **Duck Stamp** was created, and soon thereafter the **Pittman-Robinson Act** was passed. Sometimes I fear that we waterfowlers would not be happy to know in this day where those funds go once they hit the Olympia bureaucracy. Oh, and by the way where do the funds from the Migratory Bird Stamp sales go? I guess it will take another FOIA request to chase that answer down.

I love Salmon, I love catching a few each year, even more I love them after being grilled or baked. But sometimes that recurring pain in my gut is telling me that the governing agency here in Washington should be re-named **WDF**. Please... **Send your letter to Ms Czarnomski today.**

*(President's letter continued on page 3 and 4)*

### **You Can Make a Difference!**

Contact **Nicole Czarnomski** at the **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) TODAY** to help stop the destruction of **Shillapoo Wildlife Area**.

**Nicole Czarnomski**  
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife  
600 Capitol Way North  
Olympia, WA 98501-1091  
[Nicole.Czarnomski@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:Nicole.Czarnomski@dfw.wa.gov)

### Mission Statement

To Preserve, Protect and Promote Waterfowl, Waterfowl Habitat, & Waterfowl Hunting in Washington state

**EVENTS CALENDAR****2017 Events**

- Feb 15** Report your harvest of Sea Duck/ Snow Geese/Brant to the state. **More details on page 11 .**
- Feb 16** **February Meeting of the Yakima Chapter** at the Barn Restaurant in Prosser at 6:30pm.
- Feb 17-19** **Yakima Valley Chapter** at the **Central Washington Sportmen Show** at the **Yakima Valley Sundome. More details on page 8.**
- Feb 22** **Seattle Chapter Monthly Meeting** Shooting all afternoon, business, pizza and pop at 7:00 pm at the Kenmore **Gun Range**, in Bothell.
- Feb 23** **Lower Columbia Chapter Meeting** at the Vancouver Trap Club for our Feb Meeting. Trap shooting starts at 5:30pm for those that wish to shoot, followed by business meeting at 7pm. Food will be provided for a \$5 donation.
- Feb 28** **Southwest Chapter Monthly Meeting** at 6:30 pm at the Tacoma Sportsmen's Club

- March 7** Extended due date of comment to be made on the WA Dept of Ecology's spraying of Imozamox on shellfish beds. **More details on page 7.**
- March 11** **Shillapoo Wood Duck Box Clean Up** with the Lower Columbia Chapter. **More details on page 6.**
- March 14** **NW Chapter Monthly Meeting.** **More details on page 11.**
- March 31** Duck Stamp Orders due. **See page 19-20 order forms.**
- March 31** **Deadline to request complimentary WA State Duck Stamp. See Page 11.**

**Be an Active Member  
and  
Attend one of these  
GREAT Events!**



# Letter from the President Continued....

A couple months ago, the Directors and Officers invited **Kyle Spragens, WDFW's new Waterfowl Biologist** to join us at our monthly meeting. We were very pleased that he accepted on relatively short notice. Needless to say, he has been extremely busy after taking over the post held by **Don Kraege** who retired late last summer. One question that came up during our meeting was what appeared to be a substantial decline in the number of migratory bird permit purchasers in recent years.

According to the **WDFW's** website, the most recent three years show numbers of migratory **bird permit purchasers hovering around 25,000.....25,000!**

Why is this figure emboldened and punctuated with an exclamation point you're asking?

**WWA** used to routinely receive the migratory bird stamp purchase numbers from **Don Kraege** via a **Department of Licensing** employee **Carol Turcotte**. I was able to dig up some of those figures from some of the discs sent to me years ago. So, **8 to 10 years ago the migratory bird permit list was averaging around 42,000 per year...42,000! and that was without hunters under 18 years of age.**

**Could these figures possibly be wrong??** I have asked **John Arrabito** to file a **Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)** request with the state. Under the current administration in Olympia, picking up the phone and asking for a figure is no longer the way business is conducted.

\*\*\*\*\*

God has given me the good fortune to be a part-time resident of Moses Lake. I love the people, the community, and the value system folks in that part of the state possess. *(I'll bet most of you folks didn't realize that Moses Lake was the origin of three Medal of Honor winners while in the military!)*

Being a small town, 20,000 to 22,000 depending on where you look, a lot of things are quickly apparent to even

me the part-timer. In the 50 years that I have been working, camping, hunting, fishing in the Columbia Basin one thing has become glaringly obvious during hunting season in recent years.

When I go to church on Saturday evening, I make it a habit to cruise by the restaurants, bars, gas stations, and motels that have always been jammed every Friday and Saturday evening for decades with trucks carrying dog crates, duck boats and hunters in good spirits.

### **NO LONGER!**

I have spoken with motel managers, the Chamber of Commerce, and local friends and acquaintances. The hunters don't come to Moses Lake anymore. **WHY?**

Some years back, I thought maybe it was because the economy went into the tank and many family folks had to give up hunting for a few years because money was too tight. (I have to admit that most the duck-a-holics I know would forego all normal essentials of life to keep hunting). But, it's been 7 or 8 years now and the waterfowlers have continued to decline. All while the **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)** continues to hold 107 days of hunting with a 7 duck limit; there are lots of duck migrating through our flyway. **What Gives??**

This season, was a real weather oddity it seemed, mild temperatures in Canada slowed the migration by weeks. It seemed early season hunting was supported primarily by local ducks. Then, the big freeze came. From the reports I received, duck hunting was sporadic at best. **SO**, where are the ducks that used to bring thousands of waterfowlers to the Columbia Basin each season?

**Members, I'd like to hear your opinions on this subject. I'd like to publish some of your viewpoints in the upcoming newsletters.** (If you think I'm off-base, that's o.k. too.)

*(President's letter continued on page 4)*

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## Letter from the President Continued....



Lastly, I just want to take a few lines to acknowledge **Reb Broker** and the NW Chapter. As you may or may not know, **Reb** and family are relocating to Italy... hopefully for not too long. Consequently, **Reb** will be stepping down as Chairman for the **NW**

**Chapter** next month. So, for one, I have to say you have done a great job **Reb** during your time at the helm. That said, the **NW Chapter** has excelled under your leadership; involvement, activities, community service, speaking out for and promotion of our pastime, increased membership, family involvement, education ...with a smiling membership. Enthusiasm breeds enthusiasm. That said, this very successful chapter is looking for a replacement to keep the momentum flowing. It's not a one-man job, so don't let the title scare you off. If you think you're the man (or woman) for the job, it's time to step up, Washington waterfowling needs YOU!

Best of luck **Reb**, I'm sure you'll get e-mails regarding European hunting...hope you have the patience to show 'em how it's done! Oh, I'm sure you'll get a few e-mails seeking your help in bringing back one of those fancy double barrels back when you come home. Please...put mine on the top of the pile!

Again, thank you and God's speed for your healthy return.

For the Resource,

*Jim Cortines*

P.S. Now's the time to strip it, clean it, and oil it and re-pack it for the next season.



### A Touching Story

A funeral procession pulled into a cemetery. Several carloads of family members followed a black truck towing a duckboat with a coffin in it.

A passer-by remarked, "That guy must have been a very avid waterfowler."

"Oh, he still is," remarked one of the mourners. As a matter of fact, we're headed off to the potholes as soon as we bury his wife."

## Classifieds— For Sale and Wanted

**For Sale:**

**Small duckboat**, plywood, fiberglass and epoxy construction. 10' long 46" wide, pointed bow, square stern, low profile, decked over with 75"X38" cockpit, approximately 90 lbs, welded aluminum oar locks and handles. \$ 250.00  
Call 253-549-2413

New in box! **Beretta A300 Outlander semi-auto shotgun**, real tree camo, \$600 firm. Contact: **Jeff Lee** 360-708-0585  
[jeffblee98@yahoo.com](mailto:jeffblee98@yahoo.com)

**Youth model Remington 870 pump 20 gauge**, \$250.  
Contact: **Jeff Lee** 360-708-0585 [jeffblee98@yahoo.com](mailto:jeffblee98@yahoo.com)

**National Security Gun Safe model Classic #24**, 24x24x60 \$450. Contact: **Jeff Lee** 360-708-0585  
[jeffblee98@yahoo.com](mailto:jeffblee98@yahoo.com)

**National Security gun safe model mini mag**, 20x20x60 \$350. Contact: **Jeff Lee** 360-708-0585  
[jeffblee98@yahoo.com](mailto:jeffblee98@yahoo.com)

**Browning Lightening 12 ga.** w/Briley choke tubes and 20 ga. barrel inserts, lockable case. \$1200 OBO. Call **Robert** 206-909-7189

**Two Remington 1100's in 12 ga.** with ribbed bbls. \$290 and \$495. Call **Robert** 206-909-7189

**Wanted:**

**Wanted hunting Lab pup.** Parents proven awards. Normal hip eye knee certs. Box chest and head. Yellow or choc, female. Contact **Paul** at [Price@nalc.org](mailto:Price@nalc.org) or 360-921-5845

**Spinning wing mallard decoy.** Original Zebco fishing reel driven with speedometer cable. Mathews Speedo. Any parts or pieces or broken works also. Price flexible. Contact 206-579-4129

**WWA Classifieds:**

**WWA is dedicating a page in the newsletter for WWA members to sell hunting related items to their fellow members.** No business ads please. That extra shotgun, waders, decoys or boat could get you some cash or trade for something another member has on hand.

**Rules are simple:**

- 25 words or less.
- Members only may advertise.
- For sale items only, not for business ads. (Businesses are welcome to purchase business ads from us.)
- Submit your classified ad each month (we have no way of knowing if you sold/purchased your item or not).
- Be sure to include your contact info. Phone and/or email.
- Send to **Matty Moore** at [matty@vision-marketing.net](mailto:matty@vision-marketing.net) or call 509.944.1009 by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month.

**OLD SKAGIT GUN CLUB**

14933 Josh-Wilson Rd  
Burlington WA 98233  
(206) 757-4226



**Dane Widen**  
(360) 424-9234  
[dw687eell@msn.com](mailto:dw687eell@msn.com)

## News for the Flock

### Lower Columbia Chapter News

By: Doug Hargin

#### First Meeting of the New Year:

Our first meeting of the New Year on January 26<sup>th</sup> was productive and well attended. We enjoyed a fantastic Ribeye roast prepared by **Arlan Hackett**. With 30 members in attendance we covered a number of topics relevant to what is shaping up to a very busy and productive 2017!

#### Early Clean up at Ridgefield:

We completed our earliest ever cleanup of the hunt area blinds on the **Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge** Saturday February 4<sup>th</sup>. With snow and ice shutting down the **River S Unit** multiple times this season we were just able to get the job done without the threat of freezing weather. Don't get me wrong it was chilly and wet, but all in all not a bad day to bail water out of pit blinds. We had a good turnout (read: enough to get the job done). Chapter president **Ted Blade** and **Doug Lee** took on three (3) of the old style cement pit blinds full of water and won the prize for the most work done. They scooped many gallons of water out of blinds 5, 6 and 7. (They are still waiting to hear what they won!).

Most everyone made it back by 10:45AM for some chili, dogs and burgers. **Ted** and **Doug** took a little longer but were not far behind. Thanks to **Arlan Hackett** and **Ted Blade** for procuring the food and beverages. **Chris Stalcup** did a great job on the new BBQ and serving up the hearty grub. **Rick Scott** pulled the **WWA** trailer down and back. We were able to get an assessment of the blind conditions for repairs next summer. The new Black Box Blinds (4, 12 and 18) were so easy to clean as their lids actually seal out the water. We don't have to cover them with plastic and t-posts either for that reason. We would like to also thank these members for their help on the project; **Dino Mastri, Dan Hafenbrack, Dave Mason, Ron Anderson, Michael Andriotti, Bob Taylor, Doug Hargin, Steve White, Marlin Reinholdt and Rick Spring**. Thanks also to **Josie Finley, Dave Lescalleet and his wife Cindy** for being there to represent the Refuge at the event.

#### Shillapoo Wood Duck Box Clean up March 11<sup>th</sup>:

We will meet at 8:00 AM Saturday March 11<sup>th</sup> in the parking lot off Laframbois Road to clean out and prepare the wood duck boxes. Bring gloves, waders, bucket and a ladder if you have one. Lunch will be provided. Contact **Ted Blade** for more information, (360) 558-1770.



**Upper Left Photo: Dan Hafenbrack** notes work to be done on blind 19.

**Upper Right Photo: Chris Stalcup** (Middle) gets some BBQ ready for **Arlan Hackett** (left) and **Michael Andriotti** (right).

**Photo to the Left:** Blinds are done lets grab some burgers.



# News for the Flock

## Washington State Duck Stamp and Print Collectors



The 2016-2017 Washington State Duck Stamp prints and stamps with the image of a Hooded Merganser, created specifically for Washington by **Doug Snyder** of Chicago are available for purchase. Thereafter, per **WDFW** mandate, those stamps not specifically assigned to correspond-

**REMEMBER: Purchasers and those seeking complimentary 2016-2017 stamps, the deadline for your requests is March 31.**

ing prints must be destroyed. MEMBERS WANTING COMPLIMENTARY 2016-2017 WA STATE DUCK STAMPS, GET YOUR LICENSE PHOTOCOPY AND YOUR S.A.S.E. INTO THE MAIL. **Order forms are on pages 19-20** or are available online at [www.waduck.org](http://www.waduck.org)

**Be sure to order your prints today!**

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## Grays Harbor Chapter News

By: Kurt Snyder

### Willapa Bay Eelgrass Spraying :

As many of you know I sent out an email on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of February soliciting for comments to oppose modifications to a **Washington Dept of Ecology (WDOE)** permit allowing the spraying of *Imozamox* on shellfish beds in **Willapa Bay**. Many thanks to those that were able to comment in the small window of opportunity. **On the last day the WDOE extended the date to comment to the 7<sup>th</sup> of March.** This will give us more time to research the subject and either oppose it or just let the **WDOE** accept the incorrect data and allow more spraying of the eelgrass.

Member **Ross Barkhurst** found discrepancies in the amounts that were used in the buffer validation studies that would make the data unreliable.

We made a decision at our last Chapter meeting to oppose the permit modifications and stop the spraying. What I would like from the **WWA members** is to read the data at the link below and make comment about the permit. The link will take you to a **WDOE** web page that has the

studies and the comment form.

The following are the high notes on the subject.

1. The spraying of the **Willapa Bay** eelgrass has coincided with a drop in wintering waterfowl. The **WDFW** has stopped counting the waterfowl, but the absence of them is becoming quite obvious.
2. The shellfish farms need the eelgrass removed from their beds to facilitate shellfish growth.
3. The spraying of *Imazamox* kills both types of eelgrass.
4. Both types of eelgrass are essential to, salmon production, to waterfowl as food, and herring that need unexposed eelgrass to lay eggs upon. This should be a signal that eelgrass conservation measures should be implemented.
5. Valid studies will need to be done in order to make sure that buffer zones are accurate. This way we will know for sure that the *Imazamox* stays where it is needed and no eelgrass will be killed unnecessarily.

**Please Comment at the link below by March 7:**  
[Eelgrass permit comment and information link](#)

Feel free to contact me on this at [kurtsnyder@outdrs.net](mailto:kurtsnyder@outdrs.net)

Thanks all,  
Kurt

\*\*\*\*\*

## Kitsap County Chapter News

The **Kitsap County Chapter** is looking for a new Chapter Chairperson. Peninsula Waterfowlers, we need someone to step forward.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Spokane Chapter News

The **Spokane County Chapter** is looking for a new Chapter Chairperson. Inland Empire Waterfowlers, we need someone to step forward.

## News for the Flock

### Yakima Valley Chapter News

By: Roger Bennett

#### YV WWA Booth at the Central WA Sportsman's Show:

This coming weekend, February 17-19, from Friday afternoon until Sunday afternoon, The **YV WWA** will make its presence known in our annual stint at the **Central WA Sportsman's Show**. The Sportsman's Show is at the **Yakima Valley Sundome** in Yakima. Our yearly booth will have an outdoor raffle, along with a push for **WWA** sign-ups. As a bonus, we love to get kids on duck and goose calls, many for the first time. Drop by and see us if you are in the Yakima area. Learn more about the show at:

<http://www.shuylersproductions.com/cwss.php>

#### February Meeting Date Change:

Our February meeting (normally the second Thursday of the month) was rescheduled due to nasty roads and weather. We are meeting this coming Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup> instead. We will be meeting at the **Barn Restaurant** in Prosser at 6:30pm. For more information, contact **YV Chapter Chairman Abel Cortina** at 509-786-9196.

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### WDFW NEWS RELEASE: Tests confirm outbreak of avian cholera in dead ducks found near the Tri-Cities:

**[Editor's Note: Since the original release of this article, the death count in WA is now more than 3,200 ducks]**

**January 27, 2017:** State and federal wildlife diagnostic centers have confirmed an outbreak of avian cholera near the Tri-Cities, where more than 1,200 dead ducks have been reported in the past week.

The disease was confirmed in dead ducks found near Burbank, Wash., and tested by the **USGS National Wildlife Health Center and the Washington Animal Disease Diagnostic Lab**. The birds tested negative for avian influenza, a different disease fatal to waterfowl and other birds.

Avian cholera is caused by the bacterium *Pasteurella multocida* and is one of the most common diseases among ducks, geese and other wild North American waterfowl, said **Katie Haman**, a wildlife veterinarian at the **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)**.

**"Humans are not at a high risk for infection with the bacterial strain causing avian cholera,** though infections in humans are possible," Haman said. "We advise people to avoid handling sick or dead birds, and to report any they find."

Reports can be filed online:

<http://wdfw.wa.gov/viewing/observations/sgcn/> by email, [Wildlife.Health@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:Wildlife.Health@dfw.wa.gov), or by calling 1-509-545-2201.

According to the **USGS National Wildlife Health Center**, the bacteria kill waterfowl swiftly, sometimes in as few as six to 12 hours after infection. Live bacteria released into the environment by dead and dying birds can subsequently infect healthy birds. Avian cholera is highly contagious and spreads rapidly through bird-to-bird contact, ingestion of food or water containing the bacteria, or scavenging of infected carcasses.

"As a result, avian cholera can spread quickly through a wetland and kill hundreds to thousands of birds in a single outbreak," said **Kyle Spragens**, **WDFW** waterfowl manager. "The bacteria are hardy and can survive in water for several weeks and in soil for several months."

**WDFW** and the **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)** are working to minimize the spread of the disease through careful carcass collection and disposal to reduce the amount of bacteria in the environment.

Signs displayed by infected birds include lethargy, convulsions, swimming in circles, and erratic flight. They may also show mucous discharge from the mouth and nose, and soiling of the feathers around the vent, eyes, and bill.

Wildlife managers encourage waterfowl hunters in Walla Walla, Franklin, and Benton counties to clean and disinfect gear, such as waders and decoys to help minimize potential further spread of the bacteria.

A 10 percent bleach solution or warm soapy water can be used for disinfection. Leaving the gear in direct sunlight for several hours will also kill the bacteria. Waterfowl hunters are advised to use gloves when cleaning harvested birds, and if white spots are seen on the liver, err on the side of caution and discard the bird directly into a garbage bag.

Although bacteria from wild birds do not typically cause infections in mammals, dog owners should prevent contact between their pets and sick or dead birds encountered. Additionally, vehicles that have accumulated mud should be run through a commercial car wash.

For more information please visit: [https://www.nwhc.usgs.gov/publications/field\\_manual/chapter\\_7.pdf](https://www.nwhc.usgs.gov/publications/field_manual/chapter_7.pdf) and [https://www.nwhc.usgs.gov/publications/fact\\_sheets/pdfs/cholera091102.PDF](https://www.nwhc.usgs.gov/publications/fact_sheets/pdfs/cholera091102.PDF)



# News for the Flock

## Northwest Chapter News

By: Reb Broker

### Partnerships, Important part of Conservation:

**Northwest Chapter's** partnership with **The Nature Conservancy (TNC)** at the **Port Susan Restoration Site** promotes youth conservation and outdoor recreation, paid off for our end of season Family Hunt. Little different with this hunt because we didn't restrict it to "Youth" age kids and opened it up to any family with a school age kid. Special thanks to **TNC's Joelene Boyd** and **WWA's member Rick Skiba** for all of their hard work in putting this together.

On January 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> these two organizations hosted 8 young hunters and 5 parents for some exclusive hunting, getting shots at the 2,000 to 3,000 Snow Geese and the puddlers jumping between the fields and the bay. The geese were in great form putting on a show moving in large groups going straight up and falling out of the sky tornado style, really something to see! Over the two days they were able to knock down 26

ducks and 6 Snow Geese! So a good mix and lots of fun everyone.

THANK YOU again to **Joelene and The Nature Conservancy** for working with us to put this event on again. Also **THANK YOU Rick** for putting in the extra mile volunteering with your time and resources to help make this happen!

A lot of happy faces in the photos below!



*NW Chapter News Continued on page 11 and 12.*

# News for the Flock

## Northwest Chapter News continued...



### Washington Brant Foundation:

Partnerships in Conservation is what is going on here in the Northwest! In January the Northwest hooked up with the **Washington Brant Foundation** to track these exciting Sea Geese. With some of the profits from our recent Banquet the chapter purchased a bird transmitter to attach to a Brant this spring. I would say satellite but that is old technology! This one is going to be a cellular tracker that will continually monitor the

bird's location and store it until it flies past a cellular tower to download the data and populate it to the website. With luck will be able to learn more about these birds on where they go, how they get there, and how long they spend in each site before they move on back to the **Padilla/Samish Bay's**.

## Northwest Chapter and more ICE?

So with all of the ice that we've been having this past month some of the **Northwest Chapter** got together for a little hockey fun. Way to go Silvertips beating down on Seattle on trapper hat night. Thanks to the members and your families that made it out for the night!

### Thanks for your service!

For the January meeting **WWA President Jim Cortines** made the trip up from the Deep South (anywhere south of Marysville) to attend our meeting. As a special he came bearing gifts in the form of a plaque to recognize Northwest member **Rone Brewer** for his selfless contributions to the **Washington Waterfowl Association**. **Rone** has held numerous positions with **WWA** from NW Chapter



**WWA President Jim Cortines presenting Northwest member Rone Brewer with a plaque to recognize his many contributions to the chapter and state association.**

Chairman all the way to the State President. He has also donated hunts to different banquets and taken numerous new waterfowlers out to show them the ways and means of **Skagit Bay**.

Thank you **Rone Brewer** for your help, guidance, leadership & friendship in working with the chapter! Job well done **Rone!**



**Northwest Chapter members on ice at the Silvertips hockey game on trapper hat night.**

# News for the Flock

## Time to pay the *piper!* Get your gloves:

Another partnership in Conservation: That's right with the end of season gone and past, we get to pick up the pieces. Part of that is doing a little clean-up action. We will be going up to **Welts/Samish Unit** to pick-up the trash, shells and empty **Art's** shell holders. While we go through the blinds we'll also make note of what blinds need to have some repairs made to them. Also for those that hunt these areas, this is a great time to walk around and see where everyone else has been shooting from and get a plan for next year.

## REPORT!!!

Like everything else in this state we need to remember to report our harvest (Sea Duck/Snow Geese/Brant) by the **15<sup>th</sup> of February**. A number of ways you can do this one.

1. Mail your cards in to:  
**WDFW, Waterfowl Section**  
**600 Capital Way N.**  
**Olympia, WA 98501**
1. Or go online to: <https://fishhunt.dfw.wa.gov/#/login> This system has changed some this past year and you will need to create an account to do it, but it is a little less painful than it used to be. Plus it will work for the other online reporting you do to.

Also if you were picked to do any reporting for **USFW** or the states bird harvest reports make sure you get them filled out and sent in too.

## Get Your Washington State Waterfowl Stamp:

You've already paid for it you just need to collect it now. Mail a copy of your License and a self-addressed stamped Envelope by March 31st to:

**Washington Waterfowl Association**  
**PO Box 2131**  
**Auburn, WA 98071**

## North Puget Sound Waterfowl Counts:

Wondering if there are any birds in your hunting area? **Here is the December Bird Count information collected for the North Puget Sound area.** See the table below for the January Swan count.

## March Meeting: Arts and Crafts, Bring Gloves and End of the line:

Come join us on March 14 as we are planning on putting some Wood Duck Nesting Boxes together and possibly a few duck nesting tubes also. Need to get them out there soon so that they are ready to go for the mating season.

March will be my last meeting as the Chairman for the **Northwest Chapter**. Hope to see you there!

## January 2017 Swan Counts

County	Tot Sw	Tot Trus	Ad Trus	Juv Trus	Tot Tun	Ad Tun	Juv Tun	Unknown
Skagit	12130	11020	9418	1602	574	495	79	536
Whatcom	2545	2514	2058	456				31
Island	419	419	360	59				
Snohom	3599	3122	2599	423	14	10	4	455
Sumas B.C.	595	595	510	85				
San Juan	95	95	82	13				
King/Pierce	599	569	450	119				30
	19982							
2016 Totals	16552	13473	10837	2636	2047	1692	355	1032

## News for the Flock

### Southwest Chapter News

By: Terry Satre

#### Sportman Show a Success:

The Sportsmans show went very well thanks to a lot of members volunteering to work in booth and sell raffle tickets , logo'd hoodies and hats. My thanks to all who worked the booth! Attendance this year was very good. Maybe the economy has turned the corner a little. The shotgun winner **Tony Leinland** was presented his new Stoeger a couple of days after the show by **Bruce Burns**. Special thanks to **Sportsmans Warehouse in Puyallup**. We will be looking for someone to step up and run this in future, my five years is up!!

Our next meeting is at **Tacoma Sportsmen's Club** on Canyon road in Puyallup on February 28th at 6:30.

Any questions contact:

**Terry Satre** @ 253-845-2398 or [Teltim@comcast.net](mailto:Teltim@comcast.net)

**Bruce Burns** 253-961-8802 or [bwburns36@gmail.com](mailto:bwburns36@gmail.com)

### Moses Lake Chapter News

By: Dick Price

#### Get Up-to-Date on Waterfowl Projects in Region 2:

**Rich Finger**, **WDFW** South Lands Operation Manager, has volunteered to give an update on Waterfowl projects in Region 2 if there is enough interest from the members. Last time we did this there were more **WDFW** employees than **WWA** members, so if you have an interest in doing something like this in maybe late February or early March let me know and we'll proceed. Contact with me with your interest and a best time for you at: [dickprice@nctv.com](mailto:dickprice@nctv.com) or 509-762-9027

There are a lot of things going on that should be of interest to you and this would be a chance to see both **Aquatic Lands Enhancement Act (ALEA) projects** and **Waterfowl Stamp and Print projects**, both completed and proposed.

Hope everyone had a good and safe season.

We've had snow here in the area since before Christmas, and it doesn't appear to be leaving soon.

This should produce a lot of water for the Spring nesting season, and the Shrub, Tree, & Nesting Plots should be off to a good start.



**The shotgun winner of the raffle, Tony Leinland was presented his new Stoeger a couple of days after the Sportman show by Bruce Burns.**



Tacoma Sportsmen's Club

16409 Canyon Rd. E.  
Puyallup, WA 98375  
(253) 537-6151

[www.tacomassportsmensclub.com](http://www.tacomassportsmensclub.com)

## News for the Flock

### Seattle Chapter News

By: John Arrabito

#### Emergency Preparedness Program for February Meeting



WVA-Seattle Chapter member **Andrew Koeppen**, will put on a *mini* version of his community workshop on the topic of **Emergency Preparedness** at our **February 22nd Chapter meeting**. His regular periodically scheduled workshops are set up to help and encourage people to get started developing their own plan for emergencies.

Handouts and discussions will cover important readiness topics to include:

1. What disasters are we likely to encounter?
2. How to purchase or prepare emergency supply kits for home, car and office.
3. Emergency food supplies.
4. Water filtering and storage.
5. How to develop a family emergency plan.
6. Communication issues, and
7. How to "shelter in place" and keep warm without electricity.

The topic is especially timely as just last week the 33-year-old son of one of our **WVA** brethren survived an overnight experience in the mountains in 12 degree weather. He survived because of the preparedness that he and his father [our member] had continually gone over and over on their many joint hunting adventures.

In the father's words from his Facebook posting:

"[Our son] was snowboarding down a trail... It started to get dark and just then he hit a hole. He was upside down in the hole and was able to finally make it out of the hole after a 10 minute struggle. He thinks he might have blacked out but was unsure as it was dark.

**He decided to shelter in place and built a nice shelter amongst some trees and decided to build a fire, he pulled out his lighter... broken. He stayed hydrated by eating small snow balls the size of a marble so not to lower his core temperature. He did a lot of sit-ups, and leg extensions to stay warm through the night."**

#### Upcoming Work Parties

Before we get too far into the nesting season, there are wood duck boxes and duck nesting tubes in both rural and suburban areas of Issaquah and Bellevue that need servicing. If you can make a half day of fun family volunteering on either Saturday -- February 25<sup>th</sup> or March 4<sup>th</sup> -- let me know at the Chapter meeting or by phone or email. [jarrabito@comcast.net](mailto:jarrabito@comcast.net) (425) 894-4080.



**These ladies can flat get it done! (L to R) Brooke Nicholson, 21; Kimmy Carlson, 15; and Julie Carlson, 16; granddaughters of WVA-Seattle Chapter member Richard Mathias, all used 20 gauge shotguns to take these 17 Lessers; 2 Honkers; 3 Snow Geese; and 7 ducks in a late October hunt! Remember the 70 degree weather?**

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Renew Online at [www.waduck.org](http://www.waduck.org)

By: Ellen Satre

If you have not received your membership card or decal. Please contact Ellen. As well, if you have questions or changes to your address please contact Ellen at [EllenSWWA@comcast.net](mailto:EllenSWWA@comcast.net) or call 253.845.2398.

### WWA Life Members

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#11 Rich Greenshields	#12 Mike Lovelace	#13 Reserved on Time Payments	#14 Jack Westerfield	#15 Bud Hufnagel
#16 John Arrabito	#17 Jenny Lutz	#18 Mike Lutz	#19 Reserved on Time Payments	#20 Brett Stark
#21 Earl Mikkelson	#22 US Rep Jamie Herrera-Beutler	#23 Ken Packard	#24 Jan Sabin	#25 Lance Kintrea
#26 Jim Kline	#27 Leon Kollman	#28 Derek Melton	#29 Dan Stearns	#30 John Hanson
#31 Mark Hackett	#32 Reserved 2nd Bud Hufnagel	#33 Mickey Clary	#34 Reserved for BQT Presentation (2017)	#35 Reserved for BQT Presentation (2017)
#36 Doug Graef	#37 Robb Stack	#38 Rod Boyer	#39 Paul Sullivan	#40 Jessica Dunn
#41 Dave Farley	#42 Will Goldsmith	#43 Shaunie Cochran	#44 Claudean Talbert	#45 William Dunlap
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#51 Ric Wray	#52 Rich Phillips	#53 Ross Barkhurst	#54 Michael Bess	#55 In Memory of Anne Grichuhin

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## WELCOME TO NEW WWA MEMBERS for January

Last name	First name	Chapter	Membership level
Drewry	Grayson	KP	Family membership
Hannan	Richard	SE	Individual membership two year
Hieronymus	Kelley	ML	Family membership
Davis	Brad	NW	Life Member

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[SEE RESULTS](#)



## News for the Flock

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 in red is a listing of recent contributions to the six (6) primary funds established by the **WWA** since publication of the January 2017 Newsletter.

**WWA Youth Fund — \$1,745**

**Monthly Recurring Donation — Jim Goldsmith, Jan, & Feb 201— \$10**

**WWA Legal Fund — \$17,802**

**WWA Habitat Fund — \$785**

**WWA Jay Koetje Memorial Fund for Skagit Farmed Island — \$1,975**

Dollars used to buy a mower to help maintain the Farmed Island Unit of the Skagit Wildlife Area

**WWA Heritage Lands Fund — \$10,957**

**WWA General Fund — \$154**

You can contribute in so many ways to the **WWA**, from locally in your Chapter, to statewide, helping the **WWA** carry on! Many donations are tax deductible.

Thank you for your generous contribution to the Waterfowler's Heritage.



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# News for the Flock

## TREASURER's REPORT (2-1-2017)

Corporate Checking (BAC)	\$ 13,146.93
Corporate Checking (Banner)	\$ 13,618.95
Funds to be Deposited	\$ 0.00
Duck Stamp Account (As of 1/5/17)	\$ 9,360.13
Merchandise Account (As of 1/5/17)	\$ 2,415.15
Corporate C.D.	\$ 17,627.01
<b>Corporate Total</b>	<b>\$ 56,168.17</b>

## CHAPTER FINANCES

GH Checking (1-7-2016)	\$ 1,632.41
Kitsap Chapter (To Be Funded)	
LC Checking	\$ 27,146.06
ML Checking	\$ 26,046.43
NW Checking	\$ 20,744.64
SEA Checking	\$ 21,927.88
SEA CD Amount	\$ 9,754.40
SEA Robert Hickok Fund	\$ 1,317.17
<b>SEA Total</b>	<b>\$ 32,999.45</b>
SPO Checking	Closed 5/19/2014
SW Checking	\$ 6,671.94
Tri-Cities Checking	\$ 100.00
(Original Seed Money)	
WH Checking	\$ 5,063.37
YV Checking	\$ 2,306.56

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The Washington Waterfowl Association is pleased to present the 2016 Washington State Migratory Bird Stamp and Limited Edition Print created by Mr. Doug Snyder of Chicago, Illinois. Revenue received through this program will be used by the WWA and the WDGW to improve habitat for waterfowl and other migratory birds in Washington.

Please send me:



1 2 3 4 (circle one) or more \_\_\_\_\_: unframed print(s)



1 2 3 4 (circle one) or more \_\_\_\_\_: unframed print(s) and stamp(s)

1 2 3 4 (circle one) or more \_\_\_\_\_: framed print(s) and stamp(s)



If available, the edition number(s) I would like are: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Ship Prints to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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I have included \$55\* for each unframed print for a total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ .00

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I have included \$120\* for each framed print/stamp for a total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ .00

\*(Prices include shipping and handling)

Total Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ .00

Mail a check for the total amount to:

Washington Waterfowl Association  
PO Box 2131  
Auburn, WA 98071-2131



# Business Directory

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Lynnwood, WA [jarrabito@comcast.net](mailto:jarrabito@comcast.net)

### Shooting Ranges

**Old Skagit Gun Club** 360-757-4326  
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For additional information please contact:

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Skagit Valley Photos  
Courtesy of Dave Honan  
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**WWA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>2-Year Regular</b>                    | <b>\$ 50.00</b> | <b>(New)</b> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>2-Year Family</b>                     | <b>\$ 60.00</b> | <b>(New)</b> |
- (2-year memberships not available online)**

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

- Grays Harbor/Chehalis Valley Chapter** meets the 1st Thursday of the month (Feb – Oct) at the **Evergreen Sportsmen's Club**, 12736 Marksman Road, SW, Olympia.
- Kitsap Peninsula Chapter** — Dates and places TBD.
- Lower Columbia Chapter** meets the last Thursday of the month (Jan – Sept) at the **Vancouver Trap Club**, 11100 NE 76th Street in Vancouver.
- Moses Lake Chapter** – Dates and places TBD.
- Northwest Chapter** meets year round the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at the **Conway Fire Hall**.
- Seattle Chapter** meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month (Jan – Oct) at **Kenmore Shotgun Range**, 1031 – 228<sup>th</sup> Street SW, Bothell, WA
- Southwest Chapter** meets on the last Tuesday of the month (Feb – Sept) at the **Tacoma Sportsman's Club**, 16409 Canyon Road E, Puyallup.
- Spokane Chapter** – Vacant
- Tri Cities Chapter** — meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month (Jan – Sept) at the **Kiko's Tacos**, 1014 S Washington Street, Kennewick, WA 99337.
- Whatcom County Chapter** meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the of the month (Jan – Nov.) at the **Tenant Lake Interpretive Center**.
- Yakima Valley Chapter** meets the 2nd Thursday of the month (Feb – Sept) alternating between restaurants in either **Prosser** or **Zillah**. See Page 2 for this month's meeting location.

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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 pay for all of these "hands on" conservation projects.