

Washington Waterfowl Assoc.

HUNTERS FOR CONSERVATION

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April 16, 2018



P.O. Box 2131
Auburn, WA 98071

Letter from the President



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Chair Matt Berry (360) 389-0104

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Chair Abel Cortina (509) 786-9196

In 2017, one of our members directed some criticism at **WWA** regarding our lack of habitat work in recent years. I responded in a forthcoming newsletter article that the **WWA** now spends countless hours working around Washington seeking to preserve the opportunity to pursue our pastime.

I think I can take a punch better than most...but I guess I do have 'thin skin'.

The fact of the matter is that **WWA Directors, Officers and Members** put in thousands of hours in the past 12 months filing **Public Disclosure Requests (PDR's)**, reading and sifting through countless documents, conferring with other organizations, traveling to Olympia and other statewide meeting spots to educate our Legislators as to **WWA's** concerns over the decision making and contractual obligations of the **WDFW**. It was a decision that didn't come easily. Those who were involved knew that it would mean even more volunteered hours in pursuit of preserving access and waterfowl resting and feeding areas. **WWA is making progress in this arena, but the fight continues.**

Recently, long-time member **WWA** member **Tom Irwin** and some other **SW Chapter** volunteers have been constructing Wood Duck nesting boxes and replacing many boxes that have rotted out in south King and Pierce counties. Bless them; it ain't easy packing ladders, hardware and Woody boxes into most the locations the new boxes went in to and the old boxes came out of.

(More from the President on page 3)

Consider becoming a Director or Officer this June.

Consider the future of WWA

See Proposed Ballot on Page 10.

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

News for the Flock

EVENTS CALENDAR

2018 Events

- April 15 **Spring Turkey Season** opened Statewide. See the link to the Regs [here](#).
- April 21 **Clean up day on the lower Nisqually River** with the Grays Harbor Chapter. **More info on pg 5.**
- April 21 **Free Youth Trap Shoot** at Quincy Gun Club. **More info on page 9.**
- April 21 **Turkey Shoot** to benefit "Meals on Wheels" at the **Old Skagit Gun Club**. **Learn more [here](#).**
- April 21 **Washington Outdoor Womens** Introduction to Waterfowling Clinic. **More info on page 16.**
- April 24 **Southwest Chapter Monthly Meeting** at Tacoma Sportsmen's Club in Puyallup at 6:30pm.
- April 25 **Seattle Chapter Monthly Meeting** at Kenmore Shotgun Range. Bird Taxidermy Presentation by **WWA Life Member, John Otto**
- April 26 **Lower Columbia Chapter Monthly Meeting** at the Vancouver Trap Club.
- April 28 **Celebration of Life Service** for NW Chapter Member, **Mark Vance**. **More info on page 3.**
- May 1 **The Whatcom Chapter Monthly Meeting** will be at 7 pm at the Ferndale Public Library.
- May 3 **Grays Harbor Chapter Monthly Meeting** at Evergreen Sportsmen's Club at 7 pm.

May 5 **Kids Annual Fishing Derby** **More info on page 15.**

May 5 **WA Brant Foundation Puget Sound Working Decoy Carving Competition**

NOTE: NEW LOCATION THIS YEAR
Maiben Park., 1011 Greenleaf Ave,
Burlington, WA 98233.

More info on page 14.

May 8 **NW Chapter May Meeting** at the Conway Fire Station at 7 pm.

June 23 & 24 **Oregon Waterfowl Festival** at Polk County Fairgrounds. **Learn more [here](#).** Interested in volunteering? Please contact **Doug Hargin**.

Sept 22 & 23 **Nora Ross Clinic:** Nora Ross, 34 Time ATA All American and a member of the ATA Trap Shooting Hall of Fame, will be returning to the **Old Skagit Gun Club** for a two-day trap shooting clinic. **Learn more [here](#).**

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



Letter from the President Continued from Page 1

Back 15 years ago when the majority of those boxes went up, and the members who went up those ladders were a lot younger, we built the vast majority of them from finished pine boards. We even built a number of boxes out of rough-cut fir. God what were we thinking. The latter boxes must have weighed 50 lbs each!

As a result, I have asked **Director Rod Boyer** to survey all of our chapters and ask them to go into the bush and marshes and assess the condition of our Wood Duck boxes as well as our Mallard nest tubes. No doubt, many haven't been cleaned out, serviced or re-furbished in years. It is my hope that each chapter will come through with a solid assessment of the number of boxes needing replacement. Thereafter, we all can get together at some of our better weather meetings and build new boxes and replace the rotted out units. At succeeding meetings, perhaps our members can re-furbish nest tubes.

In my **WWA** years, the greatest turnouts have been for those meetings where our members were building Wood Duck boxes and Mallard nest tubes. Our oldest members, newest members, kids and grandkids enjoyed partaking. I know good planning and creative seeking of in-field volunteers will get them installed.

I know our members want to believe they 'make a difference' for the Resource. It's one of the main reasons they join **WWA**. When we lose members, deep down, I know it's because some of those members felt they wanted to do more to benefit waterfowl and waterfowlers than **WWA** was executing.

So, back to the aforementioned criticism; perhaps the assessment may have been right. Looking backwards, maybe I should have responded 'What do we need to do?', and 'Will you help?'

As my Mom used to say, "More hands make for less work."

For the Resource,

Jim Cortines

Make Sure You Get the Newsletter in Your Inbox:

With the ever increasing need to stop spam from invading our inboxes sometimes the systems get it wrong and block those things we want to read. So make sure you have "white listed", "safe sender" or "friend" the email address of **WWA**:

wwa@wildapricot.org

Celebration of Life Service for Mark Vance:

Mark Vance, member of **NW Chapter** passed away on Friday, March 30th surrounded by friends, family & his hunting dog Max. Mark will be missed in the blind.

Please join us at his Celebration of Life service: April 28th, 2018 At 11:00_{am} Military Funeral with gun salute at the Grand View Cemetery: 411 Hillcrest Dr. Anacortes, WA 98221

[Click here for directions.](#)



News for the Flock

Southwest Chapter News

By: Bruce Burns

Monthly Meeting:

We had our drawing from the raffle tickets sold during the **2018 Puyallup Sportsmen's Show** at our March meeting. **Congratulations** to the following winners and to everyone that bought raffle tickets.

- 1st Place was **Don Bunselmeier** of Delta Junction, AK;
- 2nd Place was **Dave Braaten**
- 3rd Place was **David Hanson** of the **Seattle Chapter**.

We had a great meeting with some new faces, thanks for all that came out. Some of the things talked about were this years **State Duck Calling Contest**, refurbishing old and installing some new wood duck boxes, and other planning projects for the coming year.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday , April 24 at the **Tacoma Sportsmen's Club** in Puyallup at 6:30 pm. We will be talking about an upcoming youth duck calling clinic, report on the condition and nesting success of the wood duck boxes previously located by our **SW Chapter** in this area.

Looking forward to seeing you.

Whatcom County Chapter News

By: Matt Berry

We have a new meeting location, the **Ferndale Public Library**. The meeting dates and times remains the first Tuesday of each month at 7 pm. We are excited about

meeting in the new space and are currently scheduling speakers on topics covering waterfowl and habitat conservation, gear, duck and goose calling, and more.

Make sure to join us at our next meeting, Tuesday, May 1st at 7 pm, where we will be discussing upcoming blind construction projects and plans for the rest of the year. Contact **Matt Berry** at mdberry12@gmail.com or (360) 389-0104 with questions.

I can't believe we are already only 6 months away from the next season!

Yakima Valley Chapter News

No News This Month

Grays Harbor Chapter News

By: Kurt Snyder

Nesting Program Expanded:

We expanded our nest program by one wood duck box since last month and the newly installed box already has a hen laying! I'm happy to report that we have been getting inquiries about our nesting program from local landowners that want to improve waterfowl habitat and conservation!

We do have some of our nest boxes for sale if anyone is interested. You can't beat the price of \$35.00 apiece! Give me a ring and I'll fix you up.

Take the Quiz:

I added a 10-question duck knowledge quiz in this month's issue. Let me know if you like it. I'll continue to post one monthly if it is liked. I'll post the quiz on our [Facebook page](#) after the membership has a chance to read it. Improvement suggestions are welcome.



Tacoma Sportsmen's Club

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

News for the Flock

Display at Cabela's:

Our Chapter set up a display at the *Lacey Cabela's* on the 24th and 25th of March. It went well, and we were able to get the word out about the **WWA** to hundreds of customers. I need to thank members **Dick Jensen and Branden DeHart** for manning the display for both days! Also, thanks to member **Jon McAninch** for taking pictures and donating three (3) duck mounts for the display. Hopefully we get a few new members for our efforts. It was fun meeting the hundreds of people that showed an interest in our display. The candy bucket kept getting empty though. I think **Dick** was eating it all!

Cedarville Farms Hunt Raffle:

We have kicked off our 2018 **Cedarville Farms Hunt for Two Raffle**. If you would like some tickets please see your Chapter Chairman or you can contact me directly. Remember — each ticket gets you **TWO** chances at a "Hunt for Two" with lodging! The proceeds from this raffle all go to waterfowl conservation and youth programs making it a great way to help out. Check out the Flyer on [page 7](#).

Volunteer Opportunity on Nisqually River:

I have volunteered myself and my boat to do some cleanup on the lower **Nisqually River** on the 21st of April. I have one volunteer going along with me but could use one more body! Let me know if you are interested in doing this. The **Washington Kayak Club** is putting on the clean up event all the way from Yelm down to the mouth. My boat will be on the lower stretch of the river from the 6th Street ramp to the mouth. I'll be launching at the **Luhr Ramp**.



Dick Jensen and Brandon DeHart manning the Grays Harbor Chapter display at Cabela's on the 24th and 25th of March

May Chapter Meeting:

Our next Chapter meeting is on the 3rd of May at the **Evergreen Sportsmen's Club** near Littlerock at 7:00pm sharp! Anyone and everyone is invited! Come and see what we are all about! I'll buy the coffee.

Again Thanks,

Kurt Snyder

360-485-9353

kurtsnyder@outdrs.net



Quiz the Flock

There is a lot about ducks that most hunters don't know. Much of it won't help you bag a limit but is interesting all the same. The info for this quick ten question quiz was provided in an article by **Ken Bailey of WILD-FOWL MAGAZINE, (*Fowl Physiology*, November 2017)**. Thanks to **Kurt Snyder of the Grays Harbor Chapter** you can test your quacker knowledge.

Answers can be found on **page 18**.

1. The northern shoveler has a broad bill designed to:
 - A. Dig for bugs.
 - B. Wave to signal other ducks when danger approaches.
 - C. Strain small invertebrates from water.
 - D. Act as an airfoil for precise altitude control during flight.

2. Ducks can use their feet to control body temperature.

True
False

3. The colored patch on a duck's wing is called a:
 - A. Spatchulum.
 - B. Speculum.
 - C. Flap feathers.
 - D. Wing flag.

4. Name the three types of feathers that all ducks have.

5. How many times does a duck molt (replace feathers) in one year?

Once, Twice, Three Times or Four?

6. Ducks have what kind of vision?
 - A. Binocular.
 - B. Monocular.
 - D. Zoom.
 - E. Acicular.

7. Mallards enjoy what degree of an eyesight viewing window?
 - A. 180 degrees.
 - B. 360 degrees.
 - C. 720 degrees
 - D. 60 degrees times 2 with rapid head movement.

8. Ducks don't have ears but use their bills to absorb sound vibrations giving them excellent hearing.

True.

False.

9. Ducks imprint on their mothers as early as inside the egg as an embryo.

True.

False.

10. Ducks have what type of digestive system?

- A. A crop and stomach.
- B. No crop and two stomachs.
- C. Expandable esophagus and one gizzard.
- D. A crop and a gizzard.

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The advertisement features a large, detailed painting of a golden retriever's head in the foreground, looking towards the right. In the background, two ducks are flying over a body of water with reeds. Below the main image, there is a smaller inset showing two spaniel-type dogs sitting in a grassy field.



OCTOBER 4TH, 2018 HUNT FOR TWO RAFFLE

Cedarville Farms Waterfowl Club and the Grays Harbor Chapter of the Washington Waterfowl Assoc. Two chances at a hunt for two with each ticket purchase. Win a one day, fully guided waterfowl hunt for two at Cedarville Farms Waterfowl Club exclusive properties. Overnight lodging included. All equipment provided except hunters licensing.



www.waduck.org

Washington Waterfowl Association

Ticket price is \$5.00 each or \$20.00 per five

Tickets make great gifts for that hunter that you know!

You get TWO chances with each ticket!

Need not be present to win!

See your local WWA Chapter for purchase or contact below!

**GRAYS HARBOR CHAPTER
Washington
Waterfowl Assn.**

6744 Apricot Ln Sw
Rochester Wa 98579
360-485-9353
kurtsnyder@outdrs.net

www.waduck.org

News for the Flock

Moses Lake Chapter News

By Dick Price

Cast & Blast April 21st, 2018 at Quincy Gun Club

Many lakes in the area are open to fishing now and with the weather turning nicer it is the perfect time to come and fish in the morning and do some trap shooting in the late morning/afternoon.

See the flyer on the adjoin page 9 for information on the free trap shoot for any youth 18 and younger that possesses either a hunting license or a hunter safety card. Shoot as many rounds as you want. The shoot will take place at the **American Legion Quincy Trap Range**. The shoot takes place from 11:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. with a free lunch of hamburgers and all the fix'ins provided at no cost. All the shells and targets will be provided at no cost, and loaner shotguns will be available to those that need them. Again see the flyer for all the details. **Tom O'Dell** is the major sponsor of this event through the **Moses Lake Friends of the NRA Chapter**.

Kitsap County Chapter News

No News This Month

Bio for Bruce Burns for WWA Board of Directors

I am running for election to one of the **WWA Board of Directors** positions in the upcoming June 2018 Election.

I have been a member of **Southwest Chapter** of the **WWA** for the past 10 years, two (2) years ago I took over the Chairperson of the Southwest Chapter. During my time with the organization I have been involved in setting up and running the **WWA** booth at the annual **Puyallup Sportsman Show**; maintaining the duck blinds at **Rapjohn Lake**; plus other volunteer projects with this Chapter.

About six (6) months ago I was appointed to the **WWA Board of Directors** to fill a open position, around the same time I was invited to the newly formed **Pierce County Sports and Recreation Council**.

Order Your 2017 Duck Stamps & Prints

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<http://www.shuttlepod.org/duckstamp>



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News for the Flock

MOSES LAKE FNRA FREE TRAP SHOOT

Saturday, April 21, 2018 at the Quincy Gun Club
14550 Road Q N.W. 98848
from 11:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

There will be free trap shooting for all youths 18 and under that possess a hunter safety card or hunting license. All shells and targets will be provided at no cost to the participants.

Youth must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Lunch of Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Beverages, and chips will be provided also at no cost.

So we will know how much food is provided please sign up with either:

Dick Price: 509-762-9027

dickprice@nctv.com

or

Tom O'Dell: 509-764-8557

Mallard1@qosi.net

This event is sponsored by the Moses Lake Friends of the
NRA & the Quincy Gun Club.

Officer and Board Member Elections

NOMINATIONS for Organization-wide **WWA** Officers and Board of Directors are open through the month of May, with a final **WWA Ballot** to be published in the June 15, 2018 Newsletter. All Officer positions are up for election because of mid-term appointments and end of two-year terms.

BOARD MEMBERS OPEN POSITIONS:

In addition, [per Article III, Section 4, of the current **WWA By-Laws**] six (6) new directors were appointed by **President Jim Cortines** for various reasons to fill vacancies that occurred in the **Board of Directors** in 2017 and 2018. Those new Board Members in alphabetical order are: **Bruce Burns, Jim Goldsmith, David Irons, Earl Mikkelson, Mark Pidgeon, and Kurt Snyder**, and their appointments are valid until the next annual election in June.

Only Board Member **Rod Boyer** is not up for election as he is in the last year of a 2-year term.

The current suggested ballot of the **WWA-Corporate** offices and board positions is set forth to the right. **WWA by-laws encourage a board member from each Chapter, who may participate in board meetings electronically.**

The adjacent ballot is ADVISORY ONLY.
The official and final ballot will be published in the June 2018 WWA Newsletter.

Absentee Ballot — This ballot may be used as an Absentee Ballot. To vote by Absentee Ballot, first mark your ballot and place it in a blank envelope without any identification of the sender, and seal it. Place the unmarked envelope in an envelope identifying the voting member with a return address. In order to be counted, absentee ballots will only be counted from members who have paid their 2018 dues.

Ballots must be emailed to outgoing President **Jim Cortines** at: wawtrfwlr@comcast.net, or postmarked and addressed to:

WWA,
P.O. Box 2131
Auburn, WA 98071

by **June 30, 2018.**

WWA Corporate Sample Ballot

Corporate Offices: (One Vote For Each Office)

President
[] _____
(Write In)

Vice President
[] **Rick Holt**
[] _____
(Write In)

Secretary
[] **Bob Taylor**
[] _____
(Write In)

Treasurer
[] **John Arrabito**
[] _____
(Write In)

[Board of Directors: (Vote For No More than 8) (Listed In Alphabetical Order with Chapter Designations)]

- [] **Abel Cortina (YV)**
- [] **Bruce Burns (SW)**
- [] **Jim Goldsmith (GH)**
- [] **Bruce Feagan (ML)**
- [] **David Irons (SEA)**
- [] **Earl Mikkelson (SW)**
- [] **Mark Pidgeon (SW)**
- [] **Kurt Snyder (GH)**

[] _____
(Write In)

[] _____
(Write In)

[] _____
(Write In)

[] _____
(Write In)

[] _____
(Write In)

[] _____
(Write In)

News for the Flock

Seattle Chapter News

By John Arrabito

April Meeting to Feature Bird Taxidermy Demonstration

Our April 25th's meeting will feature a game bird taxidermy demonstration from start to finish by **WWA Life Member, John Otto**. As I have stated before, the 31 original duck mounts in the **WWA Corporate Trailer** were done and donated to **WWA** by **John**. They've been seen at untold number of sports shows promoting **WWA** over the years, and can be seen next at the **WA Brant Foundation Festival and Decoy Carving Contest** in Burlington, on Saturday, May 5th. [See **NW Chapter News** for more].

Many thanks to Professional Guide, **Matt Stevens**, for his **Turkey Hunting Presentation** at our March meeting. **Matt** used many of the same calling and stalking techniques he demonstrated at our meeting, to successfully guide his son, **Sam**, to a couple of longbeards during the **Youth-Only Season** on April 7-8. Turkey hunting is open statewide thru May 31st, and the **Regs** are linked in the Calendar of Events on page 2 of this Newsletter.



Bird Taxidermy all starts with skinning, cleaning, and degreasing the bird.



John's mark up of his son, Jack's, first red head!

It's so encouraging to see and read about young people like **Sam Stevens** and **Jack Otto** getting involved in, and excited about, our hunting heritage.

WWA members of **ALL** Chapters are welcome to attend our meeting at the **Kenmore Shotgun Range**. Trap and 5-stand are open all afternoon until 7 p.m., followed by pizza and soda, and then **John's presentation**.

News for the Flock

Lower Columbia Chapter News

By: Doug Hargin

Great Turnout For RNWR Cleanup:

We had 27 volunteers show up on Saturday March 17th for our annual post season clean-up and shut down of the hunt area on the **River S Unit of the Ridgefield National Wildlife Area**. We divided into teams and headed out to remove water from the older cement pit blinds and cover them with plastic to keep them dry for next season. The three (3) newer pit blinds we have donated in the last few

years seal up tight from the rain and critters and are much less work to take care of. We picked wads, shell casings and other garbage from all the blinds. Water levels were really high so there will be more to pick up later this summer. It seems each year we have an unusual event or "find" during the clean-up. As it was **St Patrick's Day**, maybe a Leprechaun or a pot of gold who knows? **Ted Blade, Dan Hafenbrack, Ron Anderson** and **Travis Shemp** headed out to clean blind 5. Upon arrival at the pit blind they found the covers off the blind. They expected a lot of water to scoop out but that was not to be the only challenge. A live goose was in the pit. They quickly helped the fowl out of the pit. The terrible stench



Left: Ron Anderson (in the pit), Travis Shemp, Ted Blade (R).
Right: Ted blade serving up the Nutria. Read the story to see what they mean! EWWWW...
Lower: The full work party at the RNWR Cleanup!
Good job everyone!!!

Photos by Dan Hafenbrack



News for the Flock

(Lower Columbia News Continued from Page 12)

They quickly helped the fowl out of the pit. The terrible stench revealed two (2) nutria had met their demise in the pit blind. After removing the carcasses they proceeded to scoop out the especially odiferous water. The good news is we now have meat for our next meeting to BBQ! (well maybe not).

Our thanks to **Cindy** and **Dave Lescaleet** for their time representing the refuge at the work party. Thanks to all the volunteers for your time and effort at the work party.

New Pit Blinds:

We have committed as a chapter to purchase three (3) more welded copolymer construction four (4) person pit blinds (we add a dog box in the 4th slot) from **MTECH**. The blinds have been a popular replacement for cement and cylinder blinds they will replace. The company is phasing out their line of pit blinds to concentrate on other products as of this month. The refuge will help out with the cost of one of the blinds. Future placement of the new blinds will depend on time of delivery, work load and soil saturation conditions at the refuge.

Oregon Waterfowl Festival June 24th & 25th:

Our chapter is supporting the festival as a Lead Sponsor again this year. We invite all **WWA** members to join us that weekend at our booth. The location has moved back to the **Polk County Fairgrounds in Rickreall, OR**.

The event is billed as the largest waterfowl festival west of the Mississippi. The organizers are working hard to make this the best one yet. Check out their website at: <http://oregonwaterfowlfestival.com/>.

**We will need your help staffing our booth!
Please contact Doug if available.**



Bruce Head (L) was the high bidder at the Lower Columbia Banquet last September for a spring salmon fishing trip with Ridgefield adventures guide (and WWA member) Dion Hess (R).

They were able to get out March 30th and banged out to fish by 8:00 am.

With the water conditions and small run this year that was quite a feat! Thanks to Bruce for bidding and the donation from Dion!

News for the Flock

Northwest Chapter News

By: Rick Billieu

The NW Chapter has had a busy past couple of months completing our annual Wood Duck Box and Mallard Nesting Tube maintenance activities. We also deployed another 10 Wood Duck Nesting Boxes in the region. Other activities included clean-up parties at several local Wildlife Areas. **Thanks to all of the members** that took time out of their schedules to volunteer and support these chapter activities.

April Chapter Meeting:

April's meeting included guest speakers **Cole Caldwell** from **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife**. Cole is the Supervisor Biologist for the **Private Lands and Wildlife Conflict Programs, Region 4**. Cole shared information on the department's future Licensing web site set to implement later this year. The new web site integrates existing and numerous improved features. He also reviewed department funding in relation to the quantity of private lands sites (**Reservation and Feel free to Hunt**) the department can acquire through individual contracts.

Our Second guest speaker was **Jamin Woody**, Owner of **ManBling Customs** www.manblingcustoms.com. Jamin's business provides specialty coatings including **Cerakote** for firearms, scopes and other items. Gunsmithing, stock refinishing, custom laser engraving and more. **Jamin** brought several firearms and laser cut/engraved items for us to check out. My rust bucket **Benelli Nova** will see the inside of his shop soon.

We bombarded **Cole** and **Jamin** with LOTS of questions and received outstanding information. Thank You, **Cole** and **Jamin** for your attendance!

Washington Brant Foundation Decoy Carving Contest:

Here's an opportunity to show off your decoy carving talent. The **Washington Brant Foundation** is hosting its annual Decoy Carving Competition on **Saturday, May 5th**.

The events special guests include nationally recognized carvers **Rob Capriola** from CA and **Marty**

Hanson from Wisconsin. Both will bring works to display and be available to visit. Also attending will be expert **Mike Miller** with his books documenting the history of west coast decoys.

Competition classes include Novice, Pro, a special Mini, and the **DU State Championship**.

Other displays will include **WA Waterfowl Association (WWA)** mounted bird display, **Skagit Muzzle Loaders** Antique Firearms, **Live Raptors**, and various decoy related vendors. Food available. Judging ongoing until noon, then awards, live auction of decoys and related items, and sponsor gun raffle. Entries check in at 9 a.m.

NOTE NEW Location this Year: Maiben Park, 1011 Greenleaf Ave, Burlington, WA 98233.

For Info, Rules and Directions, contact **Kurt Benson** 425-231-6497, www.WaBrant.org

WASHINGTON BRANT FOUNDATION
ANNUAL FUNDRAISER CELEBRATION

2018
Puget Sound
Working Decoy
Carving Competition

Saturday May 5, 2018
10:00 Judging, Vendors, Displays
12:00 Results, Awards
12:30 Live Auction, Sponsor Raffle
Maiben Park 1011 Greenleaf Ave
Burlington, WA 98233

Competition Classes:
... Brant ... Open ... Novice ... Mini
Info Kurt Benson - 425-231-6497
www.WaBrant.org

WASHINGTON
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WASHINGTON

News for the Flock

This is always a fun event for the family and if you want to enter a decoy this would be the perfect event. I'll be enjoying the fun. See you there!

Kids Fishing Derby:

The **Wildcat Steelhead Club** is having their annual **Kids Fishing Derby** on Saturday, May 5th. Gate opens at 7 am; Fishing Starts at 8 am. This is a Juvenile Fishing Pond, ages 14 and under. Prizes, Hot dogs, Soda and Hot Chocolate. Bring your own gear and if you don't have any, there will be some to borrow. Release Forms can be picked up at **Big Scoop** in Mount Vernon, **Holiday Sports** in Burlington, **Sedro Woolley Chamber of Commerce**, **Oliver Hammer Clothing Store** in Sedro Woolley and at the Derby. Sponsors and donations are greatly appreciated for prizes as well as Volunteers the Day of Derby.

May Meeting:

The **Northwest Chapter** meets on the second Tuesday each month. Our next meeting will be held on May 8th, at the **Conway Fire Station** starting at 7 pm. Gift Certificate Raffle at the end of each meeting. See you there and bring a friend.

Support your passion – get involved

Rick Billieu

rgbillieu@frontier.com

KIDS' ANNUAL FISHING DERBY
Sat. May 5th, 2018

For Kids 14 years and under
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www.wildcatsteelheadclub.org

Gates open at 7:00 am
Fishing from 8am to 4pm
Limited parking available
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Participants may pick up sign up release forms after April 15 at these locations:
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E-mail: nwducks@frontier.com

SEE RESULTS

Mark Your Calendar:

Turkey Shoot--April 21, 2018 to benefit "Meal on Wheels" at the **Old Skagit Gun Club**. Learn more at: <https://www.oldskagit.com/turkey-shoot.html>

Nora Ross Clinic: **Nora Ross**, 34 time ATA All American and a member of the **ATA Trap Shooting Hall of Fame**, will be returning to **Old Skagit** for a two-day trap shooting clinic on September 22 & 23, 2018. Learn more at: <https://www.oldskagit.com/nora-ross-two-day-clinic.html>

News for the Flock

Washington Outdoor Women



Washington Outdoor Women

WOW is an outdoor skills program that empowers women and girls through classes that sharpen their outdoor talents and improve their wilderness know-how. We know you have the potential....WOW offers the opportunity!

Introduction to Waterfowling



Pull on your boots and head into the field with us for a hands-on introduction to Waterfowling! By the end of the day you will be familiar with the history of waterfowling, its regulations, its ethics and conservation efforts. See what it's like to sit in a duck blind and then watch the controlled eagerness of a Labrador as she/he retrieves! Learn about the necessary equipment a duck hunter needs. This is a hands-on, active day, conducted in duck hunting terrain! It will require lots of walking and wading conditions. Knee high rubber boots or hip boots are a must for the ponds and blinds.



Date: Saturday, April 21, 2018
Time: 8:30 am—4:30 pm
Location: Private Hunt Club near Monroe, WA
Age: 18 and up
Skill Level: Beginner/Novice
Cost: \$135 includes expert instruction, equipment, shotguns, ammunition, clays, light breakfast and a hearty lunch.

Information and registration: washingtonoutdoorwomen.org

Washington Outdoor Women is an educational program of the Washington Wildlife Federation www.washingtonwildlife.org

Washington Outdoor Women
PO Box 1656
Bellevue, WA 98009
425-455-1986 or 206-849-9691



Answers for the Flock

Answers to duck knowledge quiz from page 6.

1. **c.** Shovelers have up to seven times the comb-like tissues (lamelle) in their bill as do other ducks maximizing their filtering capabilities.
2. **True.** Ducks have a proprietary blood vessel system for their legs and feet that is used for controlling body temperature on hot days in addition to keeping their legs and feet from freezing in cold temps.
3. **b. Speculum.** The reason for this sometimes very colored patch is only speculation. Some hunters believe that the speculum is there for ducks to use as identification of other ducks in flight or for mating attraction.
4. The three types of duck feathers are; **Flight feathers** that are necessary for flying. **Body feathers** that contour the body for air streaming and waterproofing. And **Insulating down.**
5. **b. 2.** The first after mating when all feathers are replaced (eclipse), and the second during the last part of the year when just body feathers are replaced (mating). It is notable that ducks cannot fly during the time of the first molting because their flight feathers are being replaced.
6. **b. Monocular** because their eyes are on the sides of their heads. Because of this, ducks have poor depth perception. They need to move their heads very quickly, slightly to the left and right before landing to correct for this.
7. **b. 360 degrees.**
8. **False.** They have ears but no external ear flaps and they do have excellent hearing.
9. **a. True.** Because of their advanced hearing capabilities.

10. **c.** Ducks don't have a crop but their esophagus can expand enough to hold a lot of food. Wood duck can hold several acorns in their expanded esophagus. The gizzard has evolved as a lightweight alternative to a heavy stomach.

Classifieds— For Sale and Wanted

Wanted:

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.**

For Sale:

Go clean out your garage! You know you have something you should get rid of! Send it to Matty by the 10th of the month for inclusion in the May newsletter.

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 or call 509.944.1009 by the 10th of the month.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Renew Online at 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 or call 253.845.2398.

WWA Life Members

JOIN THE HERITAGE CLUB

\$500 Life Member; \$750 Sustaining Lifetime Member

WADUCK.ORG

- | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|--|
| #1 Gary Talbert | #2 Paul Bunn | #3 Austin Addicoat | #4 Rone Brewer | #5 Fritz Kimle |
| #6 Jim Corines | #7 Neco Villella | #8 Roger Bennett | #9 Bruce Feagan | #10 Larry Gordon |
| #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 Anonymous |
| #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 Logan Sanday | #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 |
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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 five (5) primary funds established by the **WWA** since publication of the March 2018 Newsletter.

- WWA Youth Fund — \$2,565**
- WWA Legal Fund — \$18,172**
- WWA Habitat Fund — \$910**
- Lyle Renz — \$15**
- 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 (2-27-2018)

At its February 27th Board of Directors (BOD) Meeting, the WWA Board voted to stop publishing our monthly financial report in the Newsletter which is available to the general public on our website [www.waduck.org].

However, in an effort to maintain and continue our history of financial transparency with respect to our membership, the monthly Treasurer's Report will be emailed to not only the BOD, but also to each and every Chapter Chairman to be made available for inspection and review by the Chapter membership or any individual Chapter member in good standing with dues paid current at any regularly scheduled Chapter Meeting.

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2017 Washington Migratory Bird Stamp Print Order Form

The **Washington Waterfowl Association** is pleased to present the 2017 Washington State Migratory Bird Stamp and Limited-Edition Print created by **Ms. Dee Dee Murry** of Centralia, WA. Revenue received through this program will be used by the **WWA** and the **WDFW** 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 _____

Address _____

Email Address _____ Phone _____

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

I have included \$70* for each unframed print & stamp for a total of \$ _____ .00

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

Support the Merchants that support us!

Environmental Consulting

Sound Ecological Endeavors 206-595-7481
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Lawyers

John T. Arrabito 425-894-4080
Attorney at Law (FAX) 425-775-8016
Lynnwood, WA jarrabito@comcast.net

Shooting Ranges

Old Skagit Gun Club 360-757-4326
Trap and 5-Stand
Burlington, WA

Dentistry

Gary Berner, DDS, PLLC 360-679-3441
General Dentistry
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www.cookcanyon.com Ellensburg, WA

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Keith Sorestad, Agent
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FARMLAND AND PUBLIC ACCESS PRESERVATION

The WWA is launching a private land/public access program called *Heritage Lands*. The goal is farmland preservation and public outdoor recreation opportunity, with the initial implementation in the Skagit and Stillaguamish River valleys.

DON'T let your Heritage Lands Turn from this into....



This Program will **Purchase Farmland, Preserve it, Conserve it, Promote it, Maintain it, and Manage it for Waterfowl and Public Hunting for you and the Next Generation.**

We need your personal, corporate, or in-kind commitment to help us exceed our goal of \$300,000! We currently have a benefactor that will match the first \$2,000. Contact Rone Brewer to donate (206) 595-7481.

Every Donation Helps! WWW.WADUCK.ORG

For additional information please contact:

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nwducks@frontier.com**

Skagit Valley Photos
Courtesy of Dave Honan
www.davehonan.com

WWA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____, State: _____, Zip: _____

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
 - 2-Year Regular \$ 50.00 (New)**
 - 2-Year Family \$ 60.00 (New)**
- (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 – Oct) at the **Vancouver Trap Club**, 11100 NE 76th Street in Vancouver.
- Moses Lake Chapter** – Dates and places TBD.
- Northwest Chapter** meets year round the 2nd Tuesday of the month at the **Conway Fire Hall**.
- Seattle Chapter** meets the 4th Wednesday of the month (Jan – Oct) at **Kenmore Shotgun Range**, 1031 – 228th Street SW, Bothell, WA
- Southwest Chapter** meets on the last Tuesday of the month (Feb – Sept) at the **Tacoma Sportsmen’s Club**, 16409 Canyon Road E, Puyallup.
- Spokane Chapter** – Vacant
- Tri Cities Chapter** — Dates and places TBD.
- Whatcom County Chapter** meets the 1st Tuesday of the of the month (Jan – Nov.) at the **Ferndale Public Library**.
- Yakima Valley Chapter** — Dates and places TBD.

Pay with a credit card from our website:

www.waduck.org

or

Mail with a check to:

WWA,
10610 66th Avenue E.
Puyallup, WA 98373

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.