

Washington Waterfowl Assoc.

HUNTERS FOR CONSERVATION

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JULY 15, 2023



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etter from the President



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Chair **VACANT**

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Whatcom Chapter

Chair Lyle Galloway (360) 201-1775

Yakima Valley Chapter

Chair Marcus Leuck (509) 899-7284

Greetings, Washington Waterfowlers!

More Random Thoughts

Salmon Fishing

I've been thinking a lot about Salmon fishing this summer knowing it's a pink- salmon-run-year and wanting to get out with my two sons to catch some pinks. I just came back from **Westport** Sunday fishing for salmon with **Gary Uhlig**, the 5-stand **Range Master** at the **Kenmore Gun Range**. We had a blast! See the article on **Page 20**.

Goose Banding

The last week in June I was initiated in some goose banding with **WDFW** biologists up in **Whatcom County**. See that story in the article on **Page 16**. This was a great conservation effort, and I want to publicly thank **WDFW** and especially **Matthew Wilson**, the **Department's head biologist** for the opportunity to assist.

Decoy Carving

I'm always thinking about all thing's ducks and decoys so I picked up a new batch of decoy carving wood this past Saturday from the **WA Refuge Forum Decoy Carving Club's** bulk-wood-buy. Thanks to **WWA** member and **WA Brant Foundation** officer, **Kurt Benson** for procuring the 4-inch-thick slabs of white and yellow cedar and balsa wood.

I'm starting to carve an extinct species of duck this time — working on a **Labrador Sea Duck** that can only be found in the taxidermy of the **Smithsonian Museum**. I've been tasked by **WWA Corporate Secretary, Bob Taylor**, to create this decoy as an urn to hold the ashes of his old hunting dog companion, **Spirit!** No pressure!! Wish me luck.

The WDFW Commission

On a more serious note, there has been a great deal of discussion on the **WDFW Commission** this past month after the spirited public comments at the recent — and first ever — **Seattle** meeting of that governing body. See the **Legislative Report** by **Mark Pidgeon** on **Pages 12-13** for more details.

(Continued on Page 2)

MISSION STATEMENT

TO PRESERVE, PROTECT AND PROMOTE WATERFOWL, WATERFOWL HABITAT, & WATERFOWL HUNTING IN WASHINGTON STATE

News for the Flock

2023 EVENTS CALENDAR

- Tues, July 25 SW Chapter Meeting
Tacoma Sportsmen’s Club
New Location — Main Lodge
- Weds, July 26 Seattle Chapter Meeting
Kenmore Gun Club
- Thurs, July 27 Quarterly Meeting of ML Chapter
O’Sullivan Dam Clubhouse
Potholes Reservoir, Othello
See ML News, **Page 3**
- Thurs, July 27 Lower Columbia Chapter Meeting
Vancouver Trap and Gun Club
- Weds, Aug 2 WWA Board Meeting Online Only —
7:00 pm. All WWA Members
welcome to attend. **Contact Corp
Secretary, Bob Taylor, for a *WebEx*
online invitation. See **Page 1****
- Sat, Aug 5 WA State Sanctioned Duck Calling
Contest, Orting Station,
Orting, WA
See Flyers on **Pages 7 & 15**
- Thurs, Aug 3 Grays Harbor Chapter Meeting
Evergreen Sportsmen’s Club
- Tues, Aug 8 Whatcom County Chapter Meeting
Ferndale Public Library
- Weds, Aug 9 NW Chapter Meeting
Twin Cities Sportsmens Club
- Sat, Aug 19 Colton Smith Memorial Youth Shoot
Evergreen Sportsmen’s Club
See Flyer on **Page 9**
- Fri thru Sun
Sept 22-24 Columbia Flyway & Wildlife Show
Clatsop County Fairgrounds and
Expo Center, Astoria, OR
See Flyer on **Page 19**
- Sat, Sept 30 National Hunting and Fishing Day
Newport, WA See Story on **Page 6**

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Commission
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Wildlife Art Show
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- Pages **22-23** **NEW 2023 WWA Duck Stamp &
Print Order Form**
- Page **24** **Hunter’s Table**
Wild Duck w/ Cherry Wine Sauce
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- Page **31** WWA Membership Application

(President’s Letter Continued from Page 1)

I watched many of the hunter’s public comments presented live on the internet and was happy to see the state was getting a taste of the public sentiment about changing the policy of **WDFW** from one of “**Conservation to one of “Preservation!”** Many fellow hunters, including our own **Ben Harrison** from the **Seattle Chapter**, came out in force and gave their input with a clear message to the **Commission**. *Kudos* to all that stood up and spoke against the **Commission’s** new proposal.

For the Resource,

Paul McGovern

WWA President

News for the Flock

Moses Lake Chapter News

By Bruce Feagan and Dick Price

Photos from a June 2023 Alaskan Bear Hunt
by Moses Lake Chapter members,
Debbie and David Allen.

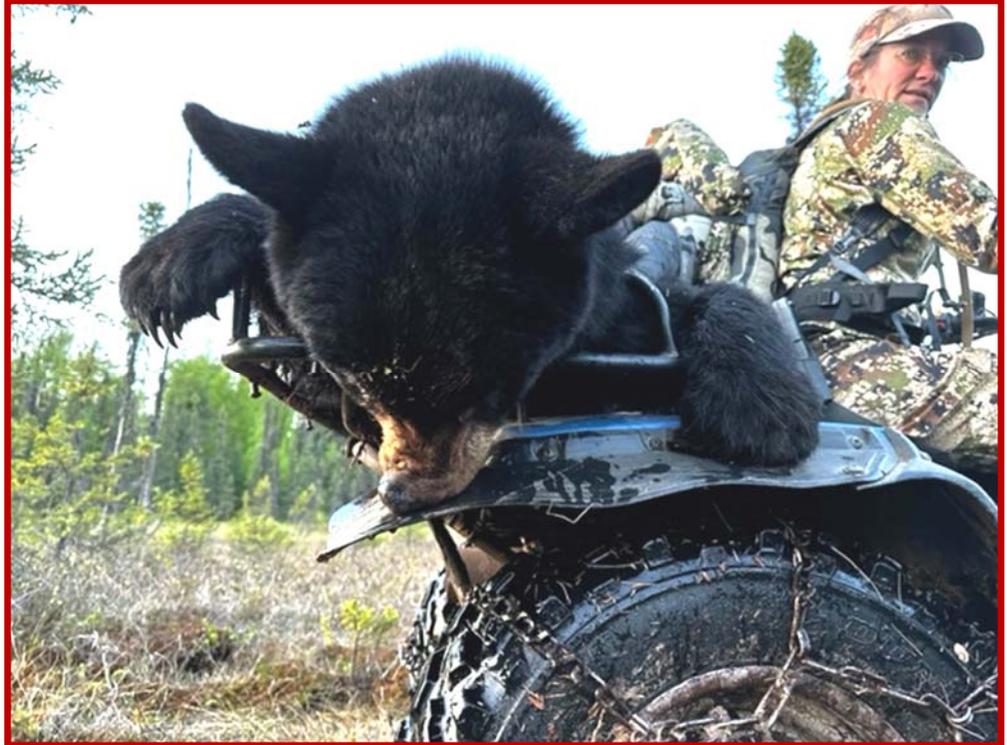
Next Quarterly Meeting, July 27th

The **Moses Lake Chapter** will be holding its quarterly meeting on Thursday, July 27, 2023. The meeting will be held at the **O'Sullivan Sportsman Resort Clubhouse**, beginning at 6 pm. (Near **Potholes State Park** — 6897 Highway 262 SE, Othello, WA 99344, for **GPS** purposes).

Sargent Chris Busching of the **WDFW** will be the featured speaker.

Another Family Fun Shoot in Quincy Coming Up on August 26th

We will have another **FREE Youth-Only** trap shoot for young people on th-only on Saturday, August 26th, 2023. As usual, it will take place at the **Quincy Gun Club** between the hours of 10 am. until 3 pm. This time we will have limited items for the youth as we are seeing the same faces most of the time. Bring a new friend! We will continue to have **FREE** lunch and water for everyone. See Flyer on **Page 11**.



Family Bear Affair

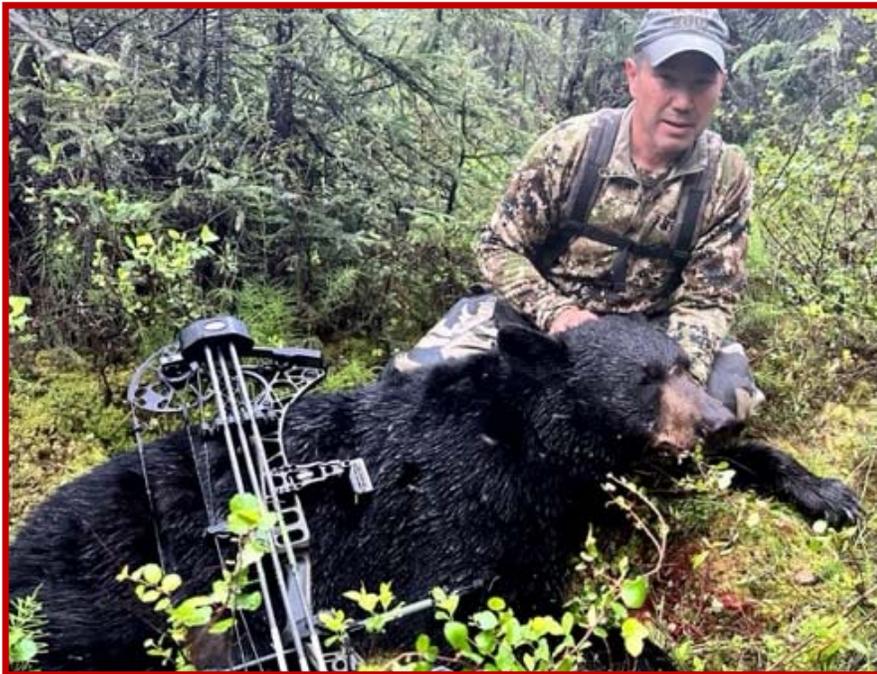
You viewed their opening weekend, husband-wife, double-up on turkeys in the **May 2023 WWA Newsletter** (linked [here](#)). The week of June 5th, the **Allen** family went bear hunting in **Alaska** near their cabin on the **Yentna River**.

Reports **Allan**:

“My daughter, **Mallori**, killed the first bear, which came in on us as we were stocking the bait station. The bear came in the about 15 yards and then did a short charge at my daughter, and I. She shot him with a 45-70 at very close range (about 6 yards) and stopped him.

Debbie shot her bear later that evening with a perfect shot with her bow. It was her first bow kill.

We went back the week of June 20th, and I tagged my bear with a bow.”



Congratulations to ML Chapter members
— **Kenneth and Diana Shields** —
as new **WWA Life Members!**
See story on **Page 25**.

News for the Flock

Lower Columbia Chapter News

By Doug Hargin

Ridgefield NWR Work Party Report

On **Saturday, June 24th**, we finished up blinds that were deferred due to nesting cranes in the vicinity of blinds #'s 8-14.

We looked at placement location for blind #5 for the **Black Box polymer pit blind** that will replace it. There is a deep depression about 10 yards closer to the shore and offset slightly to the south that should work out great for

the new blind. The blind will be installed as it currently is moving material from the original location to create an island.

We also salvaged a dog box off an aluminum pit blind that **WWA-LC** had purchased approximately 12 years ago. We replaced it several years ago with another **Black Box Pit Blind**. We will sell for salvage the ¼" aluminum blind as it was unfortunately destroyed during the removal.

Blind #3 needs metal framework supporting floor repaired and a new floor decking. **WWA-LC** will provide the materials to get the blind ready for the season.

Thanks to **Chris Stalcup, Bill Goodenough, Bill Dose, Arlan Hackett, Bob Taylor, Michael Andreotti, Marlin Reinholdt** and **Doug Hargin** for their volunteer efforts.

Also, a **BIG THANK YOU** to **Chadd Smith** with **USFWS** for his willingness to supervise on his day off!



Chadd Smith checks out the floor on Blind #3

Always Looking For Your Input!

We need your input for the newsletter. Hunting stories, unusual experiences, recipes and/or photos. Where do you hunt? Did you have a good hunt or memorable event? New tech help and gear, advice and ideas you can share, experiences hunting other venues. Whatever would interest you to read about in this newsletter.

Please submit them to dlhargin@msn.com. Thank you!

Vancouver Trap Club



11100 NE 76th Street
Vancouver, WA 98662
(360) 892-5005

[Vancouver Trap and Gun Club](http://www.vancouvertrapandgunclub.com)

News for the Flock

(Right)

Chadd Smith of USFWS and LC Chapter Chair Michael Andreotti survey the old aluminum Ridgefield NWR Blind #17 which was destroyed during removal a number of years ago.



(Below)

Doug Hargin, Bill Dose and Chadd Smith clean and cover Blind #2.



News for the Flock

Southwest Chapter News

Planning Continues for State Calling Contest

The SW Chapter is back on schedule for a Tuesday, June 25th meeting at the Tacoma Sportsmen's Club. Once again the main agenda will be continued planning for the scheduled August 5th Washington State Duck Calling Contest to be hosted in Orting, WA.

Discount for Early Registrants

One update, Calling Contest Chairman Bob Taylor will be offering a 50% discount on entrance fees for those contestants who register early — before July 31st!

See Flyer on adjacent Page 7 Early Registration Form is linked from Flyer.

We're still looking for donations of prizes for the event, and have already secured a shotgun; electronic dog collar, and a matching set of custom made duck and goose calls

See Flyer for donations on Page 15

Wenatchee Chapter News

Whatcom County Chapter News

Yakima Valley Chapter News

No News This Month

Spokane Chapter News

WWA has been invited by WDFW to participate in the annual free National Hunting and Fishing Day event (NHFD) for youth and families. This year's event will take place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, September 30th at Camp Cowles in Newport, Washington.

WWA has joined in this event twice in the past — complete with the WWA Duck Mount Trailer Display. However both of those occasions were on the West side. Once in September of 2017 at Camp Pigott in Snohomish, and the other in September of 2019 at the Tacoma Sportsmen's Club in Puyallup.

The WWA Board of Directors has authorized the use of the Duck Mount Trailer to be brought this far East, provided we have enough volunteers to staff the booth. Unfortunately WWA-Spokane Chapter Chair John Rasmussen has a family obligation that weekend and can't attend. Please contact WWA President Paul McGovern (contact info on page 1 of this Newsletter) if you can volunteer that Saturday.

NHFD uses this event to promote outdoor recreation, safety, conservation, and good stewardship by providing hands-on hunting, fishing and conservation-related experiences and opportunities for youth and their families.

At the event, there will be many educational displays and hands-on activities sponsored by WDFW and other conservation groups and participants. Past activities have included trout fishing, fly tying demonstrations, rod and reel casting practice, flint knapping, and making plaster animal track casts, fish prints, seed balls and butterfly houses.

In addition, youth accompanied by a parent or guardian are invited to participate in shooting sports with department-owned archery equipment, BB-guns, air rifles, .22 rifles, and 20-gauge shotguns. They will receive training, guidance and encouragement from certified Range Safety Officers, Hunter Education Instructors and Master Hunters as well as staff and volunteers from the department's Hunter Education Program.

All youth attendees will receive a reusable drawstring bag containing several shooting and outdoor safety-related items, informational pamphlets, and will also enjoy door prize drawings and many giveaways provided by local and national retailers.



Tacoma Sportsmen's Club

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

News for the Flock

Saturday, August 5th, 2023

9:00 a.m. Registration
Download Entry Form [here](#)

10:00 a.m. Competition Begins
at Orting Station

101 Washington Avenue NW
Orting, WA 98360



The 2023 Washington State Duck and Goose Calling Championships

Email Registration Form to bobtaylor15.com before August 1st for Half Off Registration Fee!

Kids 12 and Under Duck – **FREE** (do NOT need to pre-register)
Novice Duck – 13 and up (have not previously competed) -- \$25
Washington State Sanction Duck -- \$50
Open Goose -- \$40

***** AMAZING 1st, 2nd, and 3rd PLACE PRIZES *****

Washington State Sanction Winner will receive \$1,000 for travel to World Championships

Fun Audience Participation Event: Old Coot (Decoy) Toss for MAD \$\$\$!! Youth & Adult Opportunity!

Any Questions, Please Contact:

Rob Strong at ruckusoutfitters@yahoo.com (206) 714-0178
OR

Bob Taylor at bobtaylor15@icloud.com (360)798-5342

Food and Drinks will be Available On Site

Hosted By:

Washington Waterfowl Association – Southwest Chapter
Chairman, Bruce Burns: (253) 961-8802

News for the Flock

Northwest Chapter News

By: Rick Billieu

Blind Maintenance and Restoration

For the last few years the **NW Chapter** has constructed several new hunting blinds at the **Samish Unit** of the **Skagit Wildlife Area**. The blinds at the unit see a tremendous amount of use during the general season. In the next few weeks we will be completing an assessment of the blind conditions and gathering materials needed for all repairs.

On August 26th the chapter will be working to complete repairs, harvest *Canary Grass* and brush-up the blinds. Additional information on the maintenance party will be sent to the membership.

The **Northwest Chapter** meets on the second Wednesday each month. Our next meeting will be held on August 9th, at the **Twin Cities Sportsmens Club**. Trap shooting starts at 6:00 pm, and the business portion starts at 7 pm. Raffle at the end of each meeting. See you there and bring a friend.

Support your passion –get involved

[Rick Billieu rgbillieu@frontier.com](mailto:Rick.Billieu@frontier.com)



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STANWOOD WA

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Stanwood, WA 98292
(360) 629-3474

www.tcsportsmanclub.org

Grays Harbor Chapter News

By: Kurt Snyder

Hi Everyone!

We had a good July business meeting. There were not a lot of us, but we did get some planning done.

First, we discussed our next set of work parties that will be in August, at places and times **TBA**. We will be placing some mallard nesting tubes and checking some of our woodie duck nest boxes in that time frame, also. So far, I have only had two volunteers that have committed.

Need RSVP's for Youth Shotgun Event

Second, we have had exactly NO, NONE, NADA **RSVP's** for our "**Colton Smith Memorial**" **Youth Shotgun Event**. (See Flyer on adjacent **Page 9**). If we don't get any responses, we talked about cancelling the event. Probably for good! **The cut-off date is the 19th of July**. Then we will make the decision. In the past the event has been quite fun even though attendance was never "overwhelming." But all things change and so will we.

Chapter Looking for Younger Leaders

I have been mulling over the thought of passing the torch of the Chapter Chair position to a younger, more energetic person. I would like to see one of our members take it and run! If someone **DOES** take over, I will not let them do it without help! So, if this is something you would be interested in don't hesitate to contact me.

Our Chapter has gotten a LOT of "Hands On" Conservation work done over the past several years, and I would like to see things taken even farther.

Thank you all,

Kurt Snyder

kurtsnyder@outdrs.net



Evergreen Sportsmen's Club

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<https://shootevergreen.com>

News for the Flock



AUGUST 19TH 2023

COLTON SMITH MEMORIAL

Free youth SHOTGUN EVENT

Free for 15 years of age and under

Get the 2022 waterfowl season off to a great start with this **FREE** youth shot gunning event! Lunch and kids' prizes provided by the *Grays Harbor Chapter of the Washington Waterfowl Association.*

*12 Gauge loads provided **FREE** to the kids that RSVP

50 Target Course!

Limited instruction for inexperienced shooters.
Youth should bring their own shotguns.



***Military adults shoot for \$15.00**

Free to all
kids age 15 and
under! Parents
can shoot with
the kids for a
\$20.00 target
fee. *

Prizes for all kids!

***RSVP**

**Required to
get FREE
shotshells**

Hosted by the
**Evergreen
Sportsmen's Club!**

12736 Marksman St SW,
Olympia, WA 98512

**RSVP TO;
KURTSNYDER@OUTDRS.
NET**

360-485-9353

August 19, 2023

10:00 AM

News for the Flock

Seattle Chapter News

By: James Ono

July Meeting

We will have our regular meeting on Wednesday, July 26th. Shooting before the meeting with food and the business meeting starting at 7pm. Please remember our meeting space is now in the **Chalet** located just to the left of the rifle range.

August Swap Meet

Due to short notice and last minute circumstance changes for our last swap meet, we have decided to hold a second swap meet. It's a good chance to do a pre-season check of all your gear and clean out any extra clothing, gear, or shooting supplies just taking up room at home.

This is a fund raiser for the Chapter, as we request that 10% of individual proceeds be donated to the chapter.

Elections

Our elections will be held in August, and **Ken Smith** has agreed to manage the chapter election. Keep an eye on your emails for the opportunity to make nominations for positions and additional information regarding voting, or better yet, attend our July chapter meeting and get in some off-season practice on the shooting line.

Appointment Results

As we updated our by-laws in May for the purpose of complying with the **WA State Gambling Commission** for our future banquet plans in 2024, and with the resignation of our previous chairperson, **Nick Brown**, the **Seattle Chapter** had a few officer positions to fill. In our June meeting, we made emergency appointments to fill these positions until our election in a few months. The resulting appointments are listed below:

Chairperson – James Ono
Trustees – Ken Boyer & Tim Jenkins
2023 Election Manager – Ken Smith

We will finalize the emergency appointment of a new **Chapter Secretary/Treasurer** at our July meeting as well.

New Day and Location for Meetings

The Seattle Chapter has decided to meet the **LAST WEDNESDAY** of each month moving forward.

Unfortunately, this means we will no longer have the range to ourselves; we will be shooting with the public those nights beginning at 5 pm.

Following shooting we will move to the **CHALET** instead of the shotgun clubhouse for our monthly business meetings beginning at 7 pm.

Chapter Votes to Financially Support WWC Litigation

At our June meeting, the Chapter voted unanimously to match the \$2,000 donation previously made by the **Northwest Chapter** to the **Washingtonians for Wildlife Conservation (WWC)** to help financially support their recent litigation filed against the Governor and five (5) members of the Fish and Wildlife Commission in the Thurston County Superior Court. See a copy of the full legal complaint, linked [here](#).

We hereby challenge all other Chapters — with the financial ability to do so — to match these donations to a cause that benefits all consumptive users of the resource and is already showing positive results.



Finally, just a reminder — If you get a chance please support those businesses that supported our Banquet last October. See **Flyer** on **Page 27**.

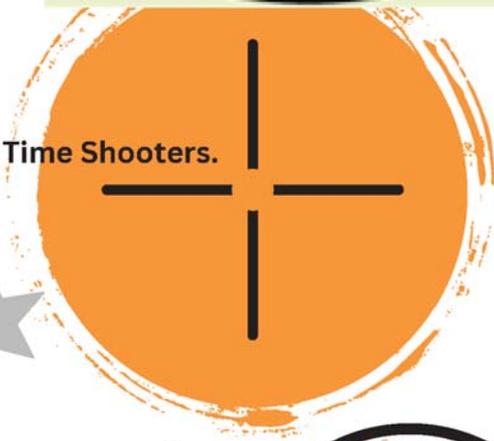
AUGUST 26 TH
10:00AM TO 3:00
QUINCY, WA
500 CENTRAL AVE S., QUINCY WA



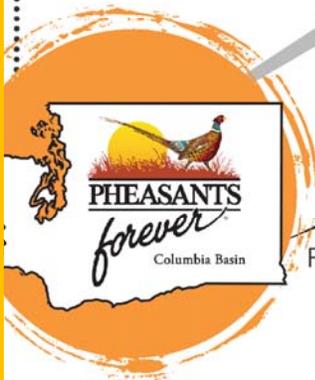
YOUTH SHOOT



- Free to Youth 18 and under.
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WWA Legislative News

WA Legislative Report

By Mark Pidgeon
President, Hunters Heritage Council

Editor's Note: This article is written entirely by the **Hunters Heritage Council (HHC)**, a Washington State based organization dedicated to political action on behalf of the hunting and related communities of Washington. The **Washington Waterfowl Association (WWA)** had no input into this article. This article is in this newsletter because of **WWA's** membership in **Washingtonians for Wildlife Conservation (WWC)**. **WWC** is a member organization of **HHC**. The opinions contained in this article are entirely those of the author, and the **Hunters Heritage Council (HHC)**.

Can People Really Be This Stupid?

"A wise man speaks because he has something to say; a fool, because he has to say something."

--Plato

In last month's **Legislative Report**, I wrote that the **Commission's draft Conservation Policy C-700X** (linked [here](#)) was criminal; it was illegal; it violated the **Legislative Mandate in RCW 77.04.012**, (linked [here](#)), and it changed conservation into preservation. **Plato** must have been talking about **Commission Chair Barbara Baker** when he expressed the above quote. At the last **Commission** meeting **Chair Baker** stated:

"Heck, I did not know that there was a fricking big difference between 'preservation' and 'conservation.' Did not know when (former **WDFW Director of Conservation Policy**) **Jeff (Davis)** and I condensed this. And I thought ... the fact that we say that our mandate is to preserve, yeah, that makes sense. Well, no, it's a big difference to People, and it only comes up a couple of places, but it'd be pretty easy to fix."

You are truly a fool as **Plato** said. You are the **Commission Chair**, and you don't know that preservation and conservation are different management strategies? !!! Preservation is an **animal-rights (A-R)** goal of no consumptive use; and conservation is something hunters and fishers have always championed. Without hunters there would be no wildlife! Someone that doesn't know the difference between preservation and conservation, and says that it's no big deal isn't fit to serve on the

Commission. That statement shows her incredible bias against the consumptive-use community.

More about **Commission draft Policy C-700X**, and another pearl of wisdom from our illustrious **Chair Barbara Baker**:

"We're gonna have to have discussions about what that means to the people who were yelling at us today or yesterday, because it fuels their fear where possibly it isn't warranted. We aren't going to turn our lands into parks. That's not what the intention of this, is. Maybe it is, maybe I just don't know. So that's a discussion we have to have."

What kind of doublespeak is that? Of course, your goal is to turn lands into parks, and eliminate all consumptive use. That's why every consumptive user group saw through your scheme. You are not smarter than us, **Barbara Baker**. We see right through you. You are like the *Emperor's New Clothes*, and it's an ugly sight.

Commissioner Lorna Smith, another one of our brain surgeon Commissioners — and the most anti-hunting **Commissioner** — had this pearl of wisdom:

"The message seems to be getting out that we have this hidden secret agenda, and it's gonna upset everybody's apple cart. And that seemed to be a very pervasive message with a certain part of our audience. Not the majority, but a significant minority. And is there a way to correct, set the record straight, so to speak, on that?"

Commissioner Smith knows full well — that **draft Conservation Policy C-700X** **WAS** worked on in secret with little or no public input. **Plato** was so right about you too.

We in the consumptive use community are the vast majority, not the minority.

Less than 1% of Americans support the animal-rights (A-R) radical agenda, while 78% of Washingtonians support the right to hunt.

Your math is as bad as your logic, **Lorna**. We as hunters aren't going to give up, and we will **NEVER** accept **draft Conservation Policy C-700X**. We will never accept our way of life being taken away from us.

(Continued on Page 13)

Legislative Report Continued

WDFW Deputy Director Amy Windrope believes mixed signals are being sent out by **Fish and Wildlife Commissioners** that oversee the policy. To quote her:

“Which is why I think it ... gives the sense that people are being a little bit manipulated, depending on where they are sitting. When we first talked about the **Conservation Policy** [on Thursday], **Chair Baker** and the **Director [Kelly Susewind]** talked about how this is in alignment with what we’re doing now. And then when people talked about what it means, then, you know, **Commissioner Rowland** talked about, ‘This is overarching, it’s gonna change what we do.’ And there’s a sort of a breadth of it. So, which is it? And I think people struggle to know: ‘Are you changing everything, or are you just stating what you’re doing with small tweaks?’ And I think we haven’t been clear about it. And I think different commissioners are seeing it differently, which leads, I think, to people to be worried.”

More doublespeak! Of course, you haven’t been clear on it. This isn’t small tweaks; this is draconian change that obliterates the hunting and fishing communities. Where is the transparency, **Amy**? We have every right to be worried, and we are worried! We are going to fight and to quote the title of the **Twisted Sister** song, “**We’re Not Going to Take it Anymore!**” Another time **Plato** was right.

Strangely enough, **draft Conservation Policy C-700X** will not be voted on until its October 26-28 meetings in Olympia. This is after the **WWC** lawsuit is scheduled to go to trial on October 13, 2023, in **Thurston County Superior Court**.

I don’t want to sound like a broken record, or that I am putting people on a guilt trip. That is not my intention, and I am sorry if it ever comes across that way. I am just very passionate for the cause.

As I have repeatedly said before: We can testify to the **Commission**, and it will do no good. The **Washington Waterfowl Association** is undoubtedly **THE** premiere waterfowl organization in this state. Every cent raised stays within Washington State. This lawsuit, **Thurston County Superior Court Case # 23-2-01831-34**, is a fight against an **animal-rights (A-R)** Governor and an unbalanced **Commission**, and it will be a long expensive battle.

If you can help, please do. If your dues have expired, please renew them. If you can upgrade your membership, please do. If you can contribute to the legal fund, we really need your help. We can win this! This is the respect that we’ve never had before; our attorney is outstanding! The time to fight is now!

Second Editor’s Note: Prior to publishing the **Legislative Report** this month, the **Northwest Chapter** and the **Seattle Chapter** have each donated \$2,000 to the **WWC Legal Fund**, and challenge all other WWA Chapters with the financial ability to do the same.

WWA is a dues paying, voting member of the **WWC**, and has been for decades.

Midnight Valley Labradors

AKC Registered Labrador Puppies
Excellent Breeding, Great Temperament,
Wonderful for the Family or in the Field.
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Field Trial Championships.

Contact Debbie Page for pedigrees
at 360-710-4749, or

midnightvalleylabradors@gmail.com

Check out our website at:

<https://midnightvalleylabs.com>



Quincy American Legion Gun Club

14050 Road Q NW
Quincy, WA 98848

Open to the Public

Disabled Friendly Facility

(509) 237-1166

[https://www.facebook.com/
QuincyWAmericanLegionGunClub](https://www.facebook.com/QuincyWAmericanLegionGunClub)

News for the Flock

Ross Barkhurst, Put his Knowledge, Experience on the Commission

Since at least 2015 **WWA Board** and **Life Member**, **Ross Barkhurst**, has been sounding the alarm about the deteriorating ecosystem in his back yard of **Willapa Bay**. He has previously written extensive articles on this issue in the **WWA Newsletter** — “*Life in the Dead Zone—The 2015 Eelgrass Die Off*” in September of 2015 linked [here](#), and “*Continuing*



Eelgrass Issues in Willapa Bay Affect Waterfowl” more recently in January of 2022 and linked [here](#).

The **WDFW Commission** is well acquainted with the science talents of **Ross**. In 2019 used his major degree in **Oceanography** to study and understand circulation and effects of water in **Willapa Bay**. At request of the **WDFW Commission Chair**, **Ross** formed the citizen’s advisory group **Willapa Basin Ecosystem Review Team (WBERT)** which in turn the submitted the “**WBERT Report**” with seven (7) recommendations for habitat improvement in **Willapa Bay** based on the best science available. Unfortunately there was no response by **WDFW** to the **WBERT** reports, and subsequently the waterfowl numbers in **Willapa Bay** have crashed.

Ross has frequented **Willapa Bay** since the late 1970’s when he purchased land there. He has lived on the bay full time since his retirement in 2002. Despite his efforts over the years as **Vice Chair** of the **Columbia County Oregon Planning Commission** and serving on the **Pacific County Marine Resource Committee**, he unfortunately has continued to witness the slow, ecological degradation of the bay. “On the **Commission** I would be better able to apply my experience, education, and knowledge not only to **Willapa Bay**, but to the entire **Outer Washington Coast in Toto**,” **Ross** says.

Education & Employment Background: Born in March of 1945, **Ross** grew up in southern Oregon; graduated the **US Naval Academy** in 1967 followed by six years in **US Navy Nuclear Submarine Service**. **Ross** spent his civilian working career in the nuclear industry from system engineer at **Trojan Nuclear Plant**; to **Plant Manager** and **Vice President** at the **Waterford Three Nuclear Plant** in Louisiana; to **President** and **CEO** of the **Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp**.

Fishing and Hunting Background:

Ross describes himself as “a conservation and habitat person first — a fishing and waterfowl observation and hunting person, second.” While working in the South, **Ross** was **President of Louisiana Tarpon Club** where he successfully advocated for “*tag and release*” **Tarpon** contests, not just kill and weigh-in.

Ross has fished the **Lower Columbia River**, **Multnomah Channel**, and **Willamette River** “since age 15.” While stationed in **Idaho** in the **Navy**, **Ross** learned a lot about **Sage Grouse** and other upland birds “which need to be kept in the **Commission’s** mind in **Eastern WA**,” he says.

Please take a few moments to express your support of **Ross** to the **Fish and Wildlife Commission** using the **WA State Government Portal** linked [here](#). Click on **Fish and Wildlife Commission**, then follow the prompts. When it asks for the Applicant’s email address, **Ross** has given his consent to use his email at: rp.barkhurst@hotmail.com

News for the Flock

Washington State 2023 Sanctioned Duck and Goose Calling Championships



Where: Orting Station, 101 Washington Avenue NW, Orting, Washington 98360

When: Saturday, August 5th, 2023

Notes: Four contests: Kids under 12, Novice Duck Calling (have not previously competed), Washington State Sanctioned Duck Calling (winner goes to Stuttgart, Arkansas, to compete in the World's Championship), and Open Goose Calling.

1st, 2nd, and 3rd places in all classes are awarded prizes to be disclosed prior to the contest.

Our State's champ will receive \$1,000 to help defray costs in attending the World's Championship Duck Calling Contest in Stuttgart, Arkansas.

Contest hosted by the **Washington Waterfowl Association**.

Why we're asking for donations: The **Washington Waterfowl Association** stands all costs for this contest and the event's success is dependent on the generous contributions of those wishing to help with our conservation efforts and to instill a love of nature in our folk. We are a 501(c)(3) Non-profit. Your donations are tax-deductible, and we will gladly issue a Tax Receipt upon request. In addition, all donations will be recognized during the contest and in our newsletter. Our motto is "Hunters for Conservation" to which we've been true for 77 years.

How To Donate: please contact: **Bruce Burns** ~ (253) 961-8802

bwburns36@gmail.com or **Bob Taylor** ~ (360) 798-534 bobtaylor15@icloud.com

WDFW News

Goose Banding in Whatcom Co.

Thank You For Upping Our Learning Curve

By: Paul McGovern
 WWA Corp President

We want to thank everyone involved from the
 WDFW especially biologist **Matt Wilson** who was very



gracious to allow some of our **WWA** members to assist his teams. **Matt** took the time to show us the molting wing feather barbs(?) where the primary flight feathers fall out, and actually had us feel the hot temperature from the blood working to restore the feathering.

He also demonstrated inspecting tail tips having split feathers that indicated a juvenile bird. We also learned about **synchronous** molting (for Geese and all waterfowl) vs. **asynchronous** molting (prey birds). This results in flightless birds if **synchronous**. They lose all flight feathers at once.

During molting, an **asynchronous** bird only loses some flight feathers.

In late June, a few **WDFW** biologists, some wildlife managers from the **Lumi Nation**, and even one game warden took advantage of the molting season and made a trip to **Whatcom County** for some summer banding work. **WWA-NW Chapter Chair, Rick Billeau, WWA-Whatcom County Chapter Chair, Lyle Galloway**, and I were invited to attend and participate and assist in this important work.

We all corralled **Greater Canada geese** by slowly moving them into holding pens and since they were molting and thus can't fly this time of year, we gently walked them into some cozy fenced areas. From there we checked them for adult vs. juvenile birds and determined gender to assign the correct band type. This information will be useful for data collection when the birds are later harvested and reported by hunters or recaptured on any future repeated banding events.

We did in fact find many of the birds we handled to have previous existing bandings, and those bird's band numbers were recorded for data analysis. One had a band so old and worn that where it was impossible to read the number code so we removed the old band and fitted the bird with a brand new band.

Lastly he showed us the gender ID process which is time consuming and tedious. There were many lighter moments, laughs and some exclamations when a big bull goose bit me on my neck and let me know how he felt about this scientific event! lol Best of all — No geese were harmed, and all the birds gathered back together when we released the last of the flocks.

Also a big thanks to **WDFW Whatcom County biologist Callie Moore** for inviting the **WWA** to help out with the event.



WDFW News Continued



WDFW biologists, Callie Moore and Matt Wilson busy in the goose corrals during a Greater Canada Goose banding in Whatcom County in late June.

Fish and Wildlife Commission Seeks Public Comment on Draft Policies for Willapa Bay Salmon, Forage Fish Management

OLYMPIA – July 10th — The **Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission** is seeking public input on possible revisions to its **Willapa Bay Salmon Management** and **statewide Forage Fish Management** policies.

The **Willapa Bay Salmon Management Policy** provides guidance to the **WDFW** to promote conservation of salmon in **Willapa Bay** as well as the economic well-being and stability of commercial and recreational fishing in Washington. First adopted in 2015, the policy underwent a comprehensive review in 2018, and a formal policy revision process began in 2020.

Since that time, the **Commission** has held numerous meetings to discuss and collect public input on possible

revisions and updates to the policy. The final draft policy is now available for public review and comment.

To learn more or submit a comment on the **Willapa Bay Salmon Management Policy**, visit **WDFW's webpage** or **the comment portal**. Comments may also be emailed directly to willapabay@dfw.wa.gov.

The **Forage Fish Management Policy** provides statewide guidance for **WDFW** to maintain healthy populations of forage fish species and individual stocks of forage fish while assuring the integrity of ecosystems and habitats.

News for the Flock

Columbia Flyway Wildlife Show Returns to Astoria

By Brett Stark
WWA Life Member

I have been working with **Rick Pass**, Host of the **Columbia Flyway Wildlife Show** to attempt to bring in some additional decoy collectors/carvers/hobbyists for the **Wildlife Carving Competition and Art Festival**, to be held September 22 - 24th, in Astoria, OR. Link to the Show's website [here](#).

For those of you that attended their move and first show in **Astoria** last summer, I'm sure you'd agree that they did a really nice job. For 2023, they'd like to do things bigger and better, and this is where you all come in.

Like a phoenix — the immortal bird — the **NW Decoy Collectors** group will be returning to the **Wildlife Show**. Begun in 1972 as an annual backyard get-together with a bunch of hobbyist collectors, the group grew into an annual showing of 50-plus collectors from all across **North America**. Officially running for 40 shows, which ended in 2014, many members of our decoy community have continued to collect and carve.

While many members continue to support and show their wares at other waterfowl associations, we would like to reemerge and announce a larger 41st gathering. We are anticipating space for 30 hobbyists, so please contact me if you are interested.

In order to support the **Columbia Flyway Wildlife Show**, we will have a fee for a 6-foot table for the show. Realizing that people may be traveling long-distances, and likely couldn't stay the whole time we have broken up fees as follows:

1. All Three Days - \$50*
2. Friday - **FREE***
3. Saturday ONLY - \$30
4. Sunday ONLY - \$20

*There will be carving seminars on Friday, and you are welcome to set-up, but the public is not likely to attend until Sat/Sun.

*Additional Show Programming and Timing will be updated regularly on the shows website again linked [here](#).

Updated Lodging Information

Lloyd Hotel Astoria

Bayfront Ascend Hotel

Formerly the Best

Western Hotel

555 Hamburg Ave

Astoria, OR 97103

(503) 325-2205

- Group rate of \$195 + tax per room per night.

Astoria Riverwalk Inn

400 Industry St,

Astoria, OR 97103

(503) 325-2013

- \$173 a night before tax.

Shilo Inn

1609 E Harbor Dr.

Warrenton, OR 97146

(Shilo is across the

Youngs Bay Bridge about

2 miles from the other

three hotels).

(503) 861-2181

SINGLE QUEEN, \$127.20

KITCHENETTE SUITE

1 KING, \$159.20

KITCHENETTE SUITE 2

QUEENS, \$159.20

DELUXE KITCHENETTE

SUITE, \$167.20 -

Wi-Fi, Smoke-free,

No breakfast,

Indoor pool, Hot tub

Holiday Inn Express

204 W Marine Dr.

Astoria, OR 97103

(503) 325-6222

- Special rate

(still being coordinated)

If you are interested in having a table, please let me know. I am coordinating room layout and collection of fees for the decoy collection portion of this event.

See Flyer on adjacent **Page 19** for more information.

Looking forward to seeing many of you in September.

Brett Stark
(206) 963-8800

NWDecoy@gmail.com

Columbia Flyway Wildlife Show Association presents the 34th Annual *Wildlife Carving Competition and Art Festival*



Clatsop County Fairgrounds & Expo Center

Astoria, Oregon

September 23-24, 2023

Doors open Saturday at
Free Admission & Free Parking



Artists from across the
United States & Canada



I can't believe it was carved from wood!

News for the Flock

When You Can't Go Hunting ... You Go Fishing!

By Paul McGovern

Editor's Note: In June of 2015, the Southwest Chapter put together a charter fishing trip off the coast for all WWA members. Maybe it's time to organize another!

We fished out of the charter boat "**Stardust**" from **Deep Sea charter company in Westport**, on July 9th. We booked the charter with a group of contacts from a good friend **Dale Hylton**. **Dale** is the owner of **Blue Skies Drones**. You may have seen his business advertisement in the **WWA Newsletter** as he donated a \$300 drone for the **Seattle Chapter Banquet** last October. We had 10 guys that were **Dale's** contacts out of 12 total on the boat.

I traveled to **Westport** with **Gary Uhlig**, who many of you know as the **5-Stand Range Master** at the **Kenmore Gun Range**, where the **Seattle Chapter** meets monthly.

Gary had to release his only landed fish (with adipose fin), but I sent him home with one of my two Kings. I kept 3 for the boat, 2 kings and a silver. **Dale** caught 4 fish, a pink, 2 silvers and a king to share a couple extras with his contacts. **Luther Sligh**, who is a mutual longtime friend of mine and **Dale's**, caught one and was able to take another from **Dale**. Another member of our party was **Tom** from **Othello (Luther's friend)**. He caught and kept 4 (shared 2). Another in our party named **Sam** the stepson of **Trout** got one King and a silver. **Trout** (yes that's his real name) was skunked! Go figure.

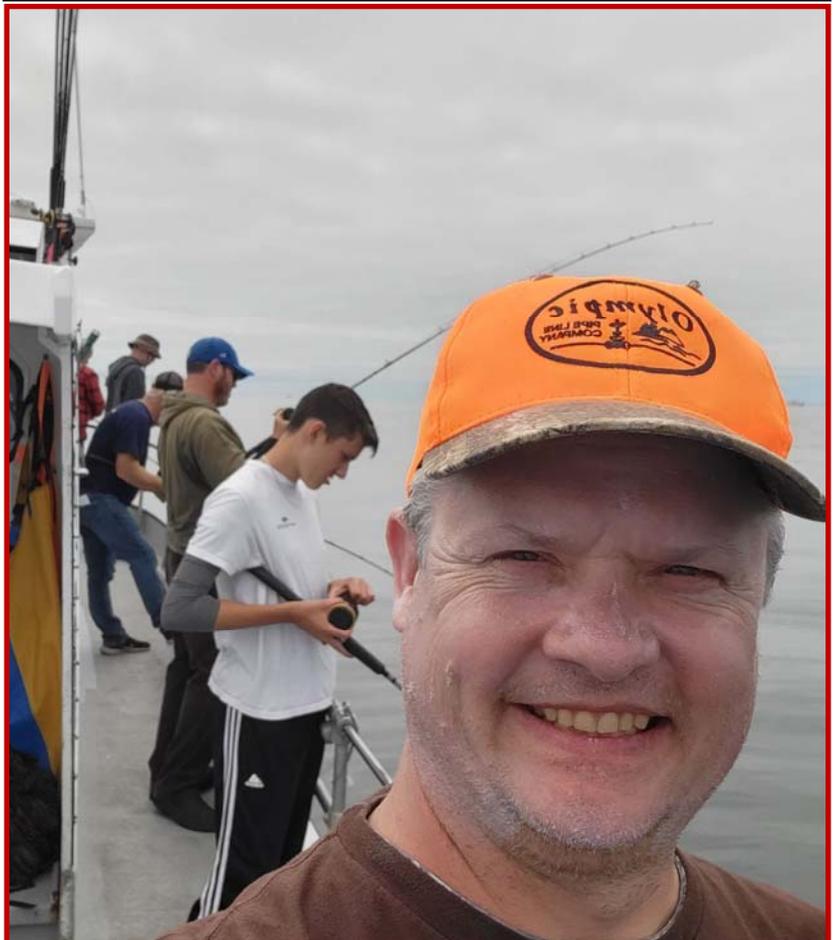
Everyone in our party was able to leave with a fish whether they caught it or received a shared fish. During one part of the day a very large shark was spotted off the stern. It had a about a 1 foot dorsal fin, and it swam towards the boat for about 2 minutes circling the stern nearest **Dale**, who took his bait out of the water just in case. lol. Everyone made the usual **Jaws** movie jokes for a couple minutes — you know the one — "I think we need a bigger boat!!!"

Overall, the boat caught 18 keepers on the outing. Just 4 short of a 12 man limit for the day!

Great trip for early season!



There's always something magical about the Fleet heading out in the early morn.
(Below) Host Dale Hylton, and the starboard side of his Fishing Party.



News for the Flock

Urban Nest Box Update

By Paul McGovern

Saturday June 24th I headed out from the Bothell landing to check four wood duck boxes for nesting activity. I launched and checked the two boxes along the **Sammamish River Slough** with **Mabel**, my 3-year-old **GSP (German Shorthaired Pointer**, for those of you **"Labs-Only"** waterfowlers). She had a great time running around finding sticks and making some water retrieves.

The first two boxes had successful hatches and I was happy to find some remaining egg membranes. The first box appeared to have five (5) membranes from the hatch as well as one unhatched egg. The second box had what appeared to be nine (9) membranes and looked like a great hatch. The first two nests are getting more branches growing around them to protect the 4x4 post-mounted boxes. I believe this may be helping.

I then decided to boat down river to **Kenmore** and check the two brand-new boxes just installed late this nesting season. There was no activity in either of the two nests. It maybe that they need more time or maybe I picked a spot the ducks disapprove of. My dog had fun and jumped into the water about 10 times in the 2 mile trip and enjoyed her dog paddling dips along the route.

I also attempted to check some nest boxes up at **Debays Slough** on another road trip. This trip was a total bust as the water levels were very low. I checked the one near the parking lot and the mosquitos tried to pick me up and carry me away. lol I hope to go back with some bug spray and a machete to get through to the other boxes on land.



(Above)
Mabel, my wife's GSP *wunderdog*, pointing the location of Nest Boxes on the shore! I think.

(Below)
What successful nest boxes look like inside, and a close up of the hatched egg membranes.



News for the Flock

2023 Washington Migratory Bird Stamp Print

Washington Waterfowl Association is pleased to present the 2023-24
Washington State Migratory Bird Stamp
and
Limited Edition Print

Artist John N. Harris



Revenue received through this program will be used by the Washington Waterfowl Association (WWA) and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) to improve habitat for waterfowl and other migratory birds in Washington.

To order your print[s] and accompanying stamps, please complete the application on the adjacent page and send with a check to:

WASHINGTON WATERFOWL ASSOCIATION
DUCK STAMP PROGRAM
P.O. BOX 7823
BONNEY LAKE, WA 98391

News for the Flock

2023 Washington Migratory Bird Stamp Print Order Form

Please send me:

Quantity _____ 2023 Signed & numbered print with matching stamp \$70.00



Quantity _____ Frame (ONLY SOLD WITH PURCHASE OF PRINT & STAMP) \$105.00

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

Please Ship Prints to:

Name _____

Address _____

Email Address _____ Phone _____

2023 Signed & numbered print with matching stamp	\$	70.00
Frame (ONLY SOLD WITH PURCHASE OF PRINT & STAMP)	\$	105.00
Shipping & Handling	\$	10.00
Total Amount:	\$	185.00

Easier Yet
Go To The Active Link Below
<https://www.washingtonduckstamp.com/shop>
To Place Your Order

News for the Flock

The Hunter's Table

By James Ono

Wild Duck with Cherry Wine Sauce

Nothing says summer like fresh, local cherries. I really loved being able to incorporate them into a wild game dish. The sweetness and acidity that the reduced wine and cherry bring, liven the dish works well with the richness of the duck meat. I use cabernet, but you can use a wine of your choice. I also quartered my cherries and removed the pit. The smaller pieces were a good size for each bite and helped them to soften through easily.

I highly recommend using skin on duck breasts as you need fat to help make the sauce thicker and smooth. If you use skinless duck breasts, add a couple tablespoons of butter.

Ingredients

- 4 duck breasts (skin on)
- High smoke point cooking oil
- Salt
- Pepper
- 1 shallot diced
- 1 cup dry red wine
- ½ cup game, beef, or chicken stock
- 2 tablespoons of Worcestershire sauce
- 8 oz of cherries (pitted)
- ½ tsp thyme

Instructions

1. Preheat your pan over medium high heat;
2. Season your duck breast with salt and pepper;
3. Sear your duck breast for about 4 minutes a side or to your liking (I temp check and pull at around 120-125);
4. Remove the duck breasts to a cutting board and tent loosely with foil;

5. There should be fat left in the pan, (if it is less than 2 Tbsp, supplement with butter);
6. Add the shallot to the fat and cook until soft and translucent;
7. Add the wine to the pan and allow to reduce by half;
8. Continue to stir to get up any browned bits from the bottom of the pan;
9. Add the stock, Worcestershire, cherries, and thyme;
10. Allow this to reduce by about half and the cherries are soft;
11. Taste the sauce and add salt as needed; and
12. Slice the duck breast and plate with sauce on top



MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Renew Online at www.waduck.org

If you have not received your membership card or decal. Please contact **Mark**. As well, if you have questions or changes to your address please contact **Mark Pidgeon** at marpwwa@gmail.com or call 425-221-3986.

P-Platinum Level — \$5,000; **G**-Gold Level — \$2,000; **S**-Silver Level — \$1,000; **B**-Bronze Level — \$500

H-Honorary Member; **D**-Deceased

WWA Life Members

#1 Gary Talbert P	#2 Paul Bunn S	#3 Austin Addicoat S	#4 Rone Brewer S	#5 Fritz Kiemle S
#6 Jim Cortines S	#7 Neco Villella S	#8 Roger Bennett S	#9 Bruce Feagan S	#10 Larry Gordon S D
#11 Rich Greenshields S	#12 Mike Lovelace S	#13 Larry Voeks D	#14 Jack Westerfield S	#15 Bud Hufnagel S
#16 John Arrabito S	#17 Jenny Lutz P	#18 Mike Lutz P	#19 Reserved on Time Payments	#20 Brett Stark S
#21 Earl Mikkelson S	#22 US Rep Jaime Herrera Beutler H	#23 Ken Packard P	#24 Jan Sabin S	#25 Lance Kintrea
#26 Jim Kline	#27 Leon Kollman	#28 Derek Melton S	#29 Dan Stearns S	#30 John Hanson
#31 Mark Hackett	#32 Logan Sanday	#33 Mickey Clary	#34 John Otto P	#35 Jason Otto P
#36 Doug Graef S D	#37 Robb Stack P	#38 Rod Boyer	#39 Paul Sullivan	#40 Jessica Dunn Kant
#41 Dave Farley	#42 Will Goldsmith	#43 Shaunie Cochran	#44 Claudean Talbert	#45 William Dunlap S
#46 Analise Arrabito	#47 Robert Zeka	#48 Ron Watkins D	#49 Ken Boyer S	#50 Henry Field
#51 Ric Wray	#52 Rich Phillips	#53 Ross Barkhurst S	#54 Michael Bess	#55 In Memory of Anne Grichuhin
#56 Frank Gallo S	#57 David Irons S	#58 David Ragsdale	#59 Tim Koehler G	#60 Brad Davis
#61 James Ono	#62 Ann Bullard	#63 Vance Boyer	#64 Albert O'Connor	#65 Dick Smith
#66 Marc Bruno	#67 Todd Teeters	#68 Bob Taylor S	#69 Jon McAninch P	#70 Colonel Thomas O'Dell
#71 Kenneth Shields	#72 Diana Shields			

Congrats to WWA-ML Couple for Stepping Up to Life Memberships

Over the past month, **Moses Lake Chapter Members, husband and wife, Kenneth and Diana Shields** took advantage of the **Life Membership Endowment Fund** and upgraded both of their memberships to the **Bronze Life Member Level**. The **Shields** first joined **WWA** in 2012 when they were introduced to the organization through the **WWA-Moses Lake Hunter Education Program**.

The **WWA Life Membership Endowment Fund** was first established in May of 2022 when the original **Life Member No. 1, Gary Talbert (NW)**, donated \$7,000 to **WWA** challenging all existing **WWA** members to step up

and become Life Members at any level, and **The Fund** would pay the first \$200!

Currently **WWA** maintains four (4) levels of Life Membership:

- Bronze Level Life Membership — \$500 (USD)**
- Silver Level Life Membership — \$1,000 (USD)**
- Gold Level Life Membership — \$2,000 (USD);** and
- Platinum Level Life Membership — \$5,000 (USD).**

If you have a question about the **Life Membership Program** or the **WWA Life Membership Endowment Fund**, please contact **John Arrabito** at jarrabito@comcast.net or **Mark Pidgeon** at marpwwa@gmail.com and we will be happy to help you.

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 four (4) primary dedicated funds established by the **WWA** since publication of the **June 2023 Newsletter**.

WWA General Fund — \$1,882

WWA Habitat Fund — \$1,640

WWA Legal Fund — \$21,753.52

WWA Youth Fund — \$2,810

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.

TWIN RIVERS BIRD TAXIDERMISTRY

Basic quotes for the mount are set. The customer is tasked with deciding a habitat and pose for their bird and a final quote can be decided once the habitat scene is narrowed down.

Bases are entirely custom, and the cost is also custom, by quote only!

Regular prices for the bird mount only (**without a base**) are:

- Duck mount is \$350.
- Seaducks & Mergansers are \$380.
- Goose mount is \$500.
- One pheasant mount is \$320.

Other Terms and Conditions:

- Bird sent in before Thanksgiving **NEED TO BE FROZEN** and **SHIPPED OVERNIGHT**. Afterwards two (2) day mail is OK.
- Birds **MUST** be placed in double ziplocks, with a filled out federal tag in the outer bag, so as not to leak ink.
- A list of other requirements will be sent and is to be signed by the hunter **PRIOR TO** any shipping and engagement of my services.
- I will not be held responsible for a bird that is lost to rot, extensive damage, heavy amounts of pinfeathers, dog bite or slobber damage, freezer burn nor any other damage caused by improper storage by the hunter prior to my receipt of the bird.



Harlequin Duck Swimming

Support These Businesses That Support WWA

Seattle Chapter Banquet Sponsors and Donors



Wing Beat Outfitters, LLC

www.wingbeatoutfitters.com
 509-793-6216
wingbeatoutfitters@gmail.com

BOOKING GOOSE HUNTS NOW FOR THE 2023/2024 SEASON!

Instagram, Facebook, TikTok icons

GUN DOG SUPPLY
 "We train our dogs with the products we sell."
 1-800-624-6378

FE

FRY ENTERPRISES, LLC

Dive Bomb INDUSTRIES

BLUE SKIES DRONES

Classified Ads – For Sale / Wanted

Wanted



WANTED shotgun for new duck hunter.
 Contact Bryan, 253-590-3301

FREE 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.
- Wanted and For Sale items only, not for business ads.
- Submit your classified ad each month (*we have no way of knowing if you sold/purchased your item or not*).
- Include your contact info. Phone and/or email.

Check out this active [link](#) to a reputable FB Site "Youth Waterfowl Gear, Reviews, Swap and Sell"

For Sale



Franchi Affinity, 20 ga, 26" barrel. Almost new, in box. All chokes. List price \$850 asking **\$600**
 Contact Linda, 360-273-5886

FREE

FREE to WWA Member!

UNDERCOVER brand tonneau cover. Solid, one-piece, black. Came off a **2017 Ford F-150 w/5 ½ foot bed.** New ones sell for \$1,000. Located in **Stanwood.**

Contact Rich for more info or photos, 360-631-4456

News for the Flock

In Memoriam



If you have someone you would like to honor in this column, please contact newsletter editor John Arrabito (jarrabito@comcast.net) before the 12th of the month you would like the memorial to appear.

We would prefer a note written by the contributor.

A picture is also requested.

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



Photograph of the Month



From WWA Life Member, Jon McAninch, of Oakville, WA

Photo of Cinnamon Teal taken at his Cedarville Farms Hunt Club this past season.

Thanks for Your Support

TREASURER'S REPORT

At its February 27, 2018 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.

Summary of 2023-24 Washington Migratory Bird Hunting Seasons are Linked [Here](#).



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



Dane Widen
 (360) 424-9234
 dw687eell@msn.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
 - Bronze Lifetime* — \$ 500.00 (New, 6/1/2021)**
 - Silver Lifetime* — \$ 1,000.00 (New, 6/1/2021)**
 - Gold Lifetime* — \$ 2,000.00 (New, 6/1/2021)**
 - Platinum Lifetime* — \$ 5,000.00 (New, 5/4/2022)**
 - ** Please check box if you do not wish to receive a gift.**
 - Senior (65 or over) - \$ 15.00
 - Junior (under age 18) -- \$ 15.00
 - 2-Year Regular \$ 50.00
 - 2-Year Family \$ 60.00
- (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 — VACANT**
- 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 Quarterly TBD.
- Northwest Chapter** meets year round the 2nd Wednesday of the month at the **Twin City Sportsmen’s Club**, 26933 64th Avenue NW in Stanwood.
- Peninsula Chapter — VACANT**
- Seattle Chapter** meets the 4th Monday of the month (Jan – Oct) at **Kenmore Shotgun Range**, 1031 – 228th Street SW, Bothell.
- 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** — Dates and Places TBD.
- Tri Cities Chapter — VACANT**
- Wenatchee Chapter** – Dates and Places TBD.
- Whatcom County Chapter** meets the 2nd Tuesday of the of the month (Jan – Nov.) at **Ferndale Public Library**, 2125 Main Street in Ferndale.
- 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,
P.O. Box 40182
Bellevue, WA 98015

A few facts about the WWA:

- Established in 1945
- Non-profit 501(c)(3) organization
- Nine (9) active 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 Hunter Mentor one-on-one waterfowl hunting activities for those new to the sport
- 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 Sportsmens’ Shows painting decoys, and with seriously ill youngsters on a decoy painting project
- Providing full 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 waterfowling hunt 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 Sportsmens’ Shows annually
- Donation of funds and volunteer man hours for Swan Mortality Mitigation Studies
- Donation of funds and volunteer 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, boots on the ground” conservation projects.