

# Washington Waterfowl Assoc.

HUNTERS FOR CONSERVATION

501(c)(3) tax exempt

ESTABLISHED 1945

Volume 31, Issue 6

Find us @ [www.washingtonwaterfowl.org](http://www.washingtonwaterfowl.org) & [www.waduck.org](http://www.waduck.org)

June 15, 2022



P.O. Box 40182  
Bellevue, WA 98015

## Letter from the President



### CORPORATE OFFICERS

James Ono, President (425) 233-5936  
Mark Pidgeon, VP (425) 221-3986  
Bob Taylor, Secretary (360) 798-5342  
John Arrabito, Treasurer (425) 894-4080

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rick Billieu (NW) (360) 653-8571  
Bruce Burns (SW) (253) 961-8802  
Bruce Feagan (ML) (206) 714-8020  
Paul McGovern (NW) (425) 361-5050  
Earl Mikkelsen (SW) (253) 862-4509  
Nathan Neideigh (SW) (253) 229-5794  
Al O'Connor (LC) (360) 907-9244  
Dick Price (ML) (509) 762-9027  
Kurt Snyder (GH) (360) 485-9353

### CHAPTER CONTACTS

Grays Harbor Chapter  
Chair Kurt Snyder (360) 485-9353

Kitsap Peninsula Chapter  
Chair **VACANT**

Lower Columbia Chapter  
Chair Ted Blade (360) 573-5259

Moses Lake Chapter  
Chair Bruce Feagan (206) 714-8020  
Proj. Coord. Dick Price (509) 762-9027

Northwest Chapter  
Chair Rick Billieu (360) 653-8571

Seattle Chapter  
Chair Nick Brown (425) 765-0151

Southwest Chapter  
Chair Bruce Burns (253) 961-8802

Spokane Chapter  
Chair **VACANT**

Wenatchee Chapter (NEW)  
Chair Cameron Way (425) 941-7853

Whatcom Chapter  
Chair Lyle Galloway (360) 201-1775

Yakima Valley Chapter  
Chair Marcus Leuck (509) 899-7284

Greetings, Washington Waterfowlers!

It has been a real pleasure to serve as your **Vice-President** and **President** over the last two (2) years. With the election upcoming, I have made the decision to not seek re-election as your **Corporate President**. While the position in itself isn't particularly demanding, between the new baby, other family obligations, chapter commitments, and other engagements, I feel that I am not able to give the position the time and attention that it needs.

I hope to, someday, participate in the organization again at the corporate level through the **Board of Directors** or as a corporate officer.

### Elections

We have extended the deadline to enter for corporate elections. The deadline for entering your name for the **Board of Directors**, **Secretary**, or **President** positions is now June 30<sup>th</sup>. See **Sample Ballot** on **Page 3** to make further nominations or please send your completed nomination form (linked [here](#)) to any of the corporate officers.

### Earl Mikkelson

I would like to extend our gratitude to **Life Member, Earl Mikkelson**. Over the past decades-plus, **Earl** has worn many **WWA** leadership hats from being a long-time member of the **Board of Directors**, as **Corporate Secretary**, and as a mainstay on our **Duck Stamp Committee**. At 85-years-young, **Earl** has decided not to seek re-election for his seat on the Board. Thank you **Earl** for your many years of service to the **Washington Waterfowl Association** and your dedication to conservation.

### Spokane Chapter

I have still not heard from anyone able and willing to take on the **Spokane Chapter** leadership position. We will be discussing what we will do with the **Spokane Chapter** at our July **Board of Directors** meeting. Please, if you are interested in this position or have any questions, contact me before July 12<sup>th</sup>.

**James Ono,**  
WWA President

### MISSION STATEMENT

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

# News for the Flock

## 2022 EVENTS CALENDAR

- Mon, June 27**      **In Person** Seattle Chapter Meeting  
Kenmore Gun Range.
- Tues, June 28**      **In Person** SW Chapter Meeting,  
Education Building, Tacoma  
Sportsmen’s Club.
- Thurs, June 30**      Usual LC Chapter Meeting. Check  
for Email blast for particulars.
- Tues, July 5**      Usual Whatcom County Chapter  
Meeting, at Laurel Farm & Western  
Supply in Bellingham; 6:30 pm.
- Thurs, July 7**      Grays Harbor Chapter Meeting,  
7 pm., Evergreen Sportsmen’s Club.
- Tues, July 12**      WWA Board Meeting **Online Only** —  
7:00 p.m. All WWA Members  
Welcome to attend. **Contact Corp  
Secretary, Bob Taylor**, for a *WebEx*  
Online Invitation. See **Page 1**
- Weds, July 13**      **In Person** NW Chapter Meeting,  
Twin Cities Sportsmen’s Club,  
Stanwood, WA
- Sat, Aug 6**      2022 WA State Duck and Goose  
Calling Championships at the  
Sumner Sportsmen’s Club.  
See Flyer on **Page 5**
- Sat, Aug 20**      Colton Smith Memorial **FREE** Youth  
Shoot at the Evergreen Sportsmen’s  
Club near Rochester, WA  
See Flyer on **Page 11**
- Sat, Aug 20**      ML Chapter sponsored **FREE** Youth  
Shoot in Quincy. See Flyer on  
**Page 13**
- Sept 30 thru Oct 2**      Columbia Flyway Wildlife Show,  
Clatsop County Fairgrounds & Expo  
Center, Astoria, Oregon.  
See Ad on **Page 12**
- Week of**      PITA— Grand Pacific Shoot  
**July 24—30**      Evergreen Sportsmen’s Club

## IN THIS EDITION

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- Page 26**      WWA Membership Application

## *Midnight Valley Labradors*

AKC Registered Labrador Puppies  
Excellent Breeding, Great Temperament,  
Wonderful for the Family or in the Field.  
Puppies due Spring 2022. British Gun Dog Lines,  
Field Trial Championships.  
Contact Debbie Page for pedigrees  
at 360-710-4749, or  
[midnightvalleylabradors@gmail.com](mailto:midnightvalleylabradors@gmail.com)  
Check out our website at:  
<https://midnightvalleylabs.com>



# Officer and Board Member Elections

**NOMINATIONS** for Organization-wide **WWA Officers and Board of Directors (BOD)** are open through the month of June, 2022.

On the right you will find a **SAMPLE** **WWA Corporate Ballot** of candidates as of the publishing date of this Newsletter, June 15, 2022.

Under the organization’s staggered leadership policy, only two (2) of the four (4) Corporate Office positions are up for election every two (2) years. This year only the Corporate offices of President and Secretary are up for election.

**Note:** Candidates for Corporate Office must have been either a Chapter officer or a Board member for at least one year prior, in order to qualify for election.

**All nine (9)** of the Board positions are up for election in 2022 because of prior mid-term appointments and the end of two-year terms.

**Note:** Chapters who have no **elected** representation on the Board, are ***de facto*** represented by either their Chapter Chair, or the Chapter’s designated representative to the Board.

\*\*\*\*\*

Nominations can be emailed to the current **WWA-Treasurer, John Arrabito**, at:

[jarrabito@comcast.net](mailto:jarrabito@comcast.net)

or postmarked and addressed and mailed by USPS to:

**WWA,**  
P.O. Box 40182  
Bellevue, WA 98015

by **June 30, 2022.**

## 2022 WWA **Sample** Corporate Ballot

Corporate Offices: (One Vote For Each Office up for election in 2022)

President

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Write In)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Write In)

Secretary

**Bob Taylor (LC)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Write In)

[Board of Directors: (Vote For No More than 9)  
(Listed In Alphabetical Order with Chapter Designations)

**Rick Billeau (NW)**

**Bruce Burns (SW)**

**Bruce Feagan (ML)**

**Paul McGovern (NW)**

**Nathan Neideigh (SW)**

**Al O’Connor (LC)**

**Dice Price (ML)**

**Kurt Snyder (GH)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Write In)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Write In)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Write In)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Write In)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Write In)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Write In)



## News for the Flock

### Southwest Chapter News

By: Bruce Burns

The **Southwest Chapter** will be having our June meeting on Tuesday, 28th of June 2022, at the **Tacoma Sportsmen's Club** at 6:30pm in the **Education Building**.

We are working on the **State Duck Calling Contest** (See Flyer on Adjacent **Page 5**) and planning for the upcoming chapter work party at **Rapjohn Lake** to do some duck blind maintenance.

Looking forward to seeing you all on the 28th.

### Tacoma Sportsmen's Club

16409 Canyon Road E  
Puyallup, WA

Welcome

Open to the Public

A Disabled Friendly Facility

(253) 537-6151

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



**Editor's Note:** For the better part of the last two (2) months I have been calling for some successful 2022 Turkey Hunt photos for the Newsletter. Of the entire WWA membership, I had no takers... except for the family of Board member and SW Chapter member, Nathan Neideigh. Teenagers, Hanna and Aiden, and proud father, Nathan getting it done! The specs were (L to R): 18#, 17.4#, and 19#; Beards, 9.75", 3" for the Jake, and 10.25". Location: Undisclosed. lol

## News for the Flock

### The 2022 Washington State Duck and Goose Calling Championships

**Saturday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022**  
**Registration 9:00 a.m.**

**The Competition starts promptly at 10:00 a.m.**

**Sumner Sportsmen's Club**  
15711 – 96<sup>th</sup> Street E  
Puyallup, WA 98372



#### Competitions Include

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

**1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Prizes in all classes, and include:**  
**Shotguns, Decoys, Free Bird Taxidermy Mount, Laydown Blind**  
**and so much more...**

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

**Food & Drinks will be available on Site**

#### Novice & State Sanction & Open Goose

Contact Rob Strong: [ruckusoutfitters@yahoo.com](mailto:ruckusoutfitters@yahoo.com) (206) 714-0178  
Contact Nathan Neideigh: [1971hand@gmail.com](mailto:1971hand@gmail.com) (253) 229-5794

#### **Hosted By**

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



## News for the Flock

### Lower Columbia Chapter News

By: Doug Hargin

#### Ridgefield NWR Black Box Work Party

Still pursuing a future work party to prep the **Black Box Pit Blinds** for installation with dog boxes. Stay tuned!

#### Grant Application

Our chapter has applied for a **Covid Relief Grant** being distributed by **Clark County** to small businesses, non-profits and community serving organizations. The grants are part of a state and local economy recovery program funding included in the **American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)** of 2021 to help with the monetary effects of Covid-19.

As most of you know, we have not been able to hold our annual fund-raising banquet the last two years. We will know by July 1st if we received any grant help.

**Editor's Note: Shoutout to LC Chapter member Dion Hess in this 2019 article which first appeared in *Sporting Classics Daily* linked [here](#).**  
(Reprinted with permission)

### A World War II Veteran Carried Special Memories of the Outdoors to the Very End

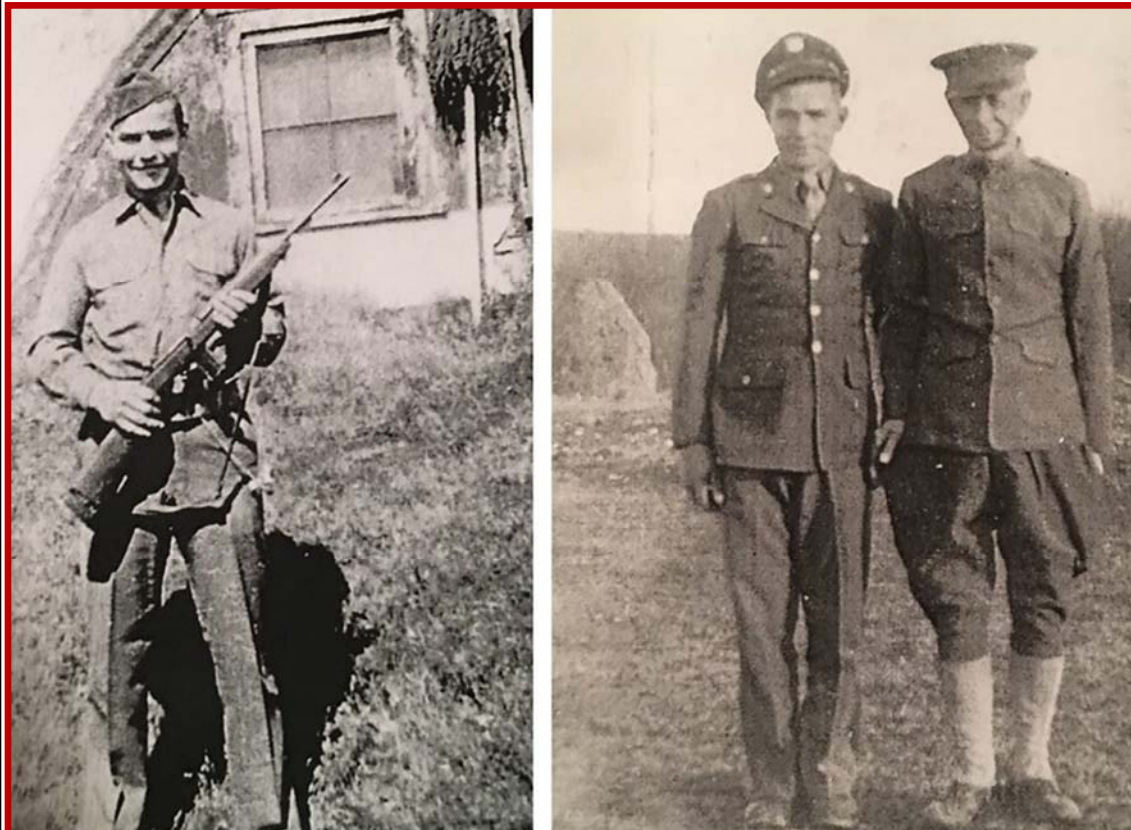
By Brent Lawrence | Feb 21, 2019

My Dad passed away on Dec. 22nd. A 90-year-old World War II veteran, he had a stroke on Halloween Morning, and it significantly affected his ability to communicate in his final weeks. However, it couldn't stop him from teaching me a final lesson about the outdoors.

Dad was never a particularly sentimental man. During a visit with him in **Missouri** last November, Dad and I mostly talked about his therapy, how I could help him while home, and the next steps in his recovery. Due to his speech problems, I would do most of the talking, and he'd nod or work to get out a few words.

One day with most of our family visiting him at the rehabilitation facility, Dad started trying to talk. His words were particularly tough to understand because he was excited. Mom tried to understand him, but it was nearly impossible, with the words growing more unintelligible as his excitement level rose. Mom looked around for help translating, but my siblings could not understand him. I could.

**Albert Lawrence** grew up on a southern **Missouri** farm during the **Great Depression**. He joined the military when he turned 17, and then returned home to get married, raise a family and work. Lots of work, often juggling a full-time job or two, and picking up side jobs mowing lawns, cutting trees or milking cows. He never took time for recreation.



**U.S. Army Air Force Sgt. Albert Lawrence in Greenland in 1945, and Albert with his father, a World War I veteran.**

(Continued on Page 7)

## LC Chapter News Continued

About 20 years ago, after Dad had finally retired from his full-time job because his knees were unable to withstand the daily grind of working on a loading dock, I took him on a duck hunt. It was a miserable day on **Pomme de Terre Lake**, so cold that the water would instantly freeze on the aluminum boat railing and our gloves. The ducks flew high that day, and we didn't fire a shot.

We'd occasionally let **Thunder**, my chocolate Labrador retriever, run on the nearby island. He'd always take a swim in the frigid water, and his coat would freeze stiff when he climbed back in the boat.

Dad and **Thunder** had one thing in common that day – they loved that miserable morning. They were immersed in nature and the outdoors, and they were enjoying every single freezing minute of it.

Many times over the years Dad would bring it up, with a shine in his eyes and excitement in his voice. It always started with "Do you remember that time ...". He would talk about **Thunder's** icy coat and the frozen boat. He'd recall the ducks flying overhead and the bald eagles perched in the trees. He'd talk about it being so cold. He talked about it with a level of pure excitement that I rarely saw from him.

That frigid day on **Pomme de Terre Lake** is the only time I remember him slowing down and enjoying the outdoors. Memories of that day stayed with him to the very end. So, there we were in a room full of people, and a man who couldn't speak was trying to tell a story nobody else could understand. Except for me. The glow in his eyes and his excitement level said it all. I knew what he was trying to say.

I grabbed his hand and recounted the story. "Dad, do you remember **Thunder's** icy coat and the frozen boat? The ducks flying overhead? And the extreme cold?" He nodded in relief that I understood.



Those memories, and many others, have sustained me in the weeks since his passing. Fortunately, there are

many individuals who help create similar outdoor-related memories for me and many other people. I get to work with them on a daily basis.

There's **Rick Spring**, the disabled **U.S. Navy Veteran** who has donated his time to build **ADA-compliant** (hunting and birdwatching blinds at **Ridgefield and Willapa National Wildlife Refuges**. **Rick** builds blinds, and he builds memories. He does it so that all people can experience the outdoors without limitations.

**Dion Hess**, of the **Lower Columbia Chapter** of the **Washington Waterfowl Association**, and the staff at **Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge** worked together to put on the first **Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge Veterans' Day Waterfowl Hunt**. They introduced 11 military veterans to the outdoors and hunting that day, giving them a gateway to the outdoors.

It was there that I met **Sal Trujillo**, a disabled Army veteran who was experiencing his first hunt. He was hunting from one of the **ADA-compliant** blinds that **Rick** built. **Sal** told me about the importance of outdoor recreation in helping him and other veterans stay away from "some pretty dark places." Just as **Dion** started **Sal** down the path of outdoor-related memories, **Sal** now makes a difference by taking other veterans on outdoor excursions.

I witnessed **Nancy Zingheim's** unyielding determination to fulfill the dying wish of a virtual stranger, all for the benefit and enjoyment of other people. **Nancy's** inspiring 4,000-mile journey made sure that **Rita Poe's** gift of nearly \$800,000 to eight (8) **National Wildlife Refuges** and four (4) other parks in the West happened as promised. These two strangers managed to do something to help future generations connect with nature through conservation and outdoor opportunities on our public lands.

These people live and breathe conservation and wildlife, and they all go the extra mile to share that passion. They are creating memories of the outdoors.

I know that Dad remembered.

*Rest in Peace, Dad.*

**Brent Lawrence is a public affairs officer for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Pacific Region in Portland, Oregon.**



## News For the Flock

### Seattle Chapter News

By Nick Brown

The **Seattle Chapter** meets on the 4th Monday of the month, at the **Kenmore Gun Club**, with shooting beginning at 5 pm followed by our business meeting at 7 pm

Nick Brown

[Nickibb92@gmail.com](mailto:Nickibb92@gmail.com)

425-765-0151

#### Banquet Planning

The **Seattle Chapter** is hosting our first banquet at the end of the summer, we are actively looking for a few more volunteers to help with procuring donations for raffle/auction items. If you are interested in volunteering, please reach out to me via email, call or text.

On the topic of fundraising, I still have tickets available for the **Twin Rivers Bird Taxidermy Raffle**. See Flyer on **Page 23**. I will have them for purchase at our chapter meeting later this month. **WWA President James Ono** will also have the new **WWA hats** for purchase as well.

#### Swap Meet Highlights Next Meeting

Our next chapter meeting will be held at **Kenmore Gun Range**, on Monday, June 27th, with shooting available all afternoon. For our meeting this month we will be doing our annual **Swap Meet**, so bring your old decoys, guns, and gear (camping, fishing, big game gear is welcome as well). We do ask that 10% of sales go to the chapter.

This is a great way for beginners to get ready for their season[s]. Additionally I will have a few **WA State Duck Stamp Prints** available for sale as well. We will still have pizza in the club house, so please remember to bring a \$5 donation for the pizza fund.

On account of us hosting the swap meet our regular business portion of the meeting will be relatively brief.

#### Kenmore Range Update

At last month's meeting the range was out of all 12 gauge shells. Plan to bring your own shells or call ahead for availability.



**At the end of May, WWA President James Ono, Wenatchee Chapter Chair Cameron Way, and myself had the pleasure of taking a spring trip to Potholes Reservoir for some bass and walleye action.**

**Meanwhile Seattle Chapter member Harold Abell (above) has been out successfully chasing lingcod in the Puget Sound.**



## News for the Flock

### Northwest Chapter News

By: Rick Billieu

**Welcome** to the recent new members of the chapter. We look forward to getting to know you. A good way to get to know the club and its members is by attending a Chapter Meeting or event.

I was recently cutting **Wood Duck Nest Box** components to size. One of our chapter members, **Grant Johnson**, was generous enough to secure the wood at no cost to us. It was good seeing some of the nesting box maintenance stories in the last few newsletters. It's all for the resource!

#### Future Fundraiser

**NW Chapter** member **Jason Bolser** recently acquired a fiberglass Duck Boat. It's a 13'4' **Carstens Industries "Pintail"** in great condition. **Jason** got a great deal and suggested that **WWA** use the boat in a **WWA** drawing. We took him up on the suggestion to reimburse him for the cost, add a base coat of **"Dead Grass Green"** paint and setup a drawing in the next couple of months.

Thanks **Jason!** Sure hope I win !!

#### June Chapter Meeting

We had a good turnout of members at our June meeting. After the short business portion of the agenda, guest speaker **Adam Schuller** took the floor. **Adam** is a professional dog trainer and business owner (**Pack9training LLC**). He has trained dogs for waterfowl hunting, field hunting, home dogs and therapy dogs.

**Adam** walked us through many training techniques including common mistakes made by owners. Several members present have hunting dogs and a few are just pups, so timing of the tips for pups **Adam** provided was perfect. We threw a barrage of questions at **Adam** and learned a lot in short order.

Great information on techniques to get that furry friend primed for the hunt. A second outdoors session with dogs is planned for our next meeting. Thanks, **Adam** for sharing your passion for dog training with the members.

#### Drawing for Waterfowl Mount Certificate

Get your tickets. **WWA** is holding a drawing for a Waterfowl Mount Certificate offered by **Twin Rivers Bird Taxidermy**. <https://www.twinriversbirdtaxidermy.com>

**Loran Navarro**, owner of **Twin Rivers Bird Taxidermy** has generously provided our organization with a certificate good for one bird mount. See Flyer on adjacent **Page 23**.

Tickets went on sale on May 15th and will continue through August 14th, with the drawing taking place on Monday, August 15th. You can purchase tickets through your **WWA Chapter Chairs, Corporate Officers** or **Board members**.



**You heard his oral presentation at our June Chapter Meeting. Be sure and attend our July 13th meeting (along with your canine friend) as the "Dog Whisperer," Adam Schuller, will conduct an outdoor training session with his dogs, and hopefully, yours too!**

#### Membership Renewal and Next Meeting

If you have not renewed your membership you can do so online at [www.waduck.org](http://www.waduck.org) or you can also renew at the next chapter meeting. The **NW Chapter** meets on the second Wednesday each month at the **Twin Cities Sportsmen's Club** in **Stanwood**. Trap at 6:00 pm and business meeting starting at 7pm. 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:rgbillieu@frontier.com)

See and like our Facebook page **Northwest Washington Waterfowl Association** at

<https://www.facebook.com/waducks.org/>

## News for the Flock

### Grays Harbor Chapter News

By: Kurt Snyder

Hi all.

Our annual **Youth** shotgun event, the **Colton Smith Memorial Shoot** is scheduled for Saturday, the 20<sup>th</sup> of August and will once again be at the **Evergreen Sportsmen's Club**. See the Flyer on adjacent **Page 11**. Remember that this is a 50-target course designed for the young shooters and is **FREE** to anyone 15 years of age or under!

However, at our most recent chapter meeting, I brought to the members the suggestion to NOT have a lunch at this year's event in order to give us more time to put into a great 50-shot course and give us time to provide one-on-one coaching to any kids that need it. So, this year, there will be **NO Free Lunch** provided.

I hope to see more new faces at this year's shoot. If we don't get a good attendance, I will suggest to the chapter that we no longer sponsor this event. It's a lot of planning and work for just a few kids.

On that subject I think it would be a good thing to offer some one-on-one shotgun shooting instruction sessions on a **RSVP** basis. The goal would be to teach proper shotgunning before the kid develops any bad shooting habits — like what happened to me. I taught myself to shoot and to this day have a bad flinch. It's the reason for many of my wing shooting misses. I will be bringing this proposal to our chapter members at our next meeting.

### Upcoming Work Parties

We will be replacing at least six (6) of our **Woodie Nest Boxes** at the **Scatter Creek Wildlife Area**. I wanted to do it in July, but we have been told that there will be no drive-in access until August. Not a great time for this because of the undergrowth, but it's all we can do for now. The boxes at this location are our most frequently used nests!

### Facebook Censorship

I have recently realized how frequently **Facebook** censors free speech. There is a LOT of opinion on their platform so I just took all the comments with a grain of salt. I was put in **"Facebook Jail"** again for saying something that was not at all insulting or even directed at a specific person — even though that particular commenter was dead wrong.

In the past I was given the opportunity to contest the decision to put me in **FB Jail** and won every time. However, this time I was given absolutely NO opportunity to



**Our goose platforms had another great year with five out of six having successful hatches! One got washed out by high water, and I didn't have time to replenish the bedding. We will be raising that platform another three (3') feet.**

do so or even to delete my account.

In six (6) days, I will be deleting my **Facebook** account and with it the Chapter **Facebook** page and the Calling Contest **Facebook** page.

***I will no longer support an entity that blocks free speech.***

After that you can find me on my new **"Rumble"** page. **Google** is the next to go!

Thank you all for your continuing support!

**Kurt Snyder**  
[kurtsnyder@outdrs.net](mailto:kurtsnyder@outdrs.net)



# News for the Flock



## AUGUST 20<sup>TH</sup> 2022

# COLTON SMITH MEMORIAL

## Free youth SHOOTING 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 Assoc.**



[www.waduck.org](http://www.waduck.org)

Limited instruction for inexperienced shooters

**\*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!**

Instruction targets  
for the new shooters

**RSVP**

**Requested !**

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

12736 Marksman St SW,  
Olympia, WA 98512

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

360-485-9353

**August 20 2022,**

**10:00 AM**



# News for the Flock

## Moses Lake Chapter News

From: Bruce Feagan and Dick Price

The **WWA-Moses Lake Chapter** held it's quarterly meeting on Thursday, May 26th. The meeting featured three (3) guest speakers from the **WDFW**. **Chad Edison, Chatten Mcphearson** and **Ryan Walker** provided info on the **Frenchman Hills** and **Winchester Wasteway Quality Hunt Areas**. The gist of their presentation is a plan to alter water levels and continue food plot plantings at both locations hoping to develop these public access areas into highly productive hunting spots.

As some of you may know, the **Winchester Refuge** is where **WWA** members along with **WDFW** staff, have maintained dozens of mallard nest tubes for years. This refuge historically holds hundreds of thousands of wintering birds and is within shouting (calling) distance of the quality hunt areas.

Following their presentation the guys answered questions on a wide variety of topics from water levels,

disabled hunter access, reservation system, emerging growth, other public hunting locations, the **Feel-Free-to-Hunt Program** and much more. The chapter looks forward to working with the **WDFW** staff on future projects.

Don't forget the next **FREE** Youth Shoot at the **Quincy Gun Club**. See Flyer on adjacent **Page 13**.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Spokane Chapter News

## Wenatchee Chapter News

## Whatcom County Chapter News

## Yakima Valley Chapter News

No News This Month

# Columbia Flyway Wildlife Show

## Clatsop County Fairgrounds and Expo Center

### Astoria, Oregon

### September 30 - October 2

### Admission is Free



# "I can't believe it's wood!"



ASTORIA  
WARREN'TON  
CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE  
*The Spirit of the Columbia*

## News for the Flock

### BROWNELL'S/NRA **FREE** YOUTH TRAP SHOOT



**When:** Saturday August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022,

**Time:** From 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**Where:** **American Legion Quincy Gun Club**

14550 Road Q, N.W., Quincy, WA 98848

There will be **FREE** trap shooting for all youths 18 and under that possess either a hunter safety card or a hunting license. All shells and targets will be provided at no cost to the participants. **Youth Shooters must be accompanied by a responsible adult.**

**Prizes, Give Aways and Food:**

Youth Shooters will receive assorted **FREE** merchandise. Lunch with soft drinks will be provided, also at no cost.

**Have questions or for more information, contact either:**

Dick Price: 509-762-9027 or Tom O'Dell: 509-764-8557  
or: 206-465-6943

[dickhunts@hotmail.com](mailto:dickhunts@hotmail.com)

[Mallard1@gosi.net](mailto:Mallard1@gosi.net)

### **Co-Sponsors**

**Moses Lake Friends of the NRA,  
Moses Lake Washington Waterfowl Assn,  
Columbia Basin Pheasants Forever,  
and the Quincy Gun Club**

## 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 is 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)**.

### Won't Get Fooled Again!

*"Lord, what fools these mortals be!"*  
Robin Goodfellow  
A Midsummer Night's Dream  
Act III, Scene 2, line 117  
William Shakespeare

**Robin Goodfellow** was commenting on the foolishness of the young Athenian lovers in **Shakespeare's** beloved comedy, *"A Midsummer Night's Dream,"* but the situation I'm writing on is not a comedy, nor is it a play, but it's real life; and **WDFW's** biologists must think we're fools, because they're trying to run a shell game on us. This increase of two (2) Cougar tags per hunter in the **Blue Mountain area** in the CR102 is nothing but a con game, and we see right through it. You could give us 100 tags per hunter, but until you increase the harvest quotas percentages per **GMU (Game Management Unit)**, you haven't given us a thing.

This is a united sportsmen's voice against this sham, but on this issue we are much more than sportsmen and sportswomen and wildlife interest groups, we are allied with legislators, county commissioners, ranchers, agriculture, and tribal interests who also recognize



when someone is trying to pull the wool over their eyes. This huge coalition stands united in opposition to this *hocus hocus* of increasing of cougar tags in the **Blue Mountain area**.

This increase in the cougar tags is nothing but a feel-good con job that does nothing to solve a horrible problem with the **Blue Mountain Elk Herd**. Until you increase the kill quotas and allow hunters to kill more cougars, you are giving us nothing; and you actually may be causing more harm to the problem than helping it. All this is a money grab by the **Department** that does nothing for sportsmen.

Those of us on the ground and spending time in the woods around wildlife, around cougars and engaged on cougar management know there is a strong bias within the **WDFW** cougar biologists and staff. They seem to pick and choose what data is important for them to use, and what minimal impactful decisions they make only when forced to do so. We notice when they calculated — and still do — the population based on land using a static population number of "2300" cougars to set guidelines, No matter the over harvest or under harvest, magically, the next year's population is once again "2300" cougars!

This rule change doesn't accomplish very much if anything at all. The fact that **WDFW** is only proposing this for the **Blue Mountain area** speaks volumes to me. It tells me they know their data is bad, and that they have to do the very minimum to try and appease by saying they did "something." Now they can say they gave some "effort."

As many following the cougar issue in Washington knows, **WDFW** has been and is still setting their guidelines/quotas for a stable population, yet they often do not accomplish the harvest needed for a stable population. When you under harvest and quotas are not met it would be assumed that the population would grow. Yet **WDFW** set's the quotas/guidelines again on a calculation based on average land densities. Their calculation for guideline/

harvest are not changing with any new science on the ground or based on under/over harvest from previous years. In my opinion, this could be causing an increase in density, and it could be exponentially growing due to the guidelines remaining the same.

*(Continued on Page 15)*



## Legislative News Continued

**WDFW** is still not attempting or trying to reduce the populations or density of cougars in the state of **Washington**, even when there is new science showing the need for something to happen. Cougar are in high abundance in our state, and it is apparent that the population and density of cougar is very high in many parts of **Washington**. Yet **WDFW** cougar specialists continue to put their head in the sand and make no effort to collaborate with studies from recent years to confirm what many are experiencing with cougar population and densities.

Why is **WDFW** so reluctant to look at some density numbers of cougars in our state and double check the math on what they believe versus what the public believes? If I were as confident in the answer as the **WDFW** staff is, I would think I would not be afraid to look at new data confirming what they believe.

This increasing of the cougar tags to two (2) per hunter is one of the Department's worst decisions ever. They must think we are mighty stupid that we can't see through their shell game. **Give us something real, propose an increase in cougar quotas where we can actually kill more cougars!**

We notice when they use tactics to under harvest cougars by making quota's using adult populations — but then when closing a unit, they count and close the quota by all kills including those adolescents that were not in the calculations for the quota guidelines, effectively under harvesting by 40% of their own estimates with a simple math trick. Most they don't see these tricks.

It's long past time for **WDFW** to do some hard science and research with clear transparency that we can all trust. The time is long overdue to check in and figure out what is really happening with cougars. Give us some real science like the **Muckleshoot** study on cougars in the **White and Green River watersheds**. That's real science, not **Rich Beausoleil** poppycock. The tribal science all deflates **WDFW's** science because it doesn't come in with a preconceived bias favoring predators. It is real, sound science, not the garbage the Department uses.

We don't want a shell game; we want a solution. This two-tag increase is sham. We see through this like the lyrics from the very popular song by **The Who...**

**"Won't Get Fooled Again!"**

## Girl Attacked by Cougar in NE WA

**In the Author's opinion, this nine-year-old girl was a victim of WDFW's mismanagement of cougars.**

SPOKANE — A nine-year-old girl attending a church bible camp near **Fruitland in Stevens County, Washington** was seriously injured as the result of a cougar attack on Saturday morning, May 28th.

According to published reports, the girl was playing hide and seek with two (2) friends a short distance from the camp in the woods and was attacked as she jumped up to surprise her friends.

Adults rushed to help and found the girl covered in blood. She was airlifted to a **Sacred Heart Medical Center**, where she had surgery for multiple wounds to her head and upper body. **Lily A. Kryzhanivskyy** was released from the intensive care unit on Monday but remained hospitalized and in stable condition as of Tuesday, June 1st. Her mother described **Lily's** recovery so far as "amazing" and asked **WDFW** staff to share that **Lily** wants people to know she was "very brave and tough" in the face of the attack.

The young male cougar was shot and killed at the scene "**by someone,**" according to **KXLY-TV, Spokane**. Tests completed over the **Memorial Day** weekend showed the animal did not have rabies. **WDFW** officers were at the camp throughout the weekend combing through the scene to understand how the events unfolded.

"In this instance, this little girl did nothing wrong," said **WDFW spokeswoman Staci Lehman**. "It happened so quickly, and there's nothing she could have done to prevent it."

Children under the age of 10 can be particularly vulnerable to cougars due to their small stature, exhibiting prey-like behavior and sounds, as well as being unable to launch a loud, aggressive response to an attack.

Of the 126 cougar attacks in **North America** in the last 100 years, more than half of the 27 fatalities were children under the age of 14. Cougar attacks on humans are relatively rare. According to **WDFW**, there have been two (2) fatal attacks on humans in **Washington state** and, before this incident, 19 that resulted in injuries to humans in the past 100 years.

If you do encounter a cougar, never turn around. Don't take your eyes off of the animal. Don't run. Back away slowly. Running can trigger a chase response.

## News for the Flock

### 2022-23 Washington Migratory Bird Stamp Print

The Washington Waterfowl Association is pleased to present the 2022-23  
Washington State Migratory Bird Stamp  
and  
Limited Edition Print

**Artist Donnie Hughes**



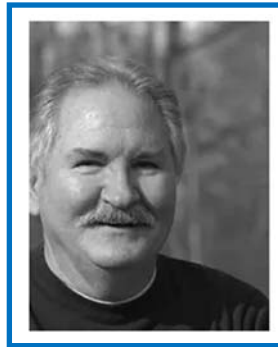
Revenue received through this program will be used by the Washington Waterfowl Association (WWA) and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) to improve habitat for waterfowl and other migratory birds in Washington.

Neither prints nor stamps are available for purchase at this time.

Look for an announcement here in mid-summer 2022.

## News for the Flock

# MEET THE 2022 WASHINGTON STATE DUCK STAMP COMPETITION WINNER AND WASHINGTON WATERFOWL ASSOCIATION'S ARTIST OF THE YEAR



**Donnie Hughes**

Donnie Hughes is from Lexington, SC. Hughes graduated from Anderson College and the University of South Carolina with a BA degree in Art. He worked as the Art Director for a printing company for 35 years before concentrating on painting full time 11 years ago.

Donnie and his identical twin brother Ronnie both were raised with an hugh appreciation for the beauty in nature's environment, and like most brothers of similar age both are very encouraging of the other, but also very competitive in their artistic endeavors in many state and national competitions and shows.

In addition to being the winning artist for the 2022 WA State Duck Stamp, Donnie was also named 2015-2016 Artist of the Year for Idaho Ducks Unlimited as well as the artist for 2014-2015 SC Duck Stamp. Waterfowl is not his only Subject as his resume also includes being a two-time winner of the Delaware Trout Stamp.



## News for the Flock

### The Hunter's Table

By Doug Hargin

#### *Waterfowl Burgers!*

Always on the lookout for new ways to consume ducks and geese that fail to escape me each season. This year duck/goose burgers were on the menu. With some internet surfing and discussions with friends, a pretty tasty burger emerged. In other words, my wife **Cheryl** gave it her approval (a very high bar in the wild game recipe world)!

The concept is really very simple with a few tips for success.

1. I usually breast out my ducks and geese skinless;
2. Soak them a day or two in water;
3. Then put them on a stretch wrap covered cookie sheet with a coating of cooking spray oil;
4. And freeze them solid;
5. To be vacuum sealed for future consumption.

I use pork fat to help the burgers hold together and

for flavor. I reserve the trimmings off of country style ribs or pork butts and keep them in the freezer. Some butcher shops will sell you pork fat.

#### 6. Ratio of Meat to Fat:

I usually eyeball it looking for a 65/35 ratio of meat to fat.

#### Thawing and Dicing Tip:

When making burgers I thaw the meat and fat just to the point I can dice it up **with some difficulty** into small 1/3" chunks.

#### Grinding Tip:

Occasionally doing a big batch, I have had to put either the meat or the fat back into the freezer to keep it firm prior to grinding. If you don't, you'll end up with a bit of a mess.

To grind the meat, you can use a food processor, hand or electric grinder. If those aren't available you can chop it up into finer pieces. I have a meat grinder attachment on a **Kitchen Aid**.



7. Alternate the meat and fat as you feed it in.

Once the meat and fat are ground,

8. I like to add onion powder, garlic powder, cumin and fennel seeds to your taste.

9. Then massage the burger mixture to blend all ingredients.

They cook up like regular burgers and are so tasty!

## WDFW & USFWS News

### The WA Department of Agriculture (WSDA) Confirms Presence of Avian Flu in Flocks Across State.

May 2022 — The Washington Department of Wildlife (WDFW) has since confirmed cases of the disease in one wild bird, and has positive test results in several others, but are waiting for confirmation on those cases from federal laboratories. Because federal confirmation is required to list a case as "confirmed," and that process can take time, numbers may vary from cases that WDFW reports as "positive."

**Avian Influenza**, also known as "bird flu," refers to the disease caused by infection with avian (bird) influenza (flu) Type A viruses. These viruses occur naturally among wild aquatic birds worldwide and can infect poultry and other bird and animal species.

Wild aquatic birds include ducks, geese, swans, gulls and terns, and shorebirds. Some aquatic birds such as dabbling ducks and other waterfowl are considered reservoir hosts for avian influenza A viruses. Though these birds can be infected with the virus, they often do not exhibit clinical signs of illness.

WDFW tests birds for bird flu viruses as funding to do so is available. From 2005 to 2011, WDFW tested over 10,000 wild birds. Viruses were found in about 10 percent of all birds tested, but none were associated with any illness or mortality in the sampled birds.

More recently, in the summer of 2021 and winter of 2021/22, WDFW and federal partners, including the **United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)** tested over 700 wild birds. **None** were found to have **Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)** viruses.

Bird flu viruses are not easily transmissible from birds to people and while it is extremely unlikely that hunters or people feeding wild birds could contract bird flu, the following common-sense precautions are recommended to reduce the risk of contracting any wildlife disease:

- **Wear disposable gloves when cleaning harvested birds or cleaning bird feeders.**
- **Do not dispose of processed carcasses in the field where they could be eaten by raptors. Bag them and place in the garbage, bury, or incinerate them.**

- **Take special precautions to ensure that all equipment (boots, clothes, vehicles, firearms) are cleaned and disinfected to prevent the spread of diseases.**
- **Do not harvest or handle wild birds that are obviously sick or found dead.**
- **Do not eat, drink, or smoke while cleaning game.**
- **Wash hands with soap and water or alcohol wipes immediately after handling game or cleaning bird feeders.**
- **Wash tools and work surfaces used to clean game birds with soap and water, then disinfect with a 10 percent solution of chlorine bleach.**
- **Separate raw meat, and anything it touches, from cooked or ready-to-eat foods to avoid contamination.**
- **Cook game birds thoroughly. Meat should reach an internal temperature of 155 to 165 degrees Fahrenheit to kill disease organisms and parasites.**

If you see a sick bird that you suspect may have avian influenza, please report it to WDFW at this [link](#).

### Wenas Wildlife Area Summer Target Shooting Rules go into Effect

YAKIMA Annual summer target shooting rules go into effect on the **WDFW-managed Wenas Wildlife Area** (linked [here](#)) next week to reduce the risk of wildfires. Target shooting restrictions run May 15 through Sept. 30, including at the shooting range at **Sheep Company Road**. Public notice of the limited hours will be posted at all public entry points of the **Wenas** and at target shooting sites on the wildlife area.

In response to previous wildfires and persistently dry conditions, **WDFW** has restricted target shooting on the **Wenas** every summer since 2012. Seasonal restrictions improve safety for adjacent landowners and protect wildlife habitat through reduced fire risk.

Starting May 15, target shooting only can occur between sunrise and 10 a.m., when the risk of starting a wildfire is reduced. Further, on June 1, steel targets will not be allowed through the end of September. Exploding targets, tracer, or incendiary ammunition are never allowed.

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Renew Online at [www.waduck.org](http://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](mailto:marpwwa@gmail.com) or call 425-221-3986.

### 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 SD
#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 G	#18 Mike Lutz G	#19 Reserved on Time Payments	#20 Brett Stark S
#21 Earl Mikkelson S	#22 US Rep Jaime Herrera Beutler H	#23 Ken Packard G	#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 Reserved for BQT Presentation (2022)	#35 Reserved for BQT Presentation (2022)
#36 Doug Graef S D	#37 Robb Stack S	#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 S	#60 Brad Davis
#61 James Ono	#62 Ann Bullard	#63 Vance Boyer	#64 Albert O'Connor	#65 Dick Smith

## New Platinum Life Membership

At its monthly meeting of May 4, 2022 the WWA Board of Directors — at the request of Gold Life Member, Gary Talbert — voted unanimously to create a **new Platinum Life Membership at the \$5,000 level.**

Gary, then immediately donated of \$7,000 to WWA to establish a **Membership Fund** challenging existing WWA members to step up and become Life Members at any level, and the Fund will pay the first \$200! Thank you Gary, for your generous and continuing support of WWA!

In previous years at WWA banquets and gatherings, Gary challenged other WWA members to step up to **Life Memberships**, and again put his money where his mouth was by agreeing to pay the first \$125 (later upped to \$150) installment towards that step up! **Twenty-one (21)** Life Members on the list above were recipients of Gary's previous generosity and membership building efforts as WWA's first Membership Chairman.

Life Memberships of those like Gary who have previously donated substantially in excess of \$5,000 will be upgraded to the new **Platinum Level Membership.**

On June 1, 2021, WWA converted from two (2) to three (3) different levels of Life Membership acknowledging that **ALL WWA** Life memberships are "**Sustaining**" to the organization. Along with the new Platinum membership levels, the three (3) previous new levels of **WWA Life Membership** along with their respective emoluments are:

#### **Bronze Level Life Membership — \$500.00 (USD)**

Includes one **WWA Logo'd Belt Buckle** **OR** one **Pacific Calls WWA Logo'd Duck Call.**

#### **Silver Level Life Membership — \$1,000.00 (USD)**

Includes one **Pacific Calls WWA Logo'd Duck Call** **AND** one **WWA Logo'd embroidered "Life Member" Jacket.**

#### **Gold Level Life Membership — \$2,000.00 (USD)**

Includes one **Pacific Calls WWA Logo'd Duck Call**, **AND** one **WWA Logo'd embroidered "Life Member" Jacket**, **AND** one guided Duck or Goose hunt for one.



# Classified Ads – For Sale / Wanted

## Wanted

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

## For Sale

**Decoy collection.** 6 wooden, 1 paper and 1 two-dimensional goose decoy. **Best offer.**

**Text Ed, 360-489-8629** for photos



**Browning A5, 16 gauge, 2018 Ducks Unlimited Special.**

Comes complete with the hard plastic case, chokes, wrench, manuals and everything as new. Only 3 test rounds through it. Would like **\$1850.** Contact **Scott, 206-619-5911**

## **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.

**Browning Citori, Model 725, S-3, 30" Barrells, Like New.**

Pictures and details upon request. **\$2,900**

**Call or text Tim, 206 369 9105**

**Large Dakota, 283 dog kennel, \$375**

Compare at \$499 — \$529

**Call Zach, 253-691-9368**

(See Photo Below)



(Above and Left)

**Mud Buddy Mud Motor**  
2016, 55 HP, low hours  
**\$6,500 OBO;** Located at  
**Potholes.** Call or text  
**Mark, 509-346-5720**

(Right)

**1980s 40HP Mariner**  
**(Yamaha) outboard 2**  
**stroke.** Runs great. **\$900**  
includes fuel tank, hose,  
and extra prop. Call or  
text **Kevin, 360-630-7862**



## 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 **May 2022 Newsletter**.

**WWA General Fund — \$1,727**

**WWA Habitat Fund — \$1,640**

**WWA Heritage Lands Fund — \$11,077**

**WWA Legal Fund — \$20,753.52**

**WWA Youth Fund — \$1,810**

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 TAXIDERMÝ

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 Conditons:**

- 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. Pen ink can bleed onto the bird.
- 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.



[loran.navarro@yahoo.com](mailto:loran.navarro@yahoo.com)

970-988-4717

Active Link to >>>: [Twin Rivers Bird Taxidermy FB Page](#)

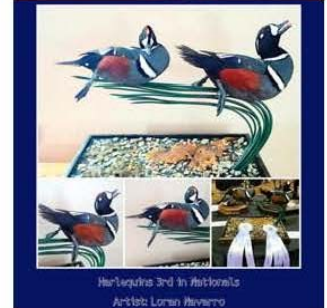
# News for the Flock

## TWIN RIVERS BIRD TAXIDERMISTRY

Loran Navarro

### Waterfowl Mount Certificate Drawing

 <p><b>Washington Waterfowl Association</b></p>			
<p><b>Twin Rivers Bird Taxidermy</b> <b>Waterfowl Mount Certificate</b></p>		001	001
<p><b>\$ 10.00 per Ticket</b> Need not be present to win</p>		<p>Drawing Date - August 15, 2022</p>	
		Name	Phone
		Email	



**TICKET PRICE IS \$ 10.00 PER TICKET**  
**DRAWING DATE IS AUGUST 15<sup>TH</sup> 2022**  
**NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN**  
**SPONSORED BY WWA CORPORATE**

- Does not include shipping cost
- Does not include Base for mount

**\$ 350.00 Value**

The drawing is open to WWA members and non-members and is corporate sponsored, so all proceeds from tickets sales will go to WWA corporate



See your local WWA Chapter Chairman, WWA Officer or Board Member to purchase or Rick Billieu at [rgbillieu@frontier.com](mailto:rgbillieu@frontier.com)



## WWA and RRGC News Briefs

### RRGC Wood Duck Box Program Some History of the RRGC Nesting Box Program

By Arlan Hackett

Please find pasted below an e-mail received yesterday from **Richland Rod & Gun Club (RRGC)** with another Wood Duck Box Camera.

The **WWA** Database system that we are using will tell us if you opened the e-mail and also if you clicked on and opened the link. From this, we know that these e-mails are of high, medium, or low interest to our **WWA** membership.

If you do not have an interest, please just humor us and delete it. This is a group e-mail, and it goes out to all **WWA** members in the system.

We hope you are all well as we hopefully move on after two (2) years of Covid restrictions, and please stay safe.

Eleven (11) ducklings jump from **RRGC Box 550** when Hen 1265-14765 call for them to exit at about 6:00 am on **May, 30 2022 — Memorial Day** (video linked [here](#)).

A recording of the "jump" that 11 ducklings made from **RRGC Box 446** at 9:10 am **May 20, 2022**. The hen was newly banded this year, had 17 eggs and hatched 11. (Video linked [here](#)).

Wood Ducks and a few screech owls are currently nesting in the 512 boxes. Banding has also taken place and the information will be entered into a database for future tracking. You can check out the live stream cameras at [www.RRGCWoodDucks.org](http://www.RRGCWoodDucks.org) to see what is currently going on with four (4) of the boxes.



We have accomplished performing the annual maintenance of all 474 nesting boxes that were available for wood ducks last nesting season. We have replaced some of those boxes that have reached the end of their life with boxes built by youth at the **Sportsman Show** or **Kids Duck Day**, and by students at **Libby Middle School** or **Homeschool** students.

The data collected during the effort shows 56.5 % of boxes were used by wood ducks, 86 boxes were used by **Western Screech Owls**, cooperative banding with **WDFW** installed 17 new bands on owls and had 24 owls recaptured having been banded in previous years.

There were 186 nest boxes that had successful hatching of ducklings evidenced by us counting 1214 membranes. We believe this number is a very conservative estimate of the actual number of ducklings that were hatched and jumped from the nest boxes. The reason we feel the number is lower than actual is because many membranes are "lost" between the hatch and when the box cleaning is performed months later.

Now that all the boxes are ready for hens, we will start to survey boxes for banding efforts. A few selected checks indicate the early nesting activities have started.

One box checked on 3-22-20 we found and recaptured a hen sitting on 10 eggs. This hen is a banded hen that has returned to this same box or adjacent boxes since 2016 when she was first banded. Additionally we had deployed a geo-locator on this hen last year on 4-23-19. Her nest hatched out and jumped from the box on 5-19-19.

Apparently the ducklings perished and she re-nested in the same nest box which jumped on 7-15-19. The geo-locator has been recovered/removed to download the mini data logger data and we will report on the migration data after the data is processed and analyzed. We are hopeful that we will recover more of the 16 geo-locators that were deployed last spring when we get further into the nesting season.

Thanks for watching,

**Dale Schielke**  
RRGC Wood Duck Project Coordinator

# 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](http://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.



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



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



26933 64th Ave NW  
Stanwood, WA 98292  
(360) 629-3474

[www.tcsportsmanclub.org](http://www.tcsportsmanclub.org)





## 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at the **Twin City Sportsmen’s Club**, 26933 64th Ave NW Stanwood.
- Peninsula Chapter — VACANT**
- Seattle Chapter** meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month (Jan – Oct) at **Kenmore Shotgun Range**, 1031 – 228<sup>th</sup> 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 — VACANT**
- Tri Cities Chapter — VACANT**
- Wenatchee Chapter** – Dates and Places TBD.
- Whatcom County Chapter** meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the of the month (Jan – Nov.) at **Laurel Farm & Western Supply** in Bellingham.
- Yakima Valley Chapter** — Dates and places TBD.

Pay with a credit card from our website:

[www.waduck.org](http://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.