# Washington Waterfowl Assoc.

**HUNTERS FOR CONSERVATION** 

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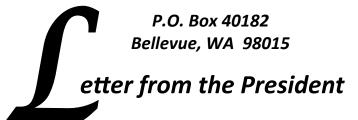
**ESTABLISHED 1945** 

Volume 33, Issue 2

Find us @ washingtonwaterfowl.org & www.waduck.org

**FEBRUARY 15, 2024** 







#### CORPORATE OFFICERS

Paul McGovern, President (425) 361-5050 (425) 221-3986 Mark Pidgeon, VP **Bob Taylor**, Secretary (360) 798-5342 Patryk Kowalski, Treasurer (206) 954-8116

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Ross Barkhurst (GH)	(360) 875-5080
Rick Billieu (NW)	(360) 653-8571
Ken Boyer (SEA)	(425) 830-5067
Bruce Burns (SW)	(253) 961-8802
Bruce Feagan (ML)	(206) 714-8020
Al O'Connor (LC)	(360) 907-9244
Dick Price (ML)	(509) 762-9027
Kurt Snyder (GH)	(360) 485-9353
William Walker (WH)	(360) 421-5052

#### **CHAPTER CONTACTS**

Grays Harbor Chapter

(360) 485-9353 Kurt Snyder

Kitsap Peninsula Chapter

Lower Columbia Chapter

Michael Andreotti (360) 241-8742

Moses Lake Chapter

(206) 714-8020 **Bruce Feagan** Proj. Coord. Dick Price (509) 762-9027

Northwest Chapter

Rick Billieu (360) 653-8571 Chair

Seattle Chapter

(425) 233-5936 Chair James Ono

Southwest Chapter

(253) 961-8802 **Bruce Burns** Chair

Spokane Chapter

John Rasmussen (509) 833-0163

Wenatchee Chapter

(425) 941-7853 Cameron Way

Whatcom Chapter

Chair Lyle Galloway (360) 201-1775

Yakima Valley Chapter

Marcus Leuck (509) 899-7284

#### **Greetings, Washington Waterfowlers!**

I hope everyone had a chance to get out this season and shoot some birds. I had a huge start with a packed calendar. I had two grouse trips, one duck opener, one preserve Pheasant trip with my sons, two McNary Refuge weekends and the Seattle Chapter Potholes trip — all before the second week in November! At the time I thought I might need a vacation from hunting, but I didn't take one.

I am extremely proud of the three (3) WWA Chapters who were able to host Youth/Veterans/Active Military on their special, dedicated hunt day on February 3rd. Check out the details in the GH Chapter News (Pages 6-7); LC Chapter News (Pages 12-13); and NW Chapter News, (Pages 14-15) for details and pics!

But back to the trips, **Potholes** was really cold, rainy, but really fun. I camped out and hunted two days in two different boats. Thanks, guys, for taking me out. I really enjoyed the hunts with two of the mentees that are in the WWA Hunter Mentor Program. BTW, see this year's Mentor Program Wrap Up Report on Pages 4-5.

It was fun seeing the hunt through the new guys' excitement. The second day everyone in the boat was a GSP (German Shorthair Pointer) owner, so it was an extra fun group for me. I hope to get back and hunt the area in the future. See the Potholes trip review on Page 10 of this newsletter. Thanks to all who volunteered their boat and their cooking to transport and feed us. WWA-Seattle Chapter Chair, James Ono, and his crew really put together a nice trip to remember.

I rounded out my season with some good trips to Skagit and Whatcom counties and more eastside trips for upland. On my last trip we braved the cold temps and snow to finish up the last weekend of eastside pheasants this time with John Arrabito and his GSP, Kako. Friday January 12th, I shot one rooster that Kako sniffed out and retrieved from deep cattails, and his older (8-years-old) dog's efforts made the day a success.

The next day on Saturday the 13<sup>th</sup>, John, WWA-ML Chair Bruce Feagan, and ML Chapter member Debbi Buchite attended a Memorial Service for Mike Meseberg, longtime owner along with his wife, Marilyn, of Mardon Resort at Potholes Reservoir. See In Memorium on Page 27 of this newsletter.

(Continued on Page 2)

#### **MISSION STATEMENT**

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

#### **2024 EVENTS CALENDAR**

Tues, Feb 27 No SW Chapter Meeting this month

Weds, Feb 28 Seattle Chapter Meeting

**Public Shooting at 5 pm;** Meeting & Pizza at 7 pm in the **Chalet Building,** 

**Kenmore Gun Club** 

See SEA Chapter News, Pages 9-10

Thurs, Feb 29 Lower Columbia Chapter Meeting at

6 pm, at the

**Vancouver Trap and Gun Club** 

See LC Chapter News, Pages 12-13.

Sat, Mar 2 Delta Waterfowl Banquet

Columbia River Chapter Hillsboro, OR 97124

Contact: Sean Mathews at: deltawaterfowlcrc@yahoo.com

See Flyer, Page 11.

Weds, Mar 6 WWA Board Meeting Online Only —

7:00 pm. All WWA Members welcome to attend. Contact Corp Secretary, Bob Taylor, for a Zoom online invitation. See Page 1

Thurs, Mar 7 Grays Harbor Chapter Meeting

**Evergreen Sportsmen's Club**See **GH Chapter News, Pages 6-8.** 

Tues, Mar 12 Whatcom County Chapter Meeting

Ferndale Public Library, 6 pm., 2125 Main Street in Ferndale

Wed, Mar 13 Northwest Chapter Meeting

**Twin Cities Sportsmen's Club** 

See NW Chapter News, Pages 14-15.



#### **IN THIS EDITION**

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Pages 24-25 Hunter's Table —

Japanese Curry with Duck Katsu

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#### (President's Letter Continued from Page 1)

Lastly, I wanted to give you this quote I lifted from a book I'm reading titled <u>The Outlaw Gunner</u>. It's a book of the old-time market hunting which as you may know was outlawed in the 1930's at the time the new duck stamp was enacted, and conservation was created for waterfowl. The book from 1971 is a conservation wake up call of sorts. It's dated and humorous. The quote was this: "The Lord does not detract from our allotted time on earth the hours spent in duck hunting." Wish I would have shared this at the beginning of the season. I guess I lived this out anyway.

Finally, a big **WELCOME ABOARD** to the two new volunteers **Patryk Kowalski (SEA)** and **Francisco Garcia (SEA)**, as **Corp-Treasurer** & **Newsletter Editor** respectively.

For the Resource,

# Paul McGovern

**WWA President** 

#### **Meet the Latest WWA Volunteers**

# Francisco Garcia

Guess what!? This group got another new hunter. Me. Francisco Garcia. You can call me Frank for short. I am taking over for John Arrabito as the WWA Newsletter Editor/Designer. Here is a bit about me.



I got into hunting because food is best when it comes from **Mother Nature.** Hunting is natural and eco-friendly, unlike processed food in the commercial food industry. When you taste something **Mother Nature** has evolved over millions of years, it tastes good. So why not go out and hunt and enjoy the company of some cool people?

My story started after I was born in NYC. My uncle Victor always went camping upstate in Harriman State Park. He went fishing and hunting as well. I found it cool, but being a kid from the big city, it didn't appeal to me like it does today. My BMX bike was my companion back then...

I went on to major in commercial art in a specialized high school in **NYC** and published some cool stuff that still hangs on my walls today. It wasn't enough for me. I joined the military to explore the world; and explore I did. I have been to many countries and enjoyed their many cuisines which drove me to explore their culture through food. I retired and went to work for a big airplane company in **Seattle.** 

During my first two years, I found an opportunity to go to culinary school. I only did one semester. It took a toll on my sleep schedule. But I loved it! I continue to learn about food which led me to food science and inspiration from a friend who is a very active hunter. I chose the waterfowl/upland hunting first, because it seemed easier to start and enter other hunting passions.

Joining the Washington Waterfowl Association (WWA) was a great initiative. I must admit, being the new guy, at my age was a bit uncomfortable. It quickly turned around positively. Seattle Chapter Treasurer, Trevor Morris, was my mentor from the WWA Mentor Program and has done an amazing job guiding me into being a waterfowl hunter. The Seattle Chapter hunting trip to Potholes last fall was awesome. Got my first Teal (GWT). I have hunted from a blind, boat, waist-high slough, grassy dunes, not to forget cold temperatures on a farm. For 2024, I got a Teal, Bufflehead, and surprisingly, a goose.

I am now volunteering as the newsletter/editor for our association. I look forward to improving upon what **John Arrabito** has done for many years with the support from the entire Association.

# Patryk Kowalski

My name is **Patryk Kowalski**, and I am honored to serve as the new Treasurer of the **Washington Waterfowl Association (WWA).** Having joined the



**Seattle Chapter of WWA** in 2022, I owe my waterfowling introduction to fellow Chapter member **Kyle Quinn**, a friend and mentor who led me into the duck blind for the very first time and helped me in surviving my first duck season.

I am grateful for his mentorship and the great times we've shared. On our second trip, I bagged my first widgeon, and within weeks, I achieved a mixed bag limit. This past season, you might have encountered me at the **Potholes Reservoir,** where I really enjoyed the November hunting / camping during the group trip organized by the **Seattle Chapter.** 

Beyond the marshes and wetlands, my passion for the outdoors encompasses a diverse range of activities. I find serene moments while fishing in our local lakes whenever time allows. As spring and summer arrive, I relish clocking miles on my bicycle — sometimes exceeding 100 miles in a single ride, or cruising on my motorcycle along winding mountain roads.

When winter snow blankets the landscape, I eagerly embrace skiing. Whether it's alpine skiing at my beloved **Crystal Mountain** or venturing into the backcountry, skinning up the slopes of **Mt. Rainier** or **Stevens Pass**, the thrill of descending through fresh, untouched, champagne powder snow is my ultimate reward. However, make no mistake, when fall arrives, it's now all about duck hunting!

On a personal note, I am a husband, father of two, and an owner of a golden retriever. I was born and grew up in Poland; hence the peculiar spelling of my first name. The Pacific Northwest and Cascade foothills/Issaquah are places I now call home.

I want to take this opportunity to thank **John Arrabito** for his years of service as **WWA Corp-Treasurer**and all the support I've received from him during this
ongoing transition period.

Please feel free to reach out—I look forward to connecting with fellow members and working towards our shared goals.



Mentoring Report — 2023 - 2024 Season

By Paul McGovern WWA Mentorship Program Chair

The fourth season of the **WWA Hunter Mentorship Program** is in the books and was marked with several hunts under some adverse conditions, including weather, as pictured above. We had some good success pairing up some folks coming into **Mentor Program**. However, we also had some difficulty in being unable to pair up Mentees requesting a experienced Mentor in certain areas of the state. However, we will try to recruit more help to fill in this logistics need.

Strictly by chance, I had a chance to go out on **Potholes** with two new mentees during the November trip organized by the **Seattle Chapter.** I joined **Francisco and Scott** in two separate boats on alternating days. I really loved sharing their new experiences. **Francisco** got his first duck ever. Later in the year I had a chance to hunt with **Logan** when we met at a **WDFW** private lands site — he actually had invited me before I knew he was in the **Mentor Program.** There was just a puddle of water before the rains and flooding, so we had low expectations but came away with only three (3) mallard drakes, but a great shared day in the field, nonetheless. I love the images showing the new successes and all the camo. Mentor reports have come back to me about how much fun the "newbies" had getting out; and from Mentees about how much the Mentors helped them understand waterfowling. Thanks again to all the volunteer mentors. This program wouldn't exist without you! **Jason Bolser (NW)** donated a hosted hunt from his duck shack on the **Skagit** for a random drawing among all Mentors as a Thank You. **Matt Browder (NW)** was was the lucky winner and reported a great time. Thanks, **Jason,** for this perk offered to encourage our mentors. (*Continued on Page 5*)

# **WWA Mentorship Program Continued**





(Clockwise from Top Left)

Mentee Brian Kaemingk (NW) coming out of the field with a full brace. Mentored by Reb Broker (NW).

Mentee Francisco Garcia (SEA) with his first harvested goose ever. Mentored by Trevor Morris (SEA)

Mentee Michael Noack (SEA) experienced hunting in the icy conditions on Page 4. Mentored by Matt Browder (NW),

Mentee Mat Brown (SEA) with his first mallard drake.
Mentored by James Ono (SEA)





# **Grays Harbor Chapter News**

By: Kurt Snyder

Hello everyone.

I hope your waterfowl season was fun and safe. Only a couple more late goose hunts, and I will be able to breath easy and get some rest. Yeah! Right! It will be time to start getting ready for the next season. LOL



And we have plenty to do when it comes to the hunters' representation. I ask that all hunters contact their state reps and scream at the top of your lungs (not literally, of course) that we are getting screwed big time by government. Even the communistic **State of California** has a good (well, okay, anyways) **Wildlife Commission** that at least listens to its hunter organizations. If our **Commission** had its way, they would end hunting and fishing here in **Washington**.

Before you write this off as a conspiracy, remember that at least one commissioner has been quoted threatening us as hunters. The majority of the commission has shown support for anti-hunting (A-R) groups and will wholeheartedly back preservation over conservation.

So, after all these words, what <u>CAN</u> we do? It all comes down to one little thing, and I have preached this time after time — your VOTE!! If you

voted for the one(s) responsible for all this anti-hunting jazz, then consider trying a vote for our supporters. Thank you.

#### **Vets and Active Military Special Hunt Day**

Cedarville Farms Waterfowl Club, whom I have been working with for the last 12 years or so, has once again hosted a veterans and active military members hunt on their dedicated day, Saturday, February 3rd. I had the pleasure of setting up a hunt for fellow Vet, Patrick Fleege, a retired military captain. Thanks also to Cedarville crew — another fellow Vet and owner of the Hunt Club, Jon McAninch, Brandon DeHart and Steven Frost for providing their guiding skills on this special hunt day!

#### Some New Programs for 2024

Our Chapter has discussed and started the planning for a new shooting event on the **Evergreen Sportsmen's Club** sporting clays range. We hope to use it to gain new members and bring back some old members who let their memberships lapse. I will keep everyone posted as to its disposition.

(Continued on Page 7)



#### **Grays Harbor News Continued**

As a **WWA** board member I would like to bring up a new idea that my frequently overworked brain has come up with. A product review that we can post in the monthly **WWA** newsletter. Just wondering what you all might think about this. With all the gear that a waterfowler needs, we could





share our experience and maybe help other Members avoid costly mistakes! I Iready have several reviews that I could put down and share. In other words, I have a BUNCH of gear. Good and bad.

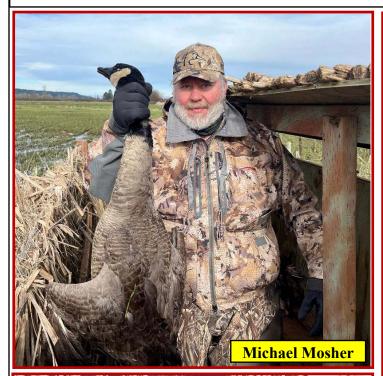
Thank you all for your continued support!

Kurt Snyder Chairman, Grays Harbor Chapter kurtsnyder@outdrs.net

(Continued on Page 8)



# **Grays Harbor News Continued**







# **Evergreen Sportsmen's Club**



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# **Seattle Chapter News**

By: James Ono

#### **February Meeting**

At our February 28th meeting we will be building wood duck next boxes that will be used to replace damaged boxes or as new installs during our spring duck box maintenance parties in the **Snoqualmie Wildlife Area.** We will also be revisiting our annual budget and banquet plans

#### **Banquet**

Updating our banquet plans for 2024, we have decided to do a joint banquet with the **Northwest Chapter** this year. Date and location are yet to be determined, but we are aiming for some time in August or early October. If you have any items that you would like to donate for the banquet raffles or auctions, please let us know!

#### **Chapter Hunting Trip to Potholes**

Huge thanks to **Trevor Morris** and **Ben Harrison** for taking the lead in organizing our group trip to **Potholes** last November. Additionally, thanks to everyone who brought boats and to all others who attended. Everyone pitched in which was a huge help.

See photos of the good time on the adjacent Page 10.



#### **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.



Ken Boyer and his son Vance on an early
December hunt at Potholes hosted by ML-Chapter
Chair Bruce Feagan. Ken won the donated hunt
as the high bidder in the live auction at the
October 2022 Seattle Chapter Banquet.
One hallmark of a hunt with Bruce is fresh,
BBQ'd duck kabobs in the blind.

In Ken's words in a FB post — "what a great morning with one of my short sons. fat cornfed mallards, beautiful sunrise, a tired dog [Coda], and unbelievable bbq'd fresh duck kabobs."

Don't let Ken "steal" this hunt again at our planned 2024 joint banquet with the NW Chapter this coming fall.

# **Seattle Chapter News Continued**

#### **More Potholes Trip**

While the hunting wasn't great, it was a good time and a lot of fun to get everyone together. We had a couple people get their first ducks including a new member, **Francisco Garcia.** We hope to do another trip this year.



**November Camp at Potholes State Park** 

[Top Right] New WWA member, Francisco Garcia and his first-ever waterfowl harvest a nice hen, Green Winged Teal (GWT)

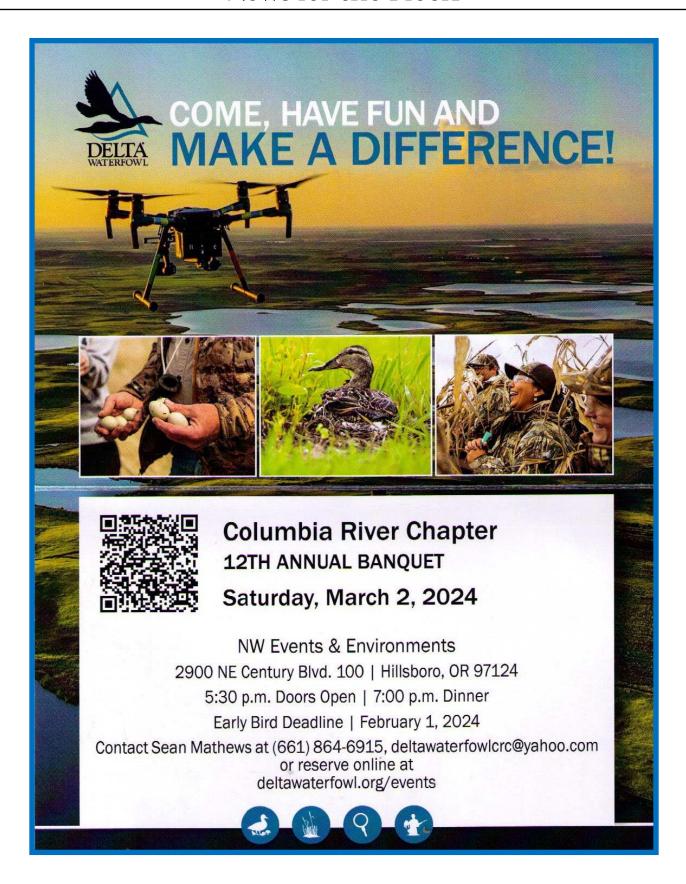


Around the Fire Pit [R to L] SW Chapter member Howard Hicks, his grandson Memphis, and Ken Smith (SEA).

[At Right] In the willows [L to R] new Corp-Treasurer, Patryk Kowalski, Wenatchee Chapter Chair Cameron Way, and Seattle Chapter Chair, James Ono.







# **Lower Columbia Chapter News**

By Doug Hargin

#### Ridgefield NWR October 2023 Youth Hunt

The **LC Chapter** hosted the annual youth hunt at the refuge on Saturday, October 28th. Eight (8) young hunters showed up for the first freezing weather of the season. Under bluebird skies, they had decent success. The cold front had moved new birds onto the refuge.

We provided **WWA** logo'd duck calls and whistles along with camo backpacks and decoys, to all the young participants. *Krispy Kreme* donated three (3) dozen donuts to start the morning off.

**Rich Hannan** and I handed out the gear prior to blind assignments. **Arlan Hackett** and **Chris Stalcup** had a well received lunch ready of BBQ'd burgers and dogs for the young hunters as they came in from the field. Thanks guys, for your help with the event!

#### Veteran's November 2023 Hunt at Ridgefield NWR

The Chapter also assisted with the veteran's hunt on Saturday, November 11th. The event is put on in conjunction with **The Fallen Outdoors** and **Ridgefield NWR** to help selected **Veterans** and **Active Military** get outdoors, experience waterfowl hunting, encourage them in the Activity, and possibly inspire a lifelong passion.

Thanks to **Tracy** and **Lynda Wilson** for hosting dinner at **The Sportsman's Public House** in **Ridgefield** the night prior to the hunt. Thanks to **Branden Trager, CEO** of **The Fallen Outdoors,** for organizing the veteran hunters and providing licenses and gear.

Thanks also to Sam Davis with The Fallen Outdoors for procuring Voodoo Doughnut (Vancouver), Starbucks Coffee (Ridgefield) and Jersey Mike's (Jantzen Beach) for donations for breakfast and lunch. Finally, thanks to the RNW Refuge Complex Manager Juliette Fernandez, Assistant Manager Eric Anderson, Experience Specialist Josie Finley, and Hunter Check-in Station Operators, Hannah Ferwerda and Alyssa Jane Mayor for their efforts to make the event a successful outing for the Veterans.

WWA provided commemorative Ridgefield NWR logo'd duck calls and Whistles on a lanyard. WWA-LC Chapter members Dave Mason, Dan Hafenbrack, Rich Hannan and Doug Hargin served as guides. Thanks guys!



— Jalin in his own words —

"I am a 25-year-old army veteran from North Charleston, South Carolina. I have served in two (2) overseas tours while in the army, and I am now enrolled at Pierce College getting my degree in Criminal Justice to one day opening my own private investigation firm.

Since I was a child I have always fished and hunted with my grandfather, Robert Williams, Sr. Now since I'm on the other side of the country without him, every trip I take out always reminds me of those days being with my grandfather.

When my daughter is old enough I want to be able to make those same memories with her."

# **LC Chapter News Continued**







cleaning demo; (at Left) Dan Hafenbrack.

(Clockwise from Top)









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

Vancouver Trap and Gun Club

# **Northwest Chapter News**

By: Rick Billieu

#### **January Meeting Report**

Our January chapter meeting included **Everett Herald Newspaper Reporter Ta'Leah Van Sistine** and **Photographer Annie Barker. Ta'Leah** reports on area
Environment stories and had heard that at times conflicts for the use of public recreational areas exist between **Waterfowl Hunters** and **Birders**.

Chapter members in attendance provided their perspective on the topic. Comments by members where focused around *Safety, Communications, Education* on

hunting seasons, their common interest for birds of the wild and the outdoors. You can read **Ta'Leah's** story published in the *Herald* linked <a href="https://example.com/here/heral/">here</a>.

#### **More Homes for the Ducks**

Chapter members assembled 10 Wood Duck Nest Boxes for deployment in the region. This brings our total boxes deployed and maintained to around 60. **WWA-Corp President Paul McGovern** brought the **WWA**Logo Branding Iron to add the official Brand of Approval.

#### **Veteran/Active Duty/Youth Waterfowl Hunts**

The **Northwest Chapter** sponsored
Youth and Veteran waterfowl hunts on the
annual dedicated hunt day, this year, Saturday,
Febreuary 3rd. This was the fifth year that the
chapter sponsored this special hunt opportunity.
Hunts were conducted from several locations from **Samish Bay** to the **Snohomish River Delta**.

As in past years, we had several Veterans and Youth participate in the event. The weather and tides were in our favor again this year although hunt success was down from last year.

Special thanks goes out to **Tony Breckenridge** (Edison Gun Club) and Amber Parmenter (The Nature Conservancy) for donating the use of their properties for the events.

Thanks also to **NW Chapter member Tom Elliott** for providing a guided hunting opportunity and the dads. Finally, another **BIG THANKS** to our **Veteran/Youth** 

**Hunt Coordinator Rick Skiba** who was once again instrumental in setting up another successful hunt with great memories for all.

#### **Upcoming Events**

In April (date tbd) the **NW Chapter** will be hosting our annual cleanup of **Smith Island.** This will include boating in from the **Marysville** launch and walk-in on the dike. We will ask **WDFW** once again to haul the trash away. The **Samish Unit** should be dried out enough by April/May to accomplish our annual cleanup and blind maintenance assessment. More information to follow.

Additionally, we have meeting guest speakers set for our March and April meetings.



#### **Membership Renewal and Next Meeting**

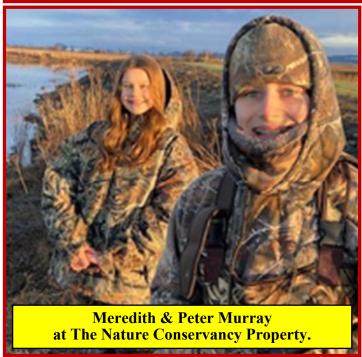
If you have not renewed your membership you can do so online at <a href="www.waduck.org">www.waduck.org</a> or you can also renewal at the next chapter meeting.

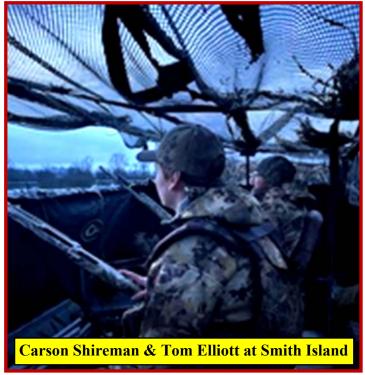
The **Northwest Chapter** meets on the second Wednesday each month. Our next meeting will be held on March 13th, at the **Twin Cities Sportsmens Club.** Trap shooting starts at 6:00 pm, and the business portion starts at 7 pm. Raffle at the end of each meeting. See you there and bring a friend.

Support your passion –get involved

Rick Billieu, rgbillieu@frontier.com https://www.facebook.com/waducks.org











# **Moses Lake Chapter News**

By Bruce Feagan and Dick Price



In mid-January Moses Lake Chapter members (L to R) **Todd Teeters, Chapter Chair** Bruce Feagan, Dan Brown, and Tom O'Dell went to the **Department's District office in** Ephrata to help WDFW **Assistant District Wildlife Biologist Paula Clements** disassemble and then refurbish hen mallard nest tubes. Also shown at right and in the background are members of the **Mose Lake Washington Conservation Corps** who also helped out.

Together they put together around 30 tubes for this effort, and they've already been redeployed on the landscape in the hope that WDFW and the Chapter will be able to catch some hens utilizing them this spring and monitor the nests for success.



#### **ML Chapter News Continued**



Stuffing Nest Tubes with fresh Alfalfa Hay.

Reminder — The Moses
Lake Chapter now has
some custom Russell 112
Trucker caps with the
WWA Color Logo, and
embroidered with Moses
Lake Chapter. They're
available now for \$25 each.
Contact Bruce Feagan
at 206-714-8020.



# Quincy American Legion Gun Club

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**QuincyWaAmericanLegionGunClub** 

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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).

# Victory!

"We have met the enemy, and they are ours."
-- Oliver Hazzard Perry, Battle of Lake Erie

Another session where the Hunters Heritage
Council (HHC) did its duty. All the anti-hunting bills are
Dead! The beaver ecosystem management bill died in the
Senate Ways and Means Committee last week. The HHC is
the hunter's best friend in Washington. HHC has killed
every piece of anti-hunting legislation every year we have
been in existence, for over 25 years! Credit should be given
to your Washington Waterfowl Association (WWA) for
being a member of Washingtonians for Wildlife
Conservation (WWC), who is a voting member for the
HHC, therefore making WWA a member.

I want to speak of our biggest victory, the defeat of **Draft Commission Conservation Policy C-700x**, linked <a href="here">here</a>. We as the hunting community didn't sit on our hands, and we found our anger and our voices. We came out in droves and testified in droves at every **Commission** meeting / gathering where we were able to. We outnumbered the anti-hunters and **animal-rights (A-R)** people at every meeting and the **Commission** felt our anger. We stood up and we were counted. Every hunter should be proud of the effort that we put forth.

Our efforts may have not been enough. It took action from our tribal allies to stand up and tell the Commission to stop. The Quileute Tribal Council, Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians, Swinomish Indian Tribal

Community, Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe, Lummi Business Council and Puyallup Tribe of Indians, all of whom "requested" the Fish and Wildlife Commission "stop action on the draft Conservation Policy." Chair Barbara Baker of Olympia said it was a first in her experience to receive such a request.

"We have an issue that the members of the committee will need to discuss," **Baker** told fellow commissioners. "We always have issues with this policy, but today the big one is that we have heard loud and clear from the tribes that they would like to engage in government-to-government consultation on this policy. I've just been made aware that the **Attorney General's**Office has also had a meeting with tribal attorneys, so we need to take that very seriously and respect the tribes' request, which is stating it mildly."

Previously, **Chairman Ed Johnstone** of the **Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission** had also twice weighed in on the draft **Conservation Policy** in a very negative manner.

**Baker** credited us hunters with our vociferous testimony against the policy. "Our traditional stakeholders, especially the hunters, are still upset with it, worrying that it will impair their ability to engage in their traditional activities."

The **Draft Conservation Policy C-700X** did just that, it changed the definition of conservation to preservation, and it would have illegally overridden the legislative mandate, which mandates the Commission to maximize hunting and fishing opportunities, by making hunting and fishing illegal. **Commission** policy **CANNOT** override **RCW (the Revised Code of Washington)! HHC Hall of Fame** member **Representative JT Wilcox** tweeted — "This is one of the most remarkably bold cases of attempted government overreach I've ever seen. I am so glad that the tribes stepped in to demand that the interests of tribal and non-tribal hunters and fishers is considered."

We need to work with and keep up our partnerships with the state's tribes. One of the best bills that is still alive is **Substitute House Bill 2424** (linked <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>) which would require the **Department of Fish and Wildlife** (WDFW) to engage with the **Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation** on a government-to-government basis to align gray wolf management strategies in certain areas. This would force the **WDFW** to use more lethal control on wolves.

(Continued on Page 19)



# Former Congresswoman Jaime Herrera Beutler has a New Goal

By Mark Pidgeon HHC President

Honorary WWA Silver Lifetime Member Jaime Herrera Beutler announced on October 11th that she is running for Washington Public Lands Commissioner in 2024 as a Republican!

Herrera Beutler, represented Washington's 3rd Congressional District from 2011 to 2023,

The **Public Lands Commissioner** position is one of the most important positions to the hunting Community. Through the **Department of Natural Resources**, the **Commissioner of Public Lands** manages nearly 6 million acres of public lands and enforces laws related to:

- Logging practices;
- Reforestation requirements'
- · Extraction of natural resources, and
- Oversees the DNR's wildfire protection and suppression programs, according to the state's website.

Running against her is Public Enemy Number One to the hunting community in Democrat Kevin VanDeWege, a Humane Society of the US (HSUS) "Legislator of the Year" multiple times; former Democratic 47th District State Senator Mona Das, and Democratic King County Councilmember Dave Upthegrove. All three are terrible for the hunting community, but VanDeWege, Chair of the Senate Natural Resources Committee will come out on top for the Democrats.

This is a tremendous news as former **Congresswoman Herrera-Beutler** can win this race!

Herrera Beutler has already been endorsed by the Hunters Heritage Council (HHC).

#### **Legislative News Continued**

**The Colville Nation** is killing wolves on the North half of the state of **Washington** all the way to the **Canadian** border. The tribes are our best allies on predator control.

This is a short time to celebrate the defeat the defeat of **Conservation Policy C-700x**, pat ourselves on the back, and prepare us for the next battle, for we know the **animal-rights (A-R)** groups won't give up. The **HHC** will be in the legislative arena ready to fight the animal-rights groups.

"The price of freedom is eternal vigilance"
--Thomas Jefferson

# **Last Chance!**

#### Get your FREE WA State Duck Stamp

To receive a complimentary (as in FREE) WA State Duck Stamp, mail a copy of your 2023-2024 WA License (showing an authorization to hunt Migratory Birds) along with a Self Addressed Stamped Envelope (SASE) to:

> WWA Duck Stamp Program P.O. Box 7823 Bonney Lake, WA 98391

(Absolute Deadline is March 31, 2024) (Unclaimed Stamps will be destroyed in April)

# Spokane Chapter SW Chapter Wenatchee Chapter Yakima Valley Chapter

No News this Month



#### **WDFW News**

# Public Comment Period for WDFW Proposed Status Change for the Gray Wolf Open thru May 6th

OLYMPIA – The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is seeking public input on a rule making proposal to reclassify Washington's gray wolves (Canis lupus) down from state endangered to sensitive, based on the current biological status of the species.

**WDFW's** procedures anticipate that the status of wildlife species listed as endangered, threatened, or sensitive will be reviewed every five (5) years through a periodic status review (PSR) process to assess available species information and recommend whether the species' status warrants its current listing or if a reclassification is recommended.

Based on 14 years of data and trends on Washington's wolf population and a population model developed at the **University of Washington (UW), WDFW** staff recommend reclassifying wolves from state endangered to sensitive.

State endangered is defined as seriously threatened with extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range within the state, while sensitive is defined as:

"vulnerable or declining and likely to become endangered or threatened in a significant portion of its range within the state without cooperative management or removal of threats"

under WAC 220-610-110 linked here.

For more information on the classifications of endangered, threatened, and sensitive species, read **WDFW's** blog Understanding conservation categories for species in **Washington: Endangered and Protected**.



# Tacoma Sportsmen's Club

16409 Canyon Rd. E. Puyallup, WA 98375 (253) 537-6151 www.tacomassportsmensclub.com "Wolves in **Washington** have made significant progress toward recovery since their original state endangered listing in 1980, when there were no known breeding wolves in the state," said Julia Smith, WDFW's Endangered Species Recovery Section Manager.

"This recommended reclassification to sensitive reflects that progress and most accurately describes the current status of wolves in **Washington**, while also recognizing that wolves are not yet established in western Washington and should remain protected."

Members of the public can submit comments on the proposed rule several ways:

- By going to: <a href="https://publicinput.com/sepa\_graywolf">https://publicinput.com/sepa\_graywolf</a>
   and submitting a written comment,
- By emailing graywolf2024@publicinput.com,
- By calling 855-925-2801 and entering project code 6505 to leave a voicemail,
- Or by mailing written comments to:

**WDFW** 

**Attention Wildlife Program** 

P.O. Box 43200

Olympia, WA 98504.

**WDFW** will accept comments until 11:59 p.m. on May 6, 2024. In the western two-thirds of Washington, where wolves are listed under the federal **Endangered Species Act**, this recommendation would not affect their federal status.



#### **Bill Moutaftsis**

107 Calistoga St. W. • PO BOX 2110 • Orting, WA 98360 Ph. 360-893-7900 • Fx. 360-893-7902 • BigJs@bigjsoutdoorstore.com www.bigjsoutdoorstore.com

# **Kenmore Gun Club**



1031—228th SW Bothell, WA 98021 (425) 481-8686

Wildlife Committee of WA

# **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 D	#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 Honorable 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			

#### History of WWA Life Membership Levels WWA Logo'd Duck Call.

At its establishment of the Life Membership Program in 2010, WWA initially established two levels of Life Membership - Regular at \$500 (with the emolument of a WWA logo'd belt buckle); and Sustaining at \$750 (with the emolument of a WWA embroidered Life Member Jacket).

Effective June 1, 2021, WWA converted to three (3) different levels of Life Membership acknowledging that ALL WWA Life memberships are "Sustaining" to the organization. Those three (3) new levels along with their respective emoluments are:

**Bronze Level Life Membership** — \$500.00 (USD) Includes one **WWA Logo'd Belt Buckle** OR one **Pacific Calls** 

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.

All include the option to decline the gift[s] accompanying their respective membership in order to provide maximum financial support to WWA.

In May 2022 the **WWA Board of Directors** voted unanimously to create a new **Platinum Life Membership** at the \$5,000 level.

# **2023 Washington Migratory Bird Stamp Print**

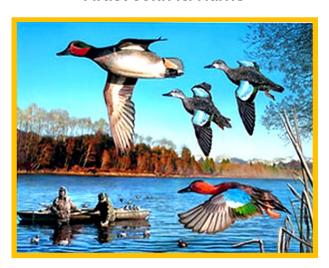
Washington Waterfowl Association is pleased to present the 2023-24

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

# 2023 Washington Migratory Bird Stamp Print Order Form

Please sen	d me:
Quantity	2023 Signed & numbered print with matching stamp \$70.00
Quantity	Frame (ONLY SOLD WITH PURCHASE OF PRINT & STAMP) \$105.00
lf available	, the edition number(s) I would like are:
Please Shi	p Prints to:
Address	
Email Addı	ressPhone
2023 Signe Frame (ON	ed & numbered print with matching stamp \$ 70.00 LY 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** 

#### The Hunter's Table

**By James Ono** 

Japanese Curry & Wild Duck Katsu

This is a wonderfully flavorful curry that can be mild or spicy, depending on which curry roux you choose. Try not to be intimidated by the long ingredient list. The additions to the curry add a lot of heartiness and complexity to the flavor. It is essentially two (2) recipes — one for the Katsu and one for the curry.

You could also skip the Katsu and serve the curry with sliced seared duck breast. I have found that, for me, it is better to cook the duck breast separately, as it is hard to get the cook right on the meat if it is integrated into the curry.

#### **Ingredients**

#### **For Curry**

- 2 onions cut into 16ths
- 2 carrots peeled and cut into bite sized chunks
- 3 yukon potatoes peeled and cut into quarters
- 1 tsp grated ginger
- 2 cloves diced garlic
- ½ grated apple
- 1 ½ Tbsp neutral oil
- 4 cups of chicken stock or game stock
- 1 Tbsp of honey
- 1 Tbsp of soy sauce
- 1 Tbsp of ketchup
- 1 package of golden curry roux (or your favorite brand) cut into small cubes

#### For Katsu

- 4 large duck breasts (hammer to consistent thickness Between ¼ to ½ inch)
- Salt and pepper
- Panko bread crumbs
- All purpose flour
- 2 Eggs beaten
- ¼ Cup water
- Oil for frying

#### Instructions

1. Gather, cut, and/or measure all of your ingredients for the curry. Prepping first is important.

- Soak your potatoes in water for 15 minutes while you prep your other ingredients
- 3. Heat a large pot over medium heat and add oil
- 4. Add your onions and sauté stirring occasionally until they become translucent and begin to brown.
- 5. (5 to 10 minutes)
- 6. Add the garlic and ginger and mix together
- 7. Cook until fragrant
- 8. Add chicken stock
- 9. Add the grated apple, honey, soy sauce, and ketchup
- 10. Add carrots and potatoes
- 11. Bring to a boil then reduce heat to a medium low
- 12. Cover and simmer for 15 minutes
- 13. While the curry is cooking begin the steps for the katsu
- 14. After 15 minutes uncover and skim any scum/foam off the top
- 15. Continue to cook for another 15 minutes or until the potatoes are fork tender
- 16. Add the golden curry roux by melting a couple cubes in a ladleful of broth at a time
- 17. Continue to simmer until the curry thickens and the flavor is concentrated to your liking

#### For Katsu

- Heat oil in a heavy skillet over medium-high heat. Use enough oil so that your duck breast will be able to cook without touching the bottom. If your oil is smoking it is too hot.
- 2. In 3 separate plates I start with 1 cup of Flour, 1 cup of panko, & the eggs and water.
- 3. Season your duck liberally with salt and pepper
- 4. Take a duck breast and dredge each side in the flour, shaking off any excess
- 5. Then dip in the egg/water mixture
- 6. Then put into panko, pressing the crumbs into the duck for best adhesion
- 7. Repeat for the remaining duck breasts. You may need to add flour or panko as needed.
- 8. Add the duck to the oil and fry until 1 side is golden brown then flip (about 4 minutes and you will likely have to do multiple batches)
- 9. Once both sides are golden brown remove from the oil and place on a drip rack or a paper towel

Once the curry and the katsu are done, slice the duck breast into bite-sized pieces. Serve the curry over rice and place the sliced katsu on top.



Japanese Curry & Wild Duck Katsu

The Finished Dish

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 **October 2023 Newsletter.** 

WWA General Fund — \$1,927

Debbi Buchite — \$5

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 TAXIDERMY

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 \$400.
- Seaducks & Mergansers are \$450.
- Goose mount is \$550; Larger geese are \$800
- One pheasant mount is \$380.
- One chukar mount is \$350.

#### **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.



**Ross Goose Under Construction** 

loran.navarro@yahoo.com

#### **In Memoriam — Mike Meseberg**

Longtime **Grant County resident, Michael (Mike) Meseberg** passed away December 26, 2023 due to complications from his 4-year battle with Multiple Myeloma. He was 71.

Mike was born in Miles City, Montana March 13, 1952. The family moved to Seattle area (Des Moines) when Mike was just 1 week old. He graduated from Mt. Rainier High School in 1970 with letters from numerous sports but excelled in baseball, winning the Best Hitter Award that same year in the City-State All Star Game. After being drafted by the Pittsburg Pirates, Mike opted for education but continued playing baseball at Yakima Valley College in Yakima and Lewis-Clark State College in Lewiston, ID where he earned his bachelor's degree, but more importantly met his wife-to-be, Marilyn Schacher Meseberg.

Mike and Marilyn married in Grangeville, ID on Flag Day, June 14, 1975. Mike and Marilyn moved to MarDon Resort the next week and never looked back. Mike and Marilyn were married for 48 years. Mike never met a stranger and thru his MarDon Tackle Shop he endeavored to teach as many people as possible how to have fun at the resort and on the lake; how to catch a fish or bag a duck.

When his children, **Levi and Annie**, were school age and playing sports, **Mike**, along with a few other folks, came up with a plan to raise money to help with after school activities and better sports fields for the youth of **Royal City School District**. The **Royal Youth Boosters** was created — a hunting program that provided access to local agricultural land for bird hunting in exchange for the purchase of **Boosters Membership** an are still an active organization.

Not as well known, was **Mike's** conservation efforts to rehabilitate **Potholes Reservoir** for top quality warm water fisheries. The 50-year-old lake had lost all its habitat and with it, the nursery stock of perch, crappie, and bluegill. **Mike** had heard about a rehab project going on at **Lake Havasu** in **AZ**, so **Mike** traveled there several times to learn.

He came home with a plan; partnered with Glenn Grette; and thru a non-profit begun by his father — the Central Washington Fish Advisory Committee (CWFAC) they built artificial fish habitats from PVC pipe and mesh netting to protect young species from becoming meals for larger predator fish. Since 2005, CWFAC has placed over 3,000 such structures at Potholes! In lieu of flowers, Mike's request was to please donate to PayPal.me/cwfac to continue this important work. See www.cwfac.org for more.

— excerpts taken from the **Columbia Basin Herald.** 



#### **Memories from a Friend and Neighbor**

When I think about **Mike's** life, I think about a life that was well lived. It wasn't so much what he did, though he hunted, fished, and traveled plenty. It was more about who he did those things with. His family.

I recall Mike telling me about a hunting trip he made to **Mexico** with his father **Rod** and brother, **Dave.** What an adventure for those guys. Years of hunting, fishing, and traveling – almost always with family.

**Mike** rarely missed an opportunity to watch his son, **Levi**, and daughter, **Annie**, compete in sports, and he found great joy watching his grandchildren doing the same thing. Don't get **Mike** started talking about the grandchildren unless you had plenty of time to listen.

A life lived at the resort. Working with his mother, father, wife **Marilyn, Levi, Annie** and his brother **Dave** to grow **MarDon** into the excellent vacation destination that it has become.

Truly, a life well lived.

Rest in peace, my friend,

— Bruce Feagan

#### Classified Ads – For Sale / Wanted

#### For Sale

Purebred lab puppies for sale \$800 they come socialized, dewormed, 1st round vaccinations, and crate / potty training started. Both parents AKC and trained gun dogs.

#### \_\_\_\_\_

#### Additional content:

Sale price: \$800 w/ \$200 deposit to reserve a puppy. We have 2 yellow males 3 black males, and 2 black females available.

#### Contact info:

Jordan

junelson89@gmail.com

(206) 637-3174

# **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 shot-gun,

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.

Check out this active <u>link</u> to a reputable FB Site "Youth Waterfowl Gear, Reviews, Swap and Sell"

For Sale – Beretta S687 EELL 12 ga. Magnum O/U, as-new cond., 28" bbl., beautiful walnut, choke tubes. \$4500

For Sale – Beretta 687 EELL 20 ga. Magnum O/U, as-new cond., 26" bbl., gorgeous engraving; unusual unfinished walnut stock. \$4500

Call Robert 206-940-7777



For Sale: **Beretta A400 Xtreme Plus KO Gore Optifade** Marsh 12 guage 3.5in Semi Auto Shotgun 28in barrel. Purchased at start of 2021 season and treated well. **\$1500 located in Wenatchee**. **Call or text Nick at (509) 860-9503** 

#### **In Memoriam**

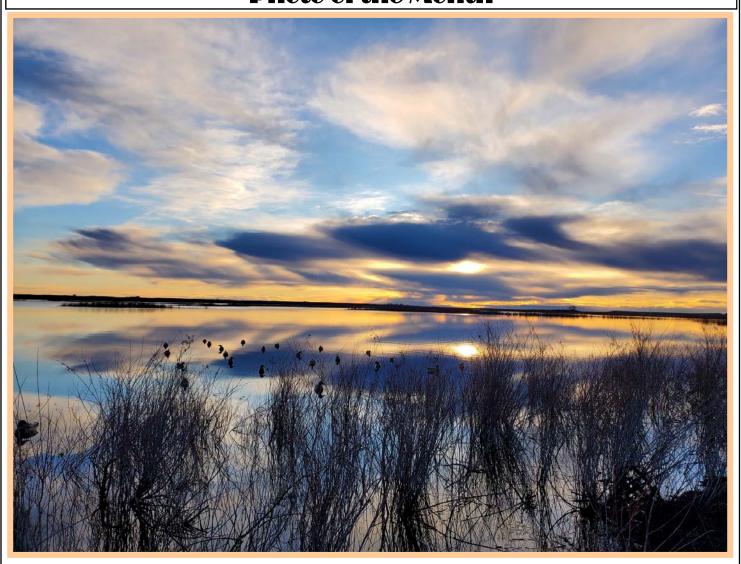
If you have someone you would like to honor in this column, please contact newsletter editor John Arrabito (<a href="mailto:jarrabito@comcast.net">jarrabito@comcast.net</a>) before the 12th of the month you would like the memorial to appear.

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.

# **Photo of the Month**



Early December Sunrise over the dekes at Potholes Reservoir.

Taken by

Seattle Chapter Life Member, Ken Boyer

#### Thanks for Your Support

#### 

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.















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, 6/1/2022) [ ] Gold Lifetime* — \$ 1,000.00 (New, 6/1/2022) [ ] Platinum Lifetime* — \$ 2,000.00 (New, 6/1/2022) [ ] 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
<u>Chapter &amp; Newsletter</u> : (Please specify your preferences)  Newsletter by [ ] email or [ ] hard copy
<ul> <li>Grays Harbor/Chehalis Valley Chapter meets the 1st Thursday of the month (Feb – Oct) at 7 pm at the Evergreen Sportsmen's Club, 12736 Marksman Road, SW, Olympia.</li> <li>Kitsap Peninsula Chapter — VACANT</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Lower Columbia Chapter meets the last Thursday of the month (Jan – Oct) at the Vancouver Trap Club, 11100 NE 76th Street in Vancouver.</li> <li>Moses Lake Chapter – Dates and Places Quarterly TBD Northwest Chapter meets year round the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesda of the month at 6 pm, the Twin City Sportsmen's Club,</li> </ul>
26933 64th Avenue NW in Stanwood.  [ ] Peninsula Chapter — VACANT  [ ] Seattle Chapter meets the 4 <sup>th</sup> Monday of the month (Jan – Oct) at 7 pm, Kenmore Shotgun Range, 1031 – 228 <sup>th</sup> Street SW, Bothell.
[ ] Southwest Chapter meets on the last Tuesday of the month (Feb – Sept) at 6 pm, 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 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the of the month (Jan – Nov.) at 6 pm, at the 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 <u>public</u> 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.