



RICHLAND ROD & GUN CLUB

(INCORPORATED)

P. O. BOX 337
RICHLAND, WASHINGTON
99352

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Richland Rod & Gun Club
P.O. Box 337
Richland, WA 99352-0337

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
Paid
Pasco, WA
Permit No. 200

I GIVE MY PLEDGE AS AN AMERICAN TO SAVE AND FAITHFULLY DEFEND FROM WASTE THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF MY COUNTRY; ITS AIR, SOILS AND MINERALS; ITS FORESTS, WATERS, AND WILDLIFE. I WILL HELP EDUCATE FUTURE GENERATIONS TO BE RESPONSIBLE CARETAKERS OF THE RESOURCES OF AMERICA.

JANUARY, 1998

Volume 53, No. 01

1998 Officers

Dennis Spore, Pres. (627-0589)

John Silko, V Pres. (627-1241)

Mike Estes, Treas. (582-2212)

Eddie Manthos, Sec. (586-6009)

MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

GENERAL MEETING - Tuesday January 6, 1998, 7:00 PM - Richland Public Library

BOARD MEETING - Tuesday January 20, 1998, 7:00 PM - IT Corp., 1045 Jadwin, Richland

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - January 21, 1998, CALL EDDIE AT 586-6009

TRI CITIES SPORTSMENS SHOW (LUNKER LAKE) AT THE TRAC - January 16, 17 & 18 1998

RR&GC BIG GAME DINNER - Saturday March 28, 1998

JANUARY GENERAL MEETING

The first General meeting of 1998 will be held at the Richland Public Library at 7:00PM, Tuesday January 6. Don McBride and Paul Krupin, two experienced local fisherman are the speakers and their topic is: "Fishing The Columbia River". They will discuss techniques for catching the various species of fish that can be caught in the river such as salmon, walleye, smallmouth bass etc. Both these fellows fish the river a lot and have gained a lot of experience that they can share with us. This presentation should be very timely since the hunting season is coming to an end and many of us will start concentrating on catching fish.

- There may also be some 1998 RR&GC calendars available for \$3.00 at the meeting, if they haven't all been sold.
- Tickets for the Big Game Dinner will placed on sale at the meeting. Cost is the same as last years, \$15.00. Pick up you tickets early and be eligible for the *Early Bird Drawing* and to make sure you get them before they are sold out.

DECEMBER GENERAL MEETING REPORT:

• Outgoing Club president Paul Logman opened the meeting and thanked the Club members for the support he received during his term as president. Paul received a vote of thanks from the attendees at the meeting. Howard Gardner gave a short report about the WDFW Elk Management Program and the Potholes Management Plan that the Club is reviewing. (*I reported in last months Bulletin that Howard. Larry Martin and his father-in-law hunted in the Pasayten Wilderness. The third person was not Larry's father in law, it was his son's father-in law - Richard Mathews, sorry about the error.*) The election for 1998 Club officers and board members was held, all the candidates were voted in by unanimous acclamation. The officers and board members present were introduced. Newly elected officers and board members are:

President:	Dennis Spore	Board Members:	Antone Brooks, Clarence Corriveau, Lyle Gilk, Ben Holten, Paul Kison,
V. President:	John Silko		David Koontz, Dale Landon, Ray Lloyd, Jon Manthos, Richard Mathews,
Secretary:	Eddie Manthos		Jack Pickard, Rocky Ross, Carl Stull, Mike Thompson, & Duane Woolum.
Treasurer:	Mike Estes		

- Newly elected president Dennis Spore introduced the evenings speaker, Rocky Crisp from *Critters Outdoor World*. Rocky showed and demonstrated many items such as a modern Remington muzzle loader rifle,

equipment increased by 21 percent, when adjusted figures are used. The survey, which has been conducted every 5 years since 1955, was completed for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service by the U.S. Census Bureau.

The Census Bureau initially screened 80,000 households, choosing 28,000 sportsmen and -women and 14,400 other wildlife enthusiasts age 16 and older as subjects for detailed interviews conducted throughout the year. Survey reports for individual states will be published beginning in December. The full report of the 1996 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation is available on the Internet at <http://www.census.gov/prod/www/titles.html> or refer to <http://www.fws.gov>, the Fish and Wildlife Service's home page. Printed copies of the survey are available by calling the Service's Publications Unit at 304-876-7203..

Anglers Took 1.5 Million Trips to Puget Sound, Coast in 1996; New Study to Collect More Economic Data: (WDFW News Release) OLYMPIA -- Recreational anglers hoping to catch a fish along Washington's coast or in Puget Sound aren't allowing their gone fishin' signs to collect dust. That's one of the findings of a recent study that found anglers in 1996 embarked on nearly 1.5 million fishing trips to the state's marine waters. The study, a precursor to a larger, economic study to be launched next month by Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) researchers, also found that the average angler in Washington state spent \$33 each time he or she went fishing on items ranging from baitfish to gasoline. The average angler's household income was \$45,557. The study broadly defined a fishing trip to include a single person sitting on a dock, to an ocean-plying charter boat filled with group of people. Washington residents as well as out-of-state visitors were counted as part of the study. The study was confined to marine waters, and did not include visits by anglers to the state's multitude of freshwater lakes, streams or other waterways. "This study confirmed what we have long suspected that recreational anglers fishing Puget Sound and coastal waters play an extremely important role in the state's way of life and its economy," said WDFW Director Bern Shanks. "The larger study

researchers will conduct beginning in January should help us further quantify important economic data, and guide us in managing our state's diverse fisheries," Shanks added. Beginning in early January, WDFW researchers will comb docks and piers and other locations in Puget Sound and along the coast to ask anglers a variety of questions, including whether they took time off from work to go fishing, how far they traveled to fish and whether they plan to stay overnight at a hotel or motel. The interviews will take several minutes to complete. If the person agrees, he or she will be contacted by phone about three weeks after the initial interview and asked follow-up questions. These questions will allow researchers to obtain more detailed information about the individual's fishing trip and expenditures. "The survey is extremely important," said Pamela Erstad, a WDFW fisheries biologist overseeing the research. "It should provide vital data for fisheries managers, recreational organizations and others trying to determine not only the economic value of sportfishing in the state, but how fishing opportunities can be enhanced.

Winchester high velocity steel shot shells and new Silvertip rifle shells, Tungsten shot shells (about \$20.00 for a box of 10 shells), a new design fish fillet knife, neoprene dog vest for waterfowl retrievers, fly fishers belt pack, waterfowl hunters pack bag, decoy bag, rod cases, fishing rods and reels, locally made flies, new design steelhead float, fly fishermen's vest and finally a "breathable" rain jacket. Rocky passed around the items so that we could examine each item(s). He put on an excellent presentation and we saw and examined many items that we did not know existed.

- Winners of the raffle drawings were: \$50 gift certificate to Critters Outdoor World - Lyle Gilk, a battery powered work light - Gene VanLiew, battery powered work light - Paul Kison, automotive tow rope - John Hall and a 1998 calendar - Larry Martin.

HUNTER EDUCATION CLASSES: - Clare Cranston - The following Hunter Education class is scheduled in January at the RR&GC Tri-Cities Training Facility at the Port of Pasco: (Maximum of 25 persons each) January 17-22. There is a \$5 class fee for Hunter Education. Registration is through Phil's Sporting Goods, 3806 W Court in Pasco, telephone (509)547-9084.

USE OF FUNDS: Howard Gardner: The subject committee met on 12/9/97. In attendance were Mike Estes, Howard Gardner, Larry Martin, Jack Pickard, and John Silko. Based upon Board of Trustees approval on 12/16/97, the contributions listed below will be made for CY- 1997. If there are questions, call Howard on 943-9084.

Contributions for CY-1997

Fitzner Memorial Scholarship at WSU	\$500.00
NRA ILA	\$200.00
National Shooting Sports Foundation	\$50.00
Columbia Dive Rescue	\$250.00
Wildlife Legislative Fund of America	\$100.00
Tapteal Greenway	\$50.00
Upland Wildlife Restoration Program	\$250.00
Delta Waterfowl	\$50.00
WE Care (Leader in defeat of Init. 676)	\$400.00*
Youth Conservation Camp(max. of 8 campers @ \$175 per)	\$1400.00
Total	\$3250.00

*\$300.00 had been sent before the election. The \$100.00 to be sent this month is to help retire the debt incurred by Alan Gottlieb of the Second Amendment Foundation.

TRI-CITIES SPORTSMEN SHOW: The RRGc will man the Lunker Lake Fishing Pond and the air rifle shooting range for the 5th consecutive year at the Tri-Cities Sportsmen Show on Friday, Saturday and Sunday January 16, 17 and 18 at the TRAC facility outside Pasco. Many volunteers will be needed to man the pond and range in 4 and 5 hour shifts. The phone calling tree is being activated. You can expect a call asking you to volunteer. The Fishing Pond is a lot of fun, it introduces kids (and many parents) to fishing and gives us an opportunity to increase awareness of the Richland Rod and Gun Club. We will again man the air rifle shooting range this year. A group of about 6 people will be needed Thursday morning January 15 starting at 9:00AM to set up the fishing pond. During the Show a minimum of 17 volunteers will be needed to man Lunker Lake and 3-4 additional volunteers for the air rifle shooting range. Shift times are 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM Thursday the 15th for set up of the fishing pond. Shift times for Friday the 16th are 1-5 PM and 5-9 PM. Saturday the 17th, shifts will be from 10 AM-3 PM and 3-8 PM. Sunday the 18th, shifts will be from 10-2PM and 2-6 PM; the last shift will stay over to help disassemble the pond. Workers should arrive 15 minutes before the start of the shift to receive their passes at the entrance. Parking passes will be required also, details for obtaining them will be known later.

- You should come equipped with needle nose pliers (to crimp the hook barbs and remove the hook from the fish), a hook sharpener, a hand towel and safety glasses.

• Some important points to remember at the fishing pond are: 1) Do not feed the fish! 2) Remove any bait that is floating from the pond. 3) Do not let the kids follow the fish (especially the big ones) around the pond. 4) Do not put fish to sleep by beating them on the top rail (splattered blood and guts don't look good.) 5) Put fish to sleep before bagging them. 6) Keep the area clean, do not dip rags or towels in the pond. 7) Do not allow anyone to *handline* fish, use the rod. 8) After one fish has been caught, the person must go to the back of the line. 9) Keep the landing net in your hand or pocket and net the fish as soon as possible after it is hooked. 10) Assign one person/shift to rig the rods, supply the fish bags and keep the place clean. 11) If you going to look around the show-do it before or after your shift.

- Profits from Lunker Lake will be used to fund camp fees for the youth that will attend the 1998 Conservation Camp at Orcas Island. Be sure to volunteer, you will get a big kick helping kids that have never fished before catch their first fish, see you there!

HUNTER EDUCATION - Howard Gardner: Two classes were held in November and December for a total of 51 students and adults. Those participating in the instruction included: Bret Akers, Don Board, Clare Cranston, Howard Gardner, Lyle Gilk, Don Hartshorn, Steve Roblyer and Jerry Zeitler. A Range Day was held for both classes at the Rattlesnake Shooting Facility with students shooting .22's, 30-30's and clay birds with a 20 ga shotgun. The instructors are to be commended for giving freely of their time to provide the classes.

48TH ANNUAL BIG GAME (WILD GAME) DINNER: -Jerry Zeitler- The 48th Annual Wild Game Dinner will be held at the Richland Knights of Columbus Hall on Saturday March 28. Ticket cost is the same as the last 2 years, \$15.00 per person. Tickets will go on sale at the January General Meeting and will not be sold at the door on the night of the dinner. Deadline for eligibility for the *Early Bird* door prize drawing is the March General Meeting on March 3. The social hour will start at 6:00 PM with dinner scheduled at 7:00 PM. The program speaker will be Dave Gaillard from Bozeman Montana. His topic will be: *FOREST CARNIVORES*. Our understanding is that he has an excellent presentation.

- Tickets will go sale at the January 7 General Meeting. If you are unable to attend the meeting, you can also mail payment to the RR&GC, P.O. Box 337, Richland WA 99352. Mail orders will be honored, subject to the availability of unsold tickets. You can also contact a Board member to obtain tickets.

- Fish, fowl and big game meat donations are still needed. The food lockers at Chuck's look bare. See the October, November or December Club Bulletins for packaging and labeling requirements. Leave the meat at Chuck's Meat & Lockers, 17 E. 1st Ave. in Kennewick, locker I-40. Chuck's holds the key. Contact Jerry Zeitler, Wild Game Dinner Chairman, at 545-6694 if you have any questions or wish to volunteer your help with this event.

SW Washington Late Canada Goose Season, Season Information and Hunt Application: (News release from the WDFW)

The 1998 late Canada goose season in Western Washington Goose Management Area 2 will occur on Saturdays, Sundays, and Wednesdays during January 24 - March 8. The season is designed for Advanced Hunter Education (AHE) program graduates possessing a valid 1997-98 SW Washington Canada goose hunting authorization, but additional authorized non-AHE hunters may also apply. Other details concerning the season are as follows: All hunters (AHE and non-AHE) must complete the form available at <http://www.wa.gov/wdfw/wlm/game/water/swlate98.htm> on the Internet, indicate their interest / availability for the hunt and return the form by January 13 to 1998 Waterfowl Section, WDFW; 600 Capitol Way N; Olympia, WA 98501-1091.

Hunters selected for the hunt will be sent a late season hunting authorization and harvest report, to be used for all assigned hunts at locations and days specified by the WDFW hunt coordinator. WDFW will work with landowners to determine where damage is occurring and how many hunters are needed for a given day. AHE hunters on the list for each date/location will be selected at random to participate. AHE hunters will be given priority, but non-AHE hunters will be selected at random to fulfill needs for more hunters. In some cases, hunters will be needed for several consecutive hunt days. Hunters will be notified by phone prior to the hunt day(s) and given the phone number of a landowner needing hunters. Hunters will be responsible for making the contacts with landowners and arranging specific locations to hunt. Not all locations will be open to hunt each day. Hunters selected will be required to "check in" each hunt day by calling a 24 hour 800 number, so WDFW personnel will be aware of hunters participating in the hunts each day. All hunters will be required to check out at a specific location near the hunt area, regardless if they took geese. Refer to the 1997-98 waterfowl season pamphlet for additional season requirements.

AMERICANS SPENDING MORE DOLLARS AND DAYS OFF TO ENJOY WILDLIFE, FINAL U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE SURVEY REPORT SHOWS: (News release from the U.S.F.W.S.)

What has fur, fins, feathers and a fan club of 77 million people? It's the Nation's fish and wildlife. Nearly 40 percent of U.S. adults spent \$101 billion on wildlife-related pursuits in 1996, according to the final report of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's most recent nationwide survey. The 1996 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation shows that adults--people age 16 and older who enjoy wildlife-related activities may not be increasing in numbers but they are willing to spend more time and money to fish, hunt, and watch wildlife. "What this means is that the Nation's wildlife continues to benefit from an active, committed constituency within the American public," said Service Director Jamie Rappaport Clark. "These are people who, despite increasing demands on their time, put their dollars and their days off into continuing our country's fine tradition of enjoying America's wildlife legacy. It is good news--for wildlife and for the next generation--that in the age of the Internet, cable television, and increasing distractions and demands on people's time, centuries-old activities that bring families together, such as hunting and fishing, continue to play a strong role in Americans' lifestyles." The national survey shows that the number of anglers and hunters in the country remained relatively unchanged from the previous report. In 1991, anglers numbered 35.6 million and there were 14.1 million hunters. In 1996, there were 35.2 million anglers and 14 million hunters. However, 1996 anglers fished an additional 115 million days and spent 37 percent more than in 1991, when the spending totals are adjusted for inflation and other factors. Last year's hunters went afield 21 million more days and, using adjusted figures, spent 43 percent more for trips and equipment. In addition, although participation in wildlife-watching (observing, feeding, and photographing wildlife) dropped by 17 percent--down to 62.9 million participants in 1996 from 76.1 million in 1991--spending for trips and



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FEBRUARY, 1998

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MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

GENERAL MEETING - Tuesday February 3, 1998, 7:00 PM - Richland Public Library

BOARD MEETING - Tuesday February 17, 1998, 7:00 PM - Richland Public Library

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - February 19, 1998, CALL EDDIE AT 586-6009

SIXTH ANNUAL COLUMBIA BASIN Friends of NRA Fundraiser Banquet - Friday March 6, 1998 (See Bulletin Insert)

RR&GC BIG GAME DINNER - Saturday March 28, 1998

FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING

Jack Coats of J&R Taxidermy will be the February speaker. His topic will be taxidermy. He will discuss *mounting* birds, fish and mammals. Jack has 16 years experience as a taxidermist and has his own shop in Kennewick at 1615 S. Auburn where he prepares game heads, African mounts, birds, rugs, fish reproductions and full size mounts. One of the things he will discuss is the preparation and care of a specimen(s) that you intend to have mounted. It should be a very interesting and informative meeting.

- Tickets for the Big Game Dinner will be on sale at the meeting. Cost is the same as last year, \$15.00. Pick up your tickets early and be eligible for the *Early Bird Drawing*.
- Entry tickets for the 1998 Quality Trip will also be on sale (drawing rules are shown on the next page).
- There may still be some 1998 Remington Wildlife Club calendars for sale.

JANUARY GENERAL MEETING REPORT:

The first meeting of the year was heavily attended. Almost all of the seats in the meeting room were filled. Newly elected Club President, Dennis Spore, opened the meeting. Dennis announced details of manning Lunker Lake and the air rifle shooting gallery at the Tri Cities Sportsmens Show at the TRAC, Corps of Engineers Meetings at Dayton and Waitsburg concerning levee construction on the Touchet River and Club participation in preparing the Columbia Park Lagoon for a fishing pond. Tickets for the Big Game Dinner and the Quality Hunt were also placed on sale at the meeting.

Vice President and Program Chairman John Silko introduced the speakers for the evening, Don McBride and Paul Krupin. Don spoke in detail about fishing the Columbia River for salmon from above Richland to Priest Rapids Dam. He discussed hazards of boating the river, boats and boat equipment, rods and reels, downriggers, back trolling, drifting, types of fishing lines and their use, lures and their maintenance and use of herring and scents. He also showed the river contours from the old wooden power lines to Vernita Bridge and boat launching sites on the river. Other fish in the river such as sturgeon, steelhead, bass, walleye and squawfish were also discussed. Paul Krupin started to speak about bank fishing the Columbia and the book he has authored, "*Tri Cities River Recreation Map Guide*". Since we ran out of time Paul was not able to finish his presentation. The book appears to be a winner and should probably be in the library of fishermen that fish around the Tri Cities. It has many maps and shows contours of the Columbia River bottom. It is available at many of the Tri Cities book stores and sporting goods stores. I think it sells for about \$20.00. Paul donated two of the books to the Club. Both speakers and the

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Can. Goose	518-31031	6/23/56	10/20/57	Alturas, CA.
Can. Goose	588-93160	10/4/68	10/16/68	Stratford, WA.
Can. Goose	588-93161	10/4/68	10/16/68	Stratford, WA.
Can. Goose	518-88382	6/11/64	10/19/68	Pasco, WA.
Can. Goose	558-32704	5/17/68	10/19/68	McNary NWR, WA.

Based on the mallard data, you might say I got religion and shot mostly drakes after 1974, but I can't remember being that discriminating until the duck decline forced a limit on hens. Most of the ducks were shot within three years after banding, except the one banded in Cecil, OR which survived almost ten years after banding. I hope that the above banding data will encourage you to turn in your banding information and to keep a record or diary of your hunting and fishing trips. Just call 1-800-327-2263 to report a band number. They will give you the banding date and location and send a certificate later.

RICHARD FITZNER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP: - Howard Gardner. The sixth annual scholarship was awarded to Erik Dale Ellis. Erik is majoring in Wildlife Resource Science at WSU and studied previously at Wenatchee Valley College North. He is an excellent student with a GPA of 3.84. The scholarship awards in the amount of \$500.00 were started in 1992 in memory of Richard Fitzner, a well respected biologist and Club member, who died in a tragic plane crash. The annual award goes to a student in Wildlife Biology/ Management Previous recipients were Steven Bell, Brian Moser and Wendy Krajewski. Members of the scholarship committee were: Mike Estes, Dale Landon, Larry Martin, Jack Pickard and John Silko.

information they presented was excellent.

- **Winners of the raffle drawings were:** Clarence Corriveau - Tech Force 0.177 air rifle, Richard Mathews - "Tri Cities River Recreation Map Guide" book, Jack Pickard - Canon camera and Dale Landon - 1998 calendar.

HUNTER EDUCATION CLASSES: - Clare Cranston - A Hunter Education class is scheduled, starting February 16, at the RR&GC Tri-Cities Training Facility at the Port of Pasco. (Maxi mum of 25 persons each). There is a \$5 class fee for Hunter Education. Registration is through Phil's Sporting Goods, 3806 W Court in Pasco, telephone (509)547-9084.

QUALITY TRIP DRAWING RULES: Entry tickets for the 1998 Quality Trip can be purchased at the February and March General Meetings and at the Big Game Dinner, if the maximum of 100 tickets has not been sold. The drawing for the quality trip will be held at the Big Game Dinner on March 28, 1998. The rules are shown below and are identical to last years.

1. Only Club members with 1998 dues paid through April 1999 are eligible to purchase entry tickets.
2. Tickets are \$20 each, the value of the trip (amount paid to winners) is \$2,000.00.
3. A minimum of 50 tickets must be sold, the maximum sold will be 100.
4. Each member may purchase 2 tickets; with a family membership, the spouse and eligible dependents may also purchase 2 tickets each.
5. You must be 16 years of age or older at the time of the drawing to purchase tickets.
6. Winners will present a program, describing their Quality Trip, at a General Meeting of the membership.
7. The drawing will be held at the March 28, 1998 Big Game Dinner. You do not need be present to win.
8. The winner will select a partner who must be a member of the Richland Rod and Gun Club and who must also have participated in the drawing.
9. An alternate will also be drawn in the event the winner is unable to go. The alternate will select his/her own partner who must also be a club member and have been in the drawing.
10. Winners are requested to donate meat for the 1999 Big Game Dinner, assuming they are successful in harvesting their quarry.
11. The trip must be approved by the Board not later than the June Board meeting or the trip will be forfeited.
12. If the alternate is chosen to go, he/she must submit a written proposal by the September Board meeting or forfeit.

FOR SALE: For Sale: Two Campmor goose down sleeping bags, one long, one regular, rated to -15 degrees F. \$150 each. Dave Myers 543-2086

48TH ANNUAL BIG GAME (WILD GAME) DINNER: -Jerry Zeitler- The 48th Annual Wild Game Dinner will be held at the Richland Knights of Columbus Hall on Saturday March 28. Ticket cost is the same as the last 2 years, \$15.00 per person. Tickets will be on sale at the February and March General Meetings (if they have not been sold out) and will not be sold at the door on the night of the dinner. Eligibility deadline for the *Early Bird* door prize drawing is the March 3 General Meeting. The social hour will start at 6:00 PM with dinner scheduled at 7:00 PM. The program speaker will be Dave Gaillard from Bozeman Montana. His topic will be: *FOREST CARNIVORES*. Our understanding is that it is an excellent presentation.

- If you are unable to attend the meetings, you can also mail payment to the **RR&GC, P.O. Box 337, Richland WA 99352**. Mail orders will be honored, subject to the availability of unsold tickets. You can also contact a Board member to obtain tickets.

- Fish, fowl and big game meat donations are still needed, the lockers are almost bare. Please bring your donations to Chuck's as soon as possible so we can determine how much meat will be available. See the October, November or December Club Bulletins for packaging and labeling requirements. Leave the meat at Chuck's Meat & Lockers, 17 E. 1st Ave. in Kennewick, locker I-40. Chuck's holds the key. Contact Jerry Zeitler, Wild Game Dinner Chairman, at 545-6694 if you have any questions.

- Big Game Dinner Chairman Jerry Zeitler is in need of volunteers for all areas of preparation for the dinner. Please contact Jerry and offer your services, he needs people for all day March 28 starting at 8:00AM. You are also welcome if you can help for part of the day. If you are willing to donate a door prize for the dinner or if you know of anyone who is willing to donate a door prize, please contact John Silko at 627-1241.

- If you are going to the dinner, please pay for your 1998 membership prior to the dinner. One of the major bottlenecks at prior dinners was the long line of people updating their membership. Many people have been forced to stand outside in a long line. Eliminate the bottleneck, update your membership beforehand at the February and March General Meetings. Remember! to be eligible for the Quality Trip and some of the door prizes your dues must be paid up through April 1999. Your membership expiration date is shown on this Bulletin mailing label.

NEW MEMBER: Welcome to new member, Rob Thornton of Richland.

LUNKER LAKE UPDATE: Everything went well at Lunker Lake and the Pellet Rifle Shooting Range at the Tri-Cities Sportsmen Show and it appears that we were again successful this year. Approximately 1,600 trout were stocked in Lunker Lake at the beginning of the show. Sunday night, when the show ended, there were about 100 to 200 trout in the pond. That translates to about 1400 to 1500 kids that were made happy catching perhaps their first fish. The Pellet Rifle Shooting Range was well attended and I'm sure that many youth received their first introduction to a gun and they received it in a supervised environment in which gun safety was stressed. There were many volunteers who worked at both booths and to list all their names would fill most of this Bulletin. They are commended for volunteering their time to introduce many youth to fishing and shooting, thank you very much! Many thanks to Dennis Spore, Paul Logman and Jack Pickard who organized Lunker Lake, to Clare Cranston who organized the Shooting Range, to John Silko who made Polaroid photographs of many of the youth and the fish they caught and to the Yakima County Search & Rescue Squad who delivered and helped us build the pond.

CHELAN SALMON DERBY: There will be a chinook salmon derby in Chelan (Lake Chelan) on May 15, 16 and 17 (Friday, Saturday and ½ day Sunday). Entry fee is \$25/person and only 500 entries are allowed. First prize is \$4000, second prize is \$2000 and third prize is \$500. There will also be other prizes. The derby is sponsored by the Chelan Rod & Gun Club and the Chelan Chamber of Commerce. For more information call toll free 1-800-4CHELAN (1-800-424-3526).

DUCK BAND INFORMATION - Howard Gardner: After over 40 years of duck and goose hunting, and accumulating duck band information, I thought it might be interesting for club members to see where waterfowl were banded that were shot within a 100 mile radius of the Tri-Cities. (H=Hen, D=Drake)

Duck/Goose/Sex	Band #	Date Banded	Date Recovered	Location Where Banded
G.W. Teal (H)	514-90296	11/13/58	11/23/58	McNary NWR, WA.
Mallard (H)	627-56474	10/3/65	12/28/65	Turnbull NWR, WA.
Mallard (H)	607-22898	9/6/65	1/15/66	Fairfield, MT.
Mallard (H)	817-38181	1/29/67	10/13/68	Martingale, WA.
Mallard (H)	797-38620	8/22/73	1/5/74	McNary NWR, WA.
Mallard (D)	947-10063	1/30/73	1/11/75	Columbia NWR, WA.
Mallard (D)	897-27317	1/19/76	1/8/77	Zillah, WA.
Mallard (D)	1097-76248	1/28/77	1/21/78	Columbia NWR, WA.
Mallard (D)	1007-74622	9/4/75	11/23/79	Ryley, Alberta
Mallard (D)	917-66692	1/30/79	12/20/80	Zillah, WA.
Mallard (D)	1337-63314	9/29/82	1/8/83	Columbia NWR, WA.
Mallard (D)	1477-60867	2/7/90	12/4/90	Columbia NWR, WA
Mallard (D)	2347-04558	8/6/91	11/19/91	Seven Persons, Al'ta.
Mallard (D)	2317-68932	8/17/90	11/21/92	Millet, Alberta
Mallard (D)	897-15496	8/17/92	12/1/92	Alexander, Alaska
Mallard (D)	1097-18028	1/14/83	12/17/92	Cecil, Oregon
Mallard (D)	2337-45915	8/16/91	11/21/94	Quilchena, B.C.
Mallard (D)	817-31600	7/13/91	11/29/94	Zillah, WA.
Mallard (D)	2337-53505	8/13/91	11/30/95	Islay, Alberta
Mallard (D)	2367-93696	8/11/94	11/8/96	Brownvale, Alberta
Mallard (D)	2357-17134	8/12/95	12/5/97	Alberta



RICHLAND ROD & GUN CLUB

(INCORPORATED)

P. O. BOX 337
RICHLAND, WASHINGTON
99352

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Richland Rod & Gun Club
P.O. Box 337
Richland, WA 99352-0337

UMATILLA HMU:

● At the February 3 General Meeting, the membership present, voted unanimously to oppose the lease of the Wallula HMU to the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) by the Army Corps of Engineers. They also voted to form a special committee to determine the best method(s) to oppose the lease and to report their recommendations to the Club Board of Directors as soon as possible. The special committee met two days later and came up with a list of recommendations that was presented to the Board at a special meeting on February 10. The Board reviewed the recommendations and started implementing them at this meeting and at their monthly meeting on March 17.

● Fast action was necessary because the Commander of the Walla Walla District Office announced at public information meetings held at Walla Walla and Burbank on January 27 and 29, respectively, that he had decided, without any input from the public, that the Umatilla HMU and other adjoining lands was going to be leased to the CTUIR by the end of February. Needless to say those present at the meetings were outraged that they were not informed, prior to the meetings, that the Corps was about to lease these lands to the CTUIR. Both the Walla Walla and Tri-Cities newspapers ran large articles that stated the dissatisfaction of those present at the meetings. The Corps essentially took the position that they had the authority to grant the lease and that it was not necessary to consult those that would be affected by their decision. I understand that the meeting in Walla Walla almost got out of hand and that there was a lot of shouting and yelling that took place. People at the meetings were not satisfied with the answers that the Commander gave to their questions. Our Club sent a letter, early this fall to the Commander at Walla Walla stating our dissatisfaction with leasing of the Umatilla HMU to a Sovereign Nation, the CTUIR. We never got a response from him. Later in the year, we sent essentially the same letter to the Commander of the Portland Regional Office. We did get a reply from him that was not satisfactory. At the Burbank meeting, the question was asked of the Walla Walla Commander why the Club did not receive a reply to its first letter. The answer was that Walla Walla never

received the Club's letter, however the Commander stated that he did draft the reply we received from Portland.

● Because of the general dissatisfaction with Corps actions and replies to questions asked, the Club along with many others contacted their legislators who sent a letter, dated February 11, to the District Commander at Walla Walla requesting that the signing of the lease be postponed until the District Commander and the three legislators, Senator Slade Gorton, Congressman Doc Hastings and Congressman George Nethercutt Jr., have the opportunity to meet with the Commander and discuss other management options. In the meantime the Club is pursuing the recommendations of the special committee and Board of Directors to oppose/postpone the lease until the Corps has obtained input from affected and interested parties.

I GIVE MY PLEDGE AS AN AMERICAN TO SAVE AND FAITHFULLY DEFEND FROM WASTE THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF MY COUNTRY; ITS AIR, SOILS AND MINERALS; ITS FORESTS, WATERS, AND WILDLIFE. I WILL HELP EDUCATE FUTURE GENERATIONS TO BE RESPONSIBLE CARETAKERS OF THE RESOURCES OF AMERICA.

MARCH, 1998

Volume 53, No. 03

1998 Officers

Dennis Spore, Pres. (627-0589)

John Silko, V Pres. (627-1241)

Mike Estes, Treas. (582-2212)

Eddie Manthos, Sec. (586-6009)

MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

GENERAL MEETING - Tuesday March 3, 1998, 7:00 PM - Richland Public Library

BOARD MEETING - Tuesday March 17, 1998, 7:00 PM - Richland Public Library

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - March 26, 1998, CALL EDDIE AT 586-6009

SIXTH ANNUAL COLUMBIA BASIN Friends of NRA Fundraiser Banquet - Friday March 6, 1998

RR&GC BIG GAME DINNER - Saturday March 28, 1998

MARCH GENERAL MEETING

Speakers at the meeting will be last years Quality Trip winners Steve Wray and Mike Estes. Steve won the drawing and selected Mike as his partner. They went to Hawaii and hunted for sheep, goats, Kalij Pheasant, Orkel Francolin (a grouse sized bird) and Wild Turkey. They were successful in bagging all five species and were able to bring meat and trophy material home with them. Their guided hunt lasted for two days on the Bishop Ranch. They hunted with, depending on the animal, rifle or shotgun. Each hunt day lasted about 12 hours. Come to the meeting and find out all about hunting in Hawaii.

- Tickets for the Big Game Dinner will be on sale at the meeting, sales have been slow. Cost is the same as last year, \$15.00. Pick up your tickets early and be eligible for the early bird drawing, tickets bought after March 3 will not be eligible.
- Entry tickets for the 1998 Quality Trip will also be on sale (drawing rules are shown later in this Bulletin).
- There are still some 1998 Remington Wildlife Club calendars for sale.

JANUARY GENERAL MEETING REPORT:

President Dennis Spore opened the meeting.

● Dennis read a letter from Shuyler Productions, the organization that put on the Tri-Cities Sportsmen Show. Mr. Shuyler thanked the Club for running Lunker Lake at the Show and congratulated us for doing a good job. He enclosed a check for \$800.00 which was the profits from the Lake. A total of \$2100.00 was collected from those who fished (about 1400 fish). Cost of the fish was \$1230.00, other miscellaneous expenses were \$70.00 and the remainder \$800.00 was given to the RR&GC. The \$800.00 will be used to send youth to the Washington State Youth Conservation Camp this summer.

● Howard Gardner presented a draft letter to the Washington State Dept. Of Fish and Wildlife concerning the 1998-99 simplified options to the 1998 & 1999 hunting seasons. After discussions, a motion was made from the floor, seconded and approved by those present that:

- * In general, the Club supports the seasons and regulations proposed in this option.
- * The Club takes exception to the three point regulation for mule and white tail deer.
- * The current method of describing hunt boundaries(GMU's) is very descriptive and accurate and should continue to exist as they presently are. Any attempt to use county boundaries, except where a river or some other well defined geological feature was involved, would be chaotic. Most GMU's were established on biological principles and have a long history of information on game populations and harvest data that would be difficult to reconcile on a county basis. In addition, many hunters have

a long tradition of hunting a particular GMU which could be affected by a change in boundaries.

* In view of the need to increase the statewide bear harvest the Club supports elimination of the deadline for purchase of the general bear tag.

● A lengthy discussion took place concerning the Corps of Engineers lease of the Wallula HMU and other adjoining lands to the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR). A motion was made, seconded and unanimously adopted that the Club oppose leasing of the land to the CTUIR. A second motion was made and unanimously adopted that a committee be formed that will come up with recommendations to the Club Board of Directors for a plan(s) for opposing the lease. The committee and the Board will have to act very fast because the Corps announced at a meeting in Burbank on January 29 that they had decided to award the lease to the CTUIR at the end of February. To our knowledge the public was not consulted about the issuance of the lease to the CTUIR and was really not aware of it until it was announced at the Burbank meeting and at an earlier meeting in Walla Walla 3 days earlier. It was a "done deal" when the public was informed.

● Program Chairman John Silko introduced the main speakers, Jack and Becki Coats of *J&R Taxidermy*. Their presentation was shortened because of the above discussions. Jack and Becki have been taxidermists for the past 16 years. Jack described in detail how to cape out an animal for a head mount. He also described how to skin out an animal(s) that is to be mounted. Jack detailed several things that a hunter should not do to an animal that will be mounted:

- Do not cut the animals throat!
- Don't drag an animal, especially on its shoulder(s).
- Salt the hide on the flesh side with non-iodized salt, do not use rock salt.
- If you plan or think you are going to have an animal mounted consult with your taxidermist, before you go, on the method to use for skinning an animal and how to preserve the hide.

Jack also discussed the methods for skinning bears, cougars and bobcats for rugs and for life size mounts.

He showed what measurements to make on fish that you plan to have "mounted." He also emphasized that it is illegal to mount road kills. Game birds to be mounted should be taken from dogs as soon as possible. Pheasants killed from mid November through December make the best mounts. Birds shot before those dates may be immature. Ducks should be washed immediately and placed in the shade. Cotton should be stuffed up their throat and in their anus to stop bleeding. Jack gave a very good presentation and we are very sorry that he did not have enough time to cover all the topics he had planned.

● Winners of the raffle drawings were: \$50.00 gift certificate to GART Sports - Mike Estes, "Tri Cities River Recreation Map Guide" book - Lyle Gilk and Larry Martin and "Cooking In Alaska" book - Bill Lambert.

CHANGES BEING CONSIDERED TO HUNTING REGULATIONS: - Mike Thompson (Mike Thompson holds a seat on the Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife's Citizen Advisory Board.) In the January 31, 1998 meeting, Department officials presented proposed changes to the hunting regulations that are being considered for adoption in 1999. The simplified regulations, based on counties instead of game management units, have been tabled until 1999 and may include the following changes:

- * All hunting will end at sunset. Presently, big game hunting extends one-half hour past sunset.
- * Mule deer will be managed with more protection; mule deer seasons will be shorter; no antlerless mule deer permits except for damage control; all mule deer bucks will be 3 point or better.
- * Deer seasons will be based on species, not geographical areas; whitetail seasons will be longest, mule deer shortest.
- * The hunting regulations (proclamation) will be published later, allowing for the inclusion of the specific number of permits issued for special hunts (drawings) to be included.
- * Reinstatement of the state-wide elk tag; bull elk tags restricted to specific areas of the state will no longer be issued.
- Control of hunter numbers will be accomplished by starting all hunts (by weapon) on the same day
- * Deer and elk will be managed by units defined by counties, or parts of counties, not GMU's.
- * Ban on the hunting of grouse with high-power rifles (22 rifle & pistols ok.)
- * The preference point system for drawings will remain intact
- * Three bears may be taken per year, two on west side and one on east side
- * Muzzleloaders may be allowed to hunt state-wide; however, it appears that shorter seasons may be included.
- * To hunt bear during deer or elk season, an unfilled deer or elk tag must be in possession.
- * Considering some (60 ?) Blue Mountain spring bear tags.
- * The advisory board will also be discussing restrictions on improvements to primitive weapons such as overdraws on bows and in-line muzzleloaders.
- * The board is also initiating discussions on dropping the 3 point minimum for buck deer, based on concerns that we may be selectively removing bucks with genetics favoring trophy animals.

Mike provided comments in favor of mule deer protection measures and proposed spring bear hunts for the Blue Mountains. Opposition was voiced for ending big game hunting at sunset and the requirement to have an unpunched deer or elk tag to hunt bear in those seasons. Further discussion is expected at the March meeting of the Citizen Advisory Board. Mike can be reached through e-mail at thomknt@gte.net or by phone in the evenings at 735-6032 if you have any comments/suggestions.

QUALITY TRIP DRAWING RULES: Entry tickets for the 1998 Quality Trip can be purchased at the March General Meeting and at the Big Game Dinner, until the maximum of 100 tickets have been sold. The drawing for the quality trip will be held at the Big Game Dinner on March 28, 1998. Come to the General Meeting and see how last years winners enjoyed their hunt. The rules are shown below and are identical to last years.

1. Only Club members with 1998 dues paid through April 1999 are eligible to purchase entry tickets.
2. Tickets are \$20 each, the value of the trip (amount paid to winners) is \$2,000.00.
3. A minimum of 50 tickets must be sold, the maximum sold will be 100.
4. Each member may purchase 2 tickets; with a family membership, the spouse and eligible dependents may also purchase 2 tickets each.
5. You must be 16 years of age or older at the time of the drawing to purchase tickets.
6. Winners will present a program, describing their Quality Trip, at a General Meeting of the membership.
7. The drawing will be held at the March 28, 1998 Big Game Dinner. You do not need be present to win.
8. The winner will select a partner who must be a member of the Richland Rod and Gun Club and who must also have participated in the drawing.
9. An alternate will also be drawn in the event the winner is unable to go. The alternate will select his/her own partner who must also be a Club member and have been in the drawing.
10. Winners are requested to donate meat for the 1999 Big Game Dinner, assuming they are successful in harvesting their quarry.
11. The trip must be approved by the Board not later than the June Board meeting or the trip will be forfeited.
12. If the alternate is chosen to go, he/she must submit a written proposal by the September Board meeting or forfeit.

48TH ANNUAL BIG GAME (WILD GAME) DINNER: -Jerry Zeitler- The 48th Annual Wild Game Dinner will be held at the Richland Knights of Columbus Hall on Saturday March 28. There are still quite a few tickets available. invite your hunting buddy or friends to attend. Ticket cost is the same as the last 2 years, \$15.00 per person. Tickets will be on sale at the March General Meeting. Remember tickets will not be sold at the door on the night of the dinner. Eligibility deadline for the *Early Bird* door prize drawing is the March 3 General Meeting. The social hour will start at 6:00 PM with dinner scheduled at 7:00 PM. *The originally scheduled program speaker Dave Gaillard will be unable to attend. The new speaker will be Gary Lentz, the Ranger at the Lewis and Clark Trail State Park between Waitsburg and Dayton. His topic will be "DON'T TREAD ON ME," The Rattlesnake in Eastern Washington.* If you are unable to attend the meeting, you can also order tickets and mail payment to the **RR&GC, P.O. Box 337, Richland WA 99352.** Mail orders will be honored, subject to the availability of unsold tickets. You can also contact a Board member to obtain tickets.

- Someone left two brown plastic shopping bags with duck in them at Chuck's, he did not identify himself. Contact Jerry Zeitler, Wild Game Dinner Chairman, at 545-6694 and identify yourself so that you can be eligible for the food donors drawing.
- Big Game Dinner Chairman Jerry Zeitler is in need of volunteers for all areas of preparation for the dinner. Please contact Jerry and offer your services, he needs people for all day March 28 starting at 8:00AM. You are also welcome if you can help for part of the day. If you work for a minimum of 2 hours or are a food donor you can reserve table places for the dinner by obtaining a place card(s) from Jerry or his delegate. That is the only way that places at the tables can be reserved. There will be a meeting of cooks and other dinner workers at 7:00 PM on March 10 at the IT Corp., 1045 Jadwin in Richland.
- If you are willing to donate a door prize for the dinner or if you know of anyone who is willing to donate a door prize, please contact John Silko at 627-1241.

● **PLEASE! PLEASE!** If you are going to the dinner, pay for your 1998 membership prior to the dinner. One of the major bottlenecks at prior dinners was the long line of people updating their membership. Many people have been forced to stand outside in a long line. Eliminate the bottleneck, update your membership beforehand at the March General Meeting. Remember! to be eligible for the Quality Trip and some of the door prizes your dues must be paid up through April 1999. Your membership expiration date is shown on this Bulletin mailing label. There are many members that have not updated their membership and it appears that there will be a long line at the dinner. You can update your membership at the March 3 General Meeting at the Richland Library. Dues are: Individual: \$15 or \$40 for 1 or 3 years and Family: \$20 or \$50 for 1 or 3 years.

HUNTER EDUCATION CLASSES: - Clare Cranston - A Hunter Education class is scheduled, starting March 30 and continuing on April 1, 2, 6, 8 and 9 at the RR&GC Tri-Cities Training Facility at the Port of Pasco; Saturday April 4 will be Range Day. (Maximum of 25 persons each). There is a \$5 class fee for Hunter Education. Registration is through Phil's Sporting Goods, 3806 W Court in Pasco, telephone (509)547-9084.

1998 SPOKANE BIG HORN SHOW: Dates for the "Big Horn" Sports & Recreation Show are March 19 - 22.

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Richland Rod & Gun Club
P.O. Box 337
Richland, WA 99352-0337

WASHINGTON HALIBUT FISHING: (A WDFW News Release) Halibut should offer Washington anglers good fishing this year, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) announced March 27. This year's halibut quota for recreational fishers has increased to 195,000 pounds. The 1997 quota was 166,000 pounds. The quota was increased for this year because International Pacific Halibut Commission biologists estimate the halibut population has increased significantly. The seasons for the four areas are:

•Catch Area 1 (Ilwaco): Open May 1 through Sept. 30, or until a quota of 8,565 pounds is taken. There is a one fish bag limit, 32 inch minimum size.

•Catch Area 2 (Westport): Open May 3 until 35,648 pounds have been caught. Closed on Fridays and Saturdays. When the quota has been reached, the area will close except for the portion south of the Queets River and north of Ocean Shores in waters less than about 50 fathoms, which will remain open until the catch for the year reaches 36,648 pounds. There is a one fish bag limit in the area, no minimum size. Another area, in waters deeper than about 50 fathoms from Copalis Head to the Queets River is closed to halibut fishing at all times. The specific map coordinates of the areas are detailed in the current *Fishing In Washington* regulation pamphlet.

•Catch Area 3 (LaPush), and the portion of Area 4 west of the Bonilla- Tatoosh line: Open May 1 through June 30, or until 81,052 pounds have been caught. The area re-opens July 1 through Sept 30, or until the year's catch of 96,052 pounds is reached. Closed on Sundays and Mondays. There is a one fish bag limit, no minimum size. Anglers are reminded that a rectangular area about 11 nautical miles offshore and west-southwest from Cape Flattery remains closed to all halibut fishing. Map coordinates are listed in the current *Fishing in Washington* regulation pamphlet.

•Catch Areas 5 - 13 (Puget Sound) and that portion of Area 4 east of the Bonilla-Tatoosh line: Open May 21 to Aug. 3, but closed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. One fish bag limit with no size limit. A halibut catch record card, which is free, is required to fish these areas. A food fish license is required to fish for halibut. This license may be purchased at most sporting goods stores, WDFW regional offices and its Olympia headquarters. A 1998 resident food fish license is \$8, non-resident, \$20.

RR&GC HUNTER EDUCATION PROGRAM STATISTICS: (Data compiled by Clare Cranston) During 1997 a total of 284 students participated in the RR&GC Hunter Education Program. The number of classes was ten. Instructor hours for the ten classes amounted to 1,325. A total of 16 instructors and assistants taught the classes. They compiled a total of 6840 automobile miles during the year. The instructors and assistants were: Clare Cranston, Howard Gardner, Steve Gaines, Al Kruger, Dave Myers, Carl Stull, Lyle Gilk, Mark Davis, Steve Roblyer, Howard Gerards, Brett Akers, Don Hartshorn, Don Board, Gerry Zeitler, Dennis Spore, and Mike Weeks. They and Phil's Sporting Goods deserve a large vote of thanks for teaching all those youngsters how to hunt safely and be responsible hunters. **THANK YOU VERY MUCH!**



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APRIL, 1998

Volume 53, No. 04

1998 Officers

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John Silko, V Pres. (627-1241)

Mike Estes, Treas. (582-2212)

Eddie Manthos, Sec. (586-6009)

MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

GENERAL MEETING - Tuesday April 7, 1998, 7:00 PM - Richland Public Library
BOARD MEETING - Tuesday April 21, 1998, 7:00 PM - Richland Public Library, Small Conference Room
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - April 22, 1998, CALL EDDIE AT 586-6009

APRIL GENERAL MEETING

It's that time of the year again. Department of Fish & Wildlife representatives will be at the April meeting to present the 1998 fishing outlook and forecasts for Regions 1, 2 and 3. Be sure to be there and learn where the best fishing should be this year. The representatives should be able to answer any questions about your favorite fishing lakes or streams. There should also be plenty of new handouts for you to take home. If you are a fisherman, as most of us are, this is one meeting you don't want to miss. The April General Meeting will be held at the Richland Public Library at 7:00 PM Tuesday April 7.

MARCH GENERAL MEETING REPORT:

President Dennis Spore opened the meeting.

Dale Schielke described the results of wood duck nesting boxes cleanout on the Columbia River and Two-Rivers HMU. They inspected and cleaned a total of 12 nesting boxes and determined that one of the boxes showed evidences of a successful hatch. They also inspected 5 boxes on the Snake River in the vicinity of Burbank Heights. These boxes had not been inspected for several years and they found evidences of wood duck nesting in at least 3 of the boxes. It was evident that the nesting boxes are being utilized and that the nest box projects are paying off. There are also boxes on the Walla Walla River, in the Finley area, and the Yakima River that need to be inspected and maintained. If you are willing to help Dale with these projects call him at 375-0183

Paul Logman, the point of contact for the Wallula HMU/Corps Lease, described the actions taken by the Club to delay/prevent implementation of the lease by the Corps to the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. The Club would like the Corps to resubmit bids for leasing of the Wallula HMU.

The commander of the Walla Walla Corps office or his superior have been invited to meet with the Club Board of Trustees.

Letters, listing the Club's concerns about the lease, were sent to the local and federal legislators and the Corps, both in Walla Walla and Portland.

A request was submitted to the Corps, under the Freedom of Information Act, to supply to the Club all correspondence and information relevant to leasing of the Wallula HMU.

Paul also said that several other local sportsman's clubs such as Trout Unlimited and the Columbia Basin Flycasters are also concerned about the lease and are involved in attempts to delay/prevent the lease.

The RR&GC is also looking into other actions that we can take to stop the lease.

The main speakers, Steve Wray and Mike Estes, described their hunt on the Big Island of Hawaii for sheep, goats, Kalij

Pheasant, Orkel Francolin (a grouse sized bird) and Wild Turkey. The hunt took place the first week of January this year. Steve and Mike flew from Portland to Hawaii. They hunted hard on the Bishop Ranch, in shirt sleeve weather, for two days and were successful in bagging both sheep and goats as well as wild fowl. The sheep were hunted at lower elevations and the goats at elevations of 7000 to 7500 feet. Steve and Mike stayed in a hotel, on the ocean front that catered to hunters. They had a good hunt, stayed at a luxurious hotel, did a lot of sight seeing after the hunt, ate well and came back very satisfied. They put on a very entertaining and informative presentation.

• Raffle drawing winners were Richard 'Mac' McDonnell - a \$50 gift certificate to Phil's Sporting Goods, and Gene VanLiew, John Cummings and Chuck Johnson each won a 1998 Remington calendar from Phil's Sporting Goods.

NEW MEMBER: Welcome to new member John Andrews of Spokane.

IN MEMORIAM: The Club was deeply saddened by the death of former Club member Robert (Bob) Martin, father of Larry Martin. Bob passed away March 17 after a long illness at the age of 83. Bob moved to Prosser in 1950 and then to Richland in 1970 and worked with General Electric and Battelle. He retired from Battelle in 1980. He joined the Club in 1982. Bob loved animals, especially horses which he enjoyed riding. He liked dogs and owned a bird dog and a Labrador retriever. He was very fond of pheasant hunting. He was an avid deer hunter and looked forward to deer hunting every fall with his sons. According to Oran Dodson, a good friend and a co-worker, Bob was perhaps the most honest man he ever knew. Bob will be sorely missed by his family and the Club. Our deepest sympathies go to his family and especially to Larry.

WDFW SETS UPPER COLUMBIA SALMON SEASONS: A WDFW news release. OLYMPIA -- The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) has reduced fish bag limits for the 1998 spring chinook sport fishing seasons for Columbia River tributaries above Bonneville Dam and in the Ringold area. The regulations were adopted to allow fishing opportunities for hatchery spring chinook while protecting wild stocks. Pre-season forecasts by WDFW fish biologists indicate there will be a limited number of harvestable hatchery spring chinook available in 1998. Daily limits have been reduced and season limits established to meet spawning goals and to reduce angler crowding. Fishing will remain closed in tributaries that are not expected to meet their wild spring chinook escapement goals. However, salmon numbers in all areas will be closely monitored and in-season adjustments to sport fisheries may occur. The season and regulations are:

- All tributaries between Bonneville and The Dalles dam with fishing seasons are open from April 1 through July 31. The season limit is four salmon for all tributaries combined.
- Wind River - Open daily from the mouth upstream to 400 feet below Shipherd Falls April 1 through June 15. The daily limit is one salmon. Night closure and non-buoyant lure restrictions are in effect April 1 through May 31.
- Drano Lake (Little White Salmon River) - Closed through July. Only 1,000 spring chinook are expected to return. The hatchery spawning goal is 1,500 fish.
- White Salmon River - The daily limit is one salmon from the markers below the Burlington Northern railroad bridge upstream to the powerhouse from April 1 through July 31, and from the powerhouse upstream to 400 feet below Northwestern (Condit) Dam from April 1 through June 15.
- Klickitat River - Closed in April and May. Open daily June 1 through July 31 from the mouth upstream to the Fisher Hill bridge and from 400 feet above number five fishway upstream to markers at the downstream end of the Klickitat Hatchery grounds. The daily limit is one salmon. Adult chinook must be released upstream from the number five fishway.
- Ringold - Open from the marker 1/4 mile downstream of the Ringold wasteway outlet upstream to the marker 1/4 mile above Springs Creek. Fishing is permitted daily May 1 through August 15 only from the bank on the hatchery side of the Columbia River. Steelhead angling also will be allowed in this area concurrent with the spring chinook fishery. The daily limit is one salmon and/or two hatchery (adipose clipped) steelhead.
- Icicle Creek - Closed.

Anglers are reminded it is illegal to continue fishing for salmon once the daily limit is retained. Gamefish seasons, including steelhead, don't open on the Wind and Klickitat rivers until June 1.

NEW STATE RECORD RAINBOW TROUT CAUGHT IN RUFUS WOODS LAKE: A WDFW news release. A new state record rainbow trout was caught last month in north-central Washington's Rufus Woods Lake by a Republic man. Robert Halverson caught the 25.45-pound fish in the Columbia River reservoir above Chief Joseph Dam on the Douglas-Okanogan county line on Feb. 23. Halverson was trolling with a Rapala lure when he hooked the record trout. Halverson's fish exceeded the former state record for rainbow trout (22.5 pounds) by almost three pounds. Ray Duff, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) regional fish biologist, said the trout's most striking characteristic was its nearly square shape. The trout measured 31.5 inches in length and 25 inches in girth. Washington sportfish records are listed in the fishing regulations pamphlet. Fishers who believe they have caught a record-setting fish should first get the fish weighed on a certified scale. State record sportfish application forms are available at WDFW offices. Signatures of the scale operator, another witness, and a WDFW official are needed on the form for verification.

1998 HUNTING LICENSE FEES: A WDFW news release. Hunting License requirements and fees are set by the Washington State Legislature and are shown below:

Licenses	Resident	Non-resident
Hunt & Game Fish License Combination	\$29.00	n/a
Hunting License	\$15.00	\$150.00
Conservation License	\$10.00	\$10.00
Falconry License *	\$36.00	\$36.00
Trapping License*	\$36.00	\$180.00
Juvenile Trapping License *	\$15.00	n/a
Taxidermy	\$180.00	n/a
Tags		
Deer tag	\$18.00	\$60.00
Elk tag	\$24.00	\$120.00
Bear tag	\$15.00	\$150.00
Cougar	\$5.00	\$50.00
Goat tag* (by random drawing)	\$60.00	\$180.00
Moose tag* (by random drawing)	\$180.00	\$360.00
Sheep tag* (by random drawing)	\$90.00	\$360.00

Tags	Resident	Non-resident
Turkey tag (state wide, Rio Grande, Merriman, Eastern)	\$18.00	\$60.00
Permits		
Deer or Elk permit application (single)	\$3.00	\$3.00
Deer or Elk permit application (partnership)	\$6.00	\$6.00
Hound permit (raccoon, coyote, fox)	\$12.00	\$12.00
Eastern WA Pheasant Enhancement	\$10.00	\$10.00
Upland bird permit (Eastern WA) Full Season	\$10.00	\$10.00
Upland Bird Permit (Western WA)		
Westside full season	\$35.00	\$35.00
Westside juvenile (14 & under)	\$20.00	\$20.00
Westside 2-day option	\$20.00	\$20.00
Migratory waterfowl stamp (state)	\$6.00	\$6.00

License Dealers fees will be charged - \$1 for licenses and 50 cents for tags, stamps and permits.

*Falconry, Taxidermy and Trapping licenses, Goat, Sheep and Moose Tags are sold only at the WDFW Olympia Office, License Division.

"PACIFIC SIR PLUS THE OUTDOOR STORE" DISCOUNT OFFERED TO RR&GC MEMBERS: The Pacific Sir Plus Outdoor Store located in downtown Kennewick at #2 W Kennewick Ave is offering a 10% discount on all merchandise to RR&GC members. Present a valid RR&GC membership card and you will receive the discount.

COLUMBIA PARK FAMILY FISHING POND WORK PARTY: There will be a work day at the Columbia Park Family Fishing Pond on Wednesday April 8, Arbor Day. Work will start at 9:00 a.m and will consist of planting trees and encasing the trunks with protective mesh. Volunteers will help plant the trees and will also be needed to haul water and mulch to the planters. The tools required are shovels, buckets, gloves and wheelbarrows. The holes for the trees will be pre-dug. The pond is located at the east end of Columbia Park. If you need more information or wish to volunteer, call Laura Parchen at 372-9540, make sure you mention that you are a Richland Rod & Gun Club Member. Bechtel Hanford is coordinating the work parties.



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Richland Rod & Gun Club
P.O. Box 337
Richland, WA 99352-0337

SOUTHEAST WASHINGTON FISHING RULES AND FISH STOCKING CHANGE: A WDFW News Release. With the approach of the traditional fishing opener on the last Saturday in April, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) alerts southeast Washington anglers to changes in fishing regulations and hatchery fish stocking. Most changes, approved earlier this year by the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission in accordance with WDFW's Wild Salmonid Policy, are aimed at protecting wild steelhead. Wild steelhead have been listed under the Endangered Species Act as "threatened" in the Snake River drainage, and are proposed for listing in the Walla Walla River Basin. Some southeast streams, which had been opening in late April or were open year around, now will be open June 1 - Oct. 31. They no longer will be listed individually in the new 1998 fishing rules pamphlet, which goes into effect May 1, because they will be governed by the statewide general season rules for streams and rivers. Those streams no longer will be stocked with hatchery rainbow trout to avoid competition with wild steelhead and to reduce the chance of anglers harvesting juvenile steelhead while seeking trout. These waters are:

- Alkali Flat Creek north of the Snake River (Whitman County)
- Alpowa Creek near Clarkston (Asotin County)
- Coppei Creek near Waitsburg (Columbia County)
- Deadman Creek near Central Ferry (Garfield County)
- Dry Creek near Dixie and Walla Walla (Walla Walla County)
- Pataha Creek portions outside Pomeroy (Garfield County)

The portion of Pataha Creek in Pomeroy will be stocked with hatchery trout for juvenile fishing as usual. Other changes in southeast Washington will provide expanded fishing opportunity. Lyons Park Pond in College Place and Jefferson Park Pond in Walla Walla will be open year around. Curl Lake in the upper Tucannon River Basin will change from a June 1 to an April 25 opener. A shift to use of Curl Lake for chinook salmon instead of steelhead acclimation allows for earlier release of smolts and restocking with rainbow trout. All area lakes and ponds will be well stocked with hatchery rainbow trout to maintain fishing opportunity. Additionally, 700 sterile (triploid) rainbow trout each weighting 1.5 pounds were purchased by the Tri-State Steelheaders and the Broughton Land Company and stocked by WDFW into Bennington Lake and Lyons Park Pond in Walla Walla County and in Dayton Pond in Columbia County.

I GIVE MY PLEDGE AS AN AMERICAN TO SAVE AND FAITHFULLY DEFEND FROM WASTE THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF MY COUNTRY; ITS AIR, SOILS AND MINERALS; ITS FORESTS, WATERS, AND WILDLIFE. I WILL HELP EDUCATE FUTURE GENERATIONS TO BE RESPONSIBLE CARETAKERS OF THE RESOURCES OF AMERICA.

MAY, 1998

Volume 53, No. 05

1998 Officers

Dennis Spore, Pres. (627-0589)
Mike Estes, Treas. (582-2212)

John Silko, V Pres. (627-1241)
Eddie Manthos, Sec. (586-6009)

MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

GENERAL MEETING - Tuesday May 5, 1998, 7:00 PM - RR&GC HUNTER SAFETY FACILITY, BIG PASCO, E AINSWORTH AVE. MIDDLE OF WAREHOUSE 5, PASCO

BOARD MEETING - Tuesday May 19, 1998, 7:00 PM - Richland Public Library, Small Conference Room

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE -May 21, 1998, CALL EDDIE AT 586-6009

MAY GENERAL MEETING

The May General Meeting will take place in the RR&GC Hunter Safety Facility at Big Pasco on E Ainsworth Ave. at the Middle of Warehouse 5 in Pasco. E Ainsworth Ave can be accessed from 10th Ave. The Cable Bridge is on 10th Ave. and E Ainsworth is the second road to the right after you enter Pasco from the Cable Bridge. Continue on E Ainsworth until you are at the far end of Big Pasco. Warehouse 5 is on the left. The Facility is identified with a big sign on the front of the warehouse. The meeting topic will be "How and Where to Catch Squawfish", the speaker will be Steve Jackson from Yakima. Steve is one of the more successful Squawfish anglers in the state. He fishes the Reach up to Priest Rapids Dam for Squawfish until steelhead and salmon fishing starts. He then stops squaw fishing and starts fishing for steelhead (which he will probably not be able to do this year) and salmon. He will bring his fishing equipment, lures etc. and talk about both boat and bank fishing. He only fishes on weekends. He usually fishes with a partner and there are some weekends that they net over 500 fish. The 1998 Squawfish season for sport anglers begins May 4 and continues through Sept. 27. Anglers will receive from \$3 to \$5 dollars for Squawfish 11 inches or longer. The first 100 fish are worth \$3 each, after 100 they are worth \$4 and after 400 they are worth \$5 each. There are also specially tagged Squawfish that are worth \$50. Come to the meeting and learn how and where to catch Squawfish. It's one of the few fish that you don't have to release and in addition you get paid for the fish when you turn it in to a check station.

APRIL GENERAL MEETING REPORT:

President Dennis Spore opened the meeting.

- Dennis gave an update of the Umatilla HMU lease to the Confederate Indian tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) from the Army Corps of Engineers. He stated that the Corps had made up its mind about the lease and that they are going ahead with their plan to lease it to the CTUIR. The lease apparently has not been signed as of April 7. The Club is still trying to stop/delay the lease and is investigating alternatives to achieve this end.
- Clare Cranston is looking for volunteers to help put on a firearms safety display at Griggs in Pasco on Saturday May 2 from 9 a.m to 5 p.m. If you can help Clare call him at 547-6273.
- Dale Schielke described the results of wood duck nesting boxes cleanout and inspection on the Yakima River from Horn Rapids to West Richland. They inspected 18 boxes and found 5 with screech owl nests, 1 with a squirrel nest and 8 boxes that had been used by Wood Ducks. There are still more nesting boxes that will be inspected, if you want to help Dale with the

inspections call him at 375-0183.

• The main speakers, Ray Duff, Jeff Korth, and Jim Cummins, WDFW biologists from Regions 1, 2 and 3 were introduced by Program Chairman John Silko. Ray Duff, from Region 1, expects this year's fishing season to be better than average. He stated that there quite a few regulation changes in the new 1998 Fishing Pamphlet. The regulations take effect May 1. He stated that barbless hooks will be required on the Snake, Walla Walla, Touchet and Tucannon Rivers. Tributaries to the Grande Ronde River will be closed to fishing to protect juvenile steelhead. Coffeepot lake is north of Odessa and should have very good fishing. The 1998 Fishing Pamphlet needs to be checked before fishing on Coffeepot because of some special very stringent regulations for the lake. Jeff Korth, from Region 2, stated that Blue and Park lakes of the Sun Lakes chain should have good fishing. Blue lake will have more fish than Park lake. Park lake should however have larger fish. Dry Falls should also have good fishing, however it is fished very heavily. Fishing in Lenice and Nunnaly probably will not be very good because of sunfish infestations. Merry lake may be good however. He also stated that fishing appeared to be improving on Warden lake. Sprague lake is continuing to do very well. Jim Cummins of Region 3 stated that Clear lake above Rimrock should have some very good trout fishing. Rimrock lake is unpredictable, it hasn't been doing as well as it should. Region 3 has a lot of high mountain lakes and Jim suggested that you call the Yakima office at 509-457-9302 for more information about fishing the high mountain lakes.

• Raffle drawing winners were Chuck Davis - a \$50 gift certificate to the John Clement Gallery, Bill Lambert an air operated pellet rifle and pepper spray dispensers were won by Dale Schielke, Bill Lambert, Larry Martin, Eddie Manthos and Gaylord Pyle.

NEW MEMBERS: Welcome to the following new Club members Connie Vogt, Pascal J. Mouette, Larry Gabaldon & family and Albert Davis & family from Richland; Jeff Tayer from Ephrata, Timothy Tate, Rick Freeman & family, David Finger and Jack Varnado & family of Kennewick; Kevin Clarke and Edward Hartman & family of Pasco and James Ayers of West Richland.

HUNTER EDUCATION CLASS: A Hunter Education class will be starting April 27 and will continue into May. This is the last class until July of this year. There is a \$5 class fee for Hunter Education. Registration is through Phil's Sporting Goods, 3806 W Court in Pasco, telephone (509)547-9084.

BIG GAME DINNER: This year's Big Game Dinner on March 28 was a big success. Attendance was down from last year. Big Game Dinner Chairman Jerry Zeitler organized the dinner but was unable to attend because of a death in the family. Because of Jerry's organization plans, the dinner was carried out without any problems. There were many Club members that donated game and worked hard in other endeavors to make the dinner a success. We owe them all many thanks. There were so many it would be difficult to list them all. The speaker, Gary Lentz, was very informative and entertaining. We all learned much about rattlesnakes. Dave Myers was again a very effective master of ceremonies. Club president Dennis Spore presented outgoing president Paul Logman with a Distinguished Service Award and a gift certificate to Gart Sports. There were many door prizes and they were drawn and distributed rapidly so we could get home a little earlier after a long evening. Winner of the \$2000 Quality Hunt drawing was Mike Estes and the alternate was Chris Landon. Raffle winners were: Randy Jorrisen who won a propane fired turkey cooker, Jack Pickard won a Columbia River Guided Boat Tour for two and Corey Degroot won a wildlife water color painting by Dennis Brunson. Winners of the members only drawings were: Ray Isaacson - a guided fishing trip for two in the Grand Coulee area by Big John's Guide Service and Wes Bryan - a season bird hunting membership, including guest, from the Sportsman-Landowner Club. Frank Case won the Volunteers drawing and received a Penn Power Stick downrigger rod. Thanks again to all those who made the dinner a success and especially to the cooks who outdid themselves again. Special thanks to Rocky Ross who repaired and beefed up the salmon cookers so they will last a lot longer, thanks a lot Rocky!

48th BIG GAME DINNER: - Jerry Zeitler Chairman "First I would like to give special thanks to John Silko who I neglected to mention in the Program. John was the Prize Committee Chairman, thanks. I wish to thank all of the volunteers for their efforts in providing an evening of fun, relaxation, good food and numerous prizes. I want to give special thanks to those who picked up the ball and carried the program to a successful conclusion when I had to leave suddenly due to a death in my family.

Unfortunately, in my haste, I did forget to pass on the information for the Kitchen Help Drawing - so better late than never, the drawing will be held during the May General Meeting. The prize is a \$40.00 gift certificate to the Outback Steak House, you do not need to be present to win.

Again, my thanks to all the volunteers whether they were food donors, cooks, prize committee etc. They all deserve a big hand.

Hope to put it all together again in 1999!!"

WINDMILL RANCH WORK PARTY: - Seven volunteers worked at the Windmill Ranch on Saturday April 4 to repair and replace about 150 feet of 12 inch diameter plastic pipe. The repaired pipe will be used to provide water to additional ponds at the ranch. Volunteers were Mike Estes, Larry Martin, Tom True, Ben Webb, Lou LaDouceur, Rocky Ross

and Keith Lawins.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED IN BASIN FOR WATERFOWL NEST SEARCHES: A WDFW News Release. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) needs volunteers through June to help with field searches for waterfowl nests in the Columbia Basin region of central Washington. The nest searches, which can last all day, are conducted Monday through Saturday by University of Idaho graduate student John Giudice who is working with WDFW waterfowl biologist Matt Monda. Volunteers must be able to walk in moderate terrain for four to six hours. Volunteers should be prepared with field clothing, sturdy walking shoes, insect repellent for ticks and mosquitoes, sunscreen, drinking water and snacks. Saturday volunteers can meet Giudice at 7 a.m. at the parking lot off the Dodson Road access to the Desert Wildlife Area, west of Moses Lake in Grant County. (From Interstate 90, take the Dodson Road exit south about 3.5 miles.) Weekday volunteers should call WDFW's Ephrata regional office at (509) 754-4624 to leave their names, phone numbers and days available. Department staff will call to schedule field searches.

140,000 RAINBOW TROUT RELEASED IN MOSES LAKE, POTHOLE RESERVOIR: A WDFW News Release. MOSES LAKE -- The rainbow trout populations in the two largest waterways in Washington's Columbia Basin were boosted by 140,000, in time for the April 25 trout fishing opener. Moses Lake, 6,800-acres of water off Interstate 90 at the town of Moses Lake, received 60,000 10 to 11-inch rainbow trout from four net pen rearing operations. Potholes Reservoir, just south of Moses Lake, received 80,000 eight to ten-inch rainbow trout from four net pens. Last year Potholes, which offers 23,000 acres of fishing, received its first net pen release of 60,000 rainbows. They are now in the 17-inch range. Both fishing spots are open year-round, but the traditional last-Saturday-in-April trout opener still draws crowds. The trout releases are a cooperative effort of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), the Central Washington Fish Advisory Council, Moses Lake's Cascade Marina and Potholes Reservoir's Mardon Resort. Rod Meseberg, advisory council member and Mardon Resort owner, explained that WDFW provides access to grant money through the Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (funded by state leases on tidelands). The council and businesses provide volunteers to build and maintain net pens and feed fish. "This kind of cooperation is more important now than ever," Meseberg said, referring to WDFW budget cutbacks. (Mardon has a Web Page on the Internet at <http://www.mardon.com> that has a lot of information about the resort and fishing reports about the Potholes Reservoir and the Seep Lakes below the reservoir)

WOOD DUCK NESTING BOX INSTALLATION: Daniel Hanlen an Eagle Scout candidate in Troop 249, the troop that Dale Schielke is associated with, has procured materials and organized the construction of 30 wood duck nesting boxes as part of his Eagle Scout project. Some of the boxes were installed along the Walla Walla river and the rest will be installed along the Yakima river later. Daniel and Dale will need some help putting up the remainder of the boxes. If you are able to help, please call Dale at 375-0183. Daniel is a very resourceful scout. He procured all the materials from the recycle dump, and donations from Copeland Lumber, Fred Myers and Eagle Hardware. He organized two work parties to fabricate and paint the boxes, all essentially at no cost. By helping install the boxes you will also be helping Daniel complete his Eagle Scout project.

WASHINGTON STATE YOUTH CONSERVATION CAMP: The Club is again sponsoring 8 youth to this year's Washington State Conservation Camp. Dates of the Camp have not been announced as yet. The dates are usually the last two weeks in July. There will be one week devoted to a girls camp followed by the boys camp the following week. One of the 8 youths is being sponsored in the name of the Yakima County Search & Rescue Squad in appreciation of the help they gave us in delivering, setting up and taking down the Lunker Lake pond that was used at the Tri-Cities Sportsmen Show. A camper must be 12 years or older and not older than 16 years before the camp start date. In order to be eligible for sponsorship to the summer camp the youth's parent must be a Club member or the youth must be a Club member. Contact Larry Martin at 545-9647 to obtain a registration form. The applications will be accepted in the order received until the first 8 eligible applications are received. It will be the responsibility of the parents to transport the camper to and from Anacortes. You will be notified about the Camp dates as soon as they are announced.

FREE FISHING WEEKEND: According to a WDFW news release, Free Fishing Weekend in Washington is the first full weekend in June, coinciding with the last two days of National Fishing Week. On those two days, no license is required of anyone--resident or non-resident--to fish in Washington, except a steelhead license and catch record card are required to fish for or retain steelhead. Catch record cards (free) are also still required for salmon, halibut, and sturgeon. A list of regional "hotspots" is available from the Olympia office or your nearest WDFW office listed in the Fishing pamphlet. Hotspots are lakes and streams selected by regional fisheries biologists as likely places to find good angling on Free Fishing Weekend. They are often stocked with extra trout for this weekend, and many hotspots also have good populations of warmwater fish. Some hotspots will have experienced anglers volunteering to help.



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Snake and Columbia rivers. As stated in the statewide general freshwater rules on page 54 of the 1998 fishing pamphlet, these new catfish rules apply only to lakes, ponds and reservoirs.

COLVILLE TRIBES RESCUE STATE'S COLVILLE FISH HATCHERY: a WDFW news release.

The Confederated Tribes of the Colville Indian Reservation (Colville Tribes) are rescuing the state's Colville Fish Hatchery by covering its \$78,000 annual operating cost. The hatchery was destined to close July 1 under a budget cut plan.

Officials from the Colville Tribes and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) will formalize the arrangement with a check exchange at the hatchery in Colville on Friday, May 15, at 11 a.m. The fish hatchery was slated to close as part of WDFW's \$7.5 million budget reduction plan to address a shortfall in fishing and hunting license revenue that could grow to \$17 million by July of 1999. Joe Peone, Program Manager of the Colville Tribes' Fish and Wildlife Department explained that tribal members enjoy fishing in waters stocked by the hatchery, so funding the program has direct benefits to the tribe. Peone said the Colville Tribes' support for the hatchery upholds the spirit of the Tribes' recently renewed fishing and hunting agreement with WDFW. The funds to support the hatchery are donated on behalf of the Colville Tribes from revenue generated through its gaming division. "The Colville Hatchery will continue as the cornerstone of recreational fishing in the northeast corner of the state," said WDFW Director Bern Shanks. About 734,000 rainbow and cutthroat trout are raised at the hatchery each year, mostly from eggs collected from local lake broodstocks. The two to three-inch trout fry are stocked in about 60 lakes throughout Stevens, Ferry, and Pend Oreille counties. "We and the recreational anglers of the state are grateful to the Colville Tribes for this generous move," said Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission Vice-Chairman Kelly White of Kettle Falls.

EAST SIDE RULE CHANGES AND CORRECTIONS NOTED FOR THE 1998-99 FISHING PAMPHLET: A WDFW News Release.— Anglers should update their copies of the 1998 edition of Fishing in Washington, which became effective May 1. East Side Rule changes and corrections are:

- Burbot rules (pages 111, 113, 114, 116) In Cle Elum, Kachess, Palmer and Keechelus lakes, the daily limit for burbot is five.
- Lenore Lake (page 114) Catch and release only for all game fish March 1 through May 31. From June 1 through Nov. 30 the trout daily limit is one.
- Also, in the Columbia River, there have been questions about the Ringold Area Bank fishery (page 100). This fishery is limited to bank fishing only for both salmon and steelhead.

The new statewide rule for channel catfish is 12-inch minimum size, daily limit five, no more than one over 24 inches, applies only in lakes, ponds and reservoirs. If a water is listed in the lakes section of the pamphlet or is named as a lake, the rule applies. (page 54) The rules in the 1998 Fishing in Washington pamphlet will remain in effect through April 30, 1999.

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JUNE, 1998

Volume 53, No. 06

1998 Officers

Dennis Spore, Pres. (627-0589)
Mike Estes, Treas. (582-2212)

John Silko, V Pres. (627-1241)
Eddie Manthos, Sec. (586-6009)

MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

GENERAL MEETING - Tuesday June 2, 1998, 7:00 PM - RR&GC HUNTER SAFETY FACILITY, BIG PASCO, E AINSWORTH AVE. MIDDLE OF WAREHOUSE 5, PASCO
(NO GENERAL MEETINGS IN JULY & AUGUST)

BOARD MEETING - Tuesday June 16, 1998, 7:00 PM - Richland Public Library, Small Conference Room
ALLIED ARTS SHOW SALMON BOOTH AT HOWARD AMON PARK - JULY 24 & 25 (Friday & Saturday)
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - June 23, 1998, CALL EDDIE AT 586-6009

JUNE GENERAL MEETING

The June General Meeting will again take place in the RR&GC Hunter Safety Facility at Big Pasco on E Ainsworth Ave. at the Middle of Warehouse 5 in Pasco. E Ainsworth Ave can be accessed from 10th Ave. The Cable Bridge is on 10th Ave. and E Ainsworth is the second road to the right after you enter Pasco from the Cable Bridge. Continue on E Ainsworth until you are at the far end of Big Pasco. Warehouse 5 is on the left. The Facility is identified with a big sign on the front of the warehouse. The main speaker will be Dave Linehan, manger of the McNary and Toppenish National Wildlife Refuges. Dave will show a film entitled *The Sacred Hunt*. He will also update us about the changes at the McNary and Toppenish National Wildlife Refuges. I'm sure that he will also answer any questions that you have about either refuge. Your impressions of the duck hunting and the registration set up at McNary this past season would be of interest to Dave. To top off the evening, Howard Gardner and John Silko will give us a mini-presentation concerning *Oosiks*. Please note that there will be no General Meetings in July or August. The next General meeting, after the June meeting, will be in September. The Allied Arts Sidewalk Arts Show will take the place of the July meeting and in place of the August meeting there will be a salmon barbecue at a time and place to be announced in the next bulletin.

MAY GENERAL MEETING REPORT:

President Dennis Spore opened the meeting at the Club's Hunter Safety Facility in Big Pasco.

• Dennis gave an update of the Club's efforts to delay or stop the lease of the Umatilla HMU to the Confederate Indian tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) by the Army Corps of Engineers. The Club did get a complete copy of the draft lease submitted to the CTUIR, the copy the Club initially received was missing the first 15 pages. As far as we know the lease has not been awarded, the CTUIR does have the lease and is reviewing it. The Club did send a letter to the CTUIR informing them that we would be glad to sit down and meet with them as soon as they are willing to answer the questions detailed in the letter (see the update later in this bulletin.). A copy of the letter was on the editorial page of the Sunday May 10 issue of the *Tri-City Herald*. The Club is also following up on the Freedom of Information Request made to the Corps earlier.

• John Silko acknowledged the presence of 6 youngsters at the meeting and welcomed them. They are the future of our

Club. Larry Martin announced the dates of the Washington State Conservation Camp at Orcas Island. Girls camp is July 19 through July 25; boys camp is from July 26 to August 1.

- John also mentioned that the Club received a letter from the Sportsman-Landowner Club. The letter stated that the Big Game Dinner Program stated the value of the Upland Game Bird Membership with guest as \$550.00 instead of \$1200.00 which it is actually worth. The Sportsman-Landowner Club has more than doubled the area they have available for hunting.
- The Big Game Dinner kitchen help drawing which was inadvertently not held at the banquet was held at the end of this meeting. Rick McFall was the winner of a \$40 gift certificate to the Outback Steak House.
- Jerry Zeitler, Chairman of the Big Game Dinner, conducted a drawing at the end of the meeting for the last 5 years Big Game Dinner Participants. Jerry purchased the prize in appreciation for the help he received from the participants. Lucky winner of a Magellan GPS 2000 positioning unit was Steve Wray.
- Dale Schielke gave an update on the Wood Duck nest box project. He, Mike Estes and 4 Boy Scouts installed 14 new boxes on the lower Walla Walla river the on April 25. In addition they inspected 2 old boxes. They found a screech owl in one box and a nesting Wood Duck in the second box. The remaining new boxes will be installed May 17 on the Yakima River.
- John Silko introduced the main speakers, Steve Jackson and Dan Houfek from Yakima. Their topic was Squawfish, now known as the *Northern Pikeminnow*. They are very experienced and have been fishing for Squawfish for the last 4 years. Steve and Dan gave a very informative and interesting presentation to the 45+ people present at the meeting. They spoke for over an hour and answered many questions for 15-20 minutes afterwards during the intermission. They went into a lot of detail about how, when and where to fish for the Squawfish. The fishing equipment they use and how they rig their tackle for artificial lures and for bait was demonstrated. Various lures and the different baits they use were shown and described. They even demonstrated how to rig a hook with chicken liver, one of their favorite baits. The various check stations and the procedures you should use to make sure you get credit for the fish you catch were described. Brochures were distributed which listed all the check stations, the various regulations, a description of the Squawfish program and a coupon good for \$3.00 voucher when presented with a fresh caught Squawfish. They did a very good job and the information they presented was invaluable, especially to a first time Squawfish fisherman. We appreciate them traveling all the way from Yakima to come and educate us.
- Raffle drawing winners were Dale Schielke an air operated pellet rifle. Pepper spray dispensers were won by LaVon Walker, Allison Marlin and Mac McDonnell. Lyle Gilk, Ken Wise and Britt Marlin each won an aerosol can of Browning Gum Oil.

NEW MEMBERS: Welcome to new Club members Britt Marlin and family.

SIDEWALK ARTS SHOW SALMON BOOTH: The Sidewalk Arts Show at Howard Amon Park will be July 24 & 25 this year. The RR&GC and Columbia Basin Fly Casters will again sponsor a Salmon Booth. We will have the lead this year. Set up of the booth (6 volunteers) and preparation of salmon and "boats" etc (12 volunteers) will take place Thursday evening July 23 at Howard Amon Park, 18 volunteers are needed starting at 6:00 pm. Nine to 10 volunteers are needed for each of the shifts that run from 9 am - 1 pm, 1 pm - 5 pm, 5 pm - 9 pm on Friday and Saturday. Retirees are especially needed for the first two shifts on Friday..Board members will be contacting you soon to determine what shift(s) you can work. If you know what days/shifts you can work please call Dennis Spore at 627-0589. If you have a "Food Servers Card" check its expiration date. If your card is expiring or you don't have one, you can obtain a current card at special test sessions that will held for Sidewalk Arts Show workers on Thursday June 25 and Tuesday July 7 at the Allied Arts Center, 89 Lee Blvd. (at the entrance to Howard Amon Park). Be there at 6:45 pm because testing begins at 7:00 pm and no one will be admitted late. The cards can also be obtained from the Benton Health Department by calling 582-7761 and scheduling an appointment at 800 W Canal Drive in Kennewick. The Club will reimburse the cost of the card (\$8.00), if you request it. .

IN MEMORIAM: The Club was sorry to learn that Lee Harrington passed away on May 4 at his home in Ocean Park, WA. Lee and his wife had moved there in 1991 from Richland. Lee enjoyed the ocean, long walks on the beach and clamming. He joined the Club in 1974, was on the Board of Trustees in 1979 and helped in many Club activities. He was a gourmet cook and particularly liked to help in the kitchen for the Big Game Dinner and at our Salmon Booth at the Allied Arts Sidewalk Show. For many years he was the Chief Cook at the Big Game Dinner. Even after moving to Ocean Park he would come back to help on those events. Lee was the winner of the Quality Trip in 1982 and he and John Lavender went on a great fishing trip on the Big Horn River in Montana. The Club will greatly miss Lee, his participation in Club activities, and great sense of humor. Our deepest sympathies go to his wife and family.

WASHINGTON STATE YOUTH CONSERVATION CAMP: The Club is sponsoring 8 youth to this years Washington State Conservation Camp. Camp dates are July 19-25 for girls and July 26-Aug 1 for boys, a camper must be 12 years or older and not older than 16 years before the camp start date. In order to be eligible for sponsorship to the summer camp the youth's parent must be a Club member or the youth must be a Club member. Contact Larry Martin at 545-9647 to obtain a registration form. The applications will be accepted in the order received until the first 8 eligible applications are received.

It will be the responsibility of the parents to transport the camper to and from Anacortes. One of the 8 youths will be sponsored in the name of the Yakima County Search & Rescue Squad in appreciation of the help they gave us in delivering, setting up and taking down the Lunker Lake pond that was used at the Tri-Cities Sportsmen Show.

FOR SALE: (This sounds like a good deal(s) for goose and/or duck hunters) Four dozen magnum G&H field goose decoys, one dozen waxed cardboard fold up goose decoys, and 1½ dozen magnum floater duck decoys with a few odds and ends I'll throw in with the duck decoys, plus backpack bags for the decoys (2 big ones for goose decoys and one "small" one for the duck decoys). I'm not using the decoys and I'm selling some more odds and ends of stuff too. a customized Colt SS .380 ACP, 2 clips, two holsters plus ammo. I have \$600 + in it, and am asking \$400 (obo) for it. Contact Duane Bogen-Prosser, WA at 509-786-1806

BIG GAME DINNER DEBRIEFING MEETING: Big Game Dinner chairman Jerry Zeitler invites all those who participated in the preparation of this years Big Game Dinner to attend a debriefing meeting at 7:00PM on Thursday June 11, 1998 at Dave Myers' home, 1621 Rd. 80, Pasco. Your attendance will help make next years dinner even better.

UMATILLA HMU UPDATE: Paul Logman wrote a very effective letter to the CTUIR and *Tri-City Herald* that was printed in the Sunday May 10 issue of the newspaper. The letter stated the reasons the Club is opposing leasing of the Umatilla HMU to the Confederated Tribes of The Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR), a *sovereign nation*. The letter also stated that the Club is very willing to sit down with the CTUIR in a public forum and listen to answers about the questions listed in the May 10 newspaper article if they are willing to put the answers in writing. The tribal wildlife manager received the letter a couple of weeks before the newspaper article and as of May 19 we have not had a reply from him. The Club did receive a copy of the entire lease that was submitted to the CTUIR. It is our understanding that the lease has not been signed. We also received from the Corps (under the Freedom of Information Act) copies of all correspondence related to the Umatilla HMU lease. When the Club has finished reviewing the information, the documents will be transferred to the Richland Public Library where they will be available to the public..

RR&GC BELT BUCKLES: The Club has brass belt buckles with the club logo and name for sale. These are high quality, heavy brass buckles that were specially made in the Anacortes Brass Works Ltd. Price is \$15.00 each. Any interested member can contact Mike Estes at the June General Meeting or call him at 582-2112. .

SOUTHEAST STREAM FISHING RULES CHANGED TO PROTECT LISTED SPECIES: A WDFW News Release. When river and stream fishing opens June 1, some waters in southeast Washington will be under new rules to protect threatened or endangered fish. The current regulations are in the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's (WDFW) 1998 fishing regulations pamphlet, available at all fishing license dealers and WDFW offices. Most changes were made to protect naturally-produced steelhead and bull trout that are currently listed, or are proposed for listing, under the Endangered Species Act.

- Several smaller streams are closed, and no longer will be stocked with hatchery fish, in order to provide refuge areas for steelhead. Seasons on several local streams are changed to the statewide standard of June 1 through Oct. 31 with an 8-inch minimum size. This allows most steelhead smolts to leave the area before the season begins and allows resident trout to spawn once before being subject to harvest. Selective fishing gear rules are added in some stream reaches to reduce accidental loss of protected fish. Barbless hooks are required for steelhead fishing throughout southeast Washington and wild steelhead must be released statewide.

- Specific southeast Washington stream regulation changes are as follows, but anglers should check the regulations pamphlet carefully before fishing:

- Asotin Creek -- tributaries closed to all fishing include Charlie, George and South Fork Asotin creeks.
- Grande Ronde River -- trout fishing above the County Road Bridge closes Aug. 31, to separate it from steelhead-only season that begins Sept. 1; all tributaries are closed to steelhead fishing.
- Mill Creek -- selective gear rules now apply upstream of the Bennington Lake flood diversion dam; all tributaries are closed to all fishing, including Blue Creek.
- Pataha Creek -- changed throughout to June 1 - Oct. 31 season. Touchet River no minimum size on brown trout Nov. 1- April 15; selective gear rules apply upstream of the confluence of the North and South forks.
- Tucannon River -- selective gear rules added upstream from Turner Road Bridge at Marengo; minimum size for bull trout changed to 24 inches in that portion of the river upstream from signs referencing Deer Lake.
- Walla Walla River -- all tributaries are closed to steelhead fishing, except Lower Mill Creek and the Touchet River.

- The new regulations for channel catfish (12-inch minimum size, five fish per day catch limit) does not apply to the



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JULY, 1998
Volume 53, No. 07

1998 Officers

Dennis Spore, Pres. (627-0589)
Mike Estes, Treas. (582-2212)

John Silko, V Pres. (627-1241)
Eddie Manthos, Sec. (586-6009)

MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

GENERAL MEETING - THERE WILL BE NO GENERAL MEETINGS IN JULY AND AUGUST
BOARD MEETING - Tuesday July 21, 1998, 7:00 PM - Richland Public Library, Small Conference Room
ALLIED ARTS SHOW SALMON BOOTH AT HOWARD AMON PARK - JULY 24 & 25 (Friday & Saturday)
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - July 23, 1998, CALL EDDIE AT 586-6009
RR&GC ANNUAL PICNIC - August 4, 1998 (Tuesday), 6:00 PM, Leslie Groves Park - Richland

JULY GENERAL MEETING

There will be no General Meeting In July or August. The July meeting is being replaced by the Allied Arts Show Salmon Booth on July 24 and 25 (see the article below for more information about the salmon booth.). The August meeting will be replaced by the Club's annual picnic/salmon barbecue on August 4 (see the article below.)

JUNE GENERAL MEETING REPORT:

- The June 2 meeting was opened by President Dennis Spore at the Club's Hunter Safety Facility in Big Pasco.
- Howard Gardner announced that the Salmon Booth application for the Sidewalk Arts Show was accepted and planning and preparations for the Booth have started.
 - A letter announcing the retirement of Jim McColgin, a WDFW Enforcement officer was read by Dennis. The Club voted to donate \$25.00 to be used towards a retirement gift for Jim. His retirement Party was June 13. (Dennis Spore attended the party.)
 - Dennis announced that Paul Logman agreed to be an alternate representative to the Inland Fish Policy Advisory Group. Phil VanHoy is the present representative from this region. However he is not able to attend all the meetings and Paul will substitute for him when Phil is unable to attend. Paul gave a short presentation explaining the purpose of the Advisory Group and some of the studies they are involved in.
 - Dennis read a copy of a letter from Lt. Colonel Curtis of the Walla Walla office of the Army Engineer Corps to Senator Gorton. The letter stated that it appears that the Board of Trustees of the Confederated Tribes of The Umatilla Indian Reservation is (CTUIR) is having second thoughts about managing the Wallula HMU and that they may not sign the lease.
 - Paul Logman announced that the Club had received about 1100 pages of correspondence (under the Freedom of Information Act) from the Corps related to the lease of the Wallula HMU. The information is being reviewed and will be transferred to the Richland Public Library on June 8. It will be available to the public at the library after that date.
 - Dale Schielke gave an update on the Wood Duck nest box projects. He, Mike Estes and some Boy Scouts installed 16 new Wood Duck nest boxes between Horn Rapids Dam and the West Richland bridge, they also inspected three boxes that had been previously installed. These are the last of the 30 boxes fabricated and installed as the Eagle Scout Project of Scout

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WDFW GAME MANAGEMENT UNIT MAP: The WDFW has a new full color map, issued this year, showing Game Management Unit boundaries on a Department of Transportation base map. The map is 34" x 22" and is folded like the state highway map. Maps are available for a fee of \$3.00 from all Washington Department of fish and Wildlife offices and selected license dealers. You may purchase maps through the mail by completing the order form below and sending it along with the appropriate fees to the headquarters office in Olympia.

WDFW Map Order Form

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Number of Maps _____ @ \$3.00 each = _____

Please send the form with check or money order to: WDFW - Wildlife Management, 600 Capitol Way, North Olympia, WA 98501-1091, WDFW phone: (360) 902-2515. Make each check payable to: "Department of Fish and Wildlife"

FLY TYING REFERENCE BOOK - FLIES OF THE NORTHWEST: Howard Gardner - The Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club has put out a sixth edition of their excellent "Flies of the Northwest". It can be obtained at fly fishing shops or through the publisher Frank Amato Publications (503) 653-8108. There are 217 fly patterns described in the book and at least half are different from previous editions. The book is a must for fly fishermen or those interested in getting into fly fishing.

Daniel Hanlen. Well done Daniel (and Dale and Mike who helped him and other scouts install the boxes on the lower Walla Walla river and the Yakima River.)

- Howard Gardner and John Silko gave a mini-presentation about *Oosiks*, only a few carnivores are endowed with *Oosiks*. Howard exhibited a collection of *Oosiks*, most of them were from coyotes and some from other carnivores. John showed a ceremonial walrus *Oosik* loaned to him by a friend, it was impressive in size, highly polished and embellished with tassels and bells. John demonstrated how it is used in ceremonies. Only at the Richland Rod and Gun Club would you be treated to such a presentation and demonstration.

- John Silko introduced the main speaker, Dave Linehan manager of the McNary and Toppenish Wildlife Refuges. Dave described the Toppenish refuge and the improvements that were made last year and the improvements that will be completed this year. He also answered several questions about hunting opportunities and regulations at Toppenish. His main emphasis was on the history of the McNary Refuge and the Two Rivers, Peninsula and Umatilla Habitat Management Units and who and how they were managed in the past and how the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) was involved with these HMUs. I was surprised to learn that at one time the USFWS was patrolling and enforcing migratory game laws on the three HMUs. It was a very informative presentation. Dave wound up the evening by showing a portion of video entitled *The Sacred Hunt*. The purpose of the movie is to describe and explain hunting to anti-hunters and people who do not understand why others hunt. Dave is an instructor in Environmental Science and this video will be shown at his classes. We were a test audience to see what we thought of the film.

- Raffle drawing winners were Dennis Spore and Mike Estes who each won a John Clement video entitled "*Seasons of Northwest Dryland*". Mack McDonnell won a book. John Pfeiffer, Carl Stull and Paul Logman each won a bottle of Gun Oil. Bill Lambert won some Trilene fishing line.

SUMMARY OF SELECTED EASTERN WASHINGTON SMALL GAME SEASONS: A WDFW News Release. The table below shows a summary of selected Eastern Washington small game seasons. Pay particular attention to (d).

SPECIES	AREA	SEASON DATES	DAILY BAG LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT
Pheasant	Eastern WA	Oct. 10-Dec. 31, 1998	3 (cocks only)	15 (cocks only)
Quail (Valley, Bobwhite)	Eastern WA	Oct. 10, 1998-Jan. 10, 1999	10 valley or bobwhite	30 valley or bobwhite
Partridge (Chukar & Gray)	Eastern WA	Oct 1, 1998-Jan. 10, 1999	6 chukar & 6 gray	18 chukar & 18 gray
Forest Grouse (Blue, Ruffed, and Spruce)	Statewide	Sept. 1-Dec. 31, 1998	3 of any species	9 of any species
Sage & Sharptailed Grouse, Ptarmigan, Bandtailed Pigeon		Closed Statewide		
Turkey	Statewide	April 15-May 15 (b)	1 (c)	3 (c)
	Asotin, Columbia, Garfield, & Walla Walla counties	Nov. 26-Nov. 30, 1998 (AHE Graduates Only)	1 (c) either sex	(c) either sex
	Klickitat & Skamania counties	Nov. 26-Nov. 30, 1998	1 (c) either sex	(c) either sex
Mourning Dove (d)	Statewide	(d) Sept. 1-15, 1998 [New stamp required-see (d) below]	10	20
Cottontail, Snowshoe Hare, & Jackrabbit	Statewide	Sept. 1, 1998-Mar. 15, 1999	5	15
Canada Goose (d) (early season)	Statewide	Sept. 8 - 14, 1998	3	6
Crows	Statewide	Oct. 1, 1998-Jan. 31, 1999	no limit	no limit

b) Gobblers and Turkeys with visible beards only

c) Bag and possession limits: One turkey per day with a total of three per year, only one turkey per subspecies may be killed.

d) All adult hunter (age 16 and over) of migratory game birds (duck, goose, coot, snipe, mourning dove) are required to complete a Harvest Information Program (HIP) survey form, available at a license dealer, and possess a Washington Migratory Bird Stamp as evidence of compliance with this requirement when hunting migratory game birds. Youth hunters (age 15 and under) are required to complete a HIP survey form available through WDFW offices, and possess a free Washington Migratory Bird Stamp as evidence of compliance with the requirement when hunting migratory game birds.

Hunting is closed in GMU 522. A small game hunting pamphlet will be available in early September which will include the migratory bird seasons established by the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission during their August meeting.

1998 HUNTING LICENSE FEES:

Hunting license	\$15.00 (Resident)	\$150.00 (Non-Res.)
Upland bird permit (Eastern WA) full season	\$10.00 (Resident)	\$10.00 (Non-Res.)
Pheasant Enhancement Stamp (Eastern WA)	\$10.00 (Resident)	\$10.00 (Non-Res.)
Upland bird permit (Western WA) full season	\$35.00 (Resident)	\$35.00 (Non-Res.)
Migratory bird stamp (state)	\$6.00 (Resident)	\$6.00 (Non-Res.)

SIDEWALK ARTS SHOW SALMON BOOTH: The Sidewalk Arts Show at Howard Amon Park will be July 24 & 25 this year. The RR&GC and Columbia Basin Fly Casters will again sponsor a Salmon Booth. We will have the lead this year. Set up of the booth (6 volunteers) and preparation of salmon and "boats" etc (12 volunteers) will take place Thursday evening July 23 at Howard Amon Park, 18 volunteers are needed starting at 6:00 pm. Nine to 10 volunteers are needed for each of the shifts that run from 9 am - 1 pm, 1 pm - 5 pm, 5 pm - 9 pm on Friday and Saturday. Retirees are especially needed for the first two shifts on Friday. Board members will be contacting you soon to determine what shift(s) you can work. If you know what days/shifts you can work and you have not been contacted please call Dennis Spore at 627-0589. If you have a "*Food Servers Card*" check its expiration date. If your card is expiring or you don't have one, you can obtain a current card at a special test session that will held for Sidewalk Arts Show workers on Tuesday July 7 at the Allied Arts Center, 89 Lee Blvd. (at the entrance to Howard Amon Park). Be there at 6:45 pm because testing begins at 7:00 pm and no one will be admitted late. The cards can also be obtained from the Benton Health Department by calling 582-7761 and scheduling an appointment at 800 W Canal Drive in Kennewick. The Club will reimburse the cost of the card (\$8.00), if you request it.

STURGEON SEASON FOR SPORT ANGLERS IS EXTENDED IN JOHN DAY RESERVOIR: A WDFW News Release. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) extended the sturgeon retention sport fishery in the Columbia River and its tributaries from John Day Dam upstream to McNary Dam on June 18 until further notice. The recreational retention season was scheduled to close July 1, but WDFW fish biologists now estimate that anglers will have harvested less than 30 percent of the 560 fish guideline by July 1. Washington and Oregon anglers may continue to retain sturgeon between four feet and five feet in total length until the guideline is reached. WDFW biologists will continue monitoring the fishery in John Day Reservoir and announce a closing date once harvest figures near the 560-fish limit. The Columbia River from John Day Dam downstream to the Bonneville Dam is closed to sturgeon retention for the remainder of the year. Recreational fishing for sturgeon may continue in the closed area but all sturgeon must be released unharmed. Fishing for sturgeon requires an \$8 Washington food fish license available at most sporting good stores. Anglers also need a free sturgeon catch record card.

ELECTRIC REFRIGERATOR/FREEZER NEEDED FOR SALMON BOOTH: The Club needs an electric refrigerator or freezer to store the salmon, at the booth, that will be cooked at the Sidewalk Arts Show. If you know of a refrigerator or freezer that the Club can borrow or rent on July 24 and 25, please call Dale Schielke at 375-0183.

RR&GC ANNUAL CLUB PICNIC: The Club's annual salmon barbecue and picnic will be held on Tuesday Aug 4, starting at 6:00 PM, at South Leslie Groves Park. For \$3.00 per person, (\$1.00 for children 12 and under) the Club will provide Alder Smoked Salmon, beverages, bread and condiments such as tartar sauce, lemon juice, butter etc. Attendees/each family should bring a potluck dish to share and serving utensils for their dish. If your family name starts with A through K, please bring a salad dish to share; if your name begins with L through Z bring a dessert dish. Bring your own utensils, including plates, also bring chairs tables, blankets etc. in case there are not enough picnic tables. The park has a children's play area, rest rooms, shade rees and a wading pool. Directions to the picnic are: From George Washington Way, turn east(towards the river)on Newcomer Ave. Continue to Harris Ave. Turn left at the "T" onto Harris and continue to Park St. (About one block). Turn right onto Park St. and follow it to the parking lot for South Leslie Groves Park. The smell of alder smoke and barbecued salmon will lead you to where the picnic is.



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far less well, with northern pintails down 29 percent, northern shovelers down 23 percent, green-winged teal down 17 percent, and scaup down 16 percent. The Service is particularly concerned about the continued lack of improvement in scaup numbers, which are 36 percent below the long-term average. The estimated number of May ponds in the traditional survey area was down 38 percent from last year, but basically matched the average number of ponds from the period of 1974-1997. Availability of these wetland habitats is crucial to the reproductive success of waterfowl. "For the last three years, we have enjoyed favorable weather and habitat conditions in the continent's northern duck factory' that, combined with the millions of acres of wetlands restored in the past decade, have boosted duck populations," Service Director Jamie Rappaport Clark said. "This year's breeding duck survey reminds us that dry cycles can return. Dry years, and the low duck numbers that go with them, remind us forcefully of the need for continued habitat conservation." "Last year we counted record numbers of ducks, but changes in local weather patterns resulted in mediocre hunting seasons for many parts of the country," Clark observed. "We can't automatically assume that changes in duck populations will lead to more or less success in the field for hunters. A lot of other factors influence hunting success, including weather and the amount of available habitat. We can't control the weather, but we can continue to protect, restore and even rebuild waterfowl habitat. We must continue to do all we can on that front." The traditional breeding duck survey samples 1.3 million square miles across the north-central United States, western and northern Canada, and Alaska and estimates the approximate numbers of ducks in important breeding areas. Among other duck species, the breeding population of gadwalls decreased 4 percent to 3.7 million and American widgeon decreased 8 percent to 2.9 million. Canvasback numbers were unchanged at 686,000. On the positive side, blue-winged teal populations were up 4 percent to nearly 6.4 million and redhead populations were up 9 percent to 1 million.

Results in the eastern survey area, which was generally wetter than last year, showed more positive trends, including increases in buffleheads, mallards, the American black duck and gadwalls. Notable exceptions included the ring-necked duck,

scaup and blue-winged teal. This recently-developed survey includes the eastern provinces and northeastern states and is a part of the Service's efforts to expand the surveys outside the traditional area. Annual survey results help guide the Service in managing its Bird Treaty Act. The Service works in partnership with state representatives from the four flyways the Atlantic, Mississippi, Central and Pacific that waterfowl and other birds use during their migrations, to establish regulatory frameworks on waterfowl hunting season lengths, dates and bag limits.

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AUGUST, 1998

Volume 53, No. 08

1998 Officers

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Eddie Manthos, Sec. (586-6009)

MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

GENERAL MEETING - THERE WILL BE NO GENERAL MEETING IN AUGUST
RR&GC ANNUAL PICNIC - August 4, 1998 (Tuesday), 6:00 PM, Leslie Groves Park - Richland
BOARD MEETING - Tuesday August 19, 1998, 7:00 PM - Richland Public Library, Small Conference Room
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - August 20, 1998, CALL EDDIE AT 586-6009

AUGUST GENERAL MEETING (ANNUAL PICNIC)

There will be no General Meeting in August. The August meeting is being replaced by the Club's annual picnic/salmon barbecue on August 4 at 6:00 PM at the South Leslie Groves Park Gazebo next to the horseshoe pit and swimming beach. For \$3.00 per person, (\$1.00 for children 12 and under) the Club will provide Alder Smoked Salmon, beverages, bread and condiments such as tartar sauce, lemon juice, butter etc. Attendees/each family should bring a potluck dish to share and serving utensils for their dish. If your family name starts with A through K, please bring a salad dish to share; if your name begins with L through Z bring a dessert dish. Bring your own utensils, including plates, also bring chairs tables, blankets etc. in case there are not enough picnic tables. The park has a children's play area, rest rooms, shade trees and a wading pool. Something new has been added to the picnic this year. After we have eaten there will be a "Liars Contest" that will take place by the horse shoe pit. Anyone present can enter. Tell your *tall tale* and it will be judged in competition against all the others. Gift certificate prizes will be awarded for first, second and third place. Prepare your *tall tale* and see if you can top all the others. Directions to the picnic are: From George Washington Way, turn east (toward the river) on Newcomer Ave. Continue to Harris Ave. Turn left at the "T" onto Harris and continue to Park St. (About one block). Turn right onto Park St. and follow it to the parking lot for South Leslie Groves Park.

WALLULA HMU UPDATE: It appears that the Confederated Indian Tribes of The Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) has officially decided not to pursue the lease of the Wallula HMU; they may have an interest in a future lease of the Oregon lands depending on their funding situation. Discussions are continuing with the USFWS regarding possible management of certain areas. The CTUIR and city of Richland have had promising discussions about a co-lease of the Yakima Delta HMU. The Club has not received official written notification or complete details from the Corps and a letter is being written to the Corps requesting complete details.

WASHINGTON STATE YOUTH CONSERVATION CAMP: The Club sponsored 9 youth to this years Washington State Conservation Camp. Camp dates were July 19-25 for girls and July 26-Aug 1 for boys. Nine youth applied for the camp and were accepted. The Board of Trustees at their June meeting, voted to sponsor nine youth instead of eight, as originally announced. Three girls, Allison Marlin, Andrea Manthos and Jessica Derrick; and six boys, Jordan Case, Pat Anthony, Brian Miller, Jared W Wendlandt, Randy Gabaldon and Zachary Thornton were sponsored.

LOST: Dennis Spore loaned a book about the Nez Perce Indians to someone and he would like it returned so that he can return it to the person who loaned it to him. If you have it or know its whereabouts please call Dennis Spore at 627-0589.

NSSF STATEMENT ON SCHOOL SHOOTINGS: The National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF) issued the following "STATEMENT ON SCHOOL SHOOTINGS" to 2,200 media outlets on May 22.

"To suggest that firearms, or organized firearms training programs are the underlying cause for the recent tragic school shootings is wrong and particularly unproductive at this troubling time, according to the national Shooting-Sports Foundation, a broad based shooting sports group.

"These are tragic and very troubling times for parents, school officials and for those who have dedicated themselves to teaching safe and responsible firearms use," said Bob Delfay, president and chief executive officer of the 1,500 member association. "Incidents such as those in Springfield, Oregon and Jonesboro, Arkansas strain our abilities to find reasons and answers, but we must resist the temptation to accept easy answers to an immensely complex and troubling phenomenon."

"We join the entire nation in expressing our loss to the families of the victims of these acts. While it is understandable and important to seek answers that might prevent or reduce such tragedies in the future, it is glaringly unfair to suggest, as some have, that firearms education programs for young people might somehow lead to these tragedies," Delfay said.

As a result of these tragic incidents, it has been suggested, directly and indirectly, that perhaps it is a mistake to introduce young people to firearms through various organized programs now in place. A much larger mistake would be to reduce or eliminate these worthwhile programs. To do so would be to ignore their proven success in reducing firearms accidents to their lowest levels in more than 50 years.

"In our collective anger, grief and frustration, some have attacked the media, some have blamed a loss of parental supervision and others have blamed ultra violent video games or firearms availability for these troubling events. But it is wrong and is counterproductive, at these emotional times, to point fingers at any one factor. Instead, educators, media, parents and those who support responsible firearms use should aggressively and cooperatively identify the causes of and methods to prevent such tragic events in the future," Delfay said.

The NSSF, founded in 1961, is the largest and most broad-based industry group representing some 1,500 manufacturers, retailers, distributors, publishers, associations and sporting groups.'

WILDLIFE VIEWING IS BIG BUSINESS IN WASHINGTON STATE: A Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) news release: OLYMPIA -- More than a third of the state's population participates in wildlife viewing and those wildlife watchers spent nearly \$1.7 billion on the pursuit here in 1996, according to a recent Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife report. The "Economic Benefits of Wildlife-Watching Activities in Washington" report found that wildlife watchers spent \$1.1 billion on equipment purchases; \$509 million on trip-related expenses including food and lodging; \$106 million for land-use fees and rentals, and \$59 million for items such as magazines, books, membership dues and other items. The popularity of wildlife viewing here mirrors the trend elsewhere in the nation. Americans spent \$29.2 billion to observe, feed and photograph wildlife in 1996, according to a U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service report, which noted that if wildlife watching were a company, it would have ranked 23rd among Fortune 500 corporations. In Washington the popularity of wildlife-viewing activities translates to:

- Nearly 8,000 jobs supported by watchable wildlife activities.
- Destination tourism drawing about 270,000 out-of-state visitors who spent nearly 6 million visitor-days here in 1996.
- State sales tax proceeds amounting to \$56.9 million.

The growing interest in wildlife viewing prompted WDFW to establish a Watchable Wildlife program in 1997, aimed at providing recreational opportunities to the public, promoting understanding of wildlife habitat needs and linking wildlife conservation and management to economic opportunities in local communities.

HUNTER SAFETY RULE UPHELD BY COURT OF APPEALS: A WDFW news release:

OLYMPIA The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife has the authority to require hunters to wear fluorescent orange clothing for safety reasons, the state Court of Appeals ruled recently. The hunter-orange requirement, which has been in effect since 1991, was challenged by two hunters who contended that WDFW does not have the right to require hunters to wear a particular type of clothing. The state Court of Appeals ruled that the department's statutory authority to regulate "manner of taking" game animals includes the authority to regulate hunter safety by requiring hunters to wear fluorescent orange clothing. "Hunter orange reduces accidents," said Mik Mikitik, WDFW hunter education coordinator. In the five years before the regulation was adopted, the rate of firearm-related hunter injuries was 8.16 per 100,000 hunters; in the five years following adoption of the hunter-orange requirement the injury rate dropped to 7.26 per 100,000 hunters, Mikitik said. The requirement was put in place because Washington had a relatively high number of firearm-related hunting accidents caused by poor visibility, Mikitik recalled. The department requires that hunters in areas open to modern-firearm hunting for deer or elk wear at least

400 square inches of fluorescent orange clothing above the waist. Upland bird hunters hunting with modern firearms are required to follow the same clothing rule.

CLASSES TO OFFER OUTDOORS SKILLS TRAINING TO WOMEN: A WDFW news release. OLYMPIA -- Women interested in developing outdoor skills will have weekend training opportunities in eastern and western Washington this summer. Washington Outdoor Women and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife are offering inaugural weekend classes in such skills as archery, backpacking, canoeing, cooking, fishing, shooting and survival. The eastside workshop is scheduled for Aug. 22 and 23 at Camp Cowles on Diamond Lake. The lake is 50 miles north of Spokane. The westside workshop is scheduled for Sept. 19 and 20 at the Environmental Learning Center at Deep Lake in Millersylvania State Park. The park is 12 miles south of Olympia. Participants must be at least 18 years old. The registration fee for each two-day workshop is \$150. The fee includes lodging, meals, instruction and a t-shirt. Partial scholarships also are available, with preference given to single-parent and low-income participants. The classes will be taught by approximately 40 volunteer instructors. Each participant will select three four-hour courses from a list of 16. All participants also will take a personal preparedness course. It covers physical conditioning, mental preparedness and outdoor ethics. "Women represent more than half of Washington's population," said Lisa Pelly, chair of the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission. "We want to help and prepare them to enjoy the opportunities and stewardship responsibilities offered by Washington's vast natural resources. Women wishing to register or receive scholarship information should contact: Kathleen South in Olympia at (360) 902-2251; Ronni McGlenn in Bellevue at (425) 455- 1986 or Alison Block in Spokane at (509) 226-0311. Registration forms may be downloaded from the Washington Outdoor Women's website on the Internet at www.oow.com/wow. Washington Outdoor Women is a nonprofit organization that introduces women to outdoor skills through hands-on training.

FIRST TIGER MUSKIES GO INTO FERRY COUNTY'S CURLEW LAKE JULY 22: A WDFW news release.

- REPUBLIC -- Although they won't be keepers for a couple of years, fish that promise angling excitement are being planted here July 22. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) will stock 870-acre Curlew Lake in Ferry County with about 400 16-inch tiger muskies for the first time on Wednesday July 22. Curlew is the third lake in the state to receive the hybrid predatory fish to control surplus populations of undesirable species and to provide new sport fisheries.
- Tiger muskies first were introduced to Mayfield Lake in southwest Washington's Lewis County in 1988 to rebuild a local coho salmon population by controlling the squawfish that preyed upon them. Spokane County's Newman Lake received tiger muskies in 1992 to control carp and stunted populations of perch and bluegill. The Curlew Lake tiger muskies are expected to control squawfish. The idea was proposed a few years ago, but the decision to stock was delayed when an environmental impact review revealed that Curlew Lake is the last home of a species of clam -- the California floater -- that is under review for possible listing as state sensitive, threatened, or endangered. Further study showed that introduction of tiger muskies would not significantly impact floaters, nor any other wildlife in the Curlew Lake area, including rep tiles, amphibians and waterfowl.
- Tiger muskies, which are long, slender fish with vertical "tiger" stripes, are a cross between two non-native predatory species: northern pike and muskellunge. As hybrids they are sterile, and thus grow relatively fast. The 16-inchers should reach the state's minimum size limit of 36 inches within three years. The state record tiger muskie is 28.25 pounds from Mayfield Lake. World record tiger muskies, usually caught in the Midwest where pike and muskie are native, have exceeded 50 pounds. Washington's tiger muskies are raised at WDFW's Columbia Basin Fish Hatchery in Moses Lake. WDFW fish biologists will monitor the progress of the Curlew Lake tiger muskies and determine if or when future plants should be made. Since tiger muskies don't reproduce, periodic additions have been made to Mayfield and Newman lakes' populations.

HALIBUT FISHING TO CLOSE ON NORTHERN COAST: A WDFW news release. OLYMPIA--The sport halibut season on the northern part of the Washington coast will close at 12:01 a.m. Saturday (July 25), the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife announced. All of Marine Area 3 (LaPush) and the portion of Marine Area 4 (Neah Bay) west of the Bonilla-Tatoosh line will close to halibut fishing at that time. The areas are being closed because anglers are expected to take the halibut quota of 96,088 pounds, or approximately 6,100 fish, by Friday. Halibut fishing will remain open in the Strait of Juan de Fuca, the San Juan Islands and Puget Sound through Aug. 3. Halibut fishing is closed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, however. In addition, Marine Area 1 (Ilwaco) remains open to halibut fishing seven days per week..

DUCKS DOWN IN A DRIER NORTHERN "DUCK FACTORY": A USFWS news release. :Marking a downward turn from three years of record-high numbers, the population of breeding ducks dropped 8 percent to 39.1 million, according to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's annual breeding duck survey of key nesting areas. Breeding populations of mallards dropped only slightly to 9.6 million. Blue-winged teal numbers, at 6.4 million, were also close to the 1997 figures. Other species fared

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their lives. Adult bull trout and Dolly Varden range from eight inches to more than two feet in length. They are olive green to brown on the back and sides.

Where they live: They are found in small streams, rivers, reservoirs, lakes and in salt waters across the state.

Status: A 1998 WDFW study found 80 bull trout/Dolly Varden populations in Washington: 14 (18 percent) were healthy; two (3 percent) were in poor condition; six (8 percent) were critical and the status of 58 (72 percent) stocks was unknown. WDFW is continuing to evaluate the status of the stocks.

Why some are in decline: Human activities that degrade bull trout habitat include: disturbing spawning and rearing areas through mineral prospecting, dredging and allowing farm animals into rivers; egg-smothering siltation from road building; worsening the gravel-scouring effects of flooding by urban development; removing pool-building wood debris and water-cooling shade by logging and water withdrawals for agriculture, industry and urban development.

WDFW actions to protect bull trout:

- Restricting activities in streams when bull trout spawn and rear
- Since 1993, restricted fishing for bull trout and Dolly Varden to waters with healthy populations
- Since 1993, eliminated hatchery trout plants in waters where the fish would compete with bull trout and Dolly Varden for food or space or breed with them
- Since 1993, increased the brook trout daily limit from two to five to reduce hybridization with native char
- Adopted the Wild Salmonid Policy in 1997: That Fish and Wildlife Commission policy is intended to protect, restore and enhance the productivity, production and diversity of bull trout and other wild salmonids and their ecosystems
- Completing this year the Bull Trout and Dolly Varden Management Plan as an addendum to the Wild Salmonid Policy Environmental Impact Statement
- Completing a preliminary study designed to identify distinct stocks of bull trout and Dolly Varden using DNA techniques to

verify the results

Habitat protection measures in the following areas: •U.S. Forest Service/Bureau of Land Management lands (Northwest Forest Plan), Washington Department of Natural Resources lands (DNR Habitat Conservation Plan), Murray-Pacific Corp. lands (Habitat Conservation Plan), Plum Creek Corp. lands (Habitat Conservation Plan). Identifying bull trout waters as critical areas in county planning efforts required by the state's Growth Management Act Additional habitat conservation measures in development: Interim Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project on U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management property and developing seven state pilot landowner landscape plans with private property owners. Several federal habitat protection plans also are in development. Participation in Gov. Gary Locke's Salmon Initiative that is designed to resolve the major habitat issues involving land use, as well as water quality and quantity for salmonids



RICHLAND ROD & GUN CLUB

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SEPTEMBER, 1998

Volume 53, No. 09

1998 Officers

Dennis Spore, Pres. (627-0589)

John Silko, V Pres. (627-1241)

Mike Estes, Treas. (582-2212)

Eddie Manthos, Sec. (586-6009)

MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

GENERAL MEETING - Tuesday September 1, 1998, 7:00 PM - Richland Public Library, Gallery Room
BOARD MEETING - Tuesday September 15, 1998, 7:00 PM - Richland Public Library, Small Conference Room
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE -September 24, 1998, CALL EDDIE AT 586-6009

SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING

The first General Meeting after the summer break will be held on Tuesday September 1 at the Richland Public Library at 7:00 PM.

- Dr. Swailes, a local veterinarian will start the meeting with a presentation about how to ensure that your hunting dog(s) are prepared for this fall's hunting season. She will go through a pre-hunting checklist for your dog and how to prepare your dog and get it in shape for this fall. (I'm sure it would also be a good idea for us to go to our doctor and have him examine us to see what kind of shape we are in before we go hunting.)
- The nine youth that attended the Washington State Youth Conservation Camp at Orcas Island as guests of the Club will be at the meeting and will tell us about their experiences at camp. Three girls and 6 boys attended, they are: Allison Marlin, Andrea Manthos, Jessica Derrick; Jordan Case, Pat Anthony, Brian Miller, Jared W Wendlandt, Randy Gabaldon and Zachary Thornton.
- Mike Estes and his son Scott, winners of the Club Quality Trip, will share their fishing and travel experiences with us. They went salmon fishing in Alaska and were successful. I'm sure that they will have some very interesting stories to tell us.
- Be sure to attend this meeting, especially to show our youth that we support them.

SALMON BOOTH 1998: - Dale Schielke & Howard Gardner - As in previous years activities associated with the Booth were conducted smoothly thanks to a great group of volunteers. The total profit is approximately \$4800.00 to be shared equally by both clubs. The following list of volunteers includes members of our Club and the Columbia Basin Flycasters: John Pfeiffer, Jim Saunders, John Nesbitt, Bob McPhee, Jack Hampton, Dave, Carol & Kathy Myers, Richard McDonnell, Dennis Spore, Margaret Fulks, Rob & Zak Thornton, Van Briggs, Jack Fletcher, John Hall, Larry Gabaldon, Steve Friar, Ray Lloyd, Lou LaDoucer, Tom Logan, Pascal Mouette, Wally & Mary Jane Sheely, Dick Nightengale, Clair Cranston, Carl Stull, Charlie Morbeck, Walt Allen, Bob Zinsli, John & Merel Lavender, Bob Hinkle, Jim Martin, Donald Rude, Clif Graber, Harold Heacock, Ev Weakley, Bill Green, Eddie & Nancy Manthos, Bob Lyness, Sharron Taff, Ellen Bentley, John Propson, Lyle Gilk, Steve Anthony, Eileen Mandell, Larry Martin, Jim Shearer, Gene Woodruff, Paul Kison, Gerry Caprio, Russ & Leila Brown & Grandson Zack (visiting from Alaska), Rick Freeman, Jack Pickard, Carl Higby, John Silko and Ray Isaacson. Again, a special thanks to Bob Hinkle for many shifts of cooking salmon and to Dennis Spore for compiling the names of the RR&GC volunteers. Next year the Flycasters will take the lead. Also many thanks to Dale and Howard for organizing the event and for purchasing and staging all the supplies needed to make the Booth a success. Without their help it would be very difficult

to hold a successful event. Thank you very much!

SHOTGUN RELOADER FOR SALE: Clayton Nelson would like to sell his 16-20- gauge shotshell reloader and all the attachments/goodies that go with it. Call Clayton at 946-1255 to get more details and find out the price.

RR&GC ANNUAL PICNIC: The annual picnic and salmon barbecue was held on a very hot Tuesday evening on August 4. There were 83 members and family attending. The salmon was cooked by Howard Gardner and Jerry Zeitler and John Silko served, it was delicious. The salads and desserts were very good. The highlight of the evening was the Liars Contest that was held after we all ate. There were about 16 contestants (Liars) that came up with some pretty good stories. After the *tales* were told the audience picked the winners. The Biggest Liar, first place, was won by 10 year old Justin Hoffman from Arizona, who was visiting his grandfather Gene VanLiew; for his efforts Justin won a \$30 gift certificate to Garts. Second place, Bigger Liar, was a \$20 gift certificate that went to Frank Case. Third place, Big Liar, and a \$10 gift certificate went to Mike Estes. All of the stories were whoppers and the story tellers were very animated. Little Justin told some good stories and thoroughly enjoyed himself, we enjoyed listening to and watching Justin. It was a very enjoyable evening, good food, good stories and good friends.

RR&GC PARTICIPATION IN CREHST RETURN OF THE COLUMBIA RIVER SALMON POW WOW: The Club was asked to participate in the *Return Of The Columbia River Salmon Pow Wow* that is being put on by Columbia River Exhibition of History, Science and Technology (CREHST) on September 11 and 12. The Club accepted the request at its August 18 Board Meeting. We will cook the salmon for the August 12 Salmon Bake that will take place in the afternoon/evening. You may be contacted by someone from the Club asking you to help cook the salmon, only members experienced in using the cookers are needed. Please accept if you are asked.

DOVE HUNTING AND STATE MIGRATORY BIRD STAMP: If you dove hunt in Washington State this fall you must, in addition to your hunting license, possess a Washington State Migratory Bird Stamp and have filled out a Harvest Inventory Program (HIP) survey form available at a license dealer. Youth hunters, 15 years old and younger, must fill out a HIP survey form available at through WDFW offices and possess a free Washington Migratory Bird Stamp, also available at the WDFW offices. The youth are required to comply with these regulations if they are hunting migratory birds, including doves. Please note these are new regulations. A federal migratory bird stamp (duck stamp) is not required to hunt doves.

FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION SETS 1998-99 WATERFOWL SEASONS; APPROVES YOUTH HUNTS FOR WATERFOWL AND UPLAND BIRDS: A WDFW News Release. OLYMPIA -- Amid predictions by biologists that waterfowl hunting conditions should be extremely good this year, the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission on Saturday August 8 approved the 1998-99 seasons. Waterfowl season runs from October 3, 1998 through January 17, 1999.

- Excellent bird breeding populations and habitat conditions have combined to make the outlook good for hunters in all parts of the state, according to Don Kraege, who oversees migratory waterfowl programs for the Washington Fish and Wildlife Department. This is the second year in a row such favorable conditions have existed, Kraege said.
- In setting the seasons, commissioners increased Canada goose bag limits in southwest Washington and northern Puget Sound. The season for Canada geese hunting in northern Puget Sound was also extended by commissioners for two weeks. Commissioners also closed Monday, Oct. 12 to duck and goose hunting so the seasons could remain open on Sunday, Jan. 17. Under federal law, there can only be 107 waterfowl hunting days. By eliminating a hunting day early in the season, commissioners hoped to extend hunting later when conditions are generally better for hunters.
- In an attempt to expose more youngsters to hunting and conservation stewardship, commissioners also approved a special youth hunt day for waterfowl hunters on Sept. 26. They also approved a youth season for Sept. 26-27 in eastern Washington for pheasant and quail hunters. During previous actions the Commission established a western Washington youth/senior hunt for pheasants from Sept. 26 - Oct. 2, 1998. Recreationists should consult WDFW's Migratory Waterfowl and Upland Game Seasons pamphlet for details on these and other hunts and general season information. The publication will be available by Labor Day.
- Commissioners also approved a proposal that would allow hunters only one mountain goat permit in their lifetime beginning in 1999. Previously, hunters were eligible to draw a special permit every year to hunt the species. The change will not impact hunters who have drawn a mountain goat permit in previous years. WDFW staff told commissioners the change, which is consistent with the so-called once-in-a-lifetime hunts already in existence for other species such as moose and bighorn sheep, was necessary because of the decline in the state's mountain goat population.
- The commission also discussed how to make the transition to hunting and fishing license periods that are synchronized with recreational seasons. The Department's current calendar-year licensing cycle does not coincide well with seasons. After listening to several options, the commission approved in concept a plan to sell a three-month, combination hunting and fishing

license that would bridge the January to April gap next year. After that, the Department would sell 12-month hunting and fishing licenses that would be sold on an April 1 through March 31 cycle. The commission is scheduled to vote on the plan in late October following public comment.

STATE, TRIBE COOPERATE ON ELK POACHING ARREST: A WDFW News Release. OLYMPIA -- Following cooperative action by Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife enforcement officers and Tulalip tribal officials, two tribal members were arrested August 18 and booked into Cowlitz County Jail in connection with a February elk poaching incident near Toutle in which five elk were shot and left on the ground.

Anthony Moses, Sr., age 37, and Brian Moses, 39, both of Marysville, were arrested on felony charges of first-degree animal cruelty; gross misdemeanor charges of hunting big game during a closed season and hunting with artificial light, and misdemeanor charges of wastage and shooting from a public roadway. According to Cowlitz County Deputy Prosecutor Arne Deny, the felony charge carries a maximum sentence of five years in jail and/or a \$10,000 fine; the gross misdemeanors each carry maximum penalties of one year in jail and/or a \$1,000 fine, and the misdemeanors each carry penalties of up to 90-days or \$500.

Arrest warrants had been issued for the two men after they failed to appear for a scheduled arraignment in Cowlitz County last May. They were arrested by WDFW officers August 18 on the Tulalip reservation near Marysville, after a Northwest Intertribal Court System judge issued probable-cause tribal warrants based on the Cowlitz County warrants. Tribal police, at the direction of tribal executives, also assisted WDFW officers in contacting the men. The suspects were arraigned in tribal court on the charges before being taken to Cowlitz County. "The tribe was extremely helpful to us in making this arrest," said WDFW Enforcement Chief Ron Swatfigure.

A third tribal member allegedly involved in the incident, Anthony Moses Jr., age 20, was arraigned last May in Cowlitz County on the same charges and is scheduled to appear Oct. 14 in Cowlitz County Superior Court. In addition, he also was charged with possessing a loaded rifle in a vehicle, a misdemeanor. Anthony Moses Sr., and Brian Moses were scheduled to appear in Cowlitz County Superior Court August 19. They each are being held on \$10,000 bail. The poaching incident the men allegedly were involved in occurred Feb. 18 near State Route 504. Four elk were shot about midnight and were left dead on the ground; a fifth animal was left wounded and later died.

MENARY HUNT APPLICATIONS: This information may be to late for some of you to take advantage of it. The hunt applications for the McNary Waterfowl Hunt were mailed out to those who participated in the hunt last year. The completed application must be received no later than September 1. If you did not receive one, you may be able to pick up an application at the refuge office in Burbank. Call 547-4942 to make sure someone is at the office. You can also call the office at Umatilla, Oregon by calling (541) 922-3232. Photocopies of the application are acceptable if you know someone who has one. A \$3.00 application fee for the application is required.

The McNary unit will be open for hunting 3 days per week (Saturdays, Sundays and Wednesdays), Thanksgiving Day and New Years Day. No adult reservations are accepted for Youth Hunt Day, Saturday December 5 and Tuesday December 29.

Reservation holders will receive numbers designating the order of blind selection. The permittee with the lowest number receives first choice of blind sites. Reservation holders selecting Slough Blinds will be allowed three guests. Reservation holders selecting Field Blinds will be allowed a maximum of two guests. After the reservation holders have selected their hunting, unoccupied sites will be filled by standby hunters according to a drawing conducted at the Hunter Check Station. Blind fees for reservations and standby hunters are \$5.00 per hunter or \$10.00 per blind and are payable at the time of the hunt.

Youth Hunt Day - To apply for a Youth Hunt Day - Saturday December 5, or Tuesday December 29, send a standard postcard with your name and address and words "McNary Refuge Youth Hunt Day" on it. Also make note of which Youth Hunt Day you are applying for. Youth must be 10 to 17 years old to participate in this hunt, have a hunter safety card and must be accompanied by an adult companion at least 21 years old. Reservation and blind fees will be waived for youth hunters and their companions for the Youth Hunt. Applications for the Youth Hunt must be received by November 1, 1998.

Upland bird hunting (pheasants only) is allowed from noon until the end of the State shooting hours on Sunday, Wednesday, Saturdays, Thanksgiving day and New Years Day. No permit or check in will be required. (Note non-toxic shot is required to hunt pheasants on the refuge)

All hunters must access the refuge from one of the five designated parking areas.

WDFW FACT SHEET WASHINGTON BULL TROUT AND DOLLY VARDEN

Description: Bull trout are native chars and part of the salmonid family. Dolly Varden, also found in Washington, are similar in appearance to bull trout. Native char are found in fresh water streams, lakes and some migrate to salt water for a portion of

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2 (see the Migratory Waterfowl Seasons pamphlet). The goal is for NO harvest of dusks, so that the goose season can extend into January to reduce crop depredations by other Canada geese on local farmlands. Again this year hunting procedures require ALL hunters to be certified for goose hunting during the general season in Goose Management Area 2. All details of how to obtain home study materials, where and when to take the required test for certification, hunt regulations, and check stations are available in the pamphlet. Past goose hunters in this area should note that the Woodland check station has been moved to the Department of Transportation facility on Lake Shore Dr. in Woodland.

• The Olympic peninsula region has migrant waterfowl from coastal Alaska and Canada making up a significant part of the harvest, and preliminary reports indicate that northern production is good this year. These birds should be available for hunters in both the early and late parts of the season.

The early October opener should also provide some fine waterfowling along the coast in Grays Harbor and Willapa Bay. Early flights of widgeon and pintail on these bays generally make the month of October very good. Waterfowl enhancement projects with cooperating landowners in the Chehalis Valley should continue to improve hunting there, but be sure to get permission to hunt on these and other private lands.

The early September goose season will provide some additional opportunity on local Canada geese which are becoming increasingly common on local lakes and wetlands. Goose populations overall continue to increase and excellent hunting should be available in Thurston, Pierce, and Gray's Harbor counties. Hunters who get permission to hunt from Chehalis Valley farmers should be successful on locally-produced birds.

COUGAR NUMBERS ARE HIGH: A WDFW Game Trails publication. - Cougar numbers continue to be high throughout the state and sightings by deer and elk hunters have become more common. In 1995, before the ban on use of hounds to hunt cougar, a total of 283 cats were harvested by permit hunters. In 1996, when the ban went into effect half-way through the season, 178 cougars were harvested by both permit and general season hunters. Last year, with no hounds used at all, 132 cougars were harvested in an open general season. Nearly one-third of the 1997 harvest came from the northeastern part of the state, about 18 percent came from the north side of the East Cascades, and nine percent came from the Blue Mountains in the southeast. With the price of a cougar tag dropped to \$5 this year, and the season running from August through mid-March, any hunter interested in an incidental opportunity can afford to carry one while hunting other game. Hunters can pursue cougar using several methods: spot-and-stalk, calling with a predator call, and tracking in fresh snow.



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OCTOBER, 1998

Volume 53, No. 10

1998 Officers

Dennis Spore, Pres. (627-0589)
Mike Estes, Treas. (582-2212)

John Silko, V Pres. (627-1241)
Eddie Manthos, Sec. (586-6009)

MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

GENERAL MEETING - Tuesday October 6, 1998, 7:00 PM - Richland Public Library, Gallery Room

BOARD MEETING - Tuesday October, 20 1998, 7:00 PM - IT Corp., 1045 Jadwin, Richland

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE -October 22, 1998, CALL EDDIE AT 586-6009 or emanthos@aol.com

OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING

The October General Meeting will be held at 7:00 PM Tuesday Oct. 6 at the Richland Public Library. The meeting will kick off with a short presentation by Jack Coates of J&R Taxidermy who will discuss how to take care of and prepare game that you plan to have mounted. He will also distribute handouts showing how to do this. The Annual Hunting Forecast will then be presented by Department of Fish and Wildlife representatives who will discuss the prospects for regions 1 (Pat Fowler), 2 (Mark Quinn) and 3 (Roger McKeel & Jeff Bernatowicz). This will be your chance to learn where to hunt this fall. Changes in hunting regulations, of which there are quite a few, will also probably be discussed. Don't forget, the meeting will be at 7:00 PM at the Gallery Room in the Richland Public Library. Come early and get a good seat

SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING REPORT:

The first meeting after the summer break was a very good one. President Dennis Spore opened the meeting and made some announcements.

• The Club has written a letter to the Army Corps of Engineers in Walla Walla requesting the status of the Wallula Habitat Management Unit (HMU). Thus far we have not received a reply from the Corps. Our understanding is that the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) are not interested in managing the HMU.

• Dennis announced that CREHST (Columbia River Exhibition of History, Science and Technology) has asked the Club to cook salmon at the *Return Of The Columbia River Salmon Pow Wow* at Howard Amon park on Saturday September 12. The Club did agree to cook the salmon at the August Board of Trustees meeting. Howard Gardner is coordinating our participation.

• Dennis explained Initiative 211 (*Shall the State of Washington recognize out-of-state concealed pistol licenses to non-residents provided, the license meets specific requirements including criminal and mental background checks*) and circulated copies of the initiative to those present for their signature.

• Mac McDonnell announced that the Third Annual Salmon Derby is going to be held on September 26 & 27.

• It was also announced that, because of a letter Howard Gardner wrote to the Department of Fish and Wildlife, hunters, 15 years old and younger can fill out a HIP survey form and obtain a free Washington Migratory Bird Stamp at Phil's Sporting Goods instead of traveling to WDFW offices.

• Program Chairman John Silko introduced the first speakers of the evening Drs. Janine Swailes and Susan Thorson (Russ Thorson's daughter in-law), veterinarians from Meadow Hills Veterinary Center. They discussed diet and conditioning,

first aid and local problems for hunting dogs. Local dog owners should be on the lookout for a giardia infestation in their dogs. There appears to be a significant increase in the number of infestations in the Tri-Cities area. If your dog has diarrhea and is vomiting take it to your veterinarian as soon as possible.

- Four of the nine youth that attended the Washington State Youth Conservation Camp at Orcas Island attended the meeting and described their experiences and what they learned at camp. They were Pat Anthony, Randy Gabaldon, Andrea Manthos and Allison Marlin. Those eligible to go, expressed a desire to return next year.

- Mike Estes and his son Scott, winners of the Club Quality Trip, described the fishing trip they selected - a fishing trip to the Copper River, about 180 miles NE of Anchorage Alaska. They flew to Anchorage and rented a motor home and drove to the Copper River where they fished for salmon, both with a guide and also on their own. They were very successful and caught and released many salmon besides the ones they kept. Their slides showing the size and of salmon they caught were spectacular. They fished hard and long (it was light until 11:00 PM), had a lot of fun and brought salmon home for themselves and the Big Game Dinner. They ran out of time at the meeting and were not able to show the video they took of their trip. They promised to show it in the near future.

- At the close of the meeting, Clare Cranston and Howard Gardner were recognized by Chuck Ray, the WDFW eastern coordinator for the Hunter Safety Program for their long service as Hunter Education Instructors. Clare received a framed certificate for 20 years service (he also instructed for 10 additional years in New Mexico before moving to the Tri-Cities.) Howard received a plaque which recognized his 40 years service as an instructor. Howard achieved his 40 years last year but was hunting out-of-state when the award should have been presented, Howard has actually been an instructor for 41 years. Between the two of them, they have been instructing youth in Hunter Safety for 71 years. That is an impressive accomplishment, there are a lot of hunters out there that were started on the right and safe path by Clare and Howard. They deserve a big thank you and congratulations. Well done!

RETURN OF THE COLUMBIA RIVER SALMON POW WOW: CREHST put on a successful Pow Wow on September 11 and 12. Club members Howard Gardner, Dave Myers, Jerry Zeitler, Dennis Spore, Eddie Manthos, Paul Logman and Paul Kison cooked salmon from 11 AM to about 8 PM on Saturday Sept 12 for the Pow Wow. They cooked about 550 pounds salmon for about 1300 people that afternoon and contributed to making the Pow Wow a success. They received many compliments concerning the cooked salmon. It became hectic several times that afternoon when the line of people waiting to buy the salmon dinner was at least 50 feet long. The Pow Wow was spectacular. There were Indian tribes present from throughout the northwest. The native costumes they wore were striking and the dances and music they performed were well worth seeing and hearing. Many thanks to Howard, Dave, Jerry, Dennis, Eddie, Paul and Paul for representing the Club. Howard did a very good job planning and organizing the cooking. *A thank you note from the director of CREHST to Howard and the Club was received and is shown below:*

Sept. 21, 1998

Dear Howard,

What can I say? All of you from the Rod and Gun Club were lifesavers for CREHST and the PowWow. You saved us from potential liability claims and established a reputation for your Club as being THE best salmon chefs in the area. You also established for CREHST the quality we wanted for this first event.

I have ordered a brick for our walk-way engraved with Richland Rod & Gun Club. Howard, again thank you for providing unlimited hours of help. I have heard nothing but the best about the quality of the salmon. Do you share your secret marinade recipe???

Sincerely,

Gwen Leth, Director

NEW MEMBER: Welcome to new member Russel H. Wyer from Richland.

SHOT GUNNERS: 12 Ga shot shell hulls for sale. Once fired, Remington, high brass, will make great reloads for hunting. 100 for \$ 6 or 1,000 for \$ 50. Call 375-4094

DUCK HUNTING CAUTION: The duck season runs from Saturday October 3 to January 17, 1989. Be aware that the season is closed for one day - **Monday Oct 12.** Do not hunt ducks on that day - the season is closed!

WATERFOWL IS BEST '98 BET IN WASHINGTON: *A WDFW Game Trails publication.* - 1998 promises to be another terrific waterfowl hunting year in Washington, with some of the longest seasons and most generous bag limits in the United States. That's because, according to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's annual North American waterfowl survey, Washington not only holds more mallards than any other Pacific Flyway state, but it also has more total waterfowl than any other state except California. That's a lot of ducks and geese, especially considering that Washington is one of the smallest states and

California one of the biggest!

Washington's breeding waterfowl numbers continue to rise with water levels. The east side's duck population, centered in the Columbia Basin, is topping 200,000 this year — a high that hasn't been seen for over a decade. These local birds provide hunters with early season opportunity. The breeding news from Canada is also good this year. Those northerners that move south through Washington supply the bulk of the mid and late season harvest. Overall, the tremendous waterfowl hunting opportunity throughout Washington is due to very large numbers and species diversity of migrating and wintering birds. Most waterfowl hunters focus on mallards and Canada geese, and those surely are the "bread-and-butter" species for the sport. But there's lots more opportunity out there: Washington hunters can harvest four species of geese, 27 species of ducks, and the occasional aberrant migrant, such as black ducks, common eiders, and Ross' goose. The following prospectus, region by region, gives an idea of the diversity.

- Easternmost Washington has excellent populations of "dabblers," "puddlers," or surface-feeding ducks that use shallow waters, creeks, ponds, potholes, and associated wetlands - all of which are full of water this year. Mallards are the mainstay, but teal, pintails, gadwall, widgeon, and shovelers are available, too. The central portion of this region (Spokane, Lincoln, Whitman counties) usually provides good early season hunting on locally-produced ducks, while the southeast end of the region relies on migrants for late in the season hunting. Water levels have been so good for the past few years now that even local production of diving ducks on bigger waterways has been fair. When the smaller waters freeze up late in the season, divers and geese should continue to be available along Long Lake (Spokane River reservoir), Roosevelt Lake (Columbia River reservoir), and the Snake River reservoirs. Canada goose production in the easternmost region was good this year, too. In the southeast in particular, resident goose populations are at high levels and should provide excellent hunting along the Snake River. Opportunities grow when large numbers of winter migrants move into the Snake and Columbia River area in November-December. Hunting for Canada geese is often on private property, so be certain to ask permission.

- The north-central Columbia Basin is Washington's destination waterfowl hunting region. This "mallard mecca" provides about one-third of all ducks harvested in Washington each year. The potholes areas in Douglas, Grant, and south Okanogan counties have been producing more mallards and other ducks than the irrigated portion of the Columbia Basin Project since the end of the drought a few years ago. This north central region has also had excellent production of fresh water diving ducks, such as scaup, redhead, canvasback, goldeneye and bufflehead. These and other divers are abundant on many areas along the Columbia River and receive relatively little hunting pressure because few hunters in Washington are set up to hunt them.

Canada goose numbers have been high for several years and were heavily hunted last year under very liberal seasons. With good local production, geese are holding their own against this pressure. The north-central region will likely again produce about one-third of all harvested geese in the state.

- South-central Washington continues to be one of the better duck and goose hunting spots in the state. Last year 26 percent of the total statewide duck harvest and 28 percent of the statewide goose harvest came out of this area. Local populations are well above the ten year average after another good year for production. The early season should be as good if not better than 1997. Late season duck hunting success will depend on "northern" populations and the timing of cold air masses.

- Washington's northwest region offers unique waterfowl hunting, from snow goose and brant in northern Puget Sound to the often overlooked and under-hunted sea ducks on the coast. Early reports on waterfowl nesting success in Alaska and British Columbia indicate that water availability on major nesting areas was good, resulting in a high hatch for both ducks and geese. Canada geese in particular have been abundant throughout the region and are projected to provide excellent hunting opportunities as populations continue to increase. WDFW has recently received reports from Russian biologists regarding snow goose nesting success on Wrangel Island. Over-wintering birds in the Skagit/Snohomish County area departed for northern nesting habitat in large numbers and in excellent physical condition. Poorer nest success will result in similar numbers to last year of white geese on Skagit and Port Susan Bays during the 1998-99 waterfowl season. Good news for Skagit Wildlife Area duck hunters: Grain production on the island segment adjacent to the headquarters access will be at or near past levels, following several years without grain due to flood damage. Hunting opportunities should be great on this area, but hunters are reminded that there is a 15-shell restriction zone on the island segment. By publication, there may also be a 15-shell limit on Spencer Island, near Everett and the Welts Area near Samish Island. Many private landowners and gun clubs, with property in some of the most productive waterfowl areas in the region, have been receptive to allowing juveniles to hunt during the special youth-only duck hunting day (Sept. 26 this year). Property otherwise closed to the public during the general season, including intertidal bays and sloughs, jump shooting spots along inland ditches and ponds, and grain fields near marine areas, may be available to kids who ask permission.

- In the southwest, best duck hunting conditions occur after the fall rains improve water availability in the lowlands of Clark, Cowlitz and Lewis counties. The late November through January time frame is normally the peak time for waterfowl numbers here. Coastal hunting can be very good early in the season.

special conservation measures continue to be needed. A quota hunt will again be in place this fall in Goose Management Area



RICHLAND ROD & GUN CLUB

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NOVEMBER, 1998

Volume 53, No. 11

1998 Officers

Dennis Spore, Pres. (627-0589)

John Silko, V Pres. (627-1241)

Mike Estes, Treas. (582-2212)

Eddie Manthos, Sec. (586-6009)

MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

GENERAL MEETING - Tuesday November 3, 1998, 7:00 PM - RR&GC HUNTER SAFETY FACILITY, BIG PASCO

BOARD MEETING - Tuesday November 17, 1998, 7:00 PM - Richland Public Library, Small Conference Room

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - November 19, 1998, CALL EDDIE AT 586-6009 or emanthos@aol.com

TRI CITIES SPORTSMENS SHOW (LUNKER LAKE) AT THE TRAC - JANUARY 15, 16, & 17 1999

NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING

The November General Meeting is Tuesday, November 3, it will take place at the RR&GC Hunter Safety Facility at Big Pasco on E Ainsworth Ave. at the Middle of Warehouse 5 in Pasco. E Ainsworth Ave can be accessed from 10th Ave. The Cable Bridge is on 10th Ave. and E Ainsworth is the second road to the right after you enter Pasco from the Cable Bridge. Continue on E Ainsworth until you are at the far end of Big Pasco. Warehouse 5 is on the left. The Facility is identified with a big sign on the front of the warehouse. Speaker will be Pete Berry and his topic will be goose and other waterfowl hunting. He will also demonstrate goose and duck calling. Bring your own calls with you so that you can try the different calls that he will demonstrate. There is plenty of room at the facility so that we can blow the calls as loud as we want. There will also be some calls that will be raffled off at the end of the meeting. This meeting is very timely since the northern ducks should be showing up early in November. RR&GC 1999 calendars are here and will be available at the meeting for \$3.00.

OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING REPORT:

• President Dennis Spore opened the meeting and commented that the CREHST was extremely pleased with the help they received from the Club members that cooked the Alder Smoked Salmon served at the Sept. 12 Pow Wow. Because of the receipts received from the salmon dinners and soft drinks sold at the event, the Pow Wow was a financial success and Crehst came out in the black for the event. The Club has agreed to cook salmon, depending on board approval, for next years event.

• Paul Logman reported on the Inland Fish Advisory Council meeting held at Mardon Resort in September.

• Program Chairman John Silko introduced the first speaker of the evening Jack Coates of J&R Taxidermy in Kennewick. Jack gave a short presentation on how to prepare game animals that you plan to have mounted. He passed out a handout showing where to make the *cuts* on the animal before it is skinned out. He stressed that the hide should be kept cool and preferably taken to the taxidermist within 48-72 hours after the animal is killed. Salt should not be used on the hide unless absolutely necessary, do not use iodized salt. Jack also stressed that the animal should be measured before it is skinned and he showed which measurements are required. If you are bringing a cougar or bear in to Jack, call him and tell him you are bringing it in so that he can make the necessary notification(s). If you have any questions, call Jack at 586-2319.

• The next three speakers were from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. Pat Fowler (Region 1), Tom McCall (Region 2) and Jeff Bernatowicz (Region 3) gave this years hunting forecast for their regions. The numbers of pheasants in Regions 1 and 2 have increased significantly, the numbers in Region 3 appear to have increased only slightly. Chukar numbers in Regions 1 and 2 appear to be about average, Region 3 numbers show that the number of Chukars have increased

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ways, some come in slow and cautious, while others come in fast and determined. The north-central region's black bear populations are also high. Harvest had been steadily increasing in the past few years, with an overall success rate of near ten percent. But last year's season was the first with rules prohibiting the use of bait or hounds, and harvest levels in some areas showed the adjustment hunters are having to make. Okanogan County units totaled 58 bears in 1997, compared to 122 in 1996. In Chelan County, harvest jumped from 46 in 1996 to 68 last year. Chelan County units 304, 306, 308, and 316 are available this year for a second black bear using a new "damage bear tag." Check the Big Game Hunting Seasons and Rules pamphlet on page 21 for all the details. South-central bear hunters should have another good year with populations healthy and conditions favorable. The berry crop is exceptional at higher elevations so bears will probably be higher and easier to spot during September. The Yakima-based region contributes only nine percent of the state's bear harvest. Hunters should check access status with local USFS Ranger Districts. Road conditions in some areas are poor. In northwest Washington, black bear hunting in the early morning in the huckleberry patches in the high country should be good. There are reports of many bears throughout the forests. Private timberland hunting should be good for hunters who gain permission to bike or hike behind locked gates. Two bears can be harvested throughout western Washington due to tree damage on forest lands; check the Big Game Hunting Seasons and Rules pamphlet on page 21 for details about a second damage bear tag. Southwest region hunters will find black bears almost everywhere, although the Willapa Hills and the lower hills of eastern Lewis County have the largest populations. Last year's overall hunter success rate was about three percent, down from nine percent of the year before. The harvest decline was not for lack of bears, since the number of reported bear sightings and complaints has actually increased. The drop was likely due to the new rules banning bait and hounds. The good news is there's increased opportunity for "boot hunters" willing to use the "spot and stalk" method. Wet areas and young plantations should be good for finding bears, as are high elevation berry fields in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest. Choosing a good stand overlooking a view of foraging areas,

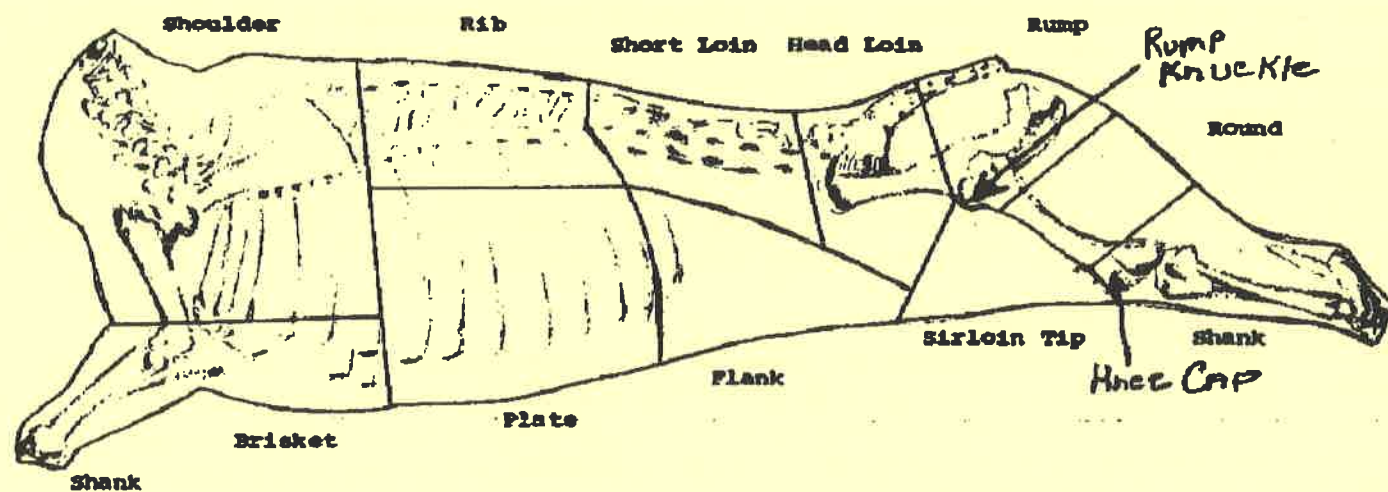
and being patient will produce the most success. On the Olympic peninsula, increasing black bear populations in many areas mean more excellent hunting opportunities this year. Last year's overall average success rate for this region's bear hunters was 9 percent. Success rates could be higher this year as hunters adapt to the new rules prohibiting hounds or bait. The westside two bear limit, new this year will provide a longer season and more hunting opportunity for those people lucky enough to harvest a bear early. As usual, high elevation berry fields can be a good bet in September and early October. Archers are encouraged to check low elevation areas in Kitsap, Mason, and Thurston counties where there have been bear-people conflicts. Landowners on the Long Beach peninsula in Pacific County are finding more bears becoming bolder. Access to private timber company lands will be encouraged on those holdings where damage to timber is occurring.

about 28% from last year and 51% above the number of birds in the 1990s. Forest grouse numbers are significantly better than they have been for a number of years in all three regions. Quail numbers have also increased significantly in all 3 regions. The Blue Tongue Disease outbreak in Region 1 has caused about a 30% loss in White Tail Deer in the affected areas. Region 1 experienced poor elk calf survival, probably because of predators. Deer numbers in the Okanagon and Chelan and Region 3 have increased from last year, the deer have not recovered from the winters of 1996-97 however.

The main raffle prize for the evening, a "Power Inflator" was won by Dale Schielke. There were also other numerous prizes that consisted of Browning Gun Oil, backpacking and hiking books, Pepper Spray and coffee cups. Winners of these prizes were Bill Lambert, John Cummings, Bob Lyness, Clarence Corriveau, Pascal Mouette, Carl Stull, Charlie Morbeck. The gun oil and books were donated by Dale Schielke.

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FOR SALE: The following items are new. Call Dale Schielke at 375-0183

EXTRA BARRELS: Browning B-80, 20 gauge, 3" magnum, vent rib, full choke 28".
 Browning B-200, 20 gauge 3" magnum, vent rib, full choke, 28"
 Remington 870, 20 gauge, plain barrel, IC, 26"

RCBS DIES: 44 mag, 30-06, 300 H&H, 270 Weatherby Magnum, \$12.00 each

Bullets, \$4/box: 270 cal - 90, 100, and 170 grain; 35 cal - 200 grain

Ammunition, \$6/box: Norma 9.3x6.2, 286 grain. Browning 30-30, 70 grain

UPCOMING NW SPORTSMAN'S SHOWS: Washington Sportsmen's Show, Western Washington Fairgrounds-Puyallup- Jan 27-31, 1999. Pacific Northwest Sportsmen's Show, Portland Expo Center February 10-14, 1999.

DEER HUNTING OPENER RESULTS IN MIXED SUCCESS A WDFW News Release - Modern firearm hunters met with varying degrees of success during the opening of deer season, according to counts from Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife field check stations. This year, like last, three-point minimum antler restrictions are in place in eastern Washington, so bucks taken tended to be adult animals. High points for hunters include Southwest Washington, especially Vail Tree Farm east of Olympia, and some areas in the north-central part of the state, according to Rolf Johnson, WDFW deer and elk program manager. Opening weekend hunting results for various regions of the state include:

- **Northeast Washington:** The number of hunters and their success rate were up slightly here. At the Deer Park biological sampling station, 551 hunters were checked with 87 deer, compared to last year's counts of 503 hunters with 84 deer. Over 90 percent of the deer were whitetails. In Spokane and Whitman counties a WDFW biologist checked 40 deer, compared to 29 at last year's opener. Hunters reported seeing lots of deer and hunting success was high. Because of last winter's mild weather and excellent forage this year, an unusually high number of yearling deer (18-month-olds) are three-point bucks this year.
- **North Central Washington:** Deer hunting was generally excellent, except in Chelan County where poor hunting conditions and depressed mule deer populations made for a slow opener. Hunters did remarkably better than last year in the rest of the area, even in Okanogan County where mule deer still are recovering from the '96-'97 winter. At the Chewuck biological sampling station 552 hunters were checked with 15 deer, compared to last year's count of 418 hunters with five deer. Eight of the 15 deer were mature bucks, three-and-a-half years or older. Hunters reported seeing lots of bucks, although many were small. Hunters also saw high numbers of fawns, indicating good hunting prospects for the future. In the Gardner Unit, agents checked 137 hunters with 27 bucks.
- **Central Washington:** Hunter turnout was the heaviest in years and success was high in Grant, Douglas and Adams counties. Results were different in Kittitas and Yakima counties, where biologists reported less hunting pressure and lower success.
- **North Puget Sound:** Results from a sampling station in the Snoqualmie Game Management Unit (GMU) 460 showed 487 hunters with 36 deer. There were 31 spikes and five two-point bucks.
- **Southwest Washington:** The area again lived up to its reputation as the top deer area of western Washington. Sampling stations at Cougar, Randle, Toutle, PeEll and Coal Creek checked 2,897 hunters with 102 deer. Last year 3,027 hunters had 103 deer. Hunters were slightly more successful in the Cascade units than those hunting west of Interstate 5. No biological survey was conducted in Klickitat County, but initial reports indicated fewer hunters and good success for those who did turn out. Vail Tree Farm proved to be one of the best hunting areas of the state again this year. Checks there showed 1,416 hunters with 154 deer. Last year there were fewer than 1,000 hunters with 127 deer.

RR&GC MEMBERSHIP DUES: Please check the first line on the address label on this Bulletin and see when your membership expires. If the date is highlighted red, your dues have expired. Come to the November General meeting and update your membership or mail your renewal check to RR&GC, P.O. Box 337, Richland, WA 99352. Dues are: Individual: \$15 or \$40 for 1 or 3 years and Family: \$20 or \$50 for 1 or 3 years.

BLACK BEAR PROSPECTS ARE GOOD ACROSS STATE: A WDFW Game Trails Publication. - Northeast Washington provides some of the best black bear hunting in the state. While harvest and hunter success declined when the use of hounds and bait was first banned in the 1997 season, harvest is expected to increase in 1998. As more bears have survived hunting seasons the last few years, there are likely more and older bears available for this year's hunters. The likelihood of success increases with their population, as well as hunters developing new techniques to harvest them. Monitor berry production and ripeness in the areas traditionally hunted. Hunt your favorite area when it is best for the bears, not just because the season is open. Northeast hunters should note the black bear season does not open in the northern portion of GMU 113 in far northeast Washington until September 8. This special late opening date is necessary to reduce the possibility of grizzly bear mortality related to hunting activities. Black bear populations are at high levels in the Blue Mountains of the southeast. However, hunters will find hunting difficult due to the lack of natural foraging areas. (Success rates average less than six percent.) Hunters will have to locate the scattered feeding areas that do exist through pre-season scouting. Look for old orchards, huckleberry fields, hawthorn thickets, plum thickets, or blackberry patches. Hunters using the predator call method should hunt in pairs and stay alert, because bears respond to calling in a variety of

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TRI-CITIES SPORTSMEN SHOW: The RR&GC will man the Lunker Lake Fishing Pond and the air rifle shooting range for the 6th consecutive year at the Tri-Cities Sportsmen Show on Friday, Saturday and Sunday January 15, 16 and 17, 1999 at the TRAC facility outside Pasco. Many volunteers will be needed to man the pond and range in 4 and 5 hour shifts. The phone calling tree is being activated. You can expect a call asking you to volunteer. The Fishing Pond is a lot of fun, it introduces kids (and many parents) to fishing and gives us an opportunity to increase awareness of the Richland Rod and Gun Club. We will again man the air rifle shooting range this year. A group of about 6 people will be needed Thursday morning January 14 starting at 9:00AM to set up the fishing pond. During the Show a minimum of 16 volunteers will be needed to man Lunker Lake and 3-4 additional volunteers for the air rifle shooting range. Shift times are 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM Thursday the 14th for set up of the fishing pond. Shift times for Friday the 15th are 1-5 PM and 5-9 PM. Saturday the 16th, shifts will be from 10 AM-3 PM and 3-8 PM. Sunday the 17th, shifts will be from 10-2PM and 2-6 PM; the last shift will stay over to help disassemble the pond. Please volunteer to work at Lunker Lake and the shooting range. They are both very worthwhile projects. Volunteers will get free admission to the show on the day they are working at the pond/shooting range.

1999 HUNTING FISHING LICENSES: At the end of this year, 1998, the hunting/fishing licensing year will change from January 1 through December 31 to April 1 through March 31. This change was made so that your catch record cards will be on the same time line as your license. There will be 3 month licenses sold at the beginning of 1999 to cover the period of January 1 to March 31 before the new licenses will be sold. Residents will pay \$6 for the combination license for these three months, non-residents will pay \$30. I do not know if hunting only or fishing only three month licenses will be sold. Waterfowl hunters be aware that your 1998 hunting license is valid for hunting waterfowl during established seasons in the month of January 1999. Your federal migratory waterfowl stamp and state migratory bird stamp are also valid through this time period.



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DECEMBER, 1998

Volume 53, No. 12

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John Silko, V Pres. (627-1241)

Mike Estes, Treas. (582-2212)

Eddie Manthos, Sec. (586-6009)

Jack Pickard, Membership Chairman (582-5397)

MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

GENERAL MEETING - Tuesday December 1, 1998, 7:00 PM - CIC Bldg Room 216. At WSU Tri-Cities Campus

BOARD MEETING - Tuesday December 15, 1998, 7:00 PM - Richland Public Library Conference Room

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - December 17, 1998, CALL EDDIE AT 586-6009 or emanthos@aol.com

TRI CITIES SPORTSMENS SHOW (LUNKER LAKE) AT THE TRAC - JANUARY 15, 16, & 17 1999

RR&GC BIG GAME DINNER - SATURDAY MARCH 27, 1990

DECEMBER GENERAL MEETING

- Speaker at the December General meeting will be anthropologist Dr. Jim Chatters, title of his presentation is "Kennewick Man - An Ancestry in Question". Jim is the fellow who investigated, as a deputy Benton County coroner, the human bones found in Columbia Park next to the river shoreline in July 1996. His findings showed that the bones had non-Indian features. Since that time there has been a lot of controversy about the bones and what to do with them. Jim will discuss his examinations and show how he came to the conclusion that the 9000 + years bones had non-Indian features. His presentation is very good and we are fortunate to have Jim come and speak to us. This will be a very good meeting, be sure not to miss it.

- Elections for Club officers and board of trustees will also be held at the meeting (see the details below).
- The meeting will be held at the CIC Bldg. Room 216. The CIC Bldg. is in Richland. Directions to the Bldg. are: Go north on George Washington Way to 1st Street; turn right (east) on 1st Street (toward Columbia River) to the first right hand turn off 1st Street. Turn right at that decision point and follow the drive to the CIC Bldg. straight ahead in front of you. Park in the lot and enter the CIC Bldg. (it has gray concrete, a curved roof, and a lot of glass) through the double doors and go up to the second floor (elevator or stairs.) Follow the 2nd Floor hallway toward the Columbia River (east) to its end; then turn left. Room No. 216 is at the end of that left-hand hallway. In addition, the directions to the CIC Bldg. Meeting Room No. 216 will be posted inside the entrance to CIC Bldg., WSU-Tri-Cities Campus.

NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING REPORT:

There were over 40 persons in attendance at the November meeting that was held at the Club's hunter Safety Facility at Big Pasco. President Dennis Spore opened the meeting and announcements were made by:

- Eddie Manthos who attended the Rainwater Ranch public Forum that was held on Thursday October 29 in Dayton. He explained that the former Miller Shingle property in the Blue Mountains was purchased by the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) with 3.9 million dollars from the BPA's fish and wildlife mitigation fund. Since the money came from the BPA, the CTUIR will allow non-tribal hunters to continue hunting on the ranch. Purpose of the meeting was to inform the public of the CTUIR's plans and involve them in the development of a management plan for the property. The tribe, federal, state and public stakeholders will develop the management plan. There were between 50 to 100 people present at the meeting. The meeting was orderly and many questions were asked and answered to the public's satisfaction. Most of the questions were concerns about continued access of property owners, bordering the ranch, to their property through the

ranch. They were assured by the CTUIR that their access would continue. The Club is particularly interested in the management plan for the ranch since we contributed \$1000 several years ago that was used by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife to rehabilitate some of the Miller Shingle property. The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation also contributed several thousand dollars for rehabilitation of the property. We have informed the CTUIR that we would like to be on the management plan advisory council that will be selected in the near future.

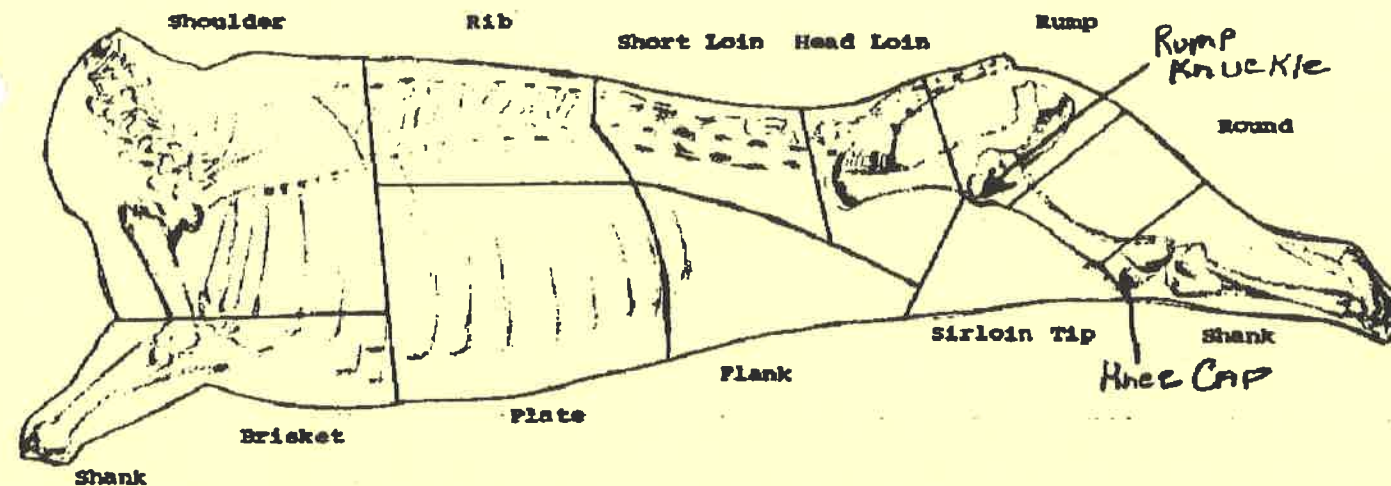
- Clare Cranston, chief Firearm Safety Instructor explained the Club's Hunter Safety Program and pointed out the teaching aids at the facility. He also pointed out the special firearms display that was set up especially for us. He explained that the facility trains about 300 juveniles a year plus many of the parents that attend the meeting with their children. The facility is used for other purposes besides Hunter Safety, it was used for a State Fishing/Hunting License vendors seminar on November 2 this year. It is also used for Club General Meetings about twice a year. It is a facility we should be very proud of!

- John Silko introduced the evenings two main speakers, Pete Berry of BBB Guide Services and Tim Klundt of Two Rivers Waterfowling. Both are very experienced waterfowlers and guides and gave many tips for hunting geese and ducks. They also discussed and demonstrated various goose and duck calls and pointed out the strong and weak points and costs of individual calls. There was quite a bit of interaction between the speakers and the audience especially when it came to the merits and demerits of specific calls. Some of the audience demonstrated calls such as goose flute calls and goose diaphragm calls. Various decoys such as *Bigfoot* goose decoys, stuffed goose decoys and painted and modified duck decoys were also shown. Differences in early and late season goose and duck hunting and the techniques to use for each were discussed. There was a large, about 16 ft., outboard boat on display in the parking lot that was set up as a portable *Duck Blind* with room for up to four hunters and a guide and retriever. The boat was covered with *Fast Grass* and camouflaged so that it could be anchored out in the water and used as a blind. There was also a home made (by Tim Klundt) portable blind/sled on display. It can be used to transport decoys and equipment out to the goose hunting site and, after setup, the hunter can lay down in the sled and hide under a hinged camouflaged cover that can be opened rapidly so that he can sit up and shoot at decoying geese. It was very obvious that the two speakers were very experienced and accomplished waterfowl hunters and guides. It was a very enjoyable and informative presentation. For your information Pete Berry's phone number is 946-5206 and Tim Klundt's number is 544-8958.

- Raffle winners were Orville Long - \$50.00 in cash and Paul Kison a *Duck Commander* duck call.

RICHLAND ROD & GUN CLUB CALENDARS: The 1999 Richland Rod & Gun Club Calendars are here. The price is the same as last year - \$3.00. The calendars are produced by Remington and cost much more if you were to buy them from Remington. They will be available at the December General Meeting.

ATTENTION HUNTERS!!: The hunting season has started and once again the Club is looking for donations of game meat for next spring's Big Game Dinner. The game meat includes waterfowl, other unique game meat such as bear or boar, upland birds (especially pheasant and quail), and clean, boneless big game roasts. (NO HAMBURGER PLEASE) A good big game roast is the sirloin tip. It is boneless, relatively tender but dry, therefore it should be cooked with moisture in a closed pan. Every hunter, whether he cuts his own meat or not, can remove this roast as follows: (see diagram below). After skinning and while the animal is hanging, place your knife just below the animal's kneecap. Cut into the leg until you reach the leg bone, turn your knife and follow the leg bone until you reach the rump knuckle, then turn the knife 45° and cut out. Another good boneless roast is the round roast which can be cut in about the same manner. It is located just above the sirloin tip roast. Finally, clean the meat thoroughly, pat it dry and double wrap it, first with plastic wrap and then with waxed freezer paper. Be sure to squeeze all the air out around the meat. Seal with tape and mark package as to what it contains and with your name and hunting license number. You then take the roasts to Chucks Meats in Kennewick where the Club has a locker (I-40). Chucks has control of the key. The Club may not be able to obtain any halibut for the dinner this year. If halibut is on the menu this spring, it will have to be provided by Club fishermen. So all you halibut fishermen keep this in mind and set some fish aside for the dinner. If you have any questions call Jerry Zeitler at 545-6694. All donations will be greatly appreciated the night of the Big Game Dinner. Good hunting and fishing !!



UPCOMING NW SPORTSMAN'S SHOWS: Tri-Cities Sportsmen's Show (at the TRAC) January 15, 16 & 17. Washington Sportsmen's Show, Western Washington Fairgrounds-Puyallup- Jan 27-31, 1999. Pacific Northwest Sportsmen's Show, Portland Expo Center February 10-14, 1999.

PETE BERRY'S DUCK OR GOOSE FAJITAS: Favorite duck/goose recipe of Pete Berry of BBB Guide Service.

- 1 beer, 12 oz
- 2 ¼ cup brown sugar
- 1 can whole jalapenos (preferably Herdez brand)
- 1 ½ tlbs. oregano
- 1 ½ tsp. Ground cumin
- 1 cup water
- ½ cup soy sauce

Marinate duck or goose breasts overnight with above mixture. Barbecue with wood chips. Slice ¼ inch thick and serve with refried beans, guacamole and sour cream in a warm flour tortilla.

NEW MEMBERS: Welcome to new members Donald C. Hartshorn & Family of Kennewick and Orville G. Long of Benton City.

FOR SALE: (all new items) - Recoil Pads (Browning & Pachmyar) - \$8.00 each; Browning Invector Choke Tubes (12, 16 & 20 ga.) - \$8.00 each; Extra Stocks, Forearms for Browning Auto 5 - \$75-\$40 each; Extra Magazine for Winchester Model 88. - \$10.00. Call Dale Schielke at 375-0183.

CLUB ELECTION FOR OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS: The election for Club officers and board of trustee members will be held at the December General Meeting. The candidates (and past president and volunteers) are:

President: John Silko, **Trustees:** James Ayers, Clarence Corriveau, John Cummings, Lyle Gilk, John Hall, Ben Holten,
Vice President: To be announced, Chuck Johnson, Daniel Kathren, Paul Kison, David Koontz, William Lambert, Dale,
Treasurer: Mike Estes, Landon, Britt Marlin, Richard McDonnell and Ben Pesek.
Secretary: Eddie Manthos, **Past President:** Dennis Spore, **Volunteers:** Clare Cranston, Howard Gardner, Jack Hampton, Herald Heacock, Paul Logman, Larry Martin, Dave Meyers, Jack Pickard, John Pfeiffer, Dale Schielke, Rocky Ross, Ev Weakley and Gerry Zeitler. Nominations for officers or trustees will also be accepted from the floor.