



RICHLAND ROD & GUN CLUB

(INCORPORATED)

P. O. BOX 337
RICHLAND, WASHINGTON
99352

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

APRIL 2016

Volume 71 No. 4

Club Website- <http://rrgclub.tripod.com/clubhome>

Club Facebook Site – www.Facebook.com/RichlandrodandGunClub

Northwest Game Recipes Web Site – www.northwestgamerecipes.com

2016-2017 Officers

Richard Libby, President	586-4792	Richard Libby, Treas.	947-0498
Ben Burdett, Vice-President	582-0103	Frank Scopa, Sec.	375-4748

MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

NEXT GENERAL MEETING-7 pm, Tuesday April 5th, Richland Public Library,
955 Northgate Drive, Richland

BOARD MEETING—Tuesday, April 19th, 7:00 PM, Hunter Education Facility at Griggs in Pasco

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - April 24th, Call Frank Scopa at 375-4748 or

Email rrgcsecretary@gmail.com or secretary.rrgc@yahoo.com

MEMBERSHIP AND DUES: There are three new members that joined for the month of January. The new members are Rick Berg, an individual, Greg and Carla Boeringa, family membership and Michael Person, family membership. Please welcome them to RRGc at the next general meeting. Jennifer Gardner remains the Chair of the Membership Committee and can be reached at JEN_GARDNER11@YAHOO.COM. Numerous members have allowed their membership to lapse. If you receive a hard copy of the newsletter or by email, your name will be followed by the year during which your membership lapses. All memberships are due for renewal in March of each year. If your name is followed by the year 2016, you will have until the end of April to become current with your dues to avoid a lapse in your membership continuity and a purge of the membership roster. If you suspect that the information provided for your is in error, please contact Jennifer as soon as possible.

APRIL MEETING TOPIC: Our guest speaker will be Mr. Ben Hanes. His topic will be Spring Bass Fishing. Mr. Hanes is the current president of the Columbia Basin Bass Club and a tournament competitor. Mr. Hanes will present a Power Point Presentation. There will be no Tip of the Month presented by Richard due to the expected length of Mr. Hanes presentation.

There were a total of 86 attendees at the February General Meeting. Of those in attendance, it was estimated that there were twelve visitors, three of which were youngsters. Ben Burdett, as the Vice-President, will now promote the general membership meetings with flyers at local sporting goods stores

and the Tri-City Herald will be requested to publish a meeting announcement on the Saturday prior to the meeting.

ELECTIONS: In accordance with the RRGCB Bylaws, the election of officers will be held at the general membership meeting in March. President Mike Estes called for floor nominations for the positions of President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary. There were no floor nominations and there was a call for a vote. The four nominations were approved unanimously by the general membership present. The officers for 2016 will be Richard Sharp – President, Ben Burdett – Vice President, Rick Libby – Treasurer and Frank Scopa – Secretary.

MARCH MEETING SUMMARY: The speaker for the meeting was Wayne Heinz. Mr. Heinz has written several books regarding the use and interpretation of the data of depth finders and fish locators. Mr. Heinz had copies of his latest book, *Depthfinders Demystified* for sale. Mr. Heinz provides research for Raymarine, Furuno and Lowrance Electronics. General rules of thumb were presented for the casual users of depth finders. A summary of the information presented is as follows;

1. If a 20 degree transducer is used, the diameter of the cone will be 1/3 of the depth as the cone hits the bottom depth.
2. The fish that appear at the edge of the cone are closer to the transducer rather than they appear on the screen. An object shown on the screen is measured as the distance from the transducer in an arc.
3. The digital depth is the hard bottom.
4. The “painted bottom” can be a soft bottom if the two depths do not match.
5. When presenting a lure or bait, your placement should be above the depth of the fish. This can be reduced to “fish above the fish”.
6. 50% of the transducer power is within the 20 degree cone.
7. Wide beam transducers are not as accurate as a narrow beam.
8. A transducer will show a full cone when directed under the boat.
9. A transducer will show a poor symbol when an object is at the edge of the cone.
10. It is recommended that a zig zag pattern be run over drop-offs in order to pick up fish from different angles within the cone.
11. The screen will show a thermocline (difference in water temperature) as a relatively uniform horizontal line.
12. Side scan can give an approximate fish depth.
13. The screen representation shown will demonstrate fish size by density. The larger the air bladder, the larger the return will be. The hotter the color, the larger the fish. However, sharks do not have air bladders.
14. Recommendation for a narrow beam for depths less than 200 feet and high frequency beams at 200 kilohertz.
15. If there is electrical noise shows up on the display, the electrical contacts and connections will need to be cleaned.
16. Gain equals sensitivity.
17. There is a system called CHIRP which is under water radar which is rated at megahertz levels. It is very accurate but very expensive.
18. The slower a fish passes through the cone, the better the return and the better the arch will be shown on the display.
19. Most displays can reverse the screen background in order to provide contrast for day, night, or overcast conditions.
20. A recommendation was made to tolerate a certain amount of “junk” on the screen in order for additional fish information to be presented.

From my perspective, this was an excellent and extremely informative presentation.

COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS:

INCORPORATION COMMITTEE: Jeff Gardner is the Chair for the committee for both our Non-Profit Status with IRA as a 501(c)(3) organization as well as our corporate status with the State of Washington. The Articles of Incorporation have been revised and a final review will occur prior to discussing the drafts with Attorney Coke Roth. The final review will be for sufficiency and completeness as regarding the final submittal to the Washington Secretary of State for approval. The follow-up to the incorporation will be a determination as to whether RRGc applies for 501(c)(3) non-profit status from IRS. A meeting has been scheduled for the 31st of March. The results of the meeting should be available for the next newsletter. If anyone is interested in joining the Incorporation Committee, please let Mike Estes (509 582 2212) or Jeff Gardner (509 554 2450) know. The current committee members are Jeff Gardner, Mike Estes, Kirby Hammond, Gene Van Liew and Frank Scopa.

USE OF FUNDS: (Same as last month) The following information is provided in order for the general membership to be aware of RRGc's funding of a wildlife related scholarship. Howard Gardner and Mike Estes have been actively involved with establishing revised criteria for the selection and awarding of the Richland Rod and Gun Club Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000. Many of the revisions were based on information obtained from the Safari Club International. Emphasis was placed on the applicant providing information that would demonstrate a pro-hunting viewpoint of wildlife management based on the core principles of the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation. Contact was made with the University of Idaho to solicit applications from students taking wildlife related curriculum in the Fish and Wildlife Sciences Department. Deadline for submission of the post marked applications is April 15, 2016. Mike Estes can be contacted at 509 582 2212 or MIKE.ESTES@Frontier.com if you are interested in reviewing the revisions. Howard has informed the University of Idaho that the scholarship will be available for the fall term of 2016. If you are aware of someone who may qualify, please get in contact with either Mike or Howard. Howard can be reached at eiwoh3@frontier.com. The Board is actively looking for members that would like to be appointed to the Scholarship Committee to assist in the review and selection of applicants. Mike and Howard have provided revised applications instructions, a revised application form and a revised student essay format.

WILD GAME DINNER: We survived another Wild Game Dinner effort. There was a sufficient amount of donated game meat, fish and fowl that 252 members and guests were adequately fed. As with previous years, the types of appetizers and main entrées were extensive. There were 12 appetizers and 8 main dishes. Given the popularity of the duck poppers and the venison skewers, I estimate that the food preparation crew prepared 600 skewers and 800 poppers. There were not many for left overs. As per every WGD, the effort took approximately 30 members who worked from 8:00 AM on Saturday until 6:00 PM Saturday preparing a significant amount of salmon, trout, sausage of various types, salmon, venison, elk, cougar, dove, perch, walleye, pheasant, albacore tuna, goose and duck.

The official turnover of the President's position occurred when Mike Estes turned over the gavel to Richard Sharp. Mike Estes now assumes the position of immediate past-president on the Board.

John Clement provided the entertainment for the evening with an impeccable multimedia digital slide presentation titled "Photographing the Land and Light – Creating Stories". The presentation was truly unique in that all of the photos were taken within 100 miles of the Tri-Cities. It is remarkable that Mr. Clement is able to capture in photos that which we all see but cannot recognize for the beauty that he is able to see. It was interesting that during the presentation, I did not hear any chatter or noise from those in attendance. The presentation was approximately 30 minutes long and it may have been the quietest 30 minutes that I have witnessed in RRGc. Thank you to Mr. Clement for sharing with us, his artistry.

The winner of the Quality Hunt Drawing was Regan Hurlbert. The runner up was Ben Burdett.

Marilyn Steele was the Chair for the Wild Game Dinner Committee. She not only led the effort by the membership, but prepared numerous dishes such as the smoked trout quiche, summer sausage and the venison mincemeat pies. She was also the ramrod for the inside food preparation effort at the restaurant. She was assisted by Dave Myers and Gene Van Liew. A sincere thank you to Marilyn and all of the members that donated game, prepped the dishes and served in other capacities to make the WDG a success.

Paul Kison assembled a veritable cornucopia (what?) of door prizes and silent auction prizes. Thanks to everyone who donated prizes or solicited local businesses for contributions.

A special thank you goes to Lance Sawyer and his staff at Columbia River Catering Company. His place of business provided two food preparation areas, kitchen facilities for both storage and cooking plus his wait staff served on the buffet lines and the bussed the tables. We had a contract with Lance and it was completely fulfilled. Thank you.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Richard Libby presented the Treasurer's Report for February at the March 15th Board Meeting. The report was accepted as presented. If any members are interested in obtaining a copy of the monthly treasurer's report or would like to become involved in future Use of Funds determinations, please contact Rick at Big_guy@charter.net. Rick Libby informed the membership that 2016 RRGC and Remington Calendars are available for sale as well as RRGC baseball caps, the Coyote Cook Book and the Duck Hunting Book. RRGC is now using a Debit Card to conduct club business.

HUNTERS EDUCATION: Ron Ruth reported that the next Hunters Education Class will be during spring break during the first week of April 2016. There will be four days of class, Monday through Thursday with range day on Friday at the Metallic Silhouette Range. The class roster is filled and a waiting list has been established. A sufficient number of volunteers have signed up to ensure that there will be two adults present for each class session. Please contact Ron Ruth at ron-rose@frontier.com if you are interested in becoming a hunters' education instructor. All volunteers must be screened by WDFW. The procedure consists of filling out background check form. This is done to ensure classroom safety. Washington State requires that there be two screened persons in a classroom at all times.

DATA MANAGEMENT: Russ Wyer and Sam Morrison have proceeded with the effort to convert RRGC data to an electronic drop box. The end result will be a permanent electronic record of RRGC records and operations that can be accessed by authorized officers and club members. The next drop boxes to be converted are that of the Committee Chair positions. It is expected that all of the officer and Committee Chair positions to be converted to drop boxes by April. Great effort by Russ and Sam.

GAME RECOVERY: Mike Estes received a call from the Richland Police dispatcher at 4:45 AM on March 22, 2016 that a deer had been struck by a vehicle in the eastbound lanes of I-182 on the Sam Volpentest bridge between Richland and Pasco. The injured yearling Mule Deer buck was dispatched by a police officer. Officers were still on scene waiting for a tow truck for the damaged vehicle when Mike arrived and helped load the deer in Mike's truck. Forty-nine pounds of fresh venison was delivered to the Union Gospel Mission. Chris Mosher will provide follow-up with the Washington State Patrol to ensure that they have current information as to RRGC points of contact.

CONSERVATION/HABITAT:

Cisterns - If you are interested in volunteering to maintain and rebuild the cisterns, please contact Larry Martin at 509 545 9647 or at his email address ljmartin49@charter.net. Larry needs to know in advance the number of volunteers he will have available for every effort. Larry will provide further details at the General Meetings as to dates and meeting locations. Larry is hoping to get a sufficient number of

volunteers in order to have additional work parties working concurrently which will result in a more efficient effort.

On the 3-5-16 Gene Van Liew, Wayne Richey (Wayne owns part of the land we had to cross), Tom Klein, Larry Noggles, Ron Ruth, Mark Buchanan, Laura Buchanan, Shane Scott and Larry Martin completely refurbished Guzzler 20 which is on Corps of Engineers land a few miles east of Prosser, it was originally installed in the 1960s. We had to drive 4 miles along a jeep trail to get within walking distance of the Guzzler then carry all equipment and materials down quite a slope to the repair site. The guzzler was completely destroyed by fire last year, the only thing salvageable were small sections of the apron tin which were saved to use in future rebuilds. 73 volunteer man/hrs.

Wood Duck Project – Dale Schielke reported that 367 nesting boxes have been inspected, cleaned and/or repaired as of the 15th of March. The number of boxes used last year by wood ducks was 170. Screech owls used 65 of the boxes last year. The number of unhatched wood duck eggs was 791. However it must be noted that the high number of unhatched eggs were the result of abandoned nests since the abandoned eggs were normally found in complete clutches. There were 110 boxes with 654 membranes. It must be noted that not all of the membranes would have been counted so this number may be lower than the actual number of hatched eggs. Members are reminded that there are 431 nesting boxes that must be inspected annually, etc. The maintenance includes changing out cedar shaving nesting material, recording data from the past years usage, and replacing or repairing boxes as needed. Trips will be on weekends and during the week as volunteers are available, some are located on land and others accessible from the boat from now until April. If you are interested in assisting with the annual maintenance effort, please contact Dale Schielke at 509-375-0183 or dahlialou@msn.com.

Dale Schielke and Larry Martin have banded 35 screech owls this spring. The banding was done in conjunction with Jason Fidorra of WDFW.

Dale also reported that Carmichael School participated in making new nesting boxes. For the first time, special needs kids were involved in the placement of the nesting boxes in the field. This is a reminder that in April, four cameras will be mounted to observe four of the nesting boxes. Accessing the cameras will be through www.RRGCwoodducks.org. There are two tabs on the website. One tab is for the cameras and another tab will give the location and history of the individual nesting boxes. There may be a change this year as to the broadcast in that the four boxes may be broadcast on a rotating basis.

In addition to the cistern maintenance work that Larry Martin is performing, he is also involved with maintaining artificial burrowing owl nests. At the present time, there are 123 artificial burrowing nests that Larry is assisting with for WDFW. Larry and Dale Schielke assisted in banding 14 burrowing owls.

Salmon in the Classroom: Gene Van Liew reported that there has been a higher than normal egg loss of salmon eggs due to higher than normal water temperatures during the spawn. At the present time, there is no estimate as to what the percentage of loss will be. The fry are now out of the sack fry stage and there has been a second feeding as of the 15th of March. Gene will continue to track and report. The release of the fry into the Columbia River will occur in May. Further details will be released as the information becomes available for the Salmon Summit.

Conservation Camp: The dates for the 2016 Youth Conservation Camp have been listed as the following; Girls Camp – 17th through the 23rd of July. Boys Camp – 24th through the 30th of July. It remains the responsibility of the parent to have their child at the Anacortes Ferry landing at the correct time for registration and follow-on transportation to the camp. Further details can be obtained from Larry Martin at 509 545 9647.

KIDS OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE: Gene Van Liew is in charge of the fishing rod assembly for the KOE to be held in May at the Fishing Pond located at Columbia Park. There are volunteers to assemble approximately 900 fishing rods but additional volunteers are needed to assemble the remaining 500 fishing rods. Please contact Gene at 509 946 7738.

NASP ARCHERY TOURNAMENT: Dale Schielke reported that volunteers assisted in the satellite tournament held at Enterprise School in West Richland on the 12th of March. Dale reported that numerous strings of archers were able to be put through the tournament efficiently. The organizers were pleased with the result.

BULLETIN HELP: Frank Scopa

If you are receiving this bulletin via U.S. Mail and you have an email account, please send an e-mail to Frank Scopa at secretary.rrgc@yahoo.com with your email address. We are now current as to mailing addresses for the hard copies. We are down to 27 members receiving hard copies via the US Mail. New members will be added as the information is received. If you are receiving both a hard copy and an e-mail copy, please let me know. We are now mailing and/or emailing a copy of the monthly newsletter to the following organizations to keep them abreast of our activities; Ranch and Home, Sportsman's Warehouse, Griggs Ace Hardware and Columbia River Catering Co. The businesses listed have been and continue to be sponsors. When you do business with them, thank them for their sponsorship and let them know you belong to RRGC. The cut-off date for information for the May Newsletter will be April 24, 2016. We will now be sending our electronic copies of the newsletter via our new G-Mail account. Please continue to use the secretary.rrgc@yahoo.com for any correspondence for the Officers or Board Members. You can also use rrgcsecretary@gmail.com.

DOOR PRIZE WINNERS: Matt Cummings provided door prizes per his usual excellent level of performance but I am unable to find the list of winners. I apologize for this lapse.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: April 19th, 7:00PM, Griggs Hunters' Education Room, Pasco. All RR&GC members are invited to attend.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING: April 5th, at the Richland Public Library at 7:00 PM.

PHOTO OF THE MONTH: There were no photos submitted for the month of March.

WANT ADS:

If you have anything that needs to be in the Want Ads section or information that you would like to convey to the general membership, please keep in mind that the cut-off date for inclusion is normally the Sunday after the Executive Board Meeting. Send your information to secretary.rrgc@yahoo.com or rrgcsecretary@gmail.com

Last Item: On Saturday, March 19th, I was able to assist during the food preparation for the Wild Game Dinner. By 3:30 in the afternoon, I was unable to carry-on further due to back pain. I asked Ron Ruth if he could finish the mashed potatoes for the Shepherd's Pie. When I returned two hours later, Ron and Bob Zylman were just completing adding the mashed potatoes. Thank you both for helping me out when I had reached a point that I could not go on further. You both exemplify what volunteer means. Thanks, Frank Scopa.

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PO BOX 337
RICHLAND WA 99352-0337**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED