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

 JUNE 2015

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

Club Facebook Site – [www.Facebook.com/RichlandrodandGunClub](http://www.Facebook.com/RichlandrodandGunClub)

Northwest Game Recipes Web Site – [www.northwestgamerecipes.com](http://www.northwestgamerecipes.com)

2015-2016 Officers

Mike Estes, Pres. 582-2212 Richard Sharp, Vice Pres. 586-4790

Richard Libby, Treas. 947-0498 Frank Scopa, Sec. 375-4748

**MEETINGS AND DEADLINES**

JUNE GENERAL MEETING-7 pm, Tuesday June 2, Richland Public Library, 955 Northgate Drive, Richland

BOARD MEETING—7 pm, Tuesday, June 16, Hunter Education Facility at Griggs in Pasco

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE-Jun 18, Call Frank Scopa at 375-4748 or secretary.rrgc@yahoo.com

**JUNE MEETING:** Richard Sharp, the guest speakers will be Jeff Gardner, past president of RRGC. Jeff’s topic will be Trail Cams and how to best utilize them. Richard Sharp will also provide information regarding fishing and rigging for catfish.

**MAY MEETING RECAP:** Frank Scopa

There were a total of 46 people present at the April Meeting. 42 were members of RRGC and 4 were visitors that attended their first meeting. Mike Estes brought the meeting to order. The pledge was given and Mr. Estes then requested that visitors identify themselves in order for them to receive their complimentary raffle tickets. The visitors were directed to Jennifer Gardner for a membership application.

Gene Van Liew reported to the general membership that the Salmon in the Classroom effort would be coming to fruition shortly with the Salmon Summit. There were 14 schools that would be releasing salmon fry in the Columbia River at Columbia Park. The releases would be held both on the 5th and 6th of May. He stated that certain fry had PIT tags inserted and would be tracked both downstream and upstream over the course of their lifetimes. The information would be shared with the classroom teachers in order for them to share the information with the students.

Larry Martin addressed the conservation effort as regarding the guzzlers/cisterns. He needs additional volunteers in order to maintain, refurbish and replace the existing guzzlers. Please contact Larry at 509 521 2554 (Cell) if you are able to volunteer. The next cistern repair would take place at #194, located off of Beck Road, south of Kennewick. A sign-up sheet was passed around for volunteers.

Gene Van Liew reported on the successful Kids Fishing Pond. There was a need for volunteers on both Friday, the 8th of May and Saturday, the 9th of May. As per previous years, volunteers were required for pond duty and assembling fishing rods. Marilyn Steele was in charge of the RRGC effort. There were 1,300 fishing rods that were assembled. There were sufficient volunteers for the Special Needs Fishing effort on the 8th of May. It was estimated that approximately 190 Special Needs clients fished on Friday night with another 1,100 kids that fished on Saturday. The effort was well coordinated and the kids were very well behaved. Numerous tagged fish were presented for prizes. The sponsors of the prizes were Texas Roadhouse, Griggs, Ranch and Home and Sportsman’s Warehouse. Much thanks to the generosity of sponsors and the numerous volunteers that made this annual effort a success. Dale Schielke announced that 900 fish out of 6,000 fish had been tagged for prizes. The weather was just about perfect. Also, much thanks to Marilyn Steele for the pulled pork that she provided for the Friday night volunteers.

Larry Martin reported that two boys and two girls had requested sponsorship from RRGC for the Washington State Youth Conservation Camp. The children must be a minimum of 12 years of age and no more than 16 years of age. It is the parents’ responsibility to get the children to the Anacortes Ferry Crossing. The girls’ camp will be from July 12th to July 18th and the boys’ camp will be from the 19th of July to the 25th of July. Jerry Zeitler has graciously donated $250 to the Use of Funds in order so sponsor another youth if there is additional request for sponsorship.

A sign-up sheet for the Allied Arts Sidewalk Sale Salmon Booth was passed around. The membership was informed that just like previous years, there needed to be a significant number of volunteers in order to make the effort a profitable success.

There was an award given to past president Jeff Gardner for his two terms as RRGC President. A trail cam was presented to Jeff for his outstanding efforts on behalf of RRGC.

Richard Sharp reminded the membership that the Mighty-Mite Fishing Gathering would take place on the 16th of May with no official start. The weigh-in was at 3:00PM and the fish fry followed. There were approximately 26 people present with family members also in attendance. The fish that were caught and provided were bass, walleye, catfish and perch. Richard did his usual job of providing excellent table fare as well as those that provided side dishes.

Richard Sharp also reminded the membership that the annual Moonlight Catfish Derby would be held on the 19th and 20th of June. Sign-in would be between 5:00 PM and 8:00 PM on Friday night with the weigh-in at 3:00 PM and subsequent fish fry. There is a $20 buy-in with a $10 top-five fish pool. Richard has asked for volunteers for both Friday evening and Saturday afternoon. A sign-up sheet was passed around but additional volunteers are needed.

The annual Club Picnic will be held on August 4th at the Howard Amon Park Gazebo in the usual location. The picnic will start about 4:00 PM with dinner to be served about 6:00 PM. Richard Sharp has the lead on this.

Dave Myers announced that there would be a Top Shot Competition on the 31st of July at the Tri-City Silhouette Range on Kohlotus Highway. The event will be a three gun competition, long gun, shot gun and hand gun. At the present time, bragging rights are the only prize contemplated. The start time will be at 4:00 PM until dark or all participants are overcome with heat exhaustion. More information to follow.

**GUEST SPEAKER:** Adam Geddes was the guest speaker for the general meeting. His first subject was anchoring techniques as well as anchoring etiquette. Adam recommended that a large anchor be utilized given the size of the boat. Further, having a chain lead is necessary to ensure that the anchor and rope lies on the bottom properly. When anchoring, the line must be attached to the front of the boat, never to the stern. A breakaway method is also recommended so that in the event the anchor hangs up, a reverse pull on the anchor will cause the anchor to come loose. A simple zip tie, can provide the breakaway method. As to etiquette, he recommended that common sense be used to avoid confrontations. He did recommend that the rope run be six to ten times the depth for proper anchoring and that knives be positioned around the boat in the event that the anchor line must be cut quickly.

As to fishing The Reach for sockeye below Wanapum, he recommends keeping your method simple. He also recommends center blades for noise as well as walleye wedding rings for lures using number 1/0 or number 1 hooks. Sockeye have a soft mouth so he recommends that mono or king size snubber be used to stretch the hook set. He uses a Oregon slider with a 8” to 10” dropper. He changes out the bottom couple of feet regularly since the slider abrades the main line. He uses weed guards in the current flows and the depth will vary due to the water flow and volume. He tries to tuck in close to the bank where there are back eddies. He stated that there are dead times as the sockeye will stack up in the back eddies waiting to surge forward. They will surge forward as a group. He uses a 8” to 12” stiff leader in maximum ultra green with a #1 Colorado Blade. Sockeye seem to prefer pink, with secondary colors as red and blue.

He uses nitrile gloves when handling his fishing equipment as well as using lemon Joy dish detergent with anise oil. He also uses shrimp tails with a hoochie koochie skirt in order to put the anise oil scent in the water. He generally fishes with 9-1/2’ to 10-1/2’ rods. He also recommends that the rod tip be held low to the water and that the fish be finessed in.

**MIGHTY MITE GATHERING:** Richard Sharp informed the membership that the RRGC Mighty-Mite Fishing Gathering would be on the 16th of May at the Columbia Point Marina Gazebo #1 (closest to boat launch). Fishing starts in the morning on all local waters. The Potluck dinner starts at 3:00pm. All participants will be requested to bring their Mighty Mite catch or any catch for the fish fry! The Potluck Extras are as follows, if the first letter of your last name starts A through H, please bring a main dish. If your last name starts I through P, please bring a dessert. If your name starts Q through Z, please bring a salad. Richard expects there to be fun, food, laughs and bragging rights. This is a RRGC members’ only event. The Moonlight Catfish Derby is still scheduled to start the evening of June 19th and will conclude at the 2:00PM weigh-in on June 20th. More details to follow.

**WOOD DUCK NESTING BOXES:** Dale Schielke provided the website link for the wood duck nesting boxes that have cameras installed. There has been considerable interest shown by the public as well as the Tri-City Herald. As a result of the publicity, RRGC, through Dale has been able to purchase additional high definition cameras that provided monitoring of four nesting boxes. The only limitation for additional monitoring is access to the internet.

**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 should be current as to mailing addresses for the hard copies. There are still 60 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. At the present time, mailing hard copies costs RRGC approximately $22 per member on an annual basis that receive hard copies. When the annual membership is weighed in vice the mailing costs, RRGC is subsidizing the hard copies and we are taking a pretty severe hit for the sixty members that still receive hard copies. It is requested that members get an e-mail address. One of the benefits of receiving the newsletter electronically is that the content and form can be expanded to include photos which we cannot do on the hard copies at the present time due to costs.

**NEW MEMBERS AND MEMBERSHIP:** Jennifer Gardner continues as the Membership Chair. She can be contacted at 509-981-9366 (Spokane number). There were no new members that were voted on at the Board Meeting. There are a number of members who have not renewed. They will be given a notice soon that they either renew or we will have to purge them from our roles.

**TREASURER’S REPORT:**  Richard Libby presented the Treasurer’s Report for April. The report was approved by the Board of Directors at the Board Meeting held on May 5th. The annual audit will be conducted this spring as required by the RRGC Bylaws. Those results will be made known to the general membership.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING:** June 16th, 7:00PM, Griggs Hunters’ Education Room, Pasco. All RR&GC members are invited to attend.

**NEXT GENERAL MEETING:** June 2nd, at the Richland Public Library at 7:00 PM.

**WILD GAME DINNER:** A Lessons Learned Meeting was held after the WGD. Mike Estes provided a list of work areas that could be improved upon. The major item discussed was to appoint one person as overall in charge of the effort. Additionally there would be one person in charge of the outside food preparation, one person in charge of the kitchen food preparation as well as one person in charge of the dining room preparation. It was also discussed that individuals need to be assigned to specific entrée preparation that are labor intensive. This will allow for conservation of a limited number of volunteers.

A Committee will be established to vet WGD speakers. At the present time, Dale Schielke has taken the lead on this effort. It is the intent to have a vetted speaker committed to the WDG as early as possible.

**RAFFLE RESULTS:** The ten raffle gifts were won by the following. I did not record who won the Outers Rifle Cleaning Kit.

Mighty Mite Red Rod, Jeff Faulke, Mighty Mite Green Rod, Frank Scopa, Might Mite Blue, Ben Burdette, Ambassador Pole, Ted Wickland, Large Plano Tackle Box with Trout Tackle, Mick Keating, Small Plano Tackle Box with Crankbaits, Susan Geddes, Propane Heater/Cooker, Richard Sharp, Piñata, Frank Scopa, Shakespeare Rod and Reel, Dale Schielkle, Mystery Box with Head Lamps and X-Acto Knives, Ben Buedtter, Chatter Bait Profession Fishing Kit, Paul Kison, and Remington Dog Training Kit, Ted Wickland.

**WANT ADS:**

Kirby Hammond is looking for a RRGC member that can do Air Conditioning/Heating installation. If you are able to provide this service, please contact him at 509 713 4668 (cell).

**RICHLAND ROD AND GUN CLUB**

 **PO BOX 337**

 **RICHLAND WA 99352-0337**

 **RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**