



RICHLAND ROD & GUN CLUB

(INCORPORATED)

A 501(c)(3) Tax Exempt Organization

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.

November 2026, Volume 81 No. 11

Club Website- www.richlandrodandgun.org

Club Facebook- www.Facebook.com/RichlandRodandGunClub

2026/2027 Officers

President	Vice President	Secretary	Treasurer
Richard Sharp	Owen Matson	Mike Estes	Ron Moore
(509) 551-6785	(619) 861-9204	(509) 551-9066	(509) 521-4528

MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

Next General Meeting – November 3, 6:30 PM at Richland Public Library

Next Board Meeting- November 17, 7:00 PM at Griggs Pasco Hunter Ed room

December Newsletter Contribution Deadline is November 22.

Email: admin@richlandrodandgun.org

November 3 General Meeting **6:30pm at the Richland Public Library**

Captain James Blair of Blair's Sport Fishing primarily targets sturgeon, walleye, and salmon on the Columbia River from the Columbia River Gorge all the way up to Brewster. James did an awesome job as our program presenter in October 2024 when he provided tips on fishing for fall chinook salmon. We are fortunate to have James as our speaker again this month when his topic will be fishing for walleye in the fall. Whether you think you know a little or a lot about catching walleye, you should learn something new from this presentation. Please come and enjoy the meeting with us.

KOE Fishing Rod Repair and Assembly Sessions

A group of volunteers is needed for a few hours to repair fishing reels that malfunctioned during the 2026 KOE fishing events. The repair session will be at John Prather's shop at

8:00am on Saturday, November 14, 2026. Marilyn Steele will provide breakfast. John's address is 215107 E. Game Farm Road in Kennewick. Fishing rod assembly for the 2027 KOE events will be at **9:00am on Saturday, April 3, 2027** at the Grigg's Department Store Hunter Education Room in Pasco. The **Special Needs** fishing event will be **on Friday, April 16** from approximately 11:00am to 5:00pm at Columbia Park Pond with a volunteer worker dinner to follow. The **Kids Fishing Day** event will be held the following day **Saturday, April 17** from approximately 7:00am to 4:30pm at the Columbia Park Pond. Please add the dates to your calendar and plan to participate.

Wild Game Dinner Planning

The kickoff planning meeting for the March 20, 2027 Wild Game dinner will be at **5:30pm on Friday, January 8, 2027** at Marilyn Steele's home. We will review what meat has been donated, discuss possible new recipes to try, estimate how many cooks will be needed and who might take the lead on preparing the various dishes, and so on. Marilyn will provide dinner those who attend. Dates will be set for other sessions like meat grinding and sausage stuffing. The dinner doesn't just happen. It is the culmination of a lot of effort by a team of dedicated volunteers. Do not be shy if you haven't participated previously. No experience is required. This is one of the best opportunities to get to know other RRGc members while volunteering beside them and providing your input to the process. Please let Marilyn know if you will be coming so she can plan accordingly.

Hunting seasons are under way and we are beginning to receive some meat donations. We will need much more! We have about four months to collect all the meat and prizes we will need to hold another successful event on April 20. Fish, waterfowl, and big game are all needed. Rather than just being an attendee at the Wild Game Dinner, please consider being a participant in the event by donating meat, donating or soliciting prizes, or by volunteering to help with other aspects of the dinner.

We have storage space for donated meat and prizes so you don't need to store items in your freezer or garage until next spring. Each package of meat must be tagged with the donor's name, WILD ID number, species and cut of meat. Ground meat cannot be accepted due to health safety concerns but we can accept clean trim meat that is suitable for making into ground meat.

Please contact John Prather (509-521-1593) for more information about meat and prize donations or Marilyn Steele (509-392-2128) about helping with the dinner preparations.

Hunter Education

The last RRGc Hunter Education class for 2026 ended with Range Day on October 3 at the Tri-City Metallic Silhouette Association (TCMSA) range in Franklin County. Thirty people attended the class at the Hunter Education room at Grigg's Department Store in Pasco. Twenty-one passed. The failure rate was greater than usual and was attributed to the very

young ages of some of the students. The photo shows the class attendees and instructors at the TCMSA range. The next Hunter Education class will be held the week of April 5, 2027 which is spring break week for local schools.



Introduction to Firearms

Ron Ruth and the HE instructor team providing a morning of firearms safety training to a troop of Girl Scouts at the Grigg's Department Store Hunter Education room on October 10. The girls then proceeded to the TCMSA range for live fire with .22 caliber rifles. The girls sent the instructors a thank you card that included comments like "This was so fun!", "We had a blast", "I like shooting", and "We enjoyed everything today". Thanks to Ron and the other instructors who donated their time to introduce these young women to firearms safety and the shooting sports.



Tri-City Area Hunting Forecast

Washington Department of Wildlife staff presented the 2026 District 4 hunting forecast at our September 1 meeting. District 4 encompasses Benton and Franklin Counties. The charts they showed at the meeting about upland bird harvests, doe to fawn deer ratios, goose populations, and Hanford elk populations are contained in the approximately twenty-page 2026 District 4 Hunting Prospects document which can be viewed on the WDFW web page at:
https://wdfw.wa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/02737/Prospects_2026_Region%203_District%204.pdf

Guzzler Repair

Bill Suhr, Tim Irvin, Blaine Schwartz and Larry Martin repaired guzzler 116 on October 9. The guzzler is located 12 miles east of Mesa on State land and was apparently damaged by farm equipment. Blaine installed one of the bluebird nest houses he builds near the guzzler. Larry has additional repair projects planned. If you would like to volunteer to assist, please call or text Larry at 509-521-2554. Also, check out the photo of Larry's truck with the new magnetic door signs he purchased that advertise the work that the RRGV volunteers are doing. You are doing a great job guys!





Safe Shooting Sports for Youth at RMSF

Dave McNeal of the Rattlesnake Mountain Shooting Facility provided the following youth shooting event schedule for November and December. October 25th was the last scheduled Youth Rimfire Sporter Match of 2026.

Sunday, November 8 - Youth Free Shotgun Sunday. Instruction and shooting start at Noon at the Shotgun Range. Shooters bring a shotgun and some shells and an adult and shoot two rounds of clay pigeons. Please RSVP to president@tcsashotgun.com.

Sunday, November 8 - Firearms Safety Training for Youth and Their Families at 3:00 PM at Shotgun Range House. Young people and their families who may have no experience, some experience, or extensive experience in handling and shooting firearms can benefit from learning or reviewing basic and advanced lessons to build and instill good habits that can lead to enjoyable recreational shooting and prevention of accidents and tragedies. This session will be an opportunity to learn and/or to enhance your ability to practice safe methods of handling, shooting, owning and storing firearms. Facility accommodations are limited, so please **pre-register by November 4** at tcsayouth@tcsa.info indicating the number in your party. We can schedule additional sessions if necessary.

Sunday, December 20 - Youth Free Shotgun Sunday. Instruction and shooting start at Noon at the Shotgun Range. Shooters bring a shotgun and some shells and an adult and shoot two rounds of clay pigeons. Please RSVP to president@tcsashotgun.com.

If you have questions or comments about Safe Shooting Sports for Youth, email:

TCSAYOUTH@TCSA.INFO. Youth under age 18 shoot for free and must be accompanied by an adult. Loaner rifles and ammunition are available for the .22 events. You can learn more about these events at:
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61586545546901&sk=about>.

Remember to Vote

Our November meeting always coincides with election day: they both always occur on the first Tuesday of November. In years past when we were required to vote in person, members had to vote on the day of our meeting. That has changed with mail in ballots where you have as much as a few weeks preceding election day to put your ballot in the mail or drop it off at a ballot box. There are no excuses for not voting these days.

Your vote matters so be sure to cast your ballot in time for it to be counted. Please review the Voter Pamphlet and make informed choices about the candidates you vote for. You have likely seen more political advertisements and endorsements in the last month than you wanted to see in your life time. Some of the material is misleading, at best. If you pay attention to endorsements, be sure that the people making those endorsements and the candidates and issues they support represent your values. Help elect those candidates who you believe are likely to serve us best.

2027 Tri-Cities Sportsmen Show

Josh and Jenn McClanathan (JLM Productions, LLC) will be hosting the Tri-Cities Sportsmen Show at the HAPO Center in Pasco on January 29, 30, and 31, 2027. Last year was the McClanathans first year running the show after then purchased it from Merle and Bev Shuyler. RRGc has been asked to be responsible for the Pellet Range and Lunker Lake fishing pond at the show, as we have done every year for about the last twenty years. Ron Ruth will again be our lead for the Pellet Range. Richard Sharp currently has the lead for Lunker Lake but would happily delegate the lead responsibilities to someone else who is willing. Contact Ron (509-737-7350) or Richard (509-551-6785) to volunteer your assistance.

Photo of the Month

There were two photo contest entries this month. Tim Irvin and Monte Kelsey submitted photos of Chinook salmon they caught in September. Tim's fish was a 14-pound wild hen that he caught on the Snake River. Monte's son Ryan took the photo of Monte with his 18-pound salmon that was caught near Vernita on the Columbia River. The photos were declared co-winners. Congratulations to the successful fishermen!





Please submit some of your favorite photos so we can see how you have been enjoying your time outdoors. Submit entries to rrgcsecretary@gmail.com no later than the day preceding the monthly Board meeting.

Update your contact information!

If you have changed your address, your phone number, or your email address please use this link and scroll to the bottom of the page where it says "Update My Contact Information".

[Richland volunteer opportunities for members \(richlandrodandgun.org\)](http://richlandrodandgun.org)

Get involved in one of our Committees:

Salmon in the Classroom: Mike Estes - estesm34@gmail.com

Wood Ducks: Dale Schielke - dahlialou@msn.com

KOE Kids Fishing Day: Marilyn Steele - momhoops46@gmail.com

Hunter Education: Ron Ruth or John Prather - RonRuth.HunterEd@gmail.com, or cowboy_jp82@msn.com

Guzzlers: Larry Martin - larry49martin@gmail.com

Youth Conservation Camp: Larry Martin - larry49martin@gmail.com

Membership: Maija Greer - richlandrodandgunmembership@gmail.com

Scholarship: Mike Estes - estesm34@gmail.com

Website: Greg Boeringa - admin@richlandrodandgun.org

Wild Game Dinner: Marilyn Steele - momhoops46@gmail.com

RRGC Club Upcoming Activities

Next General Membership Meeting – November 3 at 6:30pm, Richland Public Library

KOE Fishing Gear Repair – November 14 at 8:00am, John Prather's Shop

Next Board of Directors Meeting – November 17 at 7:00pm, Grigg's in Pasco

2027 Tri-Cities Sportsmen Show – January 29-31, HAPO Center in Pasco

2027 Wild Game Dinner – March 20, Benton County Fairgrounds Building #4

KOE Fishing Rod Assembly – April 3 at 9:00am, Grigg's Dept. Store HE room

KOE Special Needs Fishing – April 16 from 11:00am to 5:00pm, Columbia Park Pond

KOE Kids Fishing – April 17 from 7:00am to 4:30pm, Columbia Park Pond

Note from the Secretary: If you have suggestions for improving the monthly newsletter, please send an email to rrgcsecretary@gmail.com Too short, too long, more or fewer photos, ideas for articles, etc. Mike will respond to any comments or suggestions received.