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

HANFORD MONUMENT SAGEBRUSH REHABILITATION: As of December 1, planting of 700,000 sagebrush plants was completed. A total of 5,000 acres were also planted. Planting is expected to be completed by December 18. RR&GC volunteers who assisted in the sagebrush planting were Bob Kolowith, Russ Wyer, Rocky Ross, Paul Kison, Howard Gardner and Gene VanLiew.

2003 CLUB OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS: The following Club officers and board of trustee members for 2003 were elected to office at the December 3 General Meeting: We wish them a productive New Year.

President: - Mike Estes, **Vice President:** - Russ Wyer, **Treasurer:** - Lyle Gilk, **Secretary:** - Eddie Manthos; **Trustees:** Jerry Burke, Tim Clemons, Tom Davis, Jeff Gardner, Rich Holten, Harvey Huisingh, Dale Landon, Larry Martin, Dana Mueller, John Pfeiffer, Jack Pickard, Jim Shearer, Gene VanLiew, Wade Warrant and Ben Webb.

NEW ADDITION TO CLUB'S WEB SITE: The Club's web site has been improved and now includes a Quality Trip sub-directory which can be accessed from the Main Site's "Club Activity page. To access this new feature, after accessing the Activity page, go to the Quality Trip paragraph and click on Quality Trip at the end of the paragraph. After you access the Quality Trip page, click on Member Trips.

RELOADING PRESS LOOKING FOR GOOD HOME: MEC 600 Jr. reloader, with supplies, including primers, wads, 20 lbs of #5 lead shot and 5 lbs. of #6 lead shot. Free to good home. Contact Rocky Ross at 545-4898.

FOR SALE: Lyman Reloading Equipment. .270, 30-06 and pistol brass. Also shotgun hulls. Call Bob at 627-1157.

CLUB PHOTO CONTEST: There were seven entries in December. Since there were no entries in October, two winners were selected. Tim Clemons submitted a photo of a large Merriam Turkey he harvested in Stevens county this past spring. Big bird! John Hall submitted a great photo of a big moose he harvested at Anahim Lake, British Columbia this past September. Great animal! The winning photos can be viewed at the Club's web site at: <http://www.members.tripod.com/rrgclub>.

DUCK BAND INFORMATION REQUESTED: Attention all duck hunters! If you harvest or have harvested a duck or goose with a leg band or collar, notify Eddie Manthos at 586-6009 or emanthos@aol.com with the following information: species, sex, where and when harvested, your name (or name of the person who harvested the bird) and, when you receive the information, where and when the bird was banded. The information will be collected and reported in this newsletter at the end of the waterfowl season. Last year we reported information about two ducks with leg bands.



RICHLAND ROD & GUN CLUB

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January 2003

Volume 58, No. 01

Club Web Site - <http://www.members.tripod.com/rrgclub/>

2003 Officers

Mike Estes, President (582-2212)

Russ Wyer, Vice President (627-4308)

Lyle Gilk, Treasurer (627-3441)

Eddie Manthos, Secretary (586-6009)

Jack Pickard, Membership Information (582-5397)

MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

JANUARY GENERAL MEETING - Tuesday, January 7, 2003, 7:00 P.M. - City of Richland Maintenance Facility

BOARD MEETING - Tuesday, January 21, 2003, 7:00 P.M. - City of Richland Maintenance Facility

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - January 22, 2003, CALL EDDIE AT 586-6009 or emanthos@aol.com.

LUNKER LAKE AT TRAC - Friday, Saturday & Sunday - January 17, 18 & 19, 2003

11th ANNUAL COLUMBIA BASIN "FRIENDS OF NRA BANQUET and BENEFIT AUCTION March 7, 2003
Social Hour at 5:30 p.m. - Dinner at 7:00 p.m. - Auction to Follow (See included flier)

JANUARY 2003 GENERAL MEETING

- Kyle Winton, president of Eyes In The Woods, will discuss the Woods Watch program. The mission of Eyes In The Woods is to provide a volunteer resource conservation program of trained citizens to assist the Department of Fish & Wildlife with the reduction of poaching and other resource abuses. Winton will also discuss the "Go Play Outside" initiative of the Washington Wildlife Coalition that is directed at youth and aspiring outdoor recreational enthusiasts to increase ethical and responsible behavior and to promote outdoor skills.
- RR&GC/Remington year 2003 calendars are still available at a bargain price of \$3.00. Get yours now before they're gone.
- **Bring a prospective new member as a guest to the meeting and receive five free raffle tickets! More details at the meeting.**

DECEMBER GENERAL MEETING REPORT:

All of the chairs were filled at the December 3 meeting. The meeting was opened by President Gaylord Pyle who asked all visitors and guests to introduce themselves.

• Jack Oppelt announced that he had three water jugs and a 'Porta Potti' free for the taking. He also announced that he brought some smoked steelhead snacks located at the back table.

• The election of officers and trustees was conducted by Howard Gardner. There were no floor nominations. Motions were made, seconded and unanimously approved to accept the nominees, as listed, for Club officers and Club trustees.

• Mike Estes read a news release from the WDFW concerning the soliciting of public comments, through Dec. 8, on preliminary options for 2003-2005 hunting seasons. The options and a response questionnaire are posted on the department's website on the Internet. Responses received on the preliminary options will be used to guide WDFW staff in developing draft season alternatives. Those alternatives will be the subject of eight public meetings that will be held across the state in January. Specific locations will be announced at a later date for the meetings, which all will run from 7 to 9 p.m. and are scheduled for Jan. 20 in the Tri Cities. Comments taken at those meetings will be used to develop draft recommendations for presentation to the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission for action next April.

● Gerry Zeitler reported that there will be only 200 tickets, 100 tickets less than 2002, printed for the Wild Game Dinner to be held March 29, 2003. The main reason for fewer tickets is to eliminate the crowding at the banquet tables that has been experienced at past dinners. The tickets will go on sale at the January 7 General Meeting. Buy your tickets early, they may be sold out if you wait too long.

● Mike Estes introduced the first speaker of the evening, Jeff Creim.

■ Jeff started backpacking at the age of 14 and started snow camping in the 1980s. The movie *'Nanook of The North'* inspired him to take up Snow Camping. His first igloo took seven hours to complete. He can now build one in two hours, if he has an outside helper. The tools he uses are a wide metal bladed snow shovel, a large 'snow saw' and a 5 teeth/inch blade rip saw. He usually camps at White Pass or Paradise because he can usually drive there without a lot of difficulty. Prior to camping, he ensures that there are no avalanche conditions. It is necessary that there is plenty of snow on the ground and on a flat area before building starts. He described in detail the steps that he followed while building an igloo. He stated that a tent, used for sleeping, is connected to the completed igloo. He stated that igloos must be destroyed before the snow campers leave so that other campers/hikers do not step through old igloos that have been covered with snow. Jeff also discussed the construction of snow trenches and snow caves, built into a hill side, that can be used for emergency shelters. Some camping tips that he discussed were the use of a small stove for melting snow and said that a layer of melted snow/water should be on the bottom of the container to prevent 'scorching' the snow, use of commercial hand warmers, use of 'light sticks', inside the igloo, for lighting and use of insulated booties with an extra foam sole to keep feet warm in the tent or igloo. Campers should also carry flares to be used in emergencies. Jeff answered many questions from the audience and passed out three handouts: "Survival Planning" by John Solomon, "Life Outside of Work - Making Igloos for the Journey" by Sue Chin and "Igloo Mania - How to Build an Igloo" authored by Jeff.

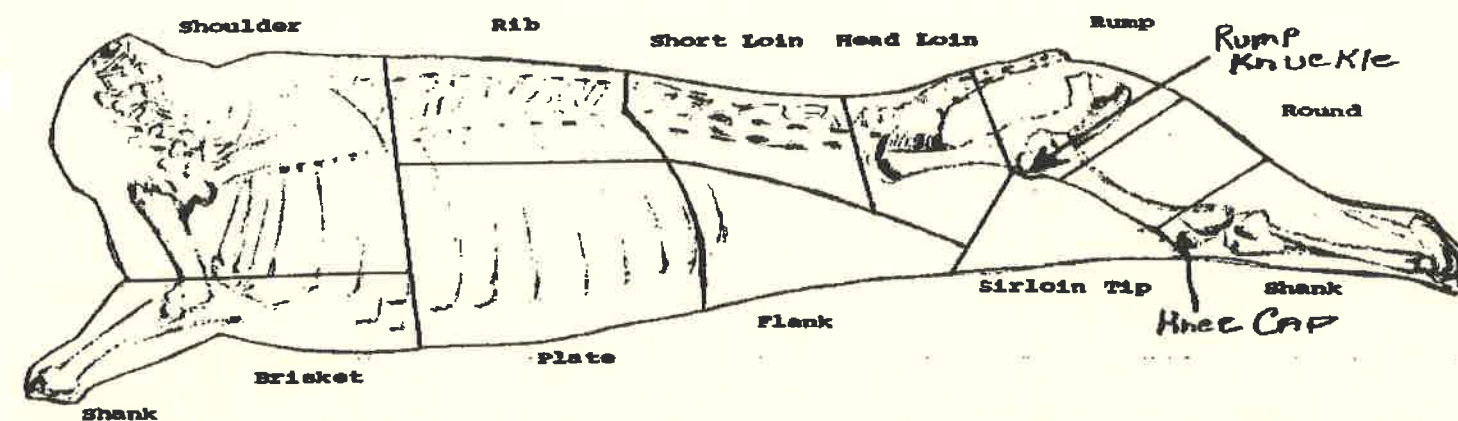
■ Steve Friar, a Club member, spoke about the Regional Veterans Memorial that will be built in Columbia Park. It will consist of four granite monoliths, the largest 40 feet in length. About \$125,000 is needed for completion of the project. Call Steve at 627-5726 or Tom McMillin at 627-1444 if you would like to contribute or for more information.

■ Lyle Gilk, a Club member and instructor of the survival and first aid portions of our Hunter Education classes, was the last speaker. Lyle reminded everyone that the change from daylight to darkness or fog is a significant change and one should be prepared for it! He stated that survival starts at home and we should all be prepared for survival in the automobile during winter driving by carrying sleeping bag(s), drinking water, vacuum sealed meals, a snow shovel and a candle(s) to be used for heat (open a window slightly for ventilation). Outdoorsmen, especially duck hunters, should carry extra clothing, a small flashlight, rope, whistle, space blanket, survival tool, wood saw, waterproof matches or butane lighter, lighter fluid and toilet tissue. Other items to carry are a compass, cell phone, portable CB radio, STERNO, candle(s), flare, GPS and strobe light. He reminded everyone to remember the word **STOP** when they are lost: - S=stop, T=think, O=observe and P=plan. There were many other suggestions from the audience and stories of close calls. Lyle and others remind us all to always wear life jackets when we are in boats. Several duck hunters, in boats, have died locally this fall - **all were not wearing a life jacket.**

HUNTER EDUCATION CLASSES: - Clare Cranston - A January, 2003 Hunter Education class (Maximum of 32 persons each) is scheduled starting January 13, 2003. There is a \$5 class fee for Hunter Education. Registration is at the Sporting Goods counter at **Grigg's Department Store** at 801 W Columbia St. in Pasco. Classes will be held at the Grigg's Store.

ATTENTION HUNTERS!!: The hunting season has started and once again the Club is looking for donations of game meat for next springs Wild Game Dinner that will be held March 29, 2003. The game meat includes waterfowl, other unique game meat such as bear or boar, upland birds and clean, boneless big game roasts. Halibut, steelhead, salmon and especially sturgeon are needed. 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 the 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 (NO GROUND MEAT PLEASE). Seal with tape and mark package as to what it contains and with your name and hunting license number. **CAUTION PLEASE!!** Read the above instructions before you prepare and package the game or fish. Do not wrap or package any of the game or fish in newspapers or paper bags. Please remove any bones from roasts, the cooks will not have time to bone the meat the day of the dinner. Do not bring any old or freezer burned game or fish! Take the properly prepared roasts and fish to Chucks Meats in Kennewick where the Club has a locker (I-40), Chuck has control of the key. If you have any questions, call Jerry Zeitler at 545-6694. If you are not able to bring the packages to Chuck's call Jerry at the above number and he will arrange to have it picked up. If you have a 'smoker' and are willing to help smoke game meat and fish please contact Jerry.

All donations and help will be greatly appreciated the night of the Wild Game Dinner. Good hunting and fishing!



LUNKER LAKE & SHOOTING RANGE INFORMATION: The RR&GC will man the Lunker Lake Fishing Pond and the Air Rifle Shooting Range for the 10th consecutive year at the *Tri-Cities Sportsmen Show* on Friday, Saturday and Sunday January 17, 18 and 19, 2003 at the TRAC facility outside Pasco. Many volunteers will be needed to man the pond in 4 and 5 hour shifts. Some members have been contacted by Dennis Spore to help at Lunker lake. If you have not been contacted and you wish to volunteer please call Dennis at 627-0589. Your duties will consist of baiting the hook for each child, removing the fish, after it is caught and placing it in a plastic bag after you have dispatched it. You will get a big kick out of working with the kids. The reactions of the children when they catch a fish are indescribable, each kid is different. The children (and many parents) are introduced to fishing at this event. Lunker Lake and the Shooting Range give us an opportunity to increase awareness of the Richland Rod and Gun Club. A group of about 6 people will be needed Thursday morning January 16, starting at 9:00AM, to set up the fishing pond. During the show a minimum of 16 volunteers per shift will be needed to man Lunker Lake. Shift times are 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM Thursday the 16th for set up of the fishing pond. Shift times for Friday the 17th are 1-5 PM and 5-9 PM. Saturday the 18th, shifts will be from 10 AM-3 PM and 3-7 PM. Sunday the 19th, shifts will be from 10AM-2PM and 2-5 PM; the last shift will stay over at 5 PM to help disassemble the pond. The Air Rifle Shooting Range will be manned again this year under the direction of Clare Cranston. Please volunteer to work at Lunker Lake. It and the shooting range are both very worthwhile projects. Volunteers will get free admission to the show on the day they are working at the pond/shooting range. Be sure to enter TRAC through the exhibitors entrance at the rear of the building. Lunker Lake volunteers should bring a towel, needle nose pliers and eye protection. Parking will be free again this year. Profits from Lunker Lake are returned to the Club and are used to send youth to the Washington State Youth Conservation camp. Don't forget, call Dennis Spore at 627-0589, if you wish to volunteer.

QUALITY TRIP DRAWING RULES: Entry tickets for the 2003 Quality Trip can be purchased at the January, February and March General Meetings 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 29, 2003. The rules are shown below and are identical to last years.

1. Only Club members with 2003 dues paid through April 1, 2004 are eligible to purchase entry tickets.
2. Tickets are \$20.00 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 29, 2003 Wild 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 2004 Big Game Dinner, assuming they are successful in harvesting their quarry.
11. The trip must be approved by the Board of Trustees 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.

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HUNTER EDUCATION YOUTH PHEASANT HUNTS: Two pheasant shoots will be held in February and March for Hunter Education student graduates. The first will be at Dave Ochoa's Mesa Flats Hunting Preserve on February 15 and the other will be on March 15 at Dave Piovesan's Limits Game Farm. Twenty students will participate at the February 15 event and ten at the March 15 event. The students will start the day at about 8:30 am at the Connell Gun Club with a round of trap. They will then proceed to the pheasant shoot. There will be three relays of students at the February 15 event and two relays at the March 15 event. The February event pheasant shoot relays be at 10:00 am, noon and 2:00 pm. There will be two relays at the March event at 10:00 am and at noon. Clare Cranston needs 4 dogs and handlers and 8 coaches at the February event and 2 to 3 dogs and handlers and 5 coaches at the March event. If you can volunteer to help at either or both events please call Clare at 547-6273 or send e-mail to shawcran@owt.com. Please help to make these two events a success and introduce youths to upland bird hunting. Pheasants for each event will be provided by Dave Ochoa and Dave Piovesan.

YOUTH DUCK DECOY PAINTING: - Jeff Rampon - Ducks Unlimited with the support of the Richland Rod & Gun Club is going to conduct a decoy painting day for youth in the Hunter Education facility at Griggs Shopping Center on Saturday March 1 from 9:00 to 1:00. It is a chance for the kids to do a little craft work with their dads or granddads and have a decoy that they painted to put on their shelf at home or in dads decoy spread next fall. I am looking for donations of plastic decoys that guys were considering getting rid of because of age and wear. I will clean up the decoys and put a base coat on them prior to the event. The day of the event the kids can finish the job. The event will cost \$3.00 per child to cover paint, brushes, etc. and will be open to both DU Greenwing members and non members. DU Greenwing memberships will be available at \$10.00 for the year. Bring any decoys that you wish to donate to the February 4 General Meeting or call Jeff Rampon at 628-2820 and I will come and collect them. I'm hoping this will be the first of several youth activities this spring. DU will also be organizing a youth trap shoot at the Connell Gun Club and bird watching with the Audubon Society.

CLUB PHOTO CONTEST: There were three entries in January, all from Jeff Gardner. The winning photo was of Jeff, his duck boat, scully, and geese and ducks that he harvested in January. Jeff won five free tickets to the February General meeting raffle. The winning photos can be viewed at the Club's web site at: <http://www.members.tripod.com/rrgclub>.

DUCK BAND INFORMATION REQUESTED: Attention all duck hunters! If you harvest or have harvested a duck or goose with a leg band or collar, notify Eddie Manthos at 586-6009 or emanthos@aol.com with the following information: species, sex, where and when harvested, your name (or name of the person who harvested the bird) and, when you receive the information, where and when the bird was banded. The information will be collected and reported later in this newsletter.



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February 2003

Volume 58, No. 02

Club Web Site - <http://www.members.tripod.com/rrgclub/>

2003 Officers

Mike Estes, President (582-2212)

Russ Wyer, Vice President (627-4308)

Lyle Gilk, Treasurer (627-3441)

Eddie Manthos, Secretary (586-6009)

Jack Pickard, Membership Information (582-5397)

MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING - Tuesday, February 4, 2003, 7:00 P.M. - City of Richland Maintenance Facility

BOARD MEETING - Tuesday, February 18, 2003, 7:00 P.M. - City of Richland Maintenance Facility

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - February 19, 2003, CALL EDDIE AT 586-6009 or emanthos@aol.com.

11th ANNUAL COLUMBIA BASIN "FRIENDS OF NRA BANQUET and BENEFIT AUCTION Friday, March 7, 2003

Red Lion Hotel, Columbia Center, Social Hour 5:30 p.m. - Dinner at 7:00 p.m. - Auction to Follow Call 509-946-4210

RR&GC WILD/BIG GAME DINNER Saturday March 29, 2003 AT RICHLAND KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HALL

FEBRUARY 2003 GENERAL MEETING

- There will be two speakers at the February General Meeting. Jerry Bloom will give a slide presentation on a guided hunt that he and Arlen Schade took in late November in northeast Missouri for Whitetail deer. Arlen was the winner of the Club's Quality Trip and made arrangement with a Northeast Missouri Outfitter to guide them on a tree stand hunting experience. Dave Hetzer will give the second presentation, including a video, of his successful guided hunt for a cougar (almost trophy size) and bobcat near Priest Lake, Idaho this past December. Selkirk Outfitters donated the bobcat trip to the Club and Dave won the trip at the Club's Wild Game Dinner. The meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 4, 2003 at the City of Richland Maintenance Facility.
- Tickets to the Wild Game Dinner and the Quality Trip will be available at the meeting. **As of January 25, only 22 Wild Game Dinners tickets have not been sold. Call Dale Schielke at 375-0183 to purchase tickets now. If all tickets are gone, Dale will take your name and contact you if any tickets are returned.**
- Many Club memberships will expire on April 1, 2003. Update your membership at the meeting. Annual dues are \$15 for an individual and \$20 for a family membership, three year memberships are \$40 (individual) and \$50 (family).
- RR&GC/Remington year 2003 calendars are still available and can be purchased at a discount at the Meeting.
- **Bring a prospective new member as a guest to the meeting and receive five free raffle tickets! More details at the meeting.**

JANUARY GENERAL MEETING REPORT:

- President Mike Estes opened the meeting and asked visitors to stand up and introduce themselves.
- Mike announced that a handout containing Board members and volunteers names and phone numbers was available on the table at the back of the room. He also passed around a listing of Club Committees and requested that members sign up for Committees that they would like to serve on.
- Dennis Spore gave an update on the Lunker Lake volunteers. He went over the duties of the volunteers and equipment they should bring with them. He said that there would be an ice chest at Lunker Lake that will be used to store fish that the fisher person's parents do not wish to retain. The fish would then be distributed to people or charities that would utilize the fish.

● Lyle Gilk announced that tickets for the Wild Game Dinner and the Quality Trip were available at the back table and could be purchased from Dale Schielke and Lyle.

● Gerry Zeitler reported on the status of the Wild Game Dinner meat and fish donations. He said that there were no donations of duck and goose meat and only 6 pounds of halibut had been donated. Gerry passed around a sign up sheet for volunteers to work in the kitchen for all areas of preparation the day of the dinner.

● Jack Oppelt announced that he brought smoked steelhead snacks that were on the back table.

● Larry Martin described the raffle prizes that would be drawn at the end of the meeting.

● Howard Gardner announced that there would be a meeting at his home on January 14 to discuss the WDFW proposed hunting season alternatives for 2003-05 hunting season and draft the Club's input to the alternatives.

● Mike Estes introduced the speaker of the evening, Kyle Winton, to a packed room. Kyle drove for 5 hours from Olympia to get to the meeting and then after the meeting he drove back to Olympia. He gave a very good presentation in spite of all the driving. Kyle is the President of the Eyes in the Woods Association and is associated with the Washington State Archery Association, Citizens for Washington Wildlife and the Inland Northwest Wildlife Council. He spoke about the Eyes In The Woods Association, Go Play Outside and the Washington Wildlife Coalition which is an affiliate branch of The Washington Wildlife Federation. Both the Eyes in the Woods and Go Play Outside are partnering with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW).

■ Purpose of the Eyes in the Woods Association is: "to assist the appropriate State or Province Agency, which governs their Fish and Wildlife, with the coordination of volunteer efforts, and to cooperate with other organizations in the policy of conservation, protection, and the perpetuation of our natural resources". Presently the Association is offering training classes in Enforcement Witness Training and Biological Project Training. Twenty eight Club members signed up for training at the meeting. Enforcement Witness Training teaches volunteers to learn how to spot and report resource violations and abuses correctly. The 'Crime Observation and Reporting' portion of the class is given by a WDFW Enforcement Officer and is recommended for anyone anticipating membership in the Association.

Biological Project Training offers volunteers the opportunity to participate in biological projects and studies and requires attending specific trainings conducted by WDFW professionals. More information about the Association can be obtained on the internet at <http://www.eyesinthewoods.org>.

■ Purpose of the Washington Wildlife Coalition is "to unite non-profit outdoor recreation and conservation organizations to design and implement an outreach and education initiative "Go Play Outside" (GPO) directed at youth, women and aspiring outdoor recreational enthusiasts. Increase ethical and responsible outdoor recreation and opportunities. Promoting outdoor skills, the proper management of fish, wildlife habitat and the conservation mindset". More information about the Washington Wildlife Coalition is available at http://www.washingtonwildlife.org/washington_wildlife_coalition.htm. (At the January 21, 2003 RR&GC Board of Directors meeting, the directors voted unanimously to join the Washington Wildlife Coalition.)

■ Raffle winners were: John Pfeiffer who won a binocular, Mac McDonnell - pellet pistol and Harry Humphreys - boot rack (donated by Rocky Ross).

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS: Bob Gough, Harry L Humphreys, Vincent Guerrero and Roger Lahti from Kennewick and Peter Leonard and Don McMaster from Pasco.

FEBRUARY 3, 2003-05 HUNTING PROPOSALS MEETING AT COLUMBIA BASIN COLLEGE: The WDFW will hold a public meeting Monday, February 3 at Columbia Basin College (Student Services Building) - Gjerde Center at 2600 North 20th Ave in Pasco from 7 to 9 p.m. Purpose of the meeting is to receive public input on the proposed hunting season alternatives for the 2003-05 hunting season. Copies of the alternatives can be obtained from WDFW offices and are posted of the Department's website on the Internet at http://www.wa.gov/wdfw/wlm/surveys/2003-2005_alt.htm. Public comments can be submitted in writing at scheduled public meetings or via the Internet. All comments must be received by Feb. 10 to be considered by WDFW staff in developing final recommendations. You should at least read the proposal and if you feel strongly about some of the changes, you should send in your comments or attend the public meeting. This is your chance to make your desires known to the WDFW. If you don't comment, don't complain if changes are made that you don't like!

HUNTER EDUCATION CLASSES: - Clare Cranston - Hunter Education classes (Maximum of 32 persons each) are scheduled starting February 24 and April 7, 2003. There is a \$5 class fee for Hunter Education. Registration is at the Sporting Goods counter at **Grigg's Shopping Center** at 801 W Columbia St. in Pasco. Classes will be held at the Grigg's Store.

ATTENTION HUNTERS!: We are still looking for donations of game meat for the Big Game Dinner that will be held March 29, 2003, especially **duck or goose breasts**, upland bird breasts and boneless elk roasts. Other game meat, salmon and halibut can also be used (**NO GROUND MEAT PLEASE**). Instructions for preparing and wrapping your donation were shown in the December and January monthly Bulletins. Take the game meat/fish to Chucks Meats in Kennewick where the Club has a locker (I-40). Chuck has control of the key. Make sure that your packages are marked as to what they contain and with your name and hunting license number. If you have any questions or can't get the meat to Chuck's, call Gerry Zeitler

at 545-6694. All donations will be greatly appreciated the night of the Wild/Big Game Dinner.

● See '**February 2003 General Meeting**,' above, about **important ticket sale information!**

● Speaker at the Dinner will be John Clement who will present one of his spectacular multimedia slide shows. John presented a well received show at the 1996 Wild Game Dinner.

● Big Game Dinner Chairman Gerry Zeitler is in need of volunteers for all areas of preparation for the dinner. Please contact Gerry at 545-6694 and offer your services, he needs people for all day March 29 starting at 8:00AM. Tasks will include preparation of potatoes, Hors D'oeuvres, salmon, table arrangements etc. 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 up to an 8 people party for the dinner by obtaining a place card(s) from Jerry or his delegate. That is the only way that seats at the tables can be reserved. You must show up, sign up and check with the Dinner Chairman for confirmation. Ice chests & counter top electric ovens (roasters) are needed for storage of food and ice and to keep food warm. Please bring them in the morning and tag them with your name and be sure to pick them up after the dinner.

● If you are going to the dinner, please pay for your 2003 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 2004 (4-1-04). Your membership expiration date is shown on the Bulletin mailing label.

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11. The trip must be approved by the Board of Trustees 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.

LUNKER LAKE & SHOOTING RANGE INFORMATION: Dennis Spore and Clare Cranston thank all the Luncker Lake and Pellet Rifle Range volunteers for their help at the *Tri-Cities Sportsmen Show*. Proceeds this year from Luncker lake are \$1487.10. Last year was \$1023.61. We did about \$400.00 better than last year. There were many children, young and old, that were introduced to fishing and target shooting. All of us that worked with the kids at the two events went home with a good, warm, satisfied feeling.

WOOD DUCK NESTING BOX INSPECTIONS/MODIFICATIONS: Existing tree mounted duck nesting boxes will be removed and mounted on posts with squirrel guards after each box is inspected. At least ten trips will be required to complete the modifications. Dale Schielke will have a sign up sheet at the February General meeting for volunteers to sign up and indicate which dates (usually a Saturday) they can help. If you wish to volunteer and can't attend, call Dale at 375-0183.

GPS MAPPING OF GUZZLERS: Larry Martin asks that guzzlers within a 50 miles radius of Tri-Cities be *mapped* with a GPS, their condition assessed and the information forwarded to Larry so that a guzzler database can be compiled. Call Larry at 545-9647 to report the information.

AUDUBON SOCIETY YOUTH EDUCATION PROGRAM: The local Audubon Society is in need of some bird mounts and mount repairs for their youth education program. If you have an old mount that you have been considering parting with or know of someone who has one, or some one who is willing to donate some time repairing mounts, give Jeff Rampon at 628-2820, or Nancy Laframboise with Audubon at 627-3695 a call.

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for the trip, ticket sales have been slow. The drawing for the quality trip will be held at the Big Game Dinner on March 29, 2003. The rules were shown in the January and February Newsletters and are also on the Club's Web Site.

HUNTER EDUCATION YOUTH PHEASANT HUNT: A pheasant shoot will be held March 15 for ten Hunter Education student graduates at Dave Piovesan's Limits Game Farm.. The students will start the day at about 8:30 AM at the Connell Gun Club with a round of trap. They will then proceed to the pheasant shoot. There will be two relays of students the first at 10:00 AM and the other at noon. Clare Cranston needs 2 to 3 dogs and handlers and 4 coaches at the pheasant shoot. At least 2-3 shooters will also be needed to harvest any birds the students miss. The harvested birds will be cleaned and utilized at the Club's Wild Game Dinner. If you can volunteer to help please call Clare at 547-6273 or send e-mail to shawcran@owt.com. Please help to make this event a success and introduce youths to upland bird hunting. The twenty pheasants for the event will be provided by Dave Piovesan.

YOUTH DUCK DECOY PAINTING: - Jeff Rampon - Ducks Unlimited with the support of the Richland Rod & Gun Club is going to conduct a decoy painting day for youth in the Hunter Education facility at Griggs Shopping Center on Saturday March 1 from 9:00 to 1:00. It is a chance for the kids to do a little craft work with their dads or granddads and have a decoy that they painted to put on their shelf at home or in dads decoy spread next fall.. The event will cost \$3.00 per child to cover paint, brushes, etc. and will be open to both DU Greenwing members and non members. DU Greenwing memberships will be available at \$10.00 for the year. I'm hoping this will be the first of several youth activities this spring. DU will also be organizing a youth trap shoot at the Connell Gun Club and bird watching with the Audubon Society. *If you are willing to help Jeff, the day of the event, show up at the Hunter Education Facility before 9:00 AM. I'm sure he can use all the help he can get.*

CLUB PHOTO CONTEST: There were five entries in February. The winning photo was by Gaylord Pyle. Gaylord will win five free tickets to the March General Meeting raffle. The winning photo and the other entries can be viewed at the Club's web site at:<http://www.members.tripod.com/rrgclub>.



RICHLAND ROD & GUN CLUB

(INCORPORATED)

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March 2003

Volume 58, No. 03

Club Web Site - <http://www.members.tripod.com/rrgclub/>

2003 Officers

Mike Estes, President (582-2212)

Russ Wyer, Vice President (627-4308)

Lyle Gilk, Treasurer (627-3441)

Eddie Manthos, Secretary (586-6009)

Jack Pickard, Membership Information (582-5397)

MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

MARCH GENERAL MEETING - Tuesday, March 4, 2003, 7:00 PM - City of Richland Maintenance Facility

BOARD MEETING - Tuesday, March 18, 2003, 7:00 PM - City of Richland Maintenance Facility

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - March 19, 2003, CALL EDDIE AT 586-6009 or emanthos@aol.com.

11th ANNUAL COLUMBIA BASIN "FRIENDS OF NRA BANQUET and BENEFIT AUCTION Friday, March 7, 2003

Red Lion Hotel, Columbia Center, Social Hour 5:30 PM - Dinner at 7:00 PM - Auction to Follow Call 509-946-4210

RR&GC WILD/BIG GAME DINNER Saturday March 29, 2003 AT RICHLAND KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HALL

No Host Cocktails - 6:00 PM • Dinner - 7:00 PM

MARCH 2003 GENERAL MEETING

Members of the Columbia Basin National Wild Turkey Federation will conduct a turkey hunting seminar at the March meeting. Don Moody will lead the presentation which will cover camouflage, scouting, setups, locations, calling and hunting techniques for both spring and fall turkey hunting. Other members of the team include Ryan Kilbury, Marv Bultena and Ryan Ollero who have experience hunting turkeys in Washington, Idaho and Oregon. Ryan Kilbury completed the Washington Slam in 2000 and has competed in turkey calling competitions. Marv Bultena has over 20 turkey hunting experiences in Washington and Oregon. Together they have over 45 years experience hunting turkeys in the Northwest and Kansas.

The program will be at 7:00 PM. on Tuesday, March 4, 2003 at the City of Richland Maintenance Facility.

• Tickets for the Quality Trip will be available at the meeting, purchase yours early to beat the long line at the Wild Game Dinner. **As of February 18, all the Wild Game Dinner tickets were sold. Call Dale Schielke at 375-0183 if you hope to buy a ticket(s) and Dale will take your name and contact you if any tickets are returned.**

• Many Club memberships will expire on April 1, 2003. Update your membership at the meeting. Annual dues are \$15 for an individual and \$20 for a family membership, three year memberships are \$40 (individual) and \$50 (family).

• Bring a prospective new member as a guest to the meeting and receive five free raffle tickets! More details at the meeting.

FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING REPORT:

• The meeting room was overflowing with some people standing in the hallway.

• President Mike Estes opened the meeting and asked the many visitors to stand up and introduce themselves.

• There were at least a dozen announcements.

• Russ Wyer introduced the first speaker of the evening Jerry Bloom, partner of Quality Trip winner Arlen Schade. Arlen has moved to Tennessee and was not able to come and give the presentation. Arlen and Jerry participated in a guided five day trophy Whitetail deer hunt close to Hannibal, Missouri. Unfortunately they were only able to harvest a whitetail doe.

whose meat will be used at the Wild Game Dinner.

● The second speaker was Dave Hetzer who won a guided cougar hunt in Idaho at the 2002 Wild Game Dinner raffle donated by Bruce Duncan of the Selkirk Outfitters. David decided to also pay for a guided cougar hunt with Bruce. He was successful and bagged both a cougar and bobcat in December of 2002.

■ Raffle winners were: Larry Martin who won a float tube, Wade Warrant - pellet air rifle, Mack McDonnell - 2 jars of *Exude Erupt* trout bait, Leo Pfeifer and Mrs. Bloom each won a bottle of *Liquid Krill* fish attractant and a bottle of *Exude Erupt* trout bait and Rick McFall won a bag of egg trout bait.

USE OF FUNDS COMMITTEE: The committee, consisting of Howard Gardner Larry Martin and Mike Estes met in January and came up with the following recommendations that were approved by the Board of Directors at their February 18 meeting.

<u>Item/Organization</u>	<u>Contributions(\$)</u>	
	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
Year		
Fitzner Memorial Scholarship (Annual award to a student in wildlife biology/studies)	500	500
NRA Institute For Legislative Action (Fights the 2 nd Amendment battles)	200	200
NRA Foundation (Promotes firearm safety and shooting sports)	0	100
National Shooting Sports Foundation (Has programs attempting to enlist new hunters)	200	200
Columbia Dive Rescue (Rescue and body recovery)	250	300
U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance (Provides lobbying and grassroots support to protect sportsmen's rights)	250	250
U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance Foundation (Conducts education, legal defense and research to protect sportsmen's rights)	250	250
Upland Wildlife Restoration Program (Supports local habitat development)	250	250
Delta Waterfowl (Works for a sustainable North American waterfowl population)	100	100
Youth Conservation Camp(12 total)-{nominally eight from Club and four from Hunter Ed. @ \$200 per camper}	2220	2400
Hunters Heritage Council (Promotion and political defense of hunting in Washington State)	200	250
USA Olympic Shooting Team (Donations are only source of funding)	100	100
McNary Environmental Education Center (MEECE) (Local environmental education facility)	100	100
Citizens for Responsible Wildlife Management (Funding lawsuit to overturn anti-trapping initiative, I-713)	100	100
Washington Wildlife Coalition(membership) (Promotes "Go Play Outside", a hunting, fishing and conservation initiative)	0	250
Travel expenses (Limited funding of expenses incurred from attendance at out-of-area meetings)	0	250
Total Cost	4720	
Total Allocation		5600

RICHARD FITZNER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP:-Howard Gardner- This year the scholarship was awarded to Keith Garner a 3.67GPA undergraduate student in General Biology at Eastern Washington University. He plans on pursuing a Masters degree in Fisheries. The scholarship award is \$500.00 and was started in 1992 in memory of Richard Fitzner, a well respected biologist and Club member who died in a tragic plane crash. The awards go to students in a wildlife related field and is the ninth award we have made.

WANTED: Thompson Center muzzle loading rifle, "Mountain Magnum Side Hammer", .50 caliber. Call Keith Brady at 967-5122.

BLACK POWDER SHOOTERS!: Jim Shearer. Contact Jim Shearer at 585-3582 or at goofusbug2@earthlink.net if you are interested in learning more about black powder shooting and participating in black powder shooting and enjoyment

HUNTER EDUCATION STUDENTS PHEASANT HUNT: A pheasant shoot for Hunter Education student graduates was held at Dave Ochoa's Mesa Flats Hunting preserve on Saturday February 11. A total of eleven students participated. The day started off with the students shooting trap at the Connell Gun Club. They then moved to the Mesa Flats Hunting Preserve

where they shot in 3 separate groups in a picked corn field bordered by cover on two sides. At least two pheasants each, provided by Dave Ochoa, were released for the hunters just prior to each hunt. Hunting dogs were provided by Ron Calmus, Dennis Larson, Tom Anderson and Bob Margulie. A total of 6 birds was harvested by the students. Hugh McEachen, Mr. Nacho and son and the president of the Ringold Pheasants Forever chapter gathered and planted the pheasants. Barey McEachen cooked hamburgers and cheeseburgers for the students, their parents and all the helpers that assisted at the Connell Gun Club and at Mesa Flats. Clare Cranston planned and organized the hunt. Lyle Gilk, Don Board, Ned Hutchins, Eddie Manthos and Dusty and Andrew Powers coached the students while they were hunting. The Ringold Chapter of Pheasants Forever purchased the hamburgers, potato chips, soda pop and condiments provided to the students and others. The hunt was a success, some of the students harvested their first game bird and it was obvious by the smiles on their faces (and their parents) who were the successful hunters. Dave Ochoa informed Clare that he is planning to host another student hunt next year.

CONGRATULATIONS MACK! - Club member Mack McDonnell was recently honored by the Red Cross for donating 56 gallons of blood and platelets over his lifetime. Mack, according to the Red Cross, in a *Tri-City Herald* article, donated blood 500 times and saved hundreds of lives. Congratulations Mack, you are indeed someone that we can look up to and be proud of. Thank you!

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS: Karen Montgomery & Family from W. Richland, Sean Carr, Bob Kolowith and Buddy Davis & Family from Kennewick, Alvin Eidson and Charles Mourar from Richland and David Neff from Pasco.

HUNTER EDUCATION CLASSES: - Clare Cranston - A Hunter Education class (Maximum of 32 persons each) is scheduled starting April 7, 2003. There is a \$5 class fee for Hunter Education. Registration is at the Sporting Goods counter at **Grigg's Shopping Center** at 801 W Columbia St. in Pasco. Classes will be held at the Grigg's Store.

ROD BUILDING CLASS: John Pfeiffer will conduct a fishing rod building class Thursdays March 27 thru April 17. Call John at 627-5429 to enroll. Classes will be at the Richland Fire House Training Room, 100 George Washington Way.

ATTENTION HUNTERS!!: We are still looking for donations of game meat for the Big Game Dinner that will be held March 29, 2003, especially boneless elk or moose roasts. Take the game meat to Chucks Meats in Kennewick where the Club has a locker (I-40). Chuck has control of the key. Make sure that your packages are marked as to what they contain and with your name and hunting license number. If you have any questions or can't get the meat to Chuck's, call Gerry Zeitler at 545-6694. All donations will be greatly appreciated the night of the Wild/Big Game Dinner.

- See 'March 2003 General Meeting,' above, about **important ticket sale information!**
- Speaker at the Dinner will be John Clement who will present one of his spectacular multimedia slide shows titled "Images Of The Northwest." John presented a well received show at the 1996 Wild Game Dinner.
- Big Game Dinner Chairman Gerry Zeitler is in need of volunteers for all areas of preparation for the dinner. Please contact Gerry at 545-6694 and offer your services, he needs people for all day March 29 starting at 8:00AM. Tasks will include preparation of potatoes, Hors D'oeuvres, salmon, table arrangements etc. 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 up to an 8 people party for the dinner by obtaining a place card(s) from Jerry or his delegate. That is the only way that seats at the tables can be reserved. You must show up, sign up and check with the Dinner Chairman for confirmation. Ice chests & counter top electric ovens (roasters) are needed for storage of food and ice and to keep food warm. Please bring them in the morning and tag them with your name and be sure to pick them up after the dinner.
- If you are going to the dinner, please pay for your 2003 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 2004 (4-1-04). Your membership expiration date is shown on the Bulletin mailing label.

PHEASANT HABITAT PLANTINGS: There were two habitat plantings organized by the local chapter of Pheasants Forever on February 8 and February 15. One was above Big Flat HMU off the Kahlotus Highway and the second was at the juncture of Alder & Sagemoor roads. Juniper plants and sage plugs were planted at both sites. Club members Tim Clemons, Bob Kolowith, Jim Shearer, Wade Warrant and Gene VanLiew participated at the first planting; Jim Shearer and Tim Clemons participated at the second event.

QUALITY TRIP DRAWING RULES: Entry tickets for the 2003 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. This may be a good year to sign up

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participated. This year 1,200 rods and reels will be available at the event. Additionally two Angler Education classes will be taught before the event, one at the Hunter Education Facility and the second at the Sportsman's Warehouse.

EYES IN THE WOODS TRAINING: Anyone interested in attending a second Eyes In The Woods training class, Crime Observation & Reporting Training, call Jim Shearer (the Eyes In The Woods coordinator) at 585-3582 or e-mail him at goofusb2@earthlink.net. The class lasts about two hours and will be held about 45 days following notification of the students. The first class took place on February 19, 2003. Thirty two students attended that class. WDFW Enforcement Officers Doug Flohr and Brian Fulton taught that class. Kyle Winton president of the Eyes In The Woods Association was also there.

CLUB PHOTO CONTEST: There were two entries in March. The winning photo was taken by Tim Clemons and shows a nice harvest of pheasants and other birds during a late season hunt in Benton City. Tim will win five free tickets to the April General Meeting raffle. The winning photo and the other entry can be viewed at the Club's web site at: <http://www.members.tripod.com/rrgclub>.

HUNTING/FISHING LICENSE REMINDER: Don't forget your hunting and fishing licenses expire March 31. You need to purchase a new license(s) if you hunt or fish after March 31. You also need to mail your 2002 Sport Fishing Card by April 30, even if nothing was caught, to: WDFW CRC Unit, 600 Capitol Way North, Olympia, WA 98501-1091.

RR&GC WILD GAME DINNER: Don't forget! the Club's Wild Game Dinner is Saturday March 29 at the K of C Hall in Richland. Hors d'oeuvres and No Host Cocktails at 6:00 PM and Dinner at 7:00 PM. Also this will be the your last chance to purchase ticket(s) for the Quality Trip drawing.



RICHLAND ROD & GUN CLUB

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April 2003

Volume 58, No. 04

Club Web Site - <http://www.members.tripod.com/rrgclub/>

2003 Officers

Mike Estes, President (582-2212)

Russ Wyer, Vice President (627-4308)

Lyle Gilk, Treasurer (627-3441)

Eddie Manthos, Secretary (586-6009)

Jack Pickard, Membership Information (582-5397)

MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

APRIL GENERAL MEETING - Tuesday, April 1, 2003, 7:00 PM - City of Richland Maintenance Facility

BOARD MEETING - Tuesday, April 15, 2003, 7:00 PM - City of Richland Maintenance Facility

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - April 23, 2003, CALL EDDIE AT 586-6009 or emanthos@aol.com.

FISHING KIDS EVENT - Saturday, May 3, 2003 - Family Fishing Pond, Columbia Park, Kennewick

APRIL 2003 GENERAL MEETING

The April General meeting will take place at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 1, 2003 at the City of Richland Maintenance Facility. The speaker will be Paul Hoffarth, District 4 fish biologist for the WDFW. He will give a presentation on fishing opportunities in the Tri-Cities area, current WDFW regulations and where to obtain fishing information on the Internet. Specific topics to be covered are 2003 State catchable trout plants, status of the Railroad Pond, current regulations, sportfishing for smallmouth bass in the lower Yakima River, the Ringold steelhead fishery, and a 2003 pre-season salmon forecast. Paul is responsible for managing anadromous and resident species in the Tri-Cities area including the Hanford Reach and lower Yakima River.

Bring a prospective new member as a guest to the meeting and receive five free raffle tickets! More details at the meeting

MARCH GENERAL MEETING REPORT:

- President Mike Estes opened the meeting to a room filled with over 50 attendees and asked the many visitors to stand up and introduce themselves.
- Mike thanked all the volunteers that participated in the February 15 Hunter Education Students pheasant shoot at the Mesa Flats Game Preserve and at the March 1 youth decoy painting day at the Hunter Education Facility. He thanked Clare Cranston for organizing the pheasant shoot and making the hunter Education Facility available on February 20 for a meeting with Jeff Bernatowitz, game biologist from WDFW Region 3, who requested a meeting with interested RRGc members to discuss potential changes to big game hunting opportunities in Benton, Yakima, and Kittitas counties.
- Jeff Rampon who organized the youth decoy painting day announced that 12 youth participated in the decoy painting and he passed around 3 decoys painted by the youth and photographs taken at the decoy painting. He thanked Clare Cranston for use of the facility and Griggs for the donated decoy paints that the youth used. He also announced that a 'Bird Watching Day' for youth is scheduled for April 19 at the McNary Wildlife Refuge (more information later in this newsletter).
- Announcements were also made by Eldon Ladd, Jim Shearer, Gaylord Pyle, Al Garrett, Dale Schielke, Larry Martin and Jerry Zeitler.
- Russ Wyer introduced the of the evening's speakers: Don Moody, Ryan Kilbury, Marv Bultena and Ryan Ollero. They sat together at the front of the meeting room and functioned as a panel. The four have a total of 45 years turkey hunting experience and are all on the Executive Committee of the Columbia Basin National Wild Turkey Foundation. Marv stated

that 20 years ago there were 20 turkey hunters in Washington State and that in 2001 there were 3500 hunters. Twenty years ago there were 1.3 million birds in the U.S.A. and about 5.6 million in 2001. The numbers of turkey hunters in the U.S.A. during the same time period doubled. Keys to successful turkey hunting are **Knowledge** (knowing where and when to hunt), **Develop Skills** (scouting, calling etc.) and **Attitude** (positive attitude-towards being successful, not quitting after a couple of hours but continuing to hunt until you are successful). Gear was also discussed by the panel and the audience. Comfortable, camouflage, warm, water repellent clothing, face mask and footwear are very important. Tick repellent especially in the spring is a necessity, fortunately the turkeys sense of smell is not very good. Gun camouflage, ratchet pruners, back pack, turkey vest (a large multi pocketed vest), fanny pack and some sort of stable seating arrangement are all important and are necessities. Calls were discussed and the best or favorite call depended on the panel members biases. It was agreed that more than one type of call should be carried. Turkey decoys were also discussed, first choice was a jake decoy and second choice was a hen; decoy make did not seem to be important. Some panel members had good experiences with decoys and others not so good. Most of the panel members used 12 gauge, 3 1/2" #5 shot shells. Favorite brand of shell seemed to be 'Winchester Supreme'. The panel suggested that an extra-full choked barrel should be used. They also said that it was very important that the gun be patterned to ensure that the choke being used was casting a good pattern. Copper plated lead shot was also suggested as a good choice. A coyote call was suggested as a locator call but it was agreed that any shock call would work. It was very obvious that each of the four panel members did not hunt exactly the same and it was also obvious that all four were very dedicated turkey hunters. They stated that Idaho, Oregon and Washington are all good for turkey hunting. If you are interested in hunting in any of the three states, they suggested that you get on the internet and log on to the state's hunting/fishing web site and use it as a starting point to learn about turkey hunting in that state.

■ Raffle winners were: Bill Lambert who won a 'Garmin' GPS unit, Bob Henke won a Washington State Gazeteer and also two jars of 'ERUPT' trout bait and Paul Kison and John Hall each won a jar of liquid 'KRILL' and a jar of 'EXUDE' trout bait.

HUNTER EDUCATION CLASS:-Howard Gardner, Chief Instructor. The class started on Feb.24 and finished on March 10 after five three hour sessions. It included a Range Day at the Silhouette Club's facility with live firing of 22's, large bore rifle, 38 handgun, muzzle loading shotgun, modern shotgun, archery and a field course. A total of 32 students ranging in age from 9 to 48 were enrolled to start. Twenty eight passed, three failed and there was one incomplete. Other instructors assisting in the class were Clare Cranston, Don Board, Don Hartshorn, Ned Hutchins, Max Jones, Al Kruger, Steve Roblyer and Jerry Zeitler. In addition, Doug Flohr came to one class session and discussed his job and perspectives as a Wildlife Agent plus answering many questions. These gentlemen are to be commended for giving freely of their time to assist in this class. Many thanks.

HUNTER EDUCATION STUDENTS PHEASANT HUNT: A successful hunt was held for eleven Hunter Education student graduates at the Limits Game Farm located near Mesa (see www.limitsgamefarm.com for information about the Game Farm) on a drizzly Saturday, March 15. The day started off with two separate groups of students shooting a round of trap, or more, at the Connell Gun Club. They then moved to the Limits Game Farm where they shot, in hunting groups of two or three, on one of two hunt sites. Immediately prior to the 'shoot', pheasants were released by Dave Piovesan and Lee Magouirk at the hunting sites. Dave Piovesan, owner of the Limits Game Farm, provided the pheasants. Each of the eleven students, whether they harvested a bird or not, took a cleaned pheasant home with them. Dave Piovesan gave a pheasant cleaning demonstration to each of the two groups of students. The students then proceeded to clean and filet the pheasant breasts and thighs of all the pheasants that their group harvested. The Club received the breasts and thighs from the remaining pheasants, a dozen pheasants or more, which will be utilized at the Wild Game Dinner. The kids did an exceptional job cleaning and fileting the birds, apparently they had a good teacher. Lunch, consisting of hamburgers, cheeseburgers, German Sausage hot dogs, potato chips and soft drinks was served to all the students and adults. The food was donated by the 'Ringold Chapter of Pheasants Forever' and skillfully prepared and served by Barry McEachen and Mr. Nacho. Hunting dogs were provided by Jeff Rampon, Sean Carr, Craig Johnson, Dennis Larson and Bob Margulies. Coaches were Don Board, Andrew Powers, Dusty Powers, Mike O'Neill, Ned Hutchins, Lyle Gilk and Eddie Manthos. Clare Cranston organized the event; Ken Burgard, Steven Roblyer and Clare worked at the Connell Gun Club. Dave again went all out for the event. He donated the pheasants, taught the students how to clean pheasants and provided the facility where we ate lunch, cleaned the birds and stayed warm and dry. Dave's wife, Pam, helped him and cleaned and packaged the pheasant meat that will be used at the Club's Wild Game Dinner. Dave again showed how serious he is about the importance of getting youth involved with hunting and fishing.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS: Joe DeRousie from Benton City

ATTENTION MERCURY OB OWNERS: Six gallon Mercury outboard gas tank, free to first caller. Call Tim at 547-6626.

2002-2003 DUCK BAND RESULTS:

Name	Where Harvested	Date	Information
Jeff Gardner	Pasco	10/26/02	Male Mallard hatched 2001 or earlier banded 8/25/01 near Seven Persons, AB
Ralph Broz	Paterson	11/06/02	Male Mallard hatched 2001 or earlier banded 8/1/02 4E High River, AB
Jeff Gardner	Burbank	11/16/02	Male Mallard hatched 1999 or earlier banded 8/5/00 9W 2N Cambrose, AB
Jeff Gardner	Burbank	11/16/02	Male Mallard hatched 2000 or earlier banded 7/31/01 4E High River, AB
Jeff Gardner	Burbank	11/16/02	Female Mallard hatched 2000 or earlier banded 8/9/01 near Seven Persons, AB
Molly Manthos (Golden Retriever)	Columbia River/Wallula. Retrieved cripple shot by unknown hunter.	12/15/02	Male Mallard hatched in 2001 or earlier banded on 7/23/02 at 4E High River AB.
Sean Carr	Lowden, WA	12/15/02	Male Mallard hatched 1990 or earlier banded 08/24/91 at 3E 1N Tofield, AB
Mike Estes	Yakima River	12/24/02	Male Mallard hatched 2000 or earlier banded 8/13/01 north of Scandia, AB
Sean Carr	Wallula	1/11/03	Male Mallard hatched 2001 or earlier banded 7/31/02 at 7E Mirror, AB
Walter Chuck	McNary WRF	1/11/03	Male Mallard Banded in 1998 or earlier on the High River, AB.

HUNTER EDUCATION CLASSES: - Clare Cranston - A Hunter Education class (Maximum of 32 persons each) is scheduled starting April 7, 2003. There is a \$5 class fee for Hunter Education. Registration is at the Sporting Goods counter at **Grigg's Shopping Center** at 801 W Columbia St. in Pasco. Classes will be held at the Grigg's Store.

ROD BUILDING CLASS: John Pfeiffer will conduct a fishing rod building class Thursdays March 27 thru April 17. Call John at 627-5429 to enroll. Classes will be at the Richland Fire House Training Room, 100 George Washington Way.

YOUTH BIRD WATCHING MORNING AT McNARY NWR: - Tri-Cities Ducks Unlimited in conjunction with the local Audubon Society and McNary National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) will be sponsoring a Youth Bird Watching Morning at McNary NWR in Burbank on Saturday, April 19. The event will begin at the NWR headquarters parking lot at 8:00 am. Children and adults are welcome. Come spend the morning watching waterfowl, shore birds and other species that make wetland habitat their home. Learn about the wetlands and its importance to all types of wildlife. Participants should dress in long pants and shirts. Bring binoculars and or spotting scopes. Mosquito repellent is also a good idea. This will be a rain or shine event. For more information contact Rich Doyle at 967-5075 or Jeff Rampon at 628-2820.

WOOD DUCK NESTING BOXES: Inspection, cleaning, modification and repair of the Wood Duck nesting boxes is in progress. Some of the boxes need to be replaced, Dale Schielke needs 10"x23"x3/4" thick plywood panels for box construction and 5 gallon metal or colored plastic buckets to be used as squirrel guards. Call Dale at 375-0183 if you can help.

MAY 3 FISHING KIDS COLUMBIA PARK FAMILY FISHING POND EVENT: The Fishing Kids event will take place at the Columbia Park Family Fishing Pond on Saturday, May 3. It is one of a series of fishing events designed to give kids a hands-on fishing experience. For a \$5 registration fee, participants receive a "Fishing Kids" T-shirt and a Zebco rod and reel, which is theirs to keep. In addition, bait, floats and sinkers will also be provided. The Club is actively participating in the event and will assemble the rods and reels, prior to the event, man a fish cleaning station, patrol the shoreline to help and coach the kids, help distribute the rods and help wherever else needed. You can sign up to help at the April 1 General meeting or call Eddie at 586-6009 or send e-mail to emanthos@aol.com.. Volunteers should show up at the fishing pond by 7:30 AM to help set up. We will probably stay until about 1:00 PM when the event will be over. Last year at least 800 kids



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.

May 2003
Volume 58, No. 05

Club Web Site - <http://www.members.tripod.com/rrgclub/>

2003 Officers

Mike Estes, President (582-2212) Russ Wyer, Vice President (627-4308)
Lyle Gilk, Treasurer (627-3441) Eddie Manthos, Secretary (586-6009)
Jack Pickard, Membership Information (582-5397)

MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

MAY GENERAL MEETING - Tuesday, May 6, 2003, 7:00 PM - City of Richland Maintenance Facility
BOARD MEETING - Tuesday, May 20, 2003, 7:00 PM - City of Richland Maintenance Facility
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - May 21, 2003, CALL EDDIE AT 586-6009 or emanthos@aol.com.
FISHING KIDS EVENT - Saturday, May 3, 2003: 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM - Family Fishing Pond, Columbia Park, Kennewick
COLUMBIA BASIN CHAPTER OF SAFARI CLUB INTERNATIONAL BANQUET & FUNDRAISER at Pasco Red Lion, Saturday May 31. Call Mark Cook at 582-4760 for Tickets & Information

MAY 2003 GENERAL MEETING

George Dvorak, owner of the Fish-n-Plus tackle store and Bill Schwartz will give presentations on walleye and bass fishing in the Tri-Cities area. George is an experienced fisherman and has fished for steelhead, salmon, bass and walleye for the past 25 years and has participated in many tournaments and fishing derbys. He will discuss techniques for catching walleye beginning with the late March period and continuing through October, the best fishing locations, types of lures to use, trolling speeds and plug trolling. Bill is a local pro bass fisherman who participates in many bass tournaments and is sponsored by 'Triton Bass Boats.' He will discuss the different techniques that are successful for catching bass in the Tri-Cities area. The meeting is at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 6, 2003 at the City of Richland Maintenance Facility. Bring a prospective new member as a guest to the meeting and receive five free raffle tickets! More details at the meeting.

APRIL 2003 GENERAL MEETING REPORT:

- President Mike Estes opened the meeting and asked the many visitors to stand up and introduce themselves.
- He thanked Jerry Zeitler and Eddie Manthos for organizing the successful Wild Game Dinner held on March 29.
- A volunteers sign up sheet for the May 3 Fishing Kids event at the Columbia park fishing pond was passed around.
- Dale Schielke announced that 186 wood duck nesting boxes had been inspected and 51 boxes were moved from trees to squirrel proofed posts.
- Mark Cook from the local Safari Club branch announced that there is a drive to stop hunting on National Wild Life Refuges and that the Safari Club is actively fighting to prevent hunting ban. He passed out Safari Club information and membership information.
- Mike read a letter from Greg Hughes, the manager of the Hanford Monument, in which he recognized the following Club members for their assistance in planting sagebrush in the Monument last December: Howard Gardner, Paul Kison, Gene VanLiew, Russ Wyer, Rocky Ross and Bob Kolowith. Mike thanked Gene VanLiew for soliciting and organizing the volunteers.

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MAY 3 FISHING KIDS COLUMBIA PARK FAMILY FISHING POND EVENT: The Fishing Kids event will take place at the Columbia Park Family Fishing Pond on Saturday, May 3. The Club is actively participating in the event and will man a fish cleaning station, patrol the shoreline to help and coach the kids, help distribute the rods and help wherever needed. Volunteers should show up at the fishing pond by 7:30 AM to help set up, come later if you cannot make it at 7:30. We will probably stay until about 1:00 PM when the event will be over. Fishing outfits for 1,200 youth have been prepared.

● Mike introduced the speaker of the evening, Paul Hoffarth, District 4 Fish Biologist stationed in Pasco. Paul worked as a fish biologist in Tennessee before moving to Washington State. The following is a description of the projects that Paul is or has worked on (this information was excerpted from a newsletter of *The Columbia Basin Flycasters*).

■ "Paul has supervised the evaluation of juvenile fall chinook stranding on the Hanford Reach for the last three years and has worked with the Hanford Stranding Policy committee to develop a plan for the protection of juvenile fall chinook during the period from emergence and rearing. He is the WDFW representative on Vernita Bar surveys as part of the Vernita Bar Agreement with Grant County PUD to set critical flows for the protection of fall chinook during incubation and emergence. He has extensive experience working with juvenile and adult salmonids at main stem hydroelectric facilities including knowledge of screening, bypass, spill and turbine operations, juvenile fish transportation, fish passage, fish facilities, and thermal stressors associated with main stem passage. Paul has worked with adult salmonid escapement for coho, steelhead, and fall chinook."

Paul utilized a slide presentation to illustrate his topic, 'Fishing in The Tri-Cities area'. He said that the WDFW Fishing Regulation pamphlet is a good source to learn what the regulations are for the streams and lakes that you would like to fish. At the present time all the lakes and streams in this area are open to trout fishing. The WDFW web page should be consulted to determine if 'trout lakes' have been stocked. The regulations need to be read to determine the dates that some species may be closed to fishing. The Columbia Park Pond, with a limit of five fish, is limited to juveniles (14 yrs of age and under) and disabled fishermen. The pond will be closed on May 2, the day before the Fishing Kids Event. Paul stated that the Railroad Pond, close to Mesa, is a **selective gear** fishery. The Yakima River will be closed to steelhead fishing this year. He said that there probably will be a fall Chinook fishery on the Yakima from September 16 to October 31. However there is a non-buoyant lure restriction on the Yakima at that time. At that time it had not been determined if there will be a spring Chinook fishery on the Yakima: Consult the emergency fishing regulations on the WDFW web page to determine if the fishery will be held. Paul said to consult the fishing regulations to determine what the **new walleye and bass fishing regulations** are. He also said that 4 to 6 lb. walleye are being caught in Scootenev Reservoir. Paul stated that the best source for northwest fishing information is the internet. A very good starting point is the WDFW web page at <http://www.wa.gov/wdfw/>. A good feature found on the web page is the *Weekender Report* which can be accessed by clicking on the *Weekender Report* icon on the opening page. The 'Fishing and Shellfishing' tab on the left hand side of the opening page will open a new page with a myriad of fishing information links; the left side of the page is a list of Related Links and on the bottom is a list of Non-Agency Links which can get you just about any information you might need. After Paul's presentation was over he answered many questions from the audience.

● Raffle winners were: Mike O'Neill who won a large air pump, Richard Sharp (with a red visitor's ticket) won a rod and reel, Mike Estes and Vincent Guererro each won a turkey call and Jack Meeks won a cast iron Dutch Oven.

Gardner-Cranston Award - Jack Pickard - "I would like thank everyone involved for honoring me with this award, it means a great deal to me. Receiving an award named for two of the clubs greats is mind boggling. I am very humbled by joining the company of the past winners. I was totally caught off guard at the Big Game Dinner and rendered speechless which is pretty unusual. I would like to thank Larry Martin who initially introduced me to the club." (Jack was presented the award at the March 29 Wild Game Dinner)

U.S. SPORTSMEN'S ALLIANCE: - Howard Gardner. Regard the following as an impassioned plea. Most sportsmen are familiar with the National Rifle Association and its main mission to protect the Second Amendment, our right to keep and bear arms. Many Club members support the NRA through their annual membership and by contribution to special NRA initiatives. All hunters/shooters should be members. In a similar vein, the U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance and its Foundation is a national organization, founded in 1977, whose mission is to defend hunting, fishing, trapping and scientific wildlife management against lawsuits, legislation and ballot issues initiated by anti-hunters. The "Alliance" accomplishes this by grass roots coalition building, direct lobbying, ballot issue campaigning and legislative and government relations. The "Foundation" is responsible for public education, legal defense and research in support of "Alliance" activities. All sportsmen should be members. Annual dues are \$25.00. Some recent anti-hunting activities that the "Alliance" has taken a leadership role in opposing are:

- PETCO's sponsoring of HSUS's Adopt a Teacher program in 500 elementary schools that introduces students to the animal rights movement.
- Legislation in California and Rhode Island to ban dove hunting and to ban hunting with hounds in California.
- Illinois bill to ban shotguns larger than 410.
- Massachusetts Governor proposes moving the Fish and Game Fund (license dollars) into the General Fund.
- Aided in defeat of anti-trapping bills in Maryland.

- Intervened to fight a suit to ban hunting on the National Wildlife Refuge System.
- Developed model legislation introduced so far in Texas and New York, that increases penalties for animal rights terrorism. With this kind of anti-hunting activity across the nation, the U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance and its Foundation needs our support. Log on to their website: www.ussportsmen.org and sign up for their e-mail alert network. There is no charge to sign up. If after some exposure, you support their activities, consider joining and tell your friends about it. For those not on-line, a membership application is in this Bulletin.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS: Leon Kollman from Seattle, Larry Voeks from Snohomish, James R. Schroeder from Richland and John R. Sanders from Pasco.

FISHING KIDS RODS & REELS: Rods, Reels, plastic floats, split shot and snelled hooks were assembled into 1,200 rods and reels that will be used by 1,200 youngsters at the Fishing Kids event at the Columbia Park fishing pond on Saturday May 3. The components were delivered to and assembled at the WDFW complex in Pasco. WDFW employees assembled about 100 units. RR&GC members assembled about 800 units in four sessions of about 4 hours each at the WDFW facility. Four RR&GC members took 288 units and assembled them at home. Members who assembled rods at the facility were Ben Webb, John Lavender, Mack McDonnell, Jerry Zeitler, Bob Kolowith, Gene VanLiew, Eddie Manthos, Clare Cranston and Gaylord Pyle. Non-members who helped assemble were Jim Sako, Lew Bowden, Kevin Webb, Josh Heiny, Zack Heiny and WDFW employee Andrew Fowler. Members who assembled rods at home were Jerry Zeitler, Eddie Manthos and Howard Gardner who each assembled 50 units; Gaylord Pyle assembled 138 units. Clare Cranston took a number of reels home and repaired/adjusted them and then assembled them into units that will be used at the Angler Education classes to be taught at the Sportsman's Warehouse and the Hunter Education Facility at Griggs.

HUNTER EDUCATION CLASSES: - Clare Cranston - A Hunter Education class (Maximum of 32 persons each) is scheduled starting May 5, 2003. There is a \$5 class fee for Hunter Education. Registration is at the Sporting Goods counter at **Grigg's Shopping Center** at 801 W Columbia St. in Pasco. Classes will be held at the Grigg's Store.

WILD GAME DINNER: About 200 people attended the Wild Game Dinner on March 29. There was plenty of hors'd oeuvres and food for all. Jack Pickard was awarded the Gardner-Cranston Award. Mack McDonnell and Gene VanLiew were presented the Club's Distinguished Service Award. Twenty five year belt buckles were presented to Clare Cranston and Dale Schielke. Walt Allen and Carl Robbert also earned a 25 year buckle. but were not present. Life member awards were awarded to Clare Cranston and Harold Heacock: Harold was not present and he received the award at the April General Meeting. Winner of the quality trip was Lyle Gilk and the alternate was Bill Davis.

FREE FISHING WEEKEND: (A WDFW News Release) - Free Fishing Weekend in Washington is the weekend of the first full week in June, coinciding with the last two days of National Boating and Fishing Week. In 2003, these two days fall on the 7th and 8th of June. On these days, no license is required of anyone--resident or non-resident--to fish in Washington, except a catch record card is still required to fish for or retain Dungeness crab, steelhead, salmon, sturgeon and halibut.

2003 WASHINGTON Fishing Prospects: A publication entitled "2003 Washington Fishing Projects can be accessed at <http://www.wa.gov/wdfw/fish/prospects/>. It is a very good reference and contains an alphabetical list of fishing opportunities in Washington counties, listing of juvenile only and other special user waters, listing of accessible fishing areas for persons with disabilities, information about the Triploid trout program and warm water enhancement program, Washington State Park information, licensing information, 2003 fishing rule changes and other information.

SNAKE RIVER SPRING CHINOOK SPORT FISHERY OPENED APRIL 26: OLYMPIA - Sport fishing for hatchery spring chinook salmon opened Saturday (April 26) in a portion of the Snake River. The fishery is scheduled to run through May 31 in the portion of the river from Texas Rapids boat launch upstream to the Army Corps of Engineers boat launch, which is on the south bank of the river about one mile upstream of Little Goose Dam. Catch rates will be monitored closely and the fishery may be closed prior to May 31 if the allowable impacts to federally protected wild chinook are met before that time. Fishing will be from one hour before sunrise until one hour after sunset, seven days a week. The daily limit is one adipose fin-clipped hatchery spring chinook, with a minimum size of 12 inches. Chinook jacks are included in the daily limit. Anglers are required to use barbless hooks, not more than 5/8 inch from point to shank, when fishing for chinook on the Snake River. All chinook with intact adipose fins and all steelhead must be immediately released unharmed. Adipose fin-clipped chinook must have a healed scar at the location of the missing fin in order to be kept.

CLUB PHOTO CONTEST: There was one entry in April. The winning photo was taken by Dale Landon and is a photo of his son Chris with a trout caught on Big Four lake on March 19. Dale will win five free tickets to the May General Meeting raffle. The winning photo and the other entry can be viewed at the Club's web site at: <http://www.members.tripod.com/rrgclub>.

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HUNTER EDUCATION CLASSES: - Clare Cranston - Hunter Education classes (Maximum of 32 persons each) are scheduled to start June 6, July 7, August 4, September 1, September 29, October 20 and November 10, 2003. There is a possibility that some of the dates may change. Griggs will post any changed dates. There is a \$5 class fee for Hunter Education. Registration is at the Sporting Goods counter at Grigg's Shopping Center at 801 W Columbia St. in Pasco. Classes will be held at the Grigg's Store.

CLUB PHOTO CONTEST: There were four entries in May, two each from two photographers. The winning photos were taken by Don McMaster and show catches of ling cod. Don will win five free tickets to the June General Meeting raffle. The winning photos and the other two entries can be viewed on the Club's web site at: <http://www.members.tripod.com/rrgclub>.

WOOD DUCK NESTING BOXES: - Dale Schielke - It is currently nesting time for the wood ducks in the Tri-Cities. Thanks to volunteer efforts from the RR&GC wood ducks have over 200 nest boxes to select from on the area rivers. This year we were granted funding from WDFW for Squirrel Proofing Wood Duck Nesting Boxes Phase 2. The project allowed us to purchase posts and materials to relocate nest boxes from trees to posts. We relocated 57 boxes and installed 10 new boxes on the squirrel proof posts. In addition we performed annual maintenance on 127 other boxes some of which were post mounted last year. When inspecting the boxes, evidence from last year indicated wood ducks used 55 boxes and screech owls used 18 boxes. Last years squirrel-proofing efforts reduced squirrel use by over 95% and additional predator guards should reduce that further. Again thanks to volunteers Jim Shearer, Ben Webb, Larry Martin, Gene VanLiew, Kevin Grubbs, Tim Clemons, Paul Kison, Mike O'Neill, Wade Warrant, Rocky Ross, Scott Estes, Mike Estes, Dana Mueller, Mitchel Mueller, Mark Fisher, Eric Fisher, Mark Tomsinski, Mike Tomsinski, Gaylord Pyle, John Scanland, Jerry Burke, John Pfeiffer, LouAnn Schielke, and Dale Schielke that contributed a total of over 262 hours.

YOUTH HUNTING MENTORS NEEDED: Mark Cook, a member of the RR&GC and local chapter of Safari Club International (SCI) is spearheading a SCI effort to organize a list of hunters who are willing to mentor youth during the Youth Hunting Weekend in September. Mark is looking for mentors to take a first year hunter afield during the September Youth Hunting Weekend. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Mark Cook by e-mail at grizzlybear16@hotmail.com or by phone at 582-4760. Mark's role will be to match kids with mentors for waterfowl and pheasant hunts.



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June 2003

Volume 58, No. 06

Club Web Site - <http://www.members.tripod.com/rrgclub/>

2003 Officers

Mike Estes, President (582-2212)

Russ Wyer, Vice President (627-4308)

Lyle Gilk, Treasurer (627-3441)

Eddie Manthos, Secretary (586-6009)

Jack Pickard, Membership Information (582-5397)

MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

JUNE GENERAL MEETING - Tuesday, June 3, 2003, 7:00 PM - City of Richland Maintenance Facility

BOARD MEETING - Tuesday, June 17, 2003, 7:00 PM - City of Richland Maintenance Facility

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - June 18, 2003, CALL EDDIE AT 586-6009 or emanthos@aol.com.

SALMON BOOTH At Sidewalk Arts Show July 25 and 26, 2003 (Friday & Saturday)

RR&GC ANNUAL PICNIC August 5, 2003 AT SOUTH LESLIE GROVES PARK (Tuesday) 6:00 PM

JUNE 2003 GENERAL MEETING

Rob Phillips, the Marketing Director of Yakima Bait Company, will make a presentation on Worden's Lures at the June meeting and show the latest new designs and colors that have been added to their line of fishing lures. Rob will discuss which lures to use and techniques for bass, walleye, trout, steelhead and salmon. He will bring a display of the many lures made by the company including the historic *FlatFish*, which has been voted one of the all-time 10 best lures by Outdoor Life magazine. Rob is an avid outdoorsman and has written articles published in a number of fishing and outdoor magazines around the country and is also the outdoor columnist for the Yakima Herald-Republic. The meeting will be at 7:00 pm on Tuesday June 3, 2003 at the City of Richland Maintenance Facility. This will be the last General meeting until September. The Salmon Booth at the Sidewalk Arts Show will be the July Club activity. The Club picnic/salmon barbeque will be the August Club activity.

Bring a prospective new member as a guest to the June meeting and receive five free raffle tickets!

MAY 2003 GENERAL MEETING REPORT:

- President Mike Estes opened the meeting and asked the visitors (2) to stand up and introduce themselves.
- He thanked all the volunteers that participated at the May 3 Fishing Kids Event at the Columbia Park Fishing Pond. He especially thanked Bill Lambert and Michael O'Neill for operating the busy and very popular fish cleaning station.
- Gene VanLiew described the April 23 Richland Parks & Recreation Commission Yakima River Access work shop.
- Mark Cook from the local Safari Club branch announced that the Fund For Animals and 20 individuals filed a lawsuit against the federal government disputing the right of people to hunt on 39 national wildlife refuges including the McNary National Wildlife Refuge and the Hanford Monument/National Wildlife Refuge. The Safari Club and other organizations are actively fighting to prevent the hunting ban.
- Mike Estes remarked that at his time there is no apparent effort to transfer management/ownership of the Buffalo national Wildlife Refuge and Toppenish National Wildlife Refuge to the tribes.
- Jim Shearer gave an update on the legislative bills in the state legislature. The shooting range bill and the concealed

weapons bills both died. The trapping bill, SB 5179, passed both houses and is waiting for the governor's signature.

(Governor Locke vetoed the bill on May 20)

● Russ Wyer introduced the first speaker Bill Schwartz who spoke about bass fishing, primarily small mouth. Bill has been a semi-pro bass fisherman for the last 12 years, participates in many bass tournaments and is sponsored by Triton Bass Boats. Bill described the different *seasons* of the year and how small mouth are fished during each of these seasons.

○ During the spring season, early May, the small mouth start feeding as the water warms up. The bass react to moving objects in the water as the water temperature increases. A good place to fish is the Yakima River delta because the Yakima is warmer than the Columbia River and bait fish and bass are attracted to the warmer water. Bass feed in the warm water and spawn. Bill stated that the bass react to crank baits during this time, especially chrome blue colors..

○ The fishing pattern shifts in the post-spawn period and the spawned out females move to deeper water to recuperate. After they recuperate they start feeding heavily and as the water gets warmer move to a deeper feeding area and position themselves where the current will bring food to them.

○ In the summertime bass suspend at the thermocline, 15 to 30 feet deep. During this season Bill fishes rock humps in the middle of the Columbia River in the morning with small lures that run 8 to 9 feet deep. He fishes these lures as jerk baits until the water warms up and the bass move back into deep water.

○ Bill likes tube lures, 'Gitzits' and believes that they are productive the year round. He recommends "Yamamoto" color pattern 176 which is similar in color to the favorite food of the bass - sculpin. He also likes *finesse fishing* where small lures are fished very slowly. He prefers fluorocarbon lines, especially for leader material, because they are almost invisible in the water. 'Stren' fluorocarbon line is a good choice. Bill exhibited the tackle and lures that he prefers and passed around many of his lures. He answered many questions from the audience.

● The second speaker was George Dvorak, owner of the Fish-n-Plus tackle store in Pasco and one of the sponsors of the Fishing Kids event. George also exhibited the tackle and lures that he uses walleye fishing. George stated that you have to *hunt* walleye to locate them. Walleye are predators and their favorite food is perch. In the Potholes reservoir the walleye seem to know when the trout reared in net pens are released. They congregate around the pens waiting for release of the trout and it is estimated that they harvest up to 10% of the released fish. Both Scootney and the Potholes reservoir have large numbers of walleye and are very good places to fish. Walleye have very good eyesight, especially at night. George looks for 30 foot deep valleys with the top of the valley being about 10 feet below the water surface. He believes that walleye wait in the valleys for fish, especially bass, to swim by. He fishes plugs over the valley hump for the waiting walleye. In Scootney he fishes in the main channel between the main lake and the downstream outlet. George also trolls with plugs and spinners with a bottom bouncer rig to keep the lure off the bottom. If he picks up a walleye, he marks the spot and trolls back over the same location to pick up other walleye that may be present. If the fishing results are slow, George speeds up the trolling speed. Walleye move to flats to spawn in February or March. It takes walleye longer than bass to recover from the spawn. Walleye are not hard fighters when hooked, in many cases they put up about the same fight as a stick. They are very good eating however. Both George and Bill gave good presentations. Bass fishing and walleye fishing are becoming more and more popular and more people are fishing for them. A good indication of their popularity is that they are no longer called *spiny rays* as they were when I moved here in the middle 70's.

● Raffle winners were: Cliff Hampton who won a soft tackle box, Don McMaster who won a Hiker Dome Tent, Bill Lambert won a binocular and a camouflage face mask and Diane Warrant won a head lamp and an elk call.

MAY 3 FISHING KIDS EVENT: About 1,000 kids between the ages of 5-14 years old registered and participated in the Fishing Kids Event that took place at the Columbia Park Fishing Pond on a very windy Saturday May 3 between 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM. For \$5:00 each registered kid received a Zebco fishing rod and reel with line, hook, sinker, float and bait. Kids who pre-registered also received a Fishing Kids T-shirt. Washington Wildlife Coalition members, who traveled to the Tri-Cities to attend a meeting in Pasco, also helped at the event. In addition to filling and passing out litter bags with a lanyard and fishing line clipper, a whistle and other goodies for each kid, the members patrolled the shoreline and coached/helped the kids and parents. Participants started to line up about 8:00AM. The line was opened at 8:30AM, ½ hour before the 9:00AM starting time. The pond was closed Friday and stocked by the WDFW. Fishing Saturday day was great and it appeared that all the kids were catching fish. It was a fantastic day for the kids in spite of the strong wind that blew signs down and closed down two demonstration booths. There were many groups that helped to make the event a success. Grigg's Shopping center prepared all the signs and took photographs of many of the kids. Griggs, the Sportsman's Warehouse and FISH'N+ donated the various baits used by the kids. Griggs and the Sportsman's Warehouse each had numerous employees/staff that coached. The RR&GC was a major participant. We helped in planning of the event, handed out registration forms at Lunker Lake in January, assembled 1100 of the 1200 rods, reels hooks sinkers and floats prior to the event. Twenty two Club volunteers helped at the event and were: John Lavender and Mrs. Lavender, Mike Estes, Jack Pickard, Russ Wyer, Bob Henke, Bob Zinsli, Dennis Spore and his son Daniel, Mack McDonnell, Clare Cranston, Eddie

Manthos, Ben Webb and his grandson Zachary, Joe Zentler, Jim Shearer, Mike O'Neill and Mrs. O'Neill, Paul Kison, Rich Holten, Bill Lambert and Howard Gardner. If I missed any of you, please let me know. Bill Lambert, Mike O'Neill and Mrs. O'Neill cleaned fish through the event and were relieved by others including Paul Hoffarth and Howard Gardner. Many of us left about 1:00PM and some stayed longer. It was a hectic and very busy day but we all left with a satisfied feeling. Many kids stayed and fished after the event ended at 1:00 PM. I understand that there were many kids that came back the next day and continued to catch fish.

SALMON BOOTH 2003:-Howard Gardner& Dale Schielke

The Allied Arts Sidewalk Show Salmon Booth will take place on July 25& 26. The Columbia Fly Casters will have the lead this year. A lot of help, about 70 volunteers will be needed. This is the RR&GC Club's main money raising project for the year. Booth setup and salmon preparation will be on Thursday July 24 from 6-8:00PM. The booth will operate from 9:00AM to 9:00PM on Friday July 25 and Saturday July,26. Shifts will be 9:00AM-1:00PM, 1:00PM-5:00PM, and 5:00-9:00PM both days with tear down on Saturday from 7:00-9:00PM. All club members that worked last year plus new members (since 7/01/02) will be contacted by the Club's phone tree committee to find out if they can work in the booth and during which shift. To save the phone tree callers some time please call Dennis Spore(627-0589) or Dale Schielke to sign up for a shift (s). Most who have worked in the past agree that it is a lot of fun. If for some reason you are not contacted, call Dennis or Dale.

This year, only the person in charge of the booth for each shift is required to have a Health Card. Shift workers are not required to have Health Cards. Those that would like to have that training and take the test to get a card can do so at the Allied Arts Gallery, 89 Lee Blvd., Richland at 6:45PM sharp on Thurs. June 26 and Tues. July 8. No one will be admitted after the program starts at 7:00PM.. If these dates are inconvenient, call the Benton Health Dept. on 582-7761 for the training and test date. They are located at 800 W. Canal Dr., Kennewick. Cards cost \$8.00 which will be reimbursed by the Club on request. See you down at the Booth.

WASHINGTON STATE YOUTH CONSERVATION CAMP: The Club is sponsoring 12 youth, nominally eight from the Club and four from Hunter Safety Classes, to this years Washington State Conservation Camp at Orcas Island. Dates of the Camp are July 13-19 for girls and July 20-26 for boys. A camper (boy or girl) must be 12 years or older and not older than 16 years before the camp start date. If you know of a youth(s) who is interested in attending camp contact **Larry Martin at 545-9647** as soon as possible to obtain a registration form. The applications will be accepted in the order received until 12 eligible applications are received. It will be the responsibility of the parents to transport the camper to and from Anacortes. The Washington State Conservation Camp is a very good and very comprehensive camp and the kids really enjoy themselves. Those that have attended can't wait to go again next year.

U.S. SPORTSMAN'S ALLIANCE ALERTS:

New Jersey Sportsmen Answer Calls to Action and Support Proposed Bear Hunt

Hundreds of New Jersey sportsmen turned out at a May 22 public hearing to support a proposed 2003 black bear hunting season. They were responding to a series of alerts and postcards issued by the U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance, which is working with other New Jersey sportsmen's organizations to endorse the hunt. More details at:

<http://www.ussportsmen.org/interactive/features/Read.cfm?ID=1078>

Ohio Sportsmen Rally Against Diversion of Wildlife Dollars

Ohio sportsmen converged on the state capitol this week to oppose the use of hunting and fishing license dollars to fund a multi-agency law enforcement communications system. More details at:

<http://www.ussportsmen.org/interactive/features/Read.cfm?ID=1077>

Team of Animal Rights Groups Preparing New Anti-Fur Campaign

A coalition of animal rights groups is sponsoring a contest in which design students are being asked to create a \$100,000 anti-fur advertising campaign. More details at: <http://www.ussportsmen.org/interactive/features/Read.cfm?ID=1079>

California Sportsmen Face Unjust Ammunition Tax. Legislation has again been introduced in California that would tax law-abiding sportsmen to pay medical expenses for victims of illegal firearm activity. More details at:

<http://www.ussportsmen.org/INTERACTIVE/FEATURES/READ.CFM?ID=1074>

Indiana's Hunter Harassment Law Under Fire Two anti-hunters in Indiana are preparing to challenge a law designed to protect hunters and anglers from harassment. They claim the law violates the First Amendment. More details at:

<http://www.ussportsmen.org/interactive/features/Read.cfm?ID=1075>

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS: Terry Christensen from Richland, Cliff Hampton from West Richland, Rick M Koch & Family from Naches. and Bob Yamada from Pasco.

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YOUTH HUNTING MENTORS NEEDED: Mark Cook, a member of the RR&GC and local chapter of Safari Club International (SCI) is spearheading a SCI effort to organize a list of hunters who are willing to mentor youth during the Youth Hunting Weekend in September. Mark is looking for mentors to take a first year hunter afield during the September Youth Hunting Weekend. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Mark Cook by e-mail at grizzlybear16@hotmail.com or by phone at 582-4760. Mark's role will be to match kids with mentors for waterfowl and pheasant hunts. This a very important project. Without a mentor, many of these youth will not be able to hunt. This is your chance to introduce them to hunting and show them what hunting is all about.

MCNARY WILDLIFE REFUGE JULY 12 SECOND SATURDAY PROGRAM: (Excerpted from Tri-City Herald)
Basic fishing techniques including a fly fishing demonstration will be the July Second Saturday event at the McNary Environmental Education Center at the Refuge Headquarters at 311 Lake Road at Burbank. The event will take place on July 12 from 9 a.m. to noon and is designed mainly for children, their parents and people new to the area. The presentation will include the ins and outs of casting plugs, proper rod & reel selection and information upon what to do when you've caught your dinner through effective fish cleaning and filleting techniques. Greg Greger, a member of the Lower Columbia Basin Audubon Society, will be the main presenter of the event. You will also have the opportunity to tour the Environmental Education Center and walk on a 1.9 mile nature trail along the refuge waters. This will be an excellent opportunity to introduce your family to fishing, observe birds and other wildlife at the refuge and visit the Environmental Education Center and it's all FREE!

NRA GRASSROOTS ALERT: VIVE LE GUN TAX? A WorldNetDaily.com article (June 8) reports that French President Jacques Chirac has emerged as the leading cheerleader for a global tax on firearm purchases. Initially pushed by Brazil's President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, Chirac quickly jumped on board as a vocal advocate, claiming the proposal was "forceful and convincing" and that it was "quite justified." Funds raised from the global tax on the sale of guns would be used to provide money to combat world hunger. We (NRA) will report any new developments on this front as they become known.



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July 2003

Volume 58, No. 07

Club Web Site - <http://www.members.tripod.com/rrgclub/>

2003 Officers

Mike Estes, President (582-2212)

Russ Wyer, Vice President (627-4308)

Lyle Gilk, Treasurer (627-3441)

Eddie Manthos, Secretary (586-6009)

Jack Pickard, Membership Information (582-5397)

MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

JULY GENERAL MEETING - THERE ARE NO GENERAL MEETINGS IN JULY OR AUGUST

BOARD MEETING - Tuesday, July 15, 2003, 7:00 PM - City of Richland Maintenance Facility

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - July 21, 2003, CALL EDDIE AT 586-6009 or emanthos@aol.com.

ALLIED ARTS SHOW SALMON BOOTH AT HOWARD AMON PARK - JULY 25 & 26, 2003 (Friday & Saturday)

RR&GC ANNUAL PICNIC August 5, 2003 AT SOUTH LESLIE GROVES PARK (Tuesday) 6:00 PM

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 25 and 26 (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 Tuesday August 5 (see article below.)

JUNE 2003 GENERAL MEETING REPORT

- President Mike Estes opened the meeting and asked the one visitor present to introduce himself.
- Larry Martin announced that seven youth had applied to attend summer camp. Two older girls will attend the Inland Empire Natural Resources Youth Camp at Lake Couer D Alene; the two girls that attended last year will be Camp Counselors this year.
- Access to the Yakima River in Richland was discussed. It was stressed that Richland residents should attend the June 12 public meeting of the Richland Parks and Recreation Committee and make their views known concerning Yakima River access.
- A short break was taken so that attendees could purchase raffle tickets.
- Vice President/Program Chairman Russ Wyer introduced the main speaker Rob Phillips the Marketing Director of Yakima Bait Company located in Granger, Washington. Rob spoke about the latest lures, lure design changes and colors that have been added to their line of fishing lures since he last spoke to us a little more than two years ago. He also spoke about the latest lure manufacturer changes. Rob said that Worden's Lures was founded in 1932-1933 in a garage or basement. Mr. Worden sold his lures locally at first. The lures were accepted by fishermen and the company expanded and now market their lures world wide. In 1988 Worden purchased the *Flatfish* lure line from Charlie Helin and now manufactures and markets the *Flatfish* lures. Eight new colors have recently been added to the *Flatfish* line. Another addition to the *Flatfish* line is the 'T-55 Super', a 2 1/2" lure with Bait Wrap Grooves, modern hooks and other enhancements. The original Storm *Wiggle Wart* was purchased by another lure manufacturer who modified the lure design in an attempt to make it a better fish catcher. The original *Storm Wiggle Wart* molds were purchased by Brads Lures who had the lures manufactured in China and is marketing

them as *Brad's Wiggler*. Worden introduced a competitor to the Wiggle Wart line and is marketing it as the *FatFish*. It is made in the original 52 *Wiggle Wart* color/patterns plus 22 new colors and in three different sizes, ¼, ½ and ¾ oz. Worden's made many improvements to the lure and Rob believes that the *FatFish* is as good and even better than the other two competitors. The *Lil' Corky* jig is now available with a maribou dressing and in 4 sizes and 15 color combinations. A new addition to the Worden line is the *Showdown* blade bait available in ¼, ½ and ¾ oz. weights and seven color patterns. *Rooster Tail* lures were made in 110 colors/patterns; 4 new colors have recently been added to the line. *Super Rooster Tail* lures are also available in the same colors as the *Rooster Tail*. The 'DC-16 Long Reach' *TIMBERTIGER* is a new Depth Control plug that has an interior 'Open Chamber weight transfer system' that allows longer casts and superior depth control during retrieves. It can be fished at depths varying from 1 to 16 feet. Rob answered many questions from the audience. One of the questions asked was if Worden tests the colors and color patterns that they offer. His reply was that they are not tested to determine which color or color pattern is most effective. Fishermen buy the colors/patterns that they have the most confidence in and as a result catch more fish with it. Their favorite color/patterns may change depending on the success they have with them and the success that other fishermen have. Rob passed around some of the new lures. He also passed out new Worden's Lures catalogues with an insert that showed the latest lure/color changes. It was great having Rob back, he gave a very good presentation, updated us on lure changes and donated several Worden's Lures for the monthly raffle. The Club awarded him an *Appreciation Certificate* and choice of Club caps. Since Rob is an avid turkey hunter, he selected one of the camouflage patterned caps.

● Raffle prize winners were: Gene VanLiew who selected a back country drinking water filter, Bob Henke - three *Flatfish* lures, Cliff Hampton - a miniature Bow & arrows, two fishing lures and a jar of *Erupt* bait, Rob Phillips - a carved Wooden Change Box (which his wife claimed), Lyle Gilk - 3 *Fatfish* lures, Dale Schielke - a dove decoy, Mike Estes - a portable *Jon*, and Duane Sobotka - 2 bottles of *Krill* and a jar of *Erupt* bait.

SALMON BOOTH 2003:-Howard Gardner& Dale Schielke

The Allied Arts Sidewalk Show Salmon Booth will take place on July 25& 26. The Columbia Basin Fly Casters will have the lead this year. A lot of help, at least 70 volunteers, will be needed. This is the RR&GC Club's main money raising project for the year.

- Booth setup and salmon preparation will be on Thursday July 24 from 6-8:00PM.
- The booth will operate from 9:00AM to 9:00PM on Friday July 25 and Saturday July,26. Shifts will be 9:00AM-1:00PM, 1:00PM-5:00PM, and 5:00-9:00PM, both days, with tear down on Saturday from 7:00-9:00PM.
- All club members that worked last year plus new members(since 7/01/02) will be contacted by the Club's phone tree committee to find out if they can work in the booth and during which shift. To save the phone tree callers some time please call Dennis Spore(627-0589) or Dale Schielke to sign up for a shift (s). Most who have worked in the past agree that it is a lot of fun. Besides that, you also get to eat a salmon dinner. If for some reason you are not contacted, call Dennis or Dale.
- Only the person in charge of the booth for each shift is required to have a Health Card. Shift workers are not required to have Health Cards. Those that would like to have that training and take the test to get a card can do so at the Allied Arts Gallery, 89 Lee Blvd., Richland at 6:45PM sharp on Tues. July 8. No one will be admitted after the program starts at 7:00PM.. If this date is inconvenient, call the Benton Health Dept. on 582-7761 for another training and test date. They are located at 800 W. Canal Dr., Kennewick. Cards cost \$8.00 which will be reimbursed by the Club on request. See you at the Booth.

RR&GC ANNUAL CLUB PICNIC: The Club's annual salmon barbecue and picnic will be held on Tuesday August 5 starting at 6:00 PM at South Leslie Groves Park. (Leslie Grove 1.) 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 your dish. If your family name starts with A through G please bring a salad dish to share, if your name begins with H through P bring a side dish and Q through Z bring a dessert. Bring your own eating 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, wading pool and a horseshoe pit.

● The Annual Liars contest will take place after we have eaten. 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 the others. 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 aroma of alder smoke and barbecued salmon will lead you to where the picnic is.

DUCK BANDING FOR YOUTH AT MCNARY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE: A duck banding project is scheduled for RR&GC youth, Ducks Unlimited Greenwings and other interested local youth, 17 years of age and under. The banding is being sponsored/organized by the USFWS/McNary National Wildlife Refuge, the RR&GC, the Kennewick Ducks Unlimited chapter and Sand and Sage Hunting Retriever club. Banding will take place at McNary Wildlife Refuge on Saturday August 16 starting at 8:00 AM. The youth will learn about the migratory habits of waterfowl and the importance of banding in waterfowl research and management. Meet in the parking lot at the McNary NWR Headquarters at Burbank, 600 Maple St. Come dressed (long pants and insect repellent) for the occasion and bring a duck call so that you can compete in the calling contest. The ducks will have been trapped earlier and the youth will help band the ducks. The day's tentative schedule is:

Duck Banding---8:00 to 9:30	Waterfowl ID----9:30 to 9:45	Wood Duck Box Demo-----9:45 to 10:00
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HUNTER/ANGLER EDUCATION EQUIPMENT LOANED TO YOUTH GROUPS: (Clare Cranston)

- Seventeen fishing outfits (rods, reels, hooks, floats etc. from the Club's Angler Education Program) were loaned to a first grader group from a Pasco elementary school. They spent a day fishing at the Columbia Park Fishing Pond with minimal success. Approximately eighty youth fished. School staff and parents accompanied the children.
- Archery equipment (consisting of bows & arrows), eight .22 caliber rifles and four shotguns were loaned from the Club's Hunter Education Program for use in a firearms training and familiarization program to the Riverview Baptist Church (Pasco) youth summer camp held in June and July of this year. About 160-170 youth will attend the camps. Many of the rifles and shotguns belonged to Clare who also donated all the .22 rifle and shotgun ammunition. Training was conducted by the summer camp staff. The Church has an extensive youth program and this is the fourth year the firearms program was conducted at the camp.

WASHINGTON STATE YOUTH CONSERVATION CAMP: The Club is sponsoring 12 youth, nominally eight from the Club and four from Hunter Safety Classes, to this years Washington State Conservation Camp at Orcas Island. Dates of the Camp are July 13-19 for girls and July 20-26 for boys. A camper (boy or girl) must be 12 years or older and not older than 16 years before the camp start date. If you know of a youth(s) who is interested in attending camp contact **Larry Martin at 545-9647** as soon as possible to obtain a registration form. The applications will be accepted in the order received until 12 eligible applications are received. Four applications have been received as of June 17. It will be the responsibility of the parents to transport the camper to and from Anacortes. The Washington State Conservation Camp is a very good and very comprehensive camp and the kids really enjoy themselves. Those who have attended can't wait to go again the next year.

HUNTER EDUCATION CLASSES: - Clare Cranston - Hunter Education classes (Maximum of 32 persons each) are scheduled to start July 7, August 4, September 1, September 29, October 20 and November 10, 2003. There is a possibility that some of the dates may change. Griggs will post the changed dates. There is a \$5 class fee for Hunter Education. Registration is at the Sporting Goods counter at **Grigg's Shopping Center** at 801 W Columbia St. in Pasco. Classes will be held at the Grigg's Store.

CLUB PHOTO CONTEST: There were three entries in June. The winning photo was submitted by Eldon Ladd and show Eldon with a 40 lb.-43 inch long spring Chinook caught April 15 on the Wind River. Eldon will win five free tickets to the September General Meeting raffle. The winning photo and the other two entries can be viewed on the Club's web site at: <http://www.members.tripod.com/rrgclub>.

BLACK POWDER CLUB, SAGE BRUSH TREE TRAPS BREAKFAST GROUP: Jim Shearer

The Black Powder Club, Sage Brush Tree Traps have started a Black Powder breakfast group that meets on the first and third Tuesdays at 7:00 AM at the IHOP restaurant on Canal Drive in Kennewick. If you are interested in having a breakfast away from home once in a while and are a black powder shooter or interested in black powder shooting, feel free to attend. All black powder enthusiasts, male or female, are welcome. For more information call Jim Shearer at 585-3582

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also opens Aug. 1 under fall rules, when both marked and unmarked chinook and adipose-clipped coho may be retained. This year's fishery is expected to produce catches of 13,000 chinook and 3,000 hatchery coho.

Last year's lower mainstem river fishery produced 111,000 angler trips and a catch of 21,200 adult chinook, 3,000 fin-clipped coho and 3,500 fin-clipped summer steelhead. The total fall chinook catch was an all-time record, more than twice that of the previous record year in 2001. Angling effort and catch rates for chinook were also record highs.

In their eagerness to land a fish, boaters are reminded to keep safety in mind and their eyes on commercial ship traffic, fishery managers caution.

Fall salmon seasons also begin Aug. 1 on several Columbia River tributaries, including the Cowlitz, Toutle, Green, Kalama, Lewis, Washougal, Wind and Klickitat rivers, plus Drano Lake. Up to three adult hatchery coho may be retained on the Cowlitz, Toutle, Green, Lewis and Washougal rivers. Anglers are reminded that wild coho and all chum salmon must be released in the mainstem Columbia - including Buoy 10 - and its tributaries downstream from Bonneville Dam.

In a continuing effort to reduce snagging, new angling restrictions will be in effect on several southwest Washington waters. On the lower Kalama and Washougal rivers, line and weight or lure or bait must be moving (not stationary) beginning Sept. 1. Night closures and non-buoyant lure restrictions will begin Aug. 1 in the Bonneville Pool, a month earlier than in the past. Non-buoyant lure restrictions will also be in effect Aug. 1 on the lower portions of the Wind and Klickitat rivers.

More information on regulations is available in the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's Fishing In Washington rules pamphlet or on the department's website on the Internet at <http://www.wa.gov/wdfw/>.

TESTS SHOW WASHINGTON DEER, ELK FREE OF CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE; MORE CHECKS

PLANNED IN FALL: A WDFW News Release. OLYMPIA - Washington deer and elk remain free of chronic wasting disease (CWD), recently completed tests on tissue samples from nearly 1,000 animals indicate. The tests were conducted primarily on animals harvested during 2002 fall hunts. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) plans to continue monitoring by collecting another 1,000 samples from deer and elk this year. The state began targeted surveillance for CWD in 1995 and initiated more intensive tests of hunter-killed animals two years ago when the disease began appearing

in deer and elk in other states outside its previously known range. To date, the fatal illness of deer and elk has been detected in a dozen other states and Canada. A total of 1,557 tissue samples from Washington deer and elk have been tested for CWD in the past two years, with 898 samples taken last year and 659 collected in 2001. For more information visit the departments web site at <http://www.wa.gov/wdfw/do/newreal/jul2503a.htm>.



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August 2003

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MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

JULY GENERAL MEETING - THERE ARE NO GENERAL MEETINGS IN JULY OR AUGUST

BOARD MEETING - Tuesday, August 19, 2003, 7:00 PM - City of Richland Maintenance Facility

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - August 20, 2003, CALL EDDIE AT 586-6009 or emanthos@aol.com.

RR&GC ANNUAL PICNIC August 5, 2003 AT SOUTH LESLIE GROVES PARK (Tuesday) 6:00 PM

M McNARY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE DUCK BANDING FOR YOUTH - Saturday, August 16, 9:00 A.M. at

Refuge Headquarters in Burbank

AUGUST GENERAL MEETING

There will be no General Meeting in August. The August meeting is replaced by the Club's annual picnic/salmon barbecue on Tuesday, August 5 (see article below.)

RR&GC ANNUAL CLUB PICNIC: The Club's annual salmon barbecue and picnic will be held on Tuesday, August 5 starting at 6:00 P.M. at South Leslie Groves Park. (Leslie Grove 1.) 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 your dish. If your family name starts with A through G please bring a salad dish to share, if your name begins with H through P bring a side dish and Q through Z bring a dessert. Bring your own eating 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, wading pool and a horseshoe pit.

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DUCK BANDING FOR YOUTH AT McNARY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE: A duck banding project is scheduled for RR&GC youth, Ducks Unlimited Greenwings and other interested local youth, 17 years of age and under. The banding is being sponsored/organized by the FWS/McNary National Wildlife Refuge, the RR&GC, the Kennewick Ducks

Unlimited chapter and Sand and Sage Hunting Retriever club. Banding will take place at McNary Wildlife Refuge on Saturday, August 16 starting at 8:00 AM. The youth will learn about the migratory habits of waterfowl and the importance of banding in waterfowl research and management. Meet in the parking lot at the McNary NWR Headquarters at Burbank, 600 Maple St. Come dressed (long pants and insect repellent) for the occasion and bring a duck call so that you can compete in the calling contest. The ducks will have been trapped earlier and the youth will help band the ducks. The day's tentative schedule is:

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WASHINGTON STATE YOUTH CONSERVATION CAMP: Three girls and five boys attended the Washington State Conservation Camp at Orcas Island. Two girls attended the Inland Empire Natural Resources Youth Camp earlier at Camp N-Sid-Sen on the eastern shore of Lake Couer d'Alene. Two older girls, Victoria and Vanessa Manthos, that attended the camp in 2002 were counselors there this year, Vanessa was selected to be the Recreation Coordinator at next years Camp.

HUNTER EDUCATION CLASSES: - Clare Cranston - Hunter Education classes (Maximum of 32 persons each) are scheduled to start August 4, September 1, September 29, October 20 and November 10, 2003. There is a possibility that some of the dates may change. Griggs will post the changed dates. There is a \$5 class fee for Hunter Education. Registration is at the Sporting Goods counter at **Grigg's Shopping Center** at 801 W Columbia St. in Pasco. Classes will be held at the Grigg's Store.

CLUB PHOTO CONTEST: There was one entry in July. The winning photo was submitted by Eddie Manthos and was taken at the May 3 Fishing Kids event at the Columbia Park Fishing Pond. It shows a young lady with a very large catfish she caught and is handing it to Mike O'Neil at the 'fish cleaning station'. Eddie will win five free tickets to the September General Meeting raffle. The winning photo can be viewed on the Club's web site at: <http://www.members.tripod.com/rrgclub>.

BLACK POWDER CLUB, SAGE BRUSH FREE-TRAPPERS BREAKFAST GROUP: Jim Shearer - The Black Powder Club, Sage Brush Free-Trappers have started a Black Powder breakfast group that meets on the first and third Tuesdays at 7:00 AM at the IHOP restaurant on Canal Drive in Kennewick. If you are interested in having a breakfast away from home once in a while and are a black powder shooter or interested in black powder shooting, feel free to attend. All black powder enthusiasts, male or female, are welcome. The group held their first General Meeting on July 23 at the West Richland Public library. For more information call Jim Shearer at 585-3582.

EYES IN THE WOODS TRAINING

An Eyes In The Woods training class, Crime Observation & Reporting Training, will take place on Tuesday August 12 at the Hunter Education facility at Grigg's Shopping Center in Pasco. Entrance to the facility is well marked, outside of the store and just east of the main entrance to the store. The class lasts about two hours and is the second class offered this year in the Tri-Cities. Call Jim Shearer (the Eyes In The Woods coordinator) at 585-3582 or e-mail him at goofusb2@earthlink.net for more information and to register for the class. The first class took place on February 19, 2003. Thirty two students attended. WDFW Enforcement Officers Doug Flohr and Brian Fulton taught that class.

Jim is looking for some help to publicize and recruit applicants for future Crime Observation & Reporting Training classes at the August 16 Youth Duck Banding at the McNary Refuge. If you can help please call Jim at 585-3582.

QUALITY TRIP: Lyle Gilk presented plans to the Board of Directors at the June meeting for a trophy Whitetail Deer hunt in Minnesota the second week in November. Lyle was the winner of the Quality Trip raffle at the Wild Game dinner. He and his wife will participate in the hunt. The Board unanimously voted to approve the hunt

MCNARY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE (NWR) HUNT PERMIT APPLICATIONS: Hunting permit applications for the Burbank Slough area of the Refuge are due by September 2. The application can be obtained on-line at the Refuge's web site at <http://midcolumbiariver.fws.gov/mcnary/> or at the refuge headquarters in Pasco at 2805 St. Andrews Loop (between the airport and the Red Lion Inn). This years applications should be available on the web site soon. Hunt regulations for 2003-2004 seasons and Tear Sheets-Maps should also be available soon on the web site which is under construction.

2003 SPECIAL HUNT PERMIT DRAWING RESULTS - From WDFW Web Page

OVERALL RESULTS OF THE 2003 SPECIAL PERMIT DRAWINGS							
Application Totals	Permit Quota	Permits Issued	# of Hunters Applying	Selected as 1 st Choice	Selected as 2 nd Choice	Selected as 3 rd Choice	Selected as 4 th Choice
Deer	14,880	13,534	33,784	9,133	2,306	1,282	813
Elk	8,502	8,366	39,068	4,601	1,982	1,146	637
Bighorn Sheep	23	23	7,461	14	6	2	1
Moose	94	94	11,320	74	6	2	12
Mountain Goat	19	19	5,484	11	6	2	0
Black Bear	105	105	626	85	8	9	3
Turkey	2,175	2,117	2,883	1,727	242	109	39
All Species Total	25,798	24,258	51,607	15,645	4,556	2,552	1,505

YOUTH HUNTING MENTORS NEEDED: Mark Cook, a member of the RR&GC and local chapter of Safari Club International (SCI) is spearheading a SCI effort to organize a list of hunters who are willing to mentor youth during the Youth Hunting Weekend in September. Mark is looking for mentors to take a first year hunter afield during the September Youth Hunting Weekend. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Mark Cook by e-mail at grizzlybear16@hotmail.com or by phone at 582-4760. Mark's role will be to match kids with mentors for waterfowl and pheasant hunts. This a very important project. Without a mentor, many of these youth will not be able to hunt. This is your chance to introduce them to hunting and show them what hunting is all about.

BUOY 10 SALMON FISHERY AUG. 1 OPENING: A WDFW news release. OLYMPIA - When the popular Buoy 10 salmon fishery opens Aug. 1 at mouth of the Columbia River, anglers will find new fishing rules to aid them in their pursuit of fall chinook and hatchery coho salmon. A new party fishing regulation in Oregon, which mirrors a previously existing rule in Washington, now allows boat anglers on either side of the Columbia River from Buoy 10 upstream to the Rocky Point / Tongue Point line to keep their gear in the water until the daily limits for all licensed and juvenile anglers on board have been reached. Previously, boat fishers in Oregon waters were required to bring in their lines once their individual limits were reached, even if others on board had not caught their limit.

In another new rule, a bonus bag limit for coho will go into effect Aug. 16 in Buoy 10 waters. The Buoy 10 fishery opens Aug. 1 with a daily limit of two fish but increases to three fish daily beginning Aug. 16. Only one fish per day may be a chinook. With more than 595,000 fall chinook expected to return to the mouth of the Columbia this year, along with 429,000 coho, the Buoy 10 and lower Columbia sport fisheries are expected to attract considerable attention from anglers.

The projected fall chinook return, although lower than last year's near-record return of 733,000 adults, would still be the fourth-largest return since 1948. This year's expected coho return is similar to last year, when an estimated 511,000 adult coho returned.

This year's Buoy 10 fishery is expected to produce catches of 18,000 chinook and 37,000 coho. Last year, the Buoy 10 fishery prompted 84,000 angler trips, resulting in catches of 19,400 chinook and 6,200 adipose fin-clipped coho. The fall chinook catch was the largest since 1987, and the third-highest on record.

Bank anglers are reminded the Columbia River North Jetty is open to salmon fishing seven days per week when the Buoy 10 or Marine Area 1 salmon fishery is open. Daily limit and minimum size requirements follow the most liberal regulations of either area. Salmon anglers can use barbed hooks at Buoy 10 and on the North Jetty.

Meanwhile, salmon fishing on the mainstem Columbia from the Rocky Point / Tongue Point line upstream to Bonneville Dam,

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VOTE ON LAWSUIT PREEMPTION COULD BE NEAR: A NRA Grass Roots Alert. "As we've repeatedly and consistently noted in the Grassroots Alert, one of NRA-ILA's top legislative priorities in Congress continues to be the passage of a federal law to block reckless, predatory lawsuits against the firearm industry. The passage of S. 659 is critically important. We hope to have a vote on this crucial legislation in the coming weeks, and we cannot over-emphasize the need for you to remain actively engaged in ensuring its passage. It is imperative that you continue to contact your U.S. Senators in support of S. 659 and urge them to do everything in their power to end these meritless lawsuits and ensure that this essential legislation is approved. Let your Senators know that it is crucial they cosponsor and support S. 659. Also, please urge them to support the will of the majority by working to derail the filibuster that anti-gun Senators have threatened to launch in a last-ditch attempt to defeat S. 659. Also please continue to communicate with your U.S. Representative and your Senators, and urge them to oppose current legislation seeking to reauthorize and expand the 1994 Clinton gun ban-H.R. 2038, S. 1431, and S. 1034, respectively. Please remember that for all of the above-mentioned action items, you can find contact information for your elected officials (including their district office contact information) by using the "Write Your Representatives" tool at www.NRAILA.org, or you can call your U.S. Senators at (202) 224-3121 and your U.S. Representative at (202) 225-3121."

U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance ON TARGET Sportsmen's News Headlines:

Wisconsin To Conduct First Dove Hunt

The Wisconsin Supreme Court has rejected a last minute attempt by anti-hunters to block the state's inaugural mourning dove hunt that begins September 1. More information is at <http://www.ussportsmen.org/interactive/features/Read.cfm?ID=1126>

Apartment Complex Torched By Environmental Terrorists

The Earth Liberation Front (ELF), a group that uses economic sabotage to protest environmental issues, has claimed responsibility for a \$50 million arson fire near San Diego, California. More information is at: <http://www.ussportsmen.org/interactive/features/Read.cfm?ID=1127>

FBI Raids Residence of Animal Activists

Federal agents searched the home of two animal rights activists as part of an investigation into a \$50 million arson for which the Earth Liberation Front (ELF) has claimed responsibility. It is the costliest act ever by the environmental terror group.

More information is at: <http://www.ussportsmen.org/interactive/features/Read.cfm?ID=1133>

Animal Rights Group Promotes Vegetarianism as the Way to Salvation

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) has a new anti-meat campaign that instructs people to "Go Vegetarian and Be Saved." More information is at: <http://www.ussportsmen.org/interactive/features/Read.cfm?ID=1130>



RICHLAND ROD & GUN CLUB

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September, 2003

Volume 58, No. 09

Club Web Site - <http://www.members.tripod.com/rrgclub/>

2003 Officers

Mike Estes, President (582-2212)

Russ Wyer, Vice President (627-4308)

Lyle Gilk, Treasurer (627-3441)

Eddie Manthos, Secretary (586-6009)

Jack Pickard, Membership Information (582-5397)

MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING - Tuesday, September 2, 2003, 7:00 PM - City of Richland Maintenance Facility

BOARD MEETING - Tuesday, September 16, 2003, 7:00 PM - City of Richland Maintenance Facility

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - September 24, 2003, CALL EDDIE AT 586-6009 or emanthos@aol.com.

SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING

The first meeting of the fall season will be 7:00 PM September 2 at the City of Richland Maintenance Facility, Exit 3 from I-182 to Queensgate Drive, across from the WalMart. The speakers will discuss the hunting forecasts for big game, upland game and waterfowl for WDFW Regions 1 and 3 including the USFWS Mid Columbia refuges.

- Pat Fowler, Region 1 biologist, will discuss general hunting prospects for upland game and big game.
- Lee Stream, Region 3 biologist will cover the hunting forecast for Region 3, unit boundary changes, elk season changes, new deer areas near Paterson and fire closures to public lands.
- Gary Hagedorn, USFWS manager of the Mid Columbia River Refuges, will discuss waterfowl and upland bird hunting on the Toppenish, McNary, and Umatilla Refuges. He will also discuss the impact of Highway 12 construction on waterfowl hunting and access to Casey Pond.
- If you haven't finalized your hunting plans for the 2003-2004 season, or even if you have but would like a better feel for your chances of success or more information about the area you will be hunting, this program is for you.

SALMON BOOTH 2003: - Dale Schielke & Howard Gardner. In its 18th year, the Salmon Booth was successfully run under the banner of the Columbia Basin Flycasters. This year the profit was \$5136.27 to be shared equally by both clubs. "The Salmon Sandwich", in its fifth year, continues to be a good seller. A total of 600 pounds of salmon fillets were prepared and served as dinners or sandwiches. We ran out of salmon ~6:00PM Saturday afternoon and started booth clean up. As in the past, activities associated with the Booth were conducted smoothly thanks to the following great group of volunteers which includes members of both our Club and the Columbia Basin Flycasters: Mike McWethy*, Marv Clement, Tom*, Mary and Grace Davis, Don Barnes*, Jeff Gardner, Karen Montgomery, Wade Warrant, John Hall, John and Debbie O'Leary, Lou La Douceur, Gene Woodruff, Ben Webb, Rusty and Leslie Morlan, Jim Shearer, Ed VanderVeer, Jerry Zeitler*, John Pfeiffer*, Dave and Sammy Myers, Richard "Mac" McDonnell*, Duane Sobotka, Walt Allen, Harold Heacock*, Eddie and Nancy Manthos*, Lyle* and Evon Gilk, Larry Martin*, Paul Kison, Gene Van Liew, Mike* and Karen Estes, Rich and Pat Holten, Ev Weakley*, Tim Logan, Bill Davis, Rocky Ross, Steve Anthony, Gary and Arye Mills, Tom and Hana Kimball, Dale Landon, Dennis and Sue Kreid, Dale* and Lou Ann Schielke, Bill Brower, Ellen Bentley*, Dennis Collins, Cliff Hampton,

Craig Anderson, Marilyn Matthies, Larry Worden, Gaylord Pyle, Mike O'Neal, Mike Hall, Jack Pickard, Reed Kaldor and Howard Gardner*. A special thanks to Dale Schielke and Dennis Spore for again coordinating the tough job of solicitation of volunteer workers for the Booth. Also, a special thanks to Ev Weakley for arranging for ice for use in the booth and to John Pfeiffer for again managing booth setup, tear down and storage, no small task. As in previous years, we received a clean bill of health from the Benton-Franklin District Health Dept. Our extra effort in temperature control and cleanliness pays off. In addition, we get many compliments on the dinners/sandwiches and many customers that come down year after year for the delicious salmon. Next year the Richland Rod and Gun Club will take the lead. Thanks again to a great group of volunteers. *Indicates those working more than one shift. Again, many thanks to Dale and Howard for working so hard to organize the event and purchase and stage all the supplies needed to make the Booth a success. They have been doing this since the first Salmon Booth, many years ago. Without their direction it would be very difficult to hold a successful event. They put in many, many hours to make sure everything went off smoothly. Thank you very much!!

RR&GC ANNUAL CLUB PICNIC: The Club's annual salmon barbecue and picnic was held on Tuesday, August 5. In spite of threatening weather about 70 adults and kids attended. The alder smoked salmon was exceptional; in fact it was so good there were no leftovers. The *pot luck* side dishes, salads and desserts were very good and plentiful. About the time we finished eating, a 'Tri-Cities' wind started blowing and kept increasing in intensity. In spite of the wind, the Liars Contest was held. There were five entrants. Winner of first place (Biggest Liar) was young/cute Joanna O'Neill, second place (Bigger Liar) was Mike Estes and third place (Big Liar) was Dave Myers. Many thanks to Russ Wyer who organized the picnic, served the salmon and ran the liars contest. Howard Gardner cooked the salmon and Dave Myers transported the salmon cookers to and from the picnic. Many older Club members, that we do not usually see at General Meetings, attended the picnic and met many of the newer members. We all had a great time.

2003 YOUTH DUCK BANDING AT MCNARY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE: About 10-15 youth and their parents, grandparents and others attended the duck banding project at the McNary National Wildlife Refuge in Burbank on Saturday, August 16. Four of the youth and two parents traveled all the way from Ellensburg to participate in the banding and especially compete in the duck calling competition; they also said that they would return next year. Rebecca Chuck, former refuge manager, and her two children traveled from Oregon to attend. FWS biologists Howard Browers and Molly Jacky, Refuge Manager John Gahr and Rebecca Bowers helped at the banding. Only 5 ducks, all mallards, had been trapped earlier and were in a cage at the edge of the slough. Because of predators and the number of ducks present on the refuge, the number of trapped ducks was significantly lower than in previous years. Howard stated that in 2002 a total of 500 ducks were trapped; this year the number of trapped ducks had decreased to 200. As each duck was removed from the cage, Howard and Molly pointed out distinguishing characteristics of the duck that determined its age and sex. The youth including 2 year old Sarah Evans, granddaughter of Dale and LouAnn Schielke, were allowed to touch and pet the ducks. Some of the youth were able to hold a duck while it was banded. After banding, the youth held the duck and walked to the edge of the slough and released it to swim or fly away, depending on if the duck was in molt. There was a very good article describing the event in the 'Tri-City Herald' the next day.

- After the banding was completed, the youth were divided into groups that traveled to seven different stations where they looked at the composition of pond water and mud samples under a microscope, watched retriever dog demonstrations, learned how to call ducks and geese, observed waterfowl mounts, learned about gun and hunter safety, observed a Washington Wildlife Coalition display table, learned about wood duck nesting boxes, helped build a box and walked to a nesting box installed in the refuge three years ago and checked out its interior.
- Volunteers from the McNary Environmental Education Center (MEECe) set up a display complete with microscopes and pond water and mud samples where youth and their parents could observe the makeup of the samples.
- Members of the Sand and Sage Retriever Club and their retrievers put on retrieving demonstrations at the edge of the slough that were absolutely amazing.
- Jeff Rampon demonstrated duck calling and the various kinds of calls (feeding, highball etc) used by waterfowl hunters.
- Tom Kinney of Still Life Taxidermy brought a number of mounts of various duck species and displayed them. Identity of the birds was written on face-down cards and youth and adults were able to guess the identity of the mount and then turn the card over and see if they were correct.
- Clare Cranston had a large display of different firearms that the youth attempted to identify. Clare talked to the youth about firearms handling and safety. He also spoke to them about hunter safety and hunting ethics.
- Jim Shearer had a display which showed the purpose of the Washington Wildlife Coalition and the 'Go Play Outside' program. He passed out fishing line clippers, lollipops and Salmon ID Key Chains that identify the different kinds of salmon, steelhead and how to differentiate between wild and hatchery fish.
- Dale Schielke had a wood duck nesting box display along with instructions for building and installing the nesting boxes. He explained the results from installation of 200 local nesting boxes. Each of the groups was able to participate in the construction of a nesting box from pre-cut parts. After the box was completed they walked to a nesting box installed three

years ago in reeds. They were able to climb a ladder and inspect the interior of the box.

- Snacks and refreshments, including smoked duck, were available for all. The local Ducks Unlimited Chapter had posters, coloring books, insect repellent packets, small single cell AA flashlights, fish 'DeLiars' and other goodies for the kids to take home. They could also purchase Greenwings caps, duck calls and duck calling instructional cassettes. Application forms for Ducks Unlimited Greenwings membership were also available.
- The duck calling contest was the last event judges were biologists Howard Browers and Molly Jacky. There were about ten entrants. Entrants without a call were loaned a call from the other participants. All four of the boys from Ellensburg entered the contest. There was one winner for each of the three age groups. Hayden Nelson won the under age 8 group. Winner of the age 8 to 13 group was Nate Johnson. Winner of the age 14-17 group was Tyler Bosko from Ellensburg. Some of the boys were very accomplished callers. I know they would put me to shame. The event, in spite of small numbers of youth, was very successful. The weather was very cooperative. Cool in the morning and starting to warm up as the event ended about noon. Jeff Rampon did an exceptional job organizing the event. Club members that helped were Dale Schielke, Eddie Manthos, John Pfeiffer, Clare Cranston, Jim Shearer, Mike Estes and Jeff Rampon. Many thanks to Sand and Sage Retriever Club members, Tom Kinney of Still Life Taxidermy, staff from the McNary Refuge and MEECe volunteers. Once again it was a beautiful day, the kids learned a lot and had fun. We were impressed with the children's enthusiasm during the different events.

HUNTER EDUCATION CLASSES: - Clare Cranston - Hunter Education classes (Maximum of 32 persons each) are scheduled to start September 1, September 29, October 20 and November 10, 2003. There is a possibility that some of the dates may change. Griggs will post the changed dates. There is a \$5 class fee for Hunter Education. Registration is at the Sporting Goods counter at **Grigg's Shopping Center** at 801 W Columbia St. in Pasco. Classes will be held at the Grigg's Store.

CLUB PHOTO CONTEST: There were four entries in July. The winning photo was submitted by Mike Estes and shows Mike, John Pfeiffer and Jeff Rampon with a days harvest of ducks and geese bagged at McNary Wildlife Refuge last fall. Bob Henke took the photograph and was the fourth hunter in the group. Mike will win five free tickets to the September General Meeting raffle. The winning photo and the other entries can be viewed on the Club's web site at: <http://www.members.tripod.com/rrgclub>.

FISHING MENTORS FOR HANDICAPPED KIDS NEEDED: - Jim Shearer. Club members with power boats are needed to volunteer and take handicapped kids fishing on Sunday, September 21 at Clear Lake (off Highway 12 and behind Rimrock Lake). Fishing will begin at 8:00 AM. A picnic lunch and refreshments will be provided. If you wish to volunteer for this very worthwhile project and/or need more information call Jim Shearer at 585-3582.

EYES IN THE WOODS TRAINING

An Eyes In The Woods training class, Crime Observation & Reporting Training, took place on Tuesday August 12 at the Hunter Education Facility at Grigg's Shopping Center in Pasco. WDFW Enforcement Officer Brian Fulton taught the class to six students that successfully completed the training and were each awarded a 'Certificate Of Training'. A total of thirty eight students have successfully completed the training this year in the Tri-Cities

YOUTH HUNTING MENTORS NEEDED: Mark Cook, a member of the RR&GC and local chapter of Safari Club International (SCI) is spearheading a SCI effort to organize a list of hunters who are willing to mentor youth during the Youth Hunting Weekend September 20 and 21. Mark is looking for mentors to take a first year hunter afield during the September Youth Hunting Weekend. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Mark Cook by e-mail at grizzlybear16@hotmail.com or by phone at 582-4760. Mark's role will be to match kids with mentors for waterfowl and pheasant hunts. This a very important project. Without a mentor, many of these youth will not be able to hunt. This is your chance to introduce them to hunting and show them what it is all about.

FALL WATERFOWL HUNTING SEASONS: The waterfowl and upland bird hunting regulations for 2003-2004 should be at license vendors soon. They can be viewed online at www.wa.gov/wdfw/wlm/game/water/water.htm. This year the waterfowl season will open on Saturday October 11; the pheasant season will open a week later on Saturday October 18. The Youth Hunt will be September 20 and 21.

- The duck season will be from Oct. 11 to Oct. 15, 2003, closed October 16 and 17 and then reopen Oct. 18, 2003 through Jan. 25, 2004, except pintail and canvasback season closed Oct. 18 - Dec. 1, 2003. The Daily bag limit is 7 ducks - to include not more than 2 hen mallards, 1 pintail (see limited season dates above), 4 scaup, 1 canvasback (see limited season dates above), 2 redheads, 1 harlequin, 4 scoters, and 4 long-tailed ducks.
- The goose season in Goose Managementt. Area 4 (includes Benton, Franklin & Walla Walla counties) is Oct. 11-13, 2003, and Saturdays, Sundays, and Wednesdays only during Oct. 18, 2003 - Jan. 18, 2004; Nov. 11, 27, and 28, 2003; Dec. 25, 26, 29, and 30, 2003; Jan. 1, 2004; and every day Jan. 19-25, 2004. The daily limit is 4 geese - to include not more than 3 snow, Ross', or blue. Please note that the goose regulations for other Goose Management areas are different. Please check the MIGRATORY WATERFOWL AND UPLAND GAME SEASONS pamphlet before you hunt ducks or geese. Also remember that if you go dove hunting your license must have a State Migratory Bird validation on it.
- The pheasant season will run from October 18 to December 31, 2003, except for the Sept 20-21 Youth Hunt. Daily limit continues to be 3 roosters.

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and turn to the right to access the range. An "open range day" for beginners of all ages will be held. Rimfire rifles, ammunition, targets, and hearing and eye protection will be provided. There is no charge; donations will be accepted to offset ammunition and target costs. The sponsors are the TCMSA, Ducks Unlimited and Richland Rod and Gun Club.

CLUB WEB PAGE ADDITIONS: The Club's Web Site is at <http://www.members.tripod.com/rrgclub>. The 'Volunteer Work' link has been updated and shows new photographs of the different projects that we have worked on. Take a look at the photographs and see if you are in any of the photos.

ATTENTION HUNTERS!!: The hunting season has started and once again and the Club is looking for donations of game meat for next spring's Wild Game Dinner that will be held in March 2004. The game meat includes waterfowl, other unique game meat such as bear or boar, upland birds and clean, boneless big game roasts. Halibut, steelhead and salmon can also be used. 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: (the diagram is shown on the Club's web page under 'Club News-Newsletter' and click on 'Other Club News'). 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 (NO GROUND MEAT PLEASE). 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). Chuck has control of the key. If you have any questions, call Jerry Zeitler at 545-6694. All donations will be greatly appreciated the night of the Wild Game Dinner. Good hunting!

PUBLIC SAFETY COUGAR REMOVAL PERMITS: - A WDFW News Release. OLYMPIA - Washington hunters interested in assisting the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) with public-safety cougar removals have until Oct. 15 to apply for special permits. The requests are being taken in accordance with rules adopted Aug. 1 by the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission that allow the use of dogs to remove cougars in limited areas where cougars have been judged to be a threat to human safety, based on past complaints. For more information see <http://www.wa.gov/wdfw/do/sep03/sep2603a.htm> on the Internet.



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October, 2003

Volume 58, No. 10

Club Web Site - <http://www.members.tripod.com/rrgclub/>

2003 Officers

Mike Estes, President (582-2212)

Russ Wyer, Vice President (627-4308)

Lyle Gilk, Treasurer (627-3441)

Eddie Manthos, Secretary (586-6009)

Jack Pickard, Membership Information (582-5397)

MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING - Tuesday, October 7, 2003, 7:00 PM - City of Richland Maintenance Facility

BOARD MEETING - Tuesday, October 21, 2003, 7:00 PM - City of Richland Maintenance Facility

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - October 23, 2003, CALL EDDIE AT 586-6009 or emanthos@aol.com.

OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING

Darci Teel, Life Member of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, will give an Elk hunting presentation with emphasis on where to find elk, types of calls and hunting with partners. She will speak about how to find elk in remote areas, packing into these areas and the type of equipment needed for a successful hunt. She will demonstrate various 'Sceery' calls, explain how to use them to communicate with elk and discuss how to coordinate calls between partners to imitate moving herds. Darci is an avid outdoor enthusiast and is a sponsor of Becoming an Outdoors Woman and was a founder of Washington Outdoor Women. She is also a member of the National Rifle Association, Ducks Unlimited and Pheasants Forever. Bring your wife, daughter or lady friend to the meeting. They will find it interesting. Darci will have information/handouts describing 'Becoming An Outdoors Woman' and 'Washington Outdoor Women'. The meeting will be at our usual meeting place at the City of Richland Maintenance Facility on Tuesday October 7 and will start at 7:00 PM.

BRING A PROSPECTIVE NEW MEMBER TO THE MEETING AND RECEIVE FIVE FREE RAFFLE TICKETS.

SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING REPORT: - Club president Mike Estes opened the meeting. Visitors present introduced themselves. Mike Livingston, a WDFW biologist assigned to the Pasco office also introduced himself. The following announcements were made:

- Paul Hoffarth, local WDFW fish biologist, announced that three ponds, containing black crappie fry, at Ringold are going to be drawn down September 8, 9 and 10 and volunteers are needed to help round up and capture the fry. Paul said that volunteers can contact him by phone at his Pasco office.

- Mike Estes announced that Mark Cook is looking for hunters who are willing to mentor youth during the Youth Hunting Weekend September 20 and 21.

- Eddie Manthos announced that Clare Cranston is organizing a pheasant shoot for about 17 Hunter Education student graduates at Limits Game Farm on Saturday September 20. Jeff Rampon said that adult *guides* are needed to accompany each student during the hunt.

- Gene VanLiew described the status of efforts to ensure that the Yakima River easement(s) proclaimed by the Atomic Energy Commission are allowed.

- Program Chairman Russ Wyer introduced the first speaker of the evening, WDFW Region 1 Wildlife Biologist Pat Fowler.

■ Pat reported that the upland bird hunting in Region 1 should be good. There was optimal nesting weather this year and nesting success was high. Pheasant hunting should be good especially in brushy areas and in the breaks. He said that Chukar broods averaged about 10 birds and flock size averaged 50-60 birds. Quail and Hungarian Partridge hunting should be good also and they should be hunted at higher elevations. Grouse numbers are also good in the Blue Mountains.

■ Black bear populations are up in the Blue Mountains. Hunters should hunt the bears in areas with huckleberries.

■ Deer populations are good. Because of no autumn rains the last two years, deer numbers are lower than they have been in the past two years. Mule deer hunting in the Snake River breaks should be good. White Tails should be hunted in the foothills of the Blue Mountains. Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease (EHD) die off of White Tails is possible this year unless there is a good early frost.

■ Elk populations have declined to about 4500 animals. Elk production was good this year, elk survival however was low. In the Wenaha Wilderness, elk numbers have declined from 2000 animals to 500. Elk populations in the mountains have declined and have increased in adjacent farm lands. Elk populations in the Lick Creek area are about 600 to 700 animals. There will be limited hunting opportunities in the Lick Creek area because of heavy hunting by the Nez Percé. Elk numbers in the Tucannon are about 450, the goal for that region is 600 animals. Hunting for spike bulls in that region may be good in canyons. In past years, the number of elk hunters in the Blues was about 18,000 and has decreased to about 3,500 at the present time.

● The second speaker was Lee Stream, Region 3 Wildlife Biologist. He reported that 70 elk from the Yakima elk herd have been fitted with radio-telemetry collars.

■ The dove season, as of September 2, seemed to be good.

■ Grouse hunting should be good, especially the further north you go.

■ Quail production was good. Hunting should be good especially along rivers.

■ Pheasant production was good and pheasant numbers are up.

■ Chukar and Hungarian Partridge numbers have increased slightly, hunting should be better in the north.

■ Lee also stated that duck production appears to be up.

■ Bear and cougar numbers in Region 3 are low.

■ Deer overwintered well, fawn production was down this spring.

■ Elk numbers seem to be unchanged from last year. Calf production was down to about 19 calves per hundred elk, compared to optimum production of 40 to 45 calves per hundred. Calf production in the Colockum was also down to about 19 per hundred and as a consequence elk numbers have decreased some in the Coluckum.

■ Lee stated that as of September 2, the south fork of the Tieton was closed to off road travel and camp fires were not allowed because of the fire hazard. Hunters should check for fire closures before they go hunting.

● Gary Hagedorn, USFWS manager of the Mid Columbia River Refuges, was the final speaker.

■ Gary announced that Casey Pond will be closed to hunting this season because of Highway 12 construction and the location of the new boat launch constructed to replace the old launch at the other end of Casey Pond off Highway 12. The new boat launch is completed and can be used to launch boats during the waterfowl season and can be accessed from Hanson Loop Road off Highway 12.

■ The Peninsula unit will be open 7 days a week this season to help make up for the Casey Pond closure. Because of road construction activity on the Two Rivers Unit, pheasant stocking by Washington State will be on the Peninsula Unit this year.

■ Access to the Two Rivers Unit will be either from the old access road or a new access road being built by the highway commission, depending on when the new road is completed. The new access road will be on the right side of Highway 12, about where the junction to the Iowa Beef road is. There will be new wetlands created on the Two Rivers Unit as a result of the highway construction.

■ Gary stated that the parking lot for the Ridge Unit, off State Highway 14, has been moved because of railroad track trespassing concerns by the railroad company. Another problem was that hunters have pulled aluminum boats over the railroad tracks and short circuited the railroad signals.

■ Water management problems at the Wallula Unit are being worked on and should be resolved soon. There will be four flooded units north of the Walla Walla River and three on the south side this fall.

■ There have been no changes at the Toppenish Refuge, the vehicle parking spaces are numbered and correspond to the blind number assigned to each hunter group. In other words, if you park in space #5 you will hunt at blind #5. If all the numbered parking spaces are occupied, the blinds are full and a blind will not be available until a parking space/blind is vacated. The fields have not been flooded yet because of endangered fish species minimum flow requirements in the creek(s) from which the water is obtained. Gary said that they should be able to obtain water from other sources this fall so that the

fields can be flooded for the waterfowl season.

● All three speakers, at the end of their presentation, answered many questions from the audience.

● Raffle prize winners were Vince Guerero who won a camouflage back pack., Gaylord Pyle-100 #8 12 ga, shotgun shells, John Pfeiffer and Bob Henke each won a 12 volt search light, Dan McGuire and Mike Neal won a *FatFish* lure and Mike O'Neill won two *FatFish* lures and a jar of *Erupt* bait.

HUNTER EDUCATION CLASSES: - Clare Cranston - Hunter Education classes (Maximum of 32 persons each) are scheduled to start October 20 and November 10, 2003. There is a \$5 class fee for Hunter Education. Registration is at the Sporting Goods counter at **Grigg's Shopping Center** at 801 W Columbia St. in Pasco. Classes will be held at the Grigg's Store.

CLUB PHOTO CONTEST: There were four entries in September. The winning photo was submitted by Richard Sharp and shows Richard holding a 23 ½ inch long - 19 ½ inch girth smallmouth that he caught in Spring Lake in September. He caught the fish on a Primus rod and reel that he won at the February 2003 Club General Meeting; he was using 4 pound test line when he caught the fish..Richard will win five free tickets to the October General Meeting raffle. The winning photo and the other entries can be viewed on the Club's web site at: <http://www.members.tripod.com/rrgclub>.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS: - Dan McGuire from Kennewick, Bill Hays from Pasco and Todd Gervais and Steve and Dan Allen and Family from Richland. They all signed up for membership at the September General Meeting.

RINGOLD CRAPPIE FRY HARVEST: - On Sept 8, 9 and 10 five Club members worked with the WDFW to gather/clean out Black Crappie fry from three rearing ponds at Ringold. John Lavender and Russ Wyer worked on the first pond on September 8. Russ, Bob Henke and Carl Higby worked on the second pond the next day. Bob and Bill Hays worked on the third pond on Sept. 10. Paul Hoffarth, WDFW Fish Biologist was there on the 9th and was pleased with the assistance he received from the Club. Bob Henke reported that the third day was the most productive. He said that there were lots more fry in the last pond and that he, personally, must have picked up more than 500. He felt very good about the opportunity to participate in the project. The fry will be stocked in various locations throughout the State.

SEPTEMBER 21 HUNTER EDUCATION STUDENTS PHEASANT HUNT: - Fifteen Hunter Education student graduates from the Club's Hunter Education program participated in a pheasant *shoot*, organized by Clare Cranston, at Dave Piovesan's *Limits Game Farm* north of Mesa Saturday September 21. Seven students were in the first group and the remaining eight were in the second group. Before the pheasant *shoot* each group shot at least one round of trap at the Connell Gun Club. They then proceeded to the Limits Game Farm where they hunted in groups of two or three with hunting dogs and their handlers and a coach for each student. Prior to each hunt Dave Piovesan and his staff *planted* the pheasants that were hunted. The day started at 8:00 AM for the first group and ended about 2:00 PM for the second group. A total of seven birds were harvested, one other bird was hit hard and dropped but was not found by the dogs. Three of the 15 students were girls and each shot a bird. One of the students harvested two birds. The students each cleaned their bird(s), under the tutelage of Doug Piovesan (Dave's son) and Toby Cochran. The students, their parents and siblings, dog handlers, coaches and other helpers were treated to Polish sausage hot dogs, hamburgers, chips etc and soft drinks donated by the Ringold chapter of *Pheasants Forever* and prepared by chefs Barry McEachen and Ignacio Escalera (Mr. Nacho).

Doug Helton of United Rentals, in Pasco, paid for the pheasants that were planted for the shooters. Other organizations that supported the hunt were: Limits Game Farm, WDFW-Olympia, the RR&GC, Tri-Cities Ducks Unlimited, Sage and Sand Retriever Club, Connell Gun Club, Griggs Department Store, Tri-City Silhouette Club and Upland Sporting Adventures at Burbank. There were many individuals that participated, without whose help the event could not have taken place. They are: Dave, Doug, and Mrs. Piovesan, Clare Cranston, Gary Scrivens, Barry McEachen, Ignacio Escalera, Casey Hill (President of Ringold Chapter of Pheasants Forever), Ken Burgard, Ned Hutchins, Lloyd Stone and David Kirby from Upland Shooting Adventures), Larry Harbor, Tony Anca, Dusty & Erik Powers, Tony Umek, Jeff Rampon, Don Board, Craig Seal, Mike O'Neill, John Pfeiffer, Bob Margulies, Robert & Joshua Romine, Eddie Manthos Joe Pauly and Chuck Bolland. Chuck Bolland videotaped the event for the WDFW and and Joe Pauly took still photographs of the event which can be viewed at WWW.limitsgamefarm.com, click on the "Juniors Hall Of Fame" 'box' to view the photographs.

PUBLIC SHOOT: There will be a public shoot Saturday, October 18th, 9 am – 3 pm at the Tri-Cities Metallic Silhouette Association (TCMSA) Range located approx. 3 miles from Highway 12; take the Kahlotus Highway to Lower Smith Canyon



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November, 2003

Volume 58, No. 11

Club Web Site - <http://www.members.tripod.com/rrgclub/>

2003 Officers

Mike Estes, President (582-2212)

Russ Wyer, Vice President (627-4308)

Lyle Gilk, Treasurer (627-3441)

Eddie Manthos, Secretary (586-6009)

Jack Pickard, Membership Information (582-5397)

MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING - Tuesday, November 4, 2003, 7:00 PM - City of Richland Maintenance Facility

BOARD MEETING - Tuesday, November 18, 2003, 7:00 PM - City of Richland Maintenance Facility

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - November 19, 2003, CALL EDDIE AT 586-6009 or emanthos@aol.com.

NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING

The November program will have two speakers. Glen Mendel, the WDFW SE District Fish Management Biologist, will discuss salmon fishery management and hatchery programs in the Lower Snake River and the Lower Snake River Compensation Plan. The second speaker is Scott Gregory, owner of the Big River Guide Service, who will discuss techniques on how to catch steelhead, and steelhead fishing in the Tri-Cities area, including the Snake River and the Hells Canyon area. He will talk about the different types of fishing tackle, lures, trolling methods, locations and techniques for catching steelhead this Fall. The meeting will be at the usual meeting place at the City of Richland Maintenance Facility on Tuesday November 4 and will start at 7:00 PM.

BRING A PROSPECTIVE NEW MEMBER TO THE MEETING AND RECEIVE FIVE FREE RAFFLE TICKETS.

OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING REPORT: - Club president Mike Estes opened the meeting.

• Lyle Gilk announced that the **2004 Wild Game Dinner will be held March 27, 2004** at the usual place, the Richland Knights of Columbus Hall.

• Mike Estes announced that Diane Warrant, Russ Wyer and Gaylord Pyle assisted the WDFW in trapping walleye at Scootney Reservoir on September 29 and 30. Goal of the WDFW was to trap a minimum of 200 walleyes. The fish were killed and samples taken to check their condition and age, measure fat reserves etc. He also announced that On Sept 8, 9 and 10, five Club members, John Lavender, Russ Wyer, Bob Henke Bill Hays and Carl Higby, worked with the WDFW to net Black Crappie fry from three rearing ponds at Ringold. The fry will be stocked in various locations throughout the State.

• Larry Martin described the raffle prizes for the evening. He stated that Joanna O'Neill, the young lady that won the Club Picnic 'Liars Contest', donated an elk bag for the raffle.

• Mike described the status of Railroad Pond above Mesa. The present owner of the pond has applied for a permit to allow gravel mining/excavation in the vicinity of the pond. Hearing for the permit will be next spring. Negotiations are ongoing between the WDFW and the owner to lease the pond to the WDFW for management and continued access of the pond to the public for fishing. Gravel mining and crushing operations will be located so that they will not impact the pond's water quality.

• Mike also described the status of Yakima River access below the *Horn Rapids Dam*. A canal parallels the river below the

REFUGE DAY AT McNARY WILDLIFE REFUGE: Refuge Day was observed at the McNary Wildlife Refuge on Saturday October 11. Lyle Gilk represented the Club with a Firearms Safety and Hunter Education display. There were many other displays and attractions at the event held at the McNary National Wildlife Refuge Education Center in Burbank and organized by the 'Friends of Mid-Columbia River Wildlife Refuges'. More than fifty visitors attended the three hour event. The next Second Saturday Event will be held on Saturday November 8 at the Education Center and the topic will be 'Lewis and Clark's Tools'.

YOUTH BIRD WATCHING AT MCNARY NWR: - The Tri-Cities Ducks Unlimited in conjunction with the local Audubon Society and McNary National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) will be sponsoring a Youth Bird Watching Morning at McNary NWR in Burbank on Saturday November 8. The event will begin at the NWR headquarters parking lot at 8:30 am. Children and adults are welcome. Come spend the morning watching waterfowl, shore birds and other species that make wetland habitat their home. Learn about the wetlands and its importance to all types of wildlife. Bring binoculars and or spotting scopes. This will be a rain or shine event. For more information contact Jeff Rampon at 628-2820. You will also be able to observe the 'Lewis and Clark's Tools' event at the Refuge.

ANNUAL SPORT STURGEON LIMIT TO DROP NEXT SPRING: OLYMPIA October 21, 2003 A WDFW News Release -The statewide annual limit for recreational sturgeon fishing will drop from 10 fish to five, beginning next April 1. The change was approved by the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission in a conference call meeting Oct. 16. Public input on the reduction was solicited through an angler preference survey conducted earlier this year, a public meeting in July and a commission briefing in August. The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission in August adopted the same annual sturgeon limit reduction. The reduced annual limit will take effect Jan. 1 in Oregon waters. The effective date varies from Washington's because of each state's need to coordinate with existing catch record card systems.

SCOOTENEY RESERVOIR - WALLEYE SAMPLING PROJECT: Club members Diane Warrant, Russ Wyer and Gaylord Pyle assisted the WDFW in a walleye sampling project at Scootney Reservoir on September 29 and 30. Approximately 200 walleye were netted with gill nets. The nets were set the night before and then pulled up the next morning. The walleye were removed, weighed and measured, fileted, the fat content measured and the ear bones and gonads removed. Each of the volunteers received about 5 pounds of filets for their efforts.

dam. There is a *foot-bridge* across the canal, just below the dam, that allows fisherman access to the river. About a mile downstream from the *foot bridge*, fishermen have been crossing the canal by wading through it. The owner is concerned because the canal's banks are being eroded by the access and as a result increasing the possibility of a canal breach and flooding of the surrounding property. Trespassers were cited by the County Sheriff. Mike has spoken with the owner of the canal and they have come up with a possible solution to the access problem by installing a second foot bridge in the trespass area. The RR&GC will help in the footbridge installation.

- Mike reminded old and new Club members that they are invited/encouraged to attend the Club Board of Director meeting at 7:00 PM on the third Tuesday of the month in the same location as the General Meeting.

- Cox Pond is located north of the Railroad Pond and contains bass, perch and crappie. Access to the pond was blocked. In the near future Cox Pond can be accessed by taking Highway 17 up to the top of the hill just north of Mesa. Access is on a road to the right off Highway 17 just before Marion Road.

- Refuge Day was held at the McNary Refuge on Saturday October 11. Club treasurer Lyle Gilk had a Firearms Safety display at the event.

- Jeff Rampon thanked all those who attended and supported the DU Banquet at TRAC.

- Program Chairman Russ Wyer introduced Darci Teel the speaker for the evening. Darci is a member of Ducks Unlimited, Pheasants Forever, the National Rifle Association and a life member of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF).

- She started off by relating the history of the elk herd on the Arid Lands Ecology (ALE) unit on Rattlesnake Mountain at Hanford. She stated that elk hunting on Rattlesnake Ridge is much different than it is on other habitats. The big elk are able to hide very well in the low habitat. She also said that law enforcement closely monitors ALE herd hunters by the use of aircraft and telescopes.

- This year she plans to hunt in Idaho by packing in with mules. They will hunt from a main camp and mule pack into spike camps located in areas not frequented by other hunters. She uses a *Sceery Spike Whistle* to attract elk that she says 'drives bulls nuts'. She also said that she works as a team with her husband to call bulls. They are separated a short distance and he calls with a cow call and she responds with a calf call.

- Darci has hunted bear in the Selway wilderness and sheep in the Tucannon. Because two rams were poached in the Tucannon, sheep hunting there has been discontinued. Darci and her 13 year old daughter successfully participated in a youth hunt on Mount Spokane. Darci said that there are a lot of moose on Mount Spokane.

- Darci spoke about the two habitat acquisition projects that the RMEF is involved in Washington State.

- The RMEF teamed up with the WDFW to purchase the Smoothing Iron Ranch and George Creek parcels from J Bar S Inc. and the Schlee family of Asotin, WA., for \$3.5 million. These parcels will be part of the Asotin Creek Wildlife Area owned and managed by the WDFW.

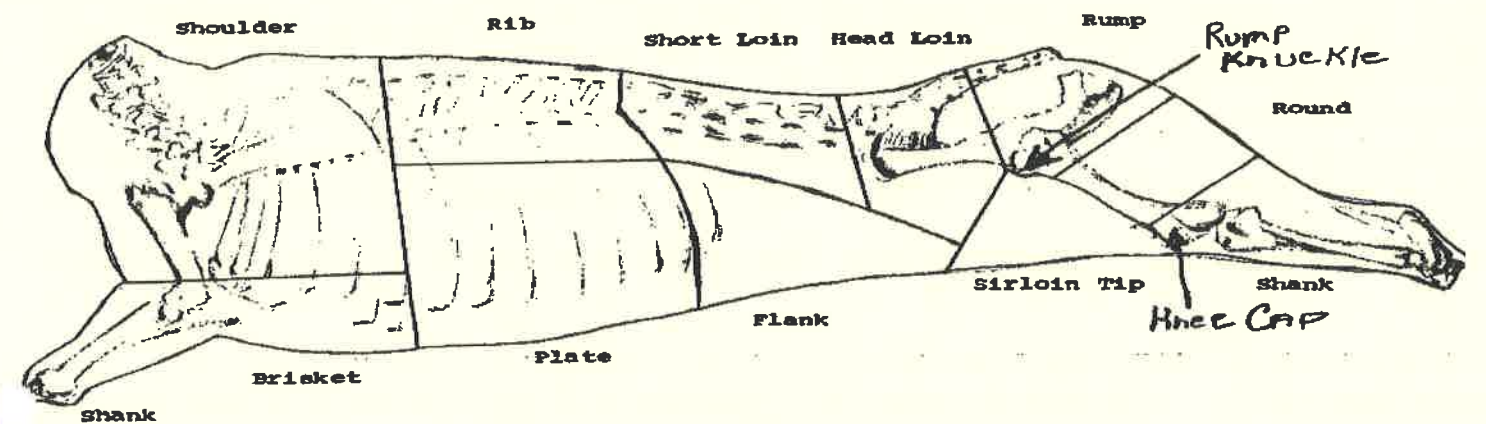
- The RMEF pledged \$100,000 to protect more than 10,000 acres within the Tieton River Canyon corridor. The area is an ecologically diverse landscape in the foothills of the East Cascades. The area is important habitat for the state's largest herd of elk, providing a major migration route from wintering grounds near the river to summer range in the adjacent highlands. The canyon is home to bighorn sheep, northern spotted owls, and scores of other wild species including some that are threatened or endangered. More information about the two projects and others can be obtained at the RMEF website at www.RMEF.org, click on the Information link at the top of the home page and then click on 'Awards, Scholarships' and then click on 'News & Media'.

- Darci also spoke about the 'Becoming an Outdoors Woman' program, information about the program can be obtained at www.uwsp.edu/cnr/bow. Another outdoors program for women is 'Washington Outdoor Women' whose website is www.washingtonoutdoorwomen.org. A third outdoors women's program is 'Women in the Outdoors' which is affiliated with the national Wild Turkey Federation. Its website is at www.NWTF.org click on the Women in the Outdoors link on the left side of the home page. Darci answered many questions at the end of her presentation.

- Raffle prize winners were Vince Guerero who won a CVA muzzle loading rifle and a *FatFish* lure and jar of *Erupt* bait, Frank Scopa 2 *FatFish* lures and 2 jars of *Erupt* bait, Gene VanLiew a hand held double clay pigeon thrower, Mack McDonnell a case of 90 clay pigeons and a *FatFish* lure and jar of *Erupt* bait, Bob Zinsli a license plate holder and a *FatFish* lure and jar of *Erupt* bait, Jack Pickard an elk bag, and Mike O'Neill a *FatFish* lure and jar of *Erupt* bait.

HUNTER EDUCATION CLASSES: - Clare Cranston - A Hunter Education class (Maximum of 32 persons each) is scheduled to start November 10, 2003. There is a \$5 class fee for Hunter Education. Registration is at the Sporting Goods counter at **Grigg's Shopping Center** at 801 W Columbia St. in Pasco. Classes will be held at the Grigg's Store

ATTENTION HUNTERS!!: The hunting season has started and once again the Club is looking for donations of game meat for next spring's Wild Game Dinner that will be held **March 27**. The game meat includes waterfowl, other unique game meat such as bear or boar, upland birds and clean, boneless big game roasts. Halibut, steelhead and salmon can also be used. 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 the 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 (**NO GROUND MEAT PLEASE**). Seal with tape and mark package as to what it contains and with your name and hunting license number. Make sure that you mark your name on the package so that you can be entered in the Meat Donors raffle. You then take the roasts to Chucks Meats in Kennewick where the Club has a locker (I-40). Chuck has control of the key. If you have any questions, call Jerry Zeitler at 545-6694. All donations will be greatly appreciated the night of the Wild Game Dinner. Good hunting!



CLUB PHOTO CONTEST: There were three entries in October. The winning photo was submitted by Larry Martin and shows Donny Martin with a white mule deer that he harvested at Brewster. The other two entrants were Dale Landon and Bob Zinsli. Larry will win five free tickets to the November General Meeting raffle. The winning photo and the other entries can be viewed on the Club's web site at: <http://www.members.tripod.com/rrgclub>.

2004 CLUB CALENDARS ARE HERE: The 2004 Club Remington calendars are here and can be purchased at the November General meeting for \$3.00 each. The calendars are exceptional and in my opinion the best we have ever had. Buy them early before they are all sold. Many were bought at the October Board of Directors meeting.

CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS: The Board of Directors meetings are held at 7:00 PM the third Tuesday of each month at the same place the General Meetings are held. All members and especially new members are encouraged to attend. Come and see how your Club functions and learn what we do and why we are always asking for help.

ANTIFREEZE PRODUCER DROPS SUPPORT OF ANTI-HUNTING GROUP: (Information received from Jim Shearer. The following reply was received by a hunter who sent an 'absolutely scathing' message to the Peak Antifreeze people). - "It has recently come to our attention that the hunting community is upset about one of our company's products, Sierra antifreeze, which has a sponsorship with the American Humane Association (AHA). Our intention with getting involved with the AHA several years ago, was to bring awareness to families of pets and children about a safer antifreeze, Sierra, due to its less toxic nature vs. conventional ethylene glycol based antifreeze. Every year approximately 100,000 pets/animals die from ingesting conventional antifreeze off of garage floors and driveways. The objective was awareness of a safer solution to this, not to alienate the hunting and outdoorsman community. Unknown to us, the AHA has apparently taken some active stances against certain rights of hunters. Upon hearing this, we have made a decision to sever our sponsorship with the AHA. Thank you for bringing this to our attention and we hope you continue to support Old World Industries products like Sierra antifreeze and other PEAK performance products. Sincerely, Sierra Antifreeze"

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- Effective date: Nov. 20, 2003 through March 31, 2004
- Species affected: Hatchery steelhead
- Location: The lower half of the Hanford Reach (Columbia River), from the Highway 395 Bridge at Pasco to the Old Hanford townsite wooden powerline towers upstream of the Ringold Springs Rearing Facility.
- Reason for action: Large numbers of surplus hatchery steelhead are expected to return to Ringold Springs Rearing Facility. Harvest of these fish will not impact upper Columbia River wild steelhead recovery. Steelhead destined for the upper Columbia River have cleared this area and there is no need to continue the requirement that only fish with both adipose and ventral fin clips can be harvested. Hatchery steelhead containing a disk tag may also be harvested.
- Other information: Anglers are only permitted to harvest hatchery steelhead. Hatchery steelhead are identified by a missing adipose or ventral fin and a healed scar in the location of the missing fin(s). There is a two-fish daily limit, with a 20-inch minimum size. All wild steelhead must be released immediately unharmed.

ELK HUNTER FENDS OFF COUGAR ATTACK: A WDFW news release. An elk hunter in the Blue Mountains of southeast Washington fended off an attack by a cougar while starting to field dress a dead elk Oct.27. Kirk Zehner, 33, of Walla Walla was bending over the carcass of an elk shot by a member of his hunting party, skinning knife in hand, when something hit him from behind, knocking him on to the carcass and driving his head into the ground. He instinctively struck at the attacker with his knife and heard a squeal. He attempted to get up but the animal pushed down on him again as it ran off. He saw only a grayish white blur leaving without another sound. When Zehner's hunting partners arrived on the scene in off-road vehicles to haul the elk out, they found him shaking and drawn but uninjured. About half the length of his knife was covered in blood from his strike into the attacking animal. The backside of his sweatshirt was torn and bloody. Zehner helped field dress the elk with his knife, then cleaned it and his sweatshirt with water. The incident occurred October 27 at about 7:30 a.m. in a brushy, steep ravine of the Lewis Peak area in northern Walla Walla County.

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) officers were notified of the attack October 29. WDFW officer Mike Johnson of Walla Walla led an investigation of the incident and is convinced it was a cougar that attacked Zehner, based on the clothing tear marks and the strength and silence of the animal. Although Johnson is not sure about the cat's motive, WDFW policy is to attempt to track and kill any cougar that attacks a human. A local hunter with cougar-tracking hounds was contacted, but scenting conditions were so bad two days after the incident that no immediate attempt was made to locate the animal. Zehner's stabbing of the animal could have fatally injured it, however, so hounds may be used to attempt to locate a carcass in the area to possibly learn more about the incident.



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December, 2003

Volume 58, No. 12

Club Web Site - <http://www.members.tripod.com/rrgclub/>

2003 Officers

Mike Estes, President (582-2212)

Russ Wyer, Vice President (627-4308)

Lyle Gilk, Treasurer (627-3441)

Eddie Manthos, Secretary (586-6009)

Jack Pickard, Membership Information (582-5397)

MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

DECEMBER GENERAL MEETING - Tuesday, December 2, 2003, 7:00 PM - City of Richland Maintenance Facility

BOARD MEETING - Tuesday, December 16, 2003, 7:00 PM - City of Richland Maintenance Facility

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - December 22, 2003, CALL EDDIE AT 586-6009 or emanthos@aol.com.

DECEMBER GENERAL MEETING

- Managers from the Sportsman's Warehouse outerwear and footwear departments will present a seminar on the selection, use and care of outdoor clothing for winter hunting and fishing. Jackie Bennett, clothing manager, assisted by Melissa Mulkey will discuss layering and the use of new materials for outdoor clothing such as polypropylene, *Thinsulate* and *GORE-TEX*. Caroline Kriete, footwear manager, will discuss boot construction, use of special new material, tread styles and care of footwear. They will also discuss the differences between waterproof, water-resistant and water repellent materials.
- Following these presentations, there will be a short video on the status of 2003 waterfowl populations and habitat conditions.
- The meeting will be at the usual meeting place at the City of Richland Maintenance Facility on Tuesday December 2nd will start at 7:00 PM.

BRING A PROSPECTIVE NEW MEMBER TO THE MEETING AND RECEIVE FIVE FREE RAFFLE TICKETS.

NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING REPORT: - Club president Mike Estes opened the meeting.

- Two guests introduced themselves, Bill Siefken from Richland and Phil Harrison a visitor from Cincinnati, Ohio.
- Announcements were made by Mike Estes, Dave Neff, Dave Myers, Jim Shearer, Clare Cranston and Larry Martin,
- Program Chairman Russ Wyer introduced the first speaker of the evening, Glen Mendell, the WDFW SE District Fish Management Biologist. Glen is the manager of the Tucannon and Lyons Ferry hatcheries. He showed a slide presentation that described salmon fishery management and hatchery programs in the Lower Snake River and explained the Lower Snake River Compensation Plan (LSRCP). As part of the (LSRCP) mitigation program the Lyons Ferry Complex (LFC) released summer steelhead into area rivers, and rainbow trout were stocked into local lakes and rivers during the springs of 1999, 2000 and 2001. Additionally, fry and fingerling rainbow trout were reared and provided to Idaho. The Lyons Ferry summer steelhead program is meeting it's original mitigation goals by supplying above adequate returns for harvest within the Lower Snake River area. However, impact to listed salmonid species and other non-target animal groups may not be within acceptable levels. Further evaluation and monitoring must occur to fully assess these impacts. Glen gave a detailed, interesting and instructional presentation.

● After a short break, Russ introduced the second speaker of the evening Scott Gregory, owner of the Big River Guide Service. Scott spoke about 'local' steelhead fishing. He brought four rigged rods with him which he used to demonstrate the equipment and techniques that he uses. He stated that for slack water fishing above McNary dam he fishes with a jig and float depths that varied from 8 to 20 feet. At present the most popular jig colors are black with either pink or purple. He uses a shrimp on the jig and pushes the jig hook point through the shrimp back and into the shrimp head. He also has used a bare hook with a shrimp fastened to the hook with an egg loop. He fishes with plugs to which he attaches a shrimp tail on the rear hook. His favorite lures are the *Hog Boss* and *Super Toad 2* in metallic colors. When drift fishing he uses a # 2 or #4 small hook with a dime sized chunk of eggs on the hook., the hook and eggs are about 3 to 4 feet below a lead weight. He cures his own eggs with borax and *Proglo* or *Procure* as a dye. Lately he has had some success drift fishing with a small plastic pink worm on small hook in place of the dime sized egg. Scott fishes the Snake River for steelhead, starting at Hellers Bar and proceeding downstream. He is CPR and First Aid trained and is US Coast Guard licensed. He guides for spring and fall salmon, steelhead, sturgeon and shad fishing. He can be reached at 967-8280 or 947-3111 (cell). He stayed after the end of his talk and answered many questions.

● Raffle prize winners were: Bill Lambert who won a *Motor Guide* trolling motor, Mack McDonnell who won a shotgun reloading press and miscellaneous goodies (Gaylord Pyle donated the press/goodies, shooting vests and a camouflage head net), John Pfeiffer-a key chain and 2 jars of *Erupt* bait, Jim Shearer-a key chain, David Oakley and John Cummings each won 2 jars of *Erupt*, Clare Cranston and Dave Neff each won a shooting vest, and Phil Harrison from Cincinnati, Ohio won a camouflage head net.

CLUB OFFICERS AND TRUSTEE ELECTIONS: Election of Club Officers and Trustees for 2004 will be conducted at the December 2 General membership meeting. The following slate of candidates has been assembled by the Nominating Committee. Additional nominations will be accepted from the floor, subject to concurrence by the person nominated. Nominees will be introduced prior to the election.

President: Paul Kison

Secretary: Eddie Manthos

Vice President: Dianne Warrant

Treasurer: Lyle Gilk

Trustees (15 to be elected)

Ben Webb

Bob Gough

Bill Lambert

Dana Mueller

Jim Shearer

Jerry Burke

Harvey Huisingh

Larry Martin

Karen Montgomery

Wade Warrant

Jeff Gardner

Bob Kolowith

Dale Landon

Jack Pickard

Steve Allen

Bill Hays

Ray Isaacson

Dan McGuire

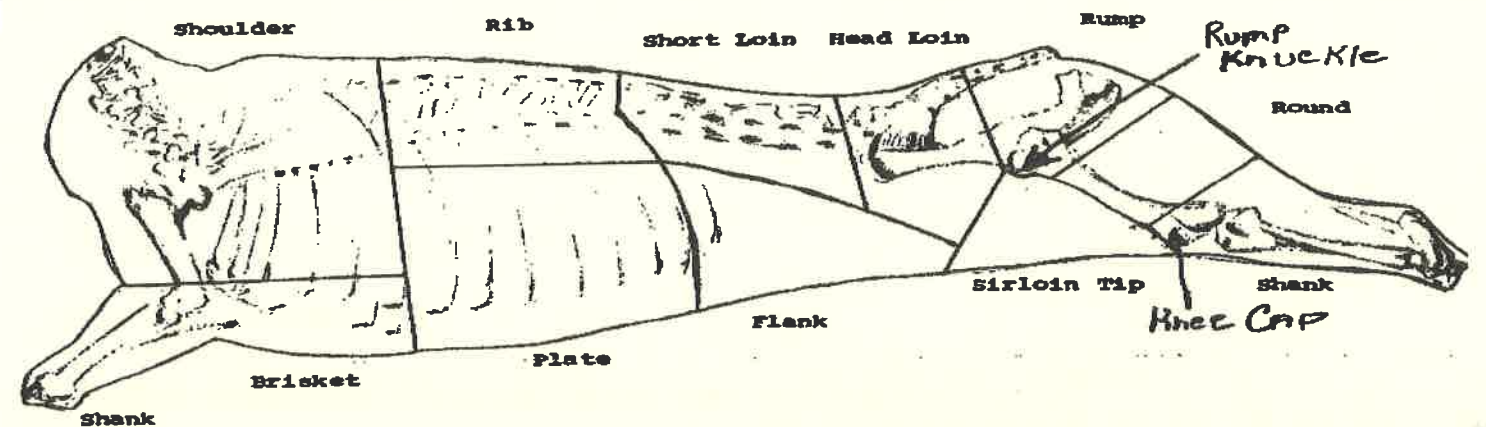
Gene VanLiew

Sean Carr

HUNTER EDUCATION CLASSES: - Clare Cranston - A Hunter Education class (Maximum of 32 persons each) is scheduled to start on January, 26 2004. There is a \$5 class fee for Hunter Education. Registration is at the Sporting Goods counter at **Grigg's Shopping Center** at 801 W Columbia St. in Pasco. Classes will be held at the Grigg's Store

ATTENTION HUNTERS!!: The hunting season has started and once again the Club is looking for donations of game meat for next springs Wild Game Dinner that will be held **March 27** The game meat includes waterfowl, other unique game meat such as bear or boar, upland birds and clean, boneless big game roasts. Halibut, steelhead and salmon can also be used. 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 the 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 (**NO GROUND MEAT PLEASE**). Seal with tape and mark package as to what it contains and with your name and hunting license number. Make sure that you mark your name on the package so that you can be entered in the Meat Donors raffle. You then take the roasts to Chucks Meats in Kennewick where the Club has a locker (I-40). Chuck has control of the key. If

you have any questions, call Jerry Zeitler at 545-6694. All donations will be greatly appreciated the night of the Wild Game Dinner. Good hunting!



CLUB PHOTO CONTEST: There was one entry in November. The winning photo was submitted by Ben Webb and shows Kevin Webb with a spring chinook salmon caught below John Day Dam in June, 2003. Ben will win five free tickets to the December General Meeting raffle. The winning photo can be viewed on the Club's web site at: <http://www.members.tripod.com/trgclub>.

2004 CLUB CALENDARS ARE HERE: The 2004 Club Remington calendars are here and can be purchased at the December General meeting for \$3.00 each. The calendars are exceptional and in my opinion the best we have ever had.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER: Bill Siefken from Richland.

YOUTH ACTIVITY DATES TO REMEMBER!:

- Friday, Saturday and Sunday January 16, 17 and 18, 2004 - Lunker Lake at TRAC. Set up of Lunker Lake Pond Thursday January 15.
- March 20, 2004 - Hunter Education Student graduates Pheasant Shoot.
- Saturday May 8, 2004 Fishing Kids event at Columbia Park Fishing Pond.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS: The US Fish and Wildlife Service, Hanford Reach National Monument habitat restoration staff is seeking volunteers to assist with the planting of native shrub and grass species as landscaping around the newly installed Monument Entrance Signs on the Fitzner/Eberhardt Arid Lands Ecology Reserve on Saturday, December 6, 2003 Beginning at 8:00 am. A minimum of 10 volunteers are needed for this project to succeed! Please contact Ron Crouse, Information and Education Specialist at (509) 371-1801 for more information, directions, and to sign up. Remember, this is December and appropriate clothing (warm coats, scarves, boots, gloves) and food, snacks, and drinks are **STRONGLY** recommended. Meet at 8:00 am at the Monument Headquarters 3250 Port of Benton Blvd in Richland.

DUTCH OVEN AND CAMP COOKING BY CEE DUB TV SERIES: This past summer in conjunction with KNDU Television, the NBC affiliate in Kennewick, Washington, Cee Dub filmed the first thirteen episodes of his new series, "Dutch Oven Cookin' with Cee Dub." This new series will be marketed to commercial television stations. Unlike his previous Public Television series which used the same set for all thirty nine shows, the new series was shot at a variety of locations in and around the Tri-Cities of Kennewick, Richland, and Pasco, Washington. In an effort to break out of the mold as just a "camp cook" Cee Dub chose locations he thinks more accurately portray outdoor cooking today. He set his kitchen up in such diverse places as a football stadium for a "Tailgate Party", back yards, poolside, and two elegant dinners filmed on location at the Columbia Crest Winery near Paterson, Washington. The first show will premier on Monday January 4, 2004 at 4:00 PM on KNDU TV. The remaining shows will be shown on the following twelve Mondays. CEE DUB's web site is at <http://www.ceedubs.com/>.

COLUMBIA RIVER STEELHEAD FISHING RULES REVISED ABOVE HIGHWAY 395 BRIDGE AT PASCO

A WDFW news release:

- Action: The Columbia River will open for the retention of all marked, hatchery-origin steelhead from the Highway 395 Bridge at Pasco to the Old Hanford townsite wooden powerline towers.