



RICHLAND ROD & GUN CLUB

(INCORPORATED)

A 501(c)(3) Tax Exempt Organization

P.O. BOX 337

RICHLAND, WASHINGTON

99352

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

August 2019, Volume 74 No. 8

Club Website- <https://www.richlandrodandgun.org/>

Club Facebook- www.Facebook.com/RichlandRodandGunClub

2019 Officers

Richard Sharp, President 551-6785
Packy Lackey, Vice-President 948-6141

Richard Libby, Treas. 947-0498
Shannon Lackey, Sec. 948-3320

MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

General Meeting – Annual Picnic August 6th

Board Meeting- August 20th, 7:00 PM, Hunter Education Facility at Griggs in Pasco

Newsletter Deadline for September is August 25th, Call Shannon Lackey at 948-3320 or

Email: rrgsecretary@gmail.com

AUGUST PROGRAM:



YOUTH CONSERVATION CAMP: Each year the RRGc sponsors youth to attend camp at no cost other than a recap of their adventures at the end of summer. This year the Washington State Youth Conservation Camp/Camp Moran on Orcas Island has six sponsored boys and no girls who applied. The following boys are attending the camp July 21-27. Ambrose Gagallegos, Micah Little, Mack Nasario, Aiden Oakley, Birch Verdino and Braydon Wodtli.

GAME RECOVERY: There was no new game recoveries for the month of July. Please if you see game that has just been hit stay with it and call it in to our guys so they can salvage it. This heat is brutal and proper care is always of the utmost importance. Also, on the donating side of things if you are not aware; you can donate extra groceries especially fresh fruits and

vegetables from your backyard garden to the Tri-Cities Food Bank. Take your extra tomatoes and zucchini's down and walk in! I can tell you from personal experience that this will brighten someone's day and won't go to waste. There are multiple locations but the one in Richland is located right down the street from Fred Meyer on Wellsian Way.

NOTES ON PRONGHORN MEETING ATTENDED BY MEMBER JACK

PICKARD: WDFW people: Rich Harris, Main Speaker, Olympia; Dan Brinson, Olympia, Wildlife Conflict Specialist; Stacy Lane, Spokane; Sam Rush, Coleville; Don Hand, conflict specialist; Jason Fidorra; Yakama nation: David Blodgett III. Jack stated that there were a couple he missed so apologies.

Some of the visitors were SCI representatives from the westside (Julie and husband) and Central Washington (Doug Barrett)

Representative of the Cattleman's Association

Most of the remaining were local farmers.

About 30 people total, which filled the small room to capacity.

Rich Harris was the lead for the WDFW and put on a quick overhead presentation holding questions until the end.

Pronghorn remains have been found in Okanogan, Chelan, Grant, Yakima, Benton and Walla Walla counties so, they know that they were indigenous to the state.

Pronghorns were brought in from Nevada in 1938,39 and 40 and placed in Kittitas county. In 1950 some were placed in Adam's county. Then 1968 in Kittitas again. In 2011 the Yakama nation tried putting some on the reservation. Any animals leaving the reservation are managed by the WDFW. In 2015 they teamed up to do an aerial count with poor success but guessed at 132 animals. In 2017 guessed 121 animals. After applying radio collars to all adult females brought in numbers became more reliable with 248 animals counted in Feb. 2019 with 70% on the Yakama Rez.

The Colville Tribe also planted Pronghorn thinking that the Columbia River as the south boundary would keep them in, about 10% swam across.

Questions:

- What is SCI involvement? Julie from SCI said they were involved in helping with the studies. Want to leave pronghorn for future generations to enjoy.
- Now that you have pronghorn to manage, have you set a number for a sustainable herd to allow hunting? Rich Harris said the numbers and insufficient data so far, it's hard to tell. Doug Barrett (SCI) responded probably not in his lifetime.
- Are the Indians going to allow hunting? David Blodgett (Yakama) said yes, for religious ceremonies, etc. He also said that they have set numbers for a sustainable herd, 3 years with a population of 300 and hunting would be allowed by permit.
- Why can the Indians set numbers for a sustainable herd while the WDFW can't? Rich Harris had NO reasonable answer.
- How do Pronghorn like the heat? They get along fine in the heat. Deep snow like Feb. 2019 90% went back to the reservation, the rest huddled in around towns for forage.
- How do the Pronghorn affect cattle grazing? They actually eat different plants. Cattleman said that the range cattle eat the same if hungry enough.
- What is the impact on private landowners tearing up fences? Pronghorn don't like fences, they can't jump them so, they go under if possible. The Yakamas found if the bottom wire is up 14 to 16 inches they can go under. Cattleman said no way will they change the bottom wire with thousands of acres fenced. SCI says Pronghorn normally cross in the same areas so they wouldn't have to do it all over. One biologist said the predators take advantage of the

fences by herding the animals into corners.

- If a Pronghorn gets in the road and gets hit by a car is WDFW responsible? Rich Harris- “we only manage the animals we don’t own them”. Cattleman own the cows that get hit making them liable.
- How is the WDFW going to budget for Pronghorn? Rich Harris- “the budget is always a problem with all the cuts going on right now.” Suggestion from the group was to stop blowing money on Snake River dam studies, Inslee’s travel/vacation and move wolves into Olympia so they could study without travelling.
- Have any been found in the Odessa scablands? No, but there are eight head around Sprague Lake.
- If you do hit one on the road can you claim it without getting a permit? Yes. But out of courtesy let Jason Fidorra know. And definitely turn the GPS collar in if there is one.

Cattleman said they are very cautious about letting hunters into their property because of past damage. One guy said that he hunts in Montana and Wyoming a lot and farmers have never turned him down to hunt antelope BUT they won’t let you hunt for deer or elk. Most have sold out hunting rights for big dollars.

The meeting overall was very good, got some useful information but it was hard not to see the WDFW Olympia folks lacking in some answers that should’ve been easy. Meetings with local biologists have been much more productive and a lot more information shared. Looking forward to future research and information sharing.

NONPROFIT STATUS: New memberships and fundraising are paramount for the continued existence of RRG. Please contribute your ideas at least for discussion. As a 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Organization we need to work as a collective to maintain and improve our club activities and outreach.

RRGC WEB PAGE: Be sure to check out the RRG website often so that you know when we

need extra help or if we have an impromptu get together for fun. A new page was added under the blog dropdown. It is Harley’s Corner; a youth idea and coloring contest! Make sure you tell the kids that you know to get on there and enter. Each month we plan on picking a winner. Also remember to send pictures or content that you would like added to the website or blog to the webmasters via email at- admin@richlandrodandgun.org.

WILD GAME RECIPES: Please forward your recipes to the Secretary and Webmasters so that they can be included in the monthly newsletter and on our website. If you haven’t checked out all of those recipes on the website yet, you should.

GUZZLERS: 7-13-19 Inspected and cleaned guzzlers 295, 296 & 299. Set up trail cameras on two. Larry Martin, his son in law Bill Holland and grandsons Eli & Joshua Holland. Before and after pictures of guzzler 296. Guzzlers are south east of Benton City. 6-20 John Merk and Larry picked up and delivered 3 used guzzler tanks from Garret Moon and delivered to two separate locations for upcoming refurbishing. Garrett pulled out these guzzlers because of crop change.



(Before the Repairs)



(Larry Martin and Family after)

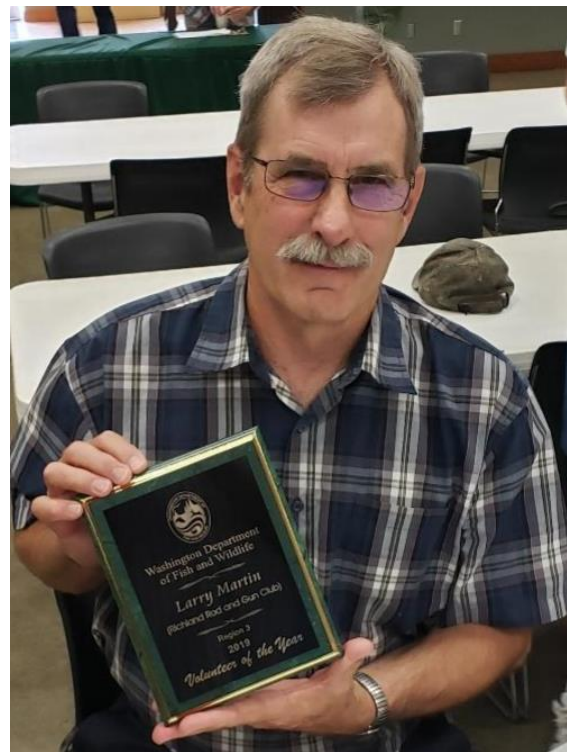
WOOD DUCK BOXES: Dale Schielke reported that one of the Geo-Locator hens went to another box and started to lay a new clutch of eggs late last month. Out of her laying the new eggs Dale stated that the hen has left the box with 2 ducklings that hatched of the 10 she laid for this second round of hatchings. He is also still looking for a better platform next laying season for the livestreams of nest cams. Any ideas or knowledge of 24/7 streaming platforms that are doable for this purpose let Dale know or email the secretary and she will get it to him.

NEW BUSINESS:

1) CAR DONATION: The RRGc received a vehicle donation from Ben Schielke. It was a 90's Subaru and his dad Dale Schielke drove it over from the Seattle area for us to possibly mend and sell. We had a kind certified mechanic named Jesse check the car over for free and although it was not in tip top shape. It was very much road worthy and no big issues. After some discussions with the Board and the Mechanic Dale placed an advertisement on July 3rd in the newspaper for the Subaru. It was being sold as-is for \$1,200 and after 9 people inquired about it the first person that was interested was ultimately the buyer. Thank you, Ben, for your donation!

2) REGION 3 AWARD CEREMONY: This year's WDFW Region 3 Volunteer of the Year

was awarded to our very own LARRY MARTIN! Congratulations Larry it is not a shock to anyone that you were the one they chose. Along with Family a few of our members went and filmed and photographed this momentous occasion for him and the club. 35+ years of service in habitat projects and our guy is still quenching the needs of all of our local wildlife. Along with the guzzlers he helps with duck banding, burrowing owls, habitat planting, deer surveys and our game recovery program. WOW! Larry is a very humble quiet guy and we are glad that he was recognized for all of his outstanding work.



(Larry Martin WDFW Region 3 Volunteer of the Year)

NEXT BOARD MEETING: The next Board Meeting will be August 20th at 7:00 PM, Griggs Hunter Education Room, Pasco. **All RRGc members are invited to attend.**

SHOUT OUTS: Thank you to Jack Pickard for driving to Prosser just for the Pronghorn Antelope meeting and taking lots of notes for all of us. These meetings are important!

SHOUT OUTS: I would like to give a personal shout out to Carla and Greg Boeringa for putting up with me traipsing through their yard on a regular basis for Bumblebee surveys. They are hosting their very own endangered Bumblebee colony in what was supposed to be their conservatory... (conservatory-conservation...close to the same right?) they have a very pollinator friendly yard that has attracted over 6 different species of Bombus (bumblebee) and so many other types of bees. Thanks, guys, for starting at ground zero of the food chain. Invertebrates, without them we don't eat.

WANT ADS:

WANTED- The RRGCC is in search of a new Chief Hunter Education Instructor. This is for the RRGCC classes that are in a traditional classroom setting and are fully funded/backed by the club. If you or someone you know is interested in this position please contact **Richard Sharp at (509)551-6785**.

WANTED- Our current Treasurer Mr. Rick Libby is currently in search for an apprentice to learn the duties of being the club treasurer. He stated that this needs to be done for the continuity of club funds being managed. Please consider coming to a monthly board meeting and checking out the little things he does that make the club function so well. Math is an obvious requirement but he has worked extensively in Excel to minimize mistakes and maximize efficiency. Questions? Call **Rick at (509)947-0498**.

FOR SALE- 3 separate boxes, a dozen each of G&H duck decoys. Half are Drakes and half are Hens. Never used \$35 a box or make offer. Contact **John Pfeifer at: (509)539-5917**.

FOR SALE- MODEL 70 RIFLE: Winchester Model 70 Featherweight, "pre-64" (manufactured in 1953), 308 Win caliber, Redfield mounts, Hertel & Reuss 4x81 scope. Used but in very good condition and comes with sling, and part box of

ammo. \$700.00 Contact **Dale Schielke 375-0183** to arrange for FFL transfer.

PHOTO OF THE MONTH SUBMITTED:



(Joshua W/Walleye taken by: Larry Martin)

HARLEY'S CORNER JULY WINNER:



(Coloring by Artist- Katie age 6)

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