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RICHLAND ROD & GUN CLUB  
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# BULLETIN

## 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 SOILS AND MINERALS, ITS FORESTS WATERS AND WILDLIFE.

JANUARY, 1994

### In Memoriam

Jay Maple (April 9, 1905 - December 11, 1993)

The Club was deeply saddened by the passing of Jay Maple on December 11, 1993. Jay had been a member of the club for over 42 years, having joined in April, 1951. He was a loyal supporter of the club and participated in many of its activities. He could always be counted on to volunteer when help was needed. In later years he particularly enjoyed helping on the Big Game Dinner and the Club Picnic. Jay's willingness to help and his enthusiasm will be greatly missed in the club.

### 1994 Officers

Jack Pickard, President (582-5397) Anita Gahimer, Vice President (943-0855)  
Tom Davis, Treasurer (946-7747) Mike Estes, Secretary (582-2212)

### MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

General Meeting - Tuesday, January 4, 1994, 7:30 p.m. - Richland Public Library  
Board Meeting - Tuesday, January 18, 1994, 7:00 p.m. - Richland Public Library  
Bulletin Deadline - Friday, January 21, 1993, call Mike at 582-2212, evenings

### January General Meeting

7:30 pm Tuesday, January 4th - Richland Public Library

John McIntosh, Senior Wildlife Agent with the Washington Department of Wildlife will be our guest speaker at our January 4th meeting. John will tell us about the successes they have experienced with "robo deer!" Robo deer is a deer decoy, used to catch poachers. This should be a fun and interesting meeting. Please plan to join us. This would be a good time to ask questions and confirm the correct action to take when you observe a poacher.

### December General Meeting Report

African Safaris! Richard J. Mann of Western Safaris gave a fantastic presentation on safaris and life in Zimbabwe and Australia. Richard's family ancestors were among the first in the aborigine territories given permission to hunt and fish on nearly 14 million acres in Australia and on four million acres in Africa. I have to say this was one of the most interesting presentations I have heard! Door Prizes at the December meeting went to:

- Steve Friar - Rechargeable flashlight
- Gene Van Liew - Two prizes! A coleman 40 qt ice chest and a cup holder.
- Larry Martin - Coleman jug
- David Oakley - Eight quart Coleman ice chest
- Ben Pesek - Cup holder
- Dick Biggerstaff - Ice pack

Election Results - 1994 Officers

President: Jack Pickard  
Vice President: Anita Gahimer  
Secretary: Mike Estes  
Treasurer: Tom Davis

Trustees: Jerry Bloom  
Clare Cranston  
Bill Davis  
Steve Friar  
Don Frick  
Jack Hampton  
Don Hand  
Larry Martin  
Bob McPhee  
Dave Myers  
Ben Pesek  
Arlen Schade  
Ben Webb  
Kevin Webb  
Gerald Zietler

Our Past President: Mike Estes

Our Volunteers: Howard Gardner  
Dale Schielke  
John Pfeiffer

Our Big Game Dinner Chairman: Gerald Zietler

Hunter Education Class for Women Only

A special hunter education class for women only will be held at Phil's Sporting Goods the last two weeks in January. This would be a great class for those women who may not be interested in hunting but would like to become more familiar with weapons and what hunting is all about. Call Phil's at 547-9084 to register.

New Members

We welcome to the club two new members this month! Please join in and welcome:

Todd Noga of Richland and Richard Biggerstaff of Richland, new individual members!

**Help Stop Poaching — Call The Poaching Hotline  
For Violation Reporting Only — NOT For General Information**

**1-800-477-6224**

**Tri-Cities Sportsman Show**

**Benton/Franklin County Fairgrounds**

**January 21, 22 and 23**

Please join us at the first annual Tri-Cities Sportsman Show on January 21, 22 and 23. The club will be holding a "fishing pond" for children! The pond, an 18' diameter pool, will have nearly a thousand fish in it for the catching! Kids will receive a pole for a minimal cost and can fish as long as they like. The kids take the fish they catch home with them. We charge a reasonable amount for each fish caught. This should be one volunteer job you will really enjoy! Helping a child catch their first fish has enormous rewards and may start the seed of a future fisherman/woman!

Sign ups are needed for all shifts on Saturday and Sunday, call Jack Pickard on 582-5397:

Thursday evening	-	Set up
Friday shifts	-	Already fully manned
Saturday	-	10 am to 3 pm shift
	-	3 pm to 8 pm shift
Sunday	-	10 am to 2 pm shift
	-	2 pm to 6 pm shift
	-	6 pm teardown

High Tech Outdoorsman!

Have you tried the GPS Trailblazer, Global Positioning System, by Magellan? This handheld unit tells the user his/her exact position by readings it receives from up to five satellites at once! The unit has a memory of previous positions located, works on three AA batteries, is waterproof (not submersible) and is still somewhat expensive. The manufacturer warns it does not replace the standard compass and should be used with a good topo map.

Big Game Dinner

Plan now to attend the annual Big Game Dinner in March! Tickets go on sale at the January meeting! Raffles are already set up! We will have more valuable prizes, but fewer this year! We are trying to cut down on the give away time and make the prizes worth more. We will have four fishing trips again! And, don't forget the Quality Trip! Our guest speaker will be Rich Lander, Outdoor Editor for the Spokesman Review! Plan to be there!

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FEBRUARY, 1994

## 1994 Officers

Jack Pickard, President (582-5397)      Anita Gahimer, Vice President (943-0855)  
Tom Davis, Treasurer (946-7747)      Mike Estes, Secretary (582-2212)

## MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

General Meeting - Tuesday, February 1, 1994, 7:30 p.m. - Richland Public Library

Board Meeting - Tuesday, February 15, 1994, 7:00 p.m. - Richland Public Library

Bulletin Deadline - Friday, February 18, 1994, call Mike at 582-2212, evenings

## February General Meeting

7:30 pm Tuesday, February 1st - Richland Public Library

Scott Nicoli, Fisheries Biologist for the Yakima Indian Nation Fisheries Department, will be the guest speaker at our February 1st meeting. Scott's presentation will address the effects of cattle grazing on streams and fish and will include a video and slide show. Scott's extensive knowledge of wildlife habitat issues will help motivate us as we get prepared for our spring habitat and conservation projects.

## January General Meeting Report

"Fred" isn't the best looking deer that you'll ever lay eyes on, but in the dim light of dawn or dusk, or in the beam of a spotlight during the darkness of night, he looks good enough to get shot at once in a while. Senior Wildlife Agent John McIntosh (DOW) and Sgt. Jeff Tayer (Washington Fisheries Patrol) discussed the use of decoys like "Fred" to deter poaching and to increase the effectiveness of limited wildlife enforcement personnel. "Fred" was purchased with a donation from the RRGCC and is radio controlled with moving head and tail. The purposes of the decoy program are to save wildlife from poaching and to promote public safety by discouraging shooting from vehicles and night hunting.

If you see a suspected poaching violation, call 911 and/or the local State Patrol office. Advise whether the violation is in progress or if the violators have already left the area. Provide a description of the individual, vehicle, direction of travel, etc. Leave a call back number. Be prepared to testify. For your personal safety and so that the poacher isn't forewarned, **do not confront the violator.**

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-----cut and mail-----

1994 Big Game Dinner  
Saturday, March 26, 1994  
Richland Knights of Columbus Hall  
Social Hour 6 pm Dinner 7 pm

Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ tickets at \$12.50 each for the Annual Big Game Dinner. Orders postmarked on or before February 28, 1994, will receive one "Early Bird" drawing stub for each ticket purchased. (Note: Ticket quantities are limited. Orders will be honored subject to availability.) Also, enclosed is \$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ tickets for the Quality Trip Drawing at \$15 each (see the rules on the preceding page). Enclosed is my check payable to the Richland Rod and Gun Club for \$\_\_\_\_\_. Mail to Anita Gahimer, 1424 Goethals Drive, Richland, WA 99352.

**REMINDER:** The RRGCC membership year ends in March. RRGCC does not normally issue dues notices. Please submit your dues payment to the attention of Ben Webb, Membership Committee, P.O. Box 337, Richland, WA 99352. Dues must be paid for 1994 to be eligible for the "Members Only" drawing at the Big Game Dinner. Also, please advise Ben if your mailing address should change during the year. The Post Office doesn't forward your RRGCC Bulletin and we have to pay to get it back (i.e. \$.58 postage per undelivered copy), and you miss out on what is happening. See Ben at the meetings, write to him, or call him at 582-3328 in the evenings, to keep your membership records current.

### More January Meeting Highlights

Rocky Ross brought copies of the brand new site specific maps for several public hunting and fishing lands that have been acquired as part of the Lower Snake River Compensation Plan. Thanks to Rocky for providing copies for all of the meeting attendees. Door prize winners were Don Hand, camo seat and cooler; Bob Henke, BB gun pistol; Ben Webb and Mike Estes, water bottles.

### Hunter Education Class - Howard Gardner, Chief Instructor

Two Hunter Education classes were conducted during November and December. A total of 31 students completed the classes. Instructors who assisted with the training were Don Coonfield, Clare Cranston, Ray Eisele, Al Kruger, Steve Roblyer, and Carl Stull. Others who assisted were Don Board, Mike Eisele, and Henry Howard. Both classes included live firing with shotgun and large and small bore rifle. All instructors and assistants are to be commended for giving freely of their time to conduct the classes.

### New Members

We welcome to the club two new members this month! Please join in and welcome Ismael Rocha of Kennewick and Blaine Marlin of Richland.

### IN MEMORIAM - WILLIAM D. "DAG" NORWOOD, M.D. (1902-1994)

It was with regret that the Club learned of Dag Norwood's passing on January 9, 1994. Dag was a life member of the Club and had been a member since 1946. He was active in the formative stages of the Club and was vice president in 1947 and 1948, and president in 1952. Dag loved to hunt and fish and accumulated many outstanding trophies from over the world. In years past he was a participant in one of the RRG's Quality Trips, an elk hunt in Idaho. Although in his later years participation in Club activities had diminished, the legacy from the early years contributed to the continued viability and stature of the Richland Rod and Gun Club in its representation of the interests of sportsmen. Dag's presence will be missed.

### Mule Deer Foundation Banquet

The Tri-City Chapter of The Mule Deer Foundation will hold its first banquet and auction on Monday evening, March 21, 1994 at Cavanaugh's in Kennewick. Featured speaker will be Mike Eastman of Thermopolis, Wyoming, who is associated with The Eastman Journal, a hunting publication and will present a slide presentation. Auctioneer Merle Booker will conduct the sale of more than forty items. The Mule Deer Foundation's principle plan is to raise monies from private sources to provide alternative and supplemental sources of funds for game management including habitat protection and enhancement. Tickets for the event include membership in the MDF and are \$65 per couple or \$50 single. Call Steve Wray at 943-4777 or Newt Holland at 783-9212 for tickets or additional information. Tickets will also be on sale at the RRG's February meeting.

### Fitzner Memorial Scholarship Awarded

The first Richard Fitzner Memorial Scholarship has been awarded to Brian William Moser, a Wildlife Biology student at Washington State University. Brian has a 3.75 GPA and is planning to apply to graduate school. The Board of Directors approved the \$500 scholarship to assist with his educational expenses.

### Wheeler's Donates Browning Shotgun

Once again Carl Wheeler of Wheeler Gun Shop in Richland has donated a beautiful firearm for the "Members Only" drawing at the Big Game Dinner. This year the prize is a Browning BPS 12 gauge, 3 inch magnum Stalker shotgun. Read more about the Big Game Dinner on the next page.

\*\*\*\*\* COME TO THE 1994 BIG GAME DINNER \*\*\*\*\*

Our 44th annual Big Game Dinner will be held on Saturday, March 26th!! Mark your calendar and buy your tickets now!

Social Hour 6:00 pm

Dinner 7:00 pm

Guest Speaker: Rich Landers, Outdoor Editor, Spokesman-Review  
"Adventure for the Common Man"

Door Prize, Fishing Trip, and Quality Trip Drawings Following Dinner!!!

The Richland Rod and Gun Club social event of the year is set for Saturday, March 26, 1994, at the Richland Knights of Columbus Hall. Tickets are still \$12.50 each and will not be sold at the door. Contact any Officer or Board Member for tickets, or pick them up at the February general meeting, or fill out the order form at the end of the next page and mail directly to Anita Gahimer, 1424 Goethals, Richland, Wa 99352. Space is limited and this has been a sell out event for the past several years. Guests are welcome so call a friend and ask if they would like to come along and enjoy some delicious wild game! Donations of game (no hamburger please) are needed for the social hour appetizers and dinner. Also, we will be smoking game for the social hour appetizers, so if you have something to donate please drop it by Chuck's Meat and Lockers, 17 E. 1st Ave., Kennewick, then contact Jerry Zeitler (545-6694) or Howard Gardner (943-9084) so they will know what is available. The Big Game Dinner requires lots of preparation and work parties. Please call Jerry and offer your help!

### GUIDED FISHING TRIP FOR MACKINAW TROUT:

Win a fishing trip for two to Odell Lake, Oregon for Mackinaw Trout and Kokanee guided by Mike Jones of Mid Columbia Outfitters. Mike has had 100% success for the last four years on Mackinaw. Also, Kokanee fishing should be excellent on Saturday, June 11, 1994 when the winners take to the water. Two winners will be drawn (4 persons total). Tickets for the drawing are \$1 each, 6 for \$5, or 13 for \$10. Tickets will be on sale at the February and March meetings and at the Big Game Dinner. Drawing will be after the Big Game Dinner. You need not be present to win.

### QUALITY TRIP DRAWING RULES

1. Only members having their 1994 dues paid through to April 1995 will be eligible to purchase entry tickets.
2. Tickets are \$15.00 each.
3. A minimum of 50 entry tickets must be sold, maximum sold will be 100.
4. Each member may purchase two (2) tickets; with a family membership, the spouse and eligible dependents may also purchase two 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 at a General Meeting of the membership about their adventure.
7. The drawing will be held at the Big Game Dinner on March 26, 1994. You need not 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 be drawn in the event the winner is unable to go. The alternate will select his/her own partner who must be a club member and have been in the drawing.
10. Winners are requested to donate meat for the 1995 Big Game Dinner, assuming they are successful in harvesting their quarry.
11. The trip must be approved by the board not later than the June meeting or it will be forfeited.
12. If the alternate is chose to go, he/she must submit a written proposal by the September board meeting or forfeit.

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MARCH, 1994

## RRGC Pledge

The pledge that we give at the beginning of each RRGc meeting and is printed on the front page of our monthly newsletter is the Outdoor Life Conservation Pledge that originated in 1946. Outdoor Life recently held a contest to modernize the pledge. Their new pledge is "I pledge to protect and conserve the natural resources of America. I promise to educate future generations so they may become caretakers of our water, air, land and wildlife." The primary premise of the revision is to emphasize the sportsman's responsibility to educate youngsters about the value of our natural resources so that they may be preserved for future generations. Jerry Zeitler has drafted another version that melds the old and new Outdoor Life pledges. Jerry's version reads "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. Furthermore, I promise to help educate future generations so they may also become caretakers of the natural resources of America." Which of the three versions do you prefer? The RRGc Board of Directors will decide which version will be used, but we really want the input of the membership on this issue. If you have a preference, please contact a Board member and let him/her know. Remember, this is your Club and this is your pledge. Consider its importance and meaning and then let us know how you feel.

## Upcoming Events of Interest

- Inland Northwest Wildlife Council "Big Horn Show": March 17-20, 1994 at the Spokane Fairgrounds.
- Environmental Information Network Meeting: "Environmental Activism in Washington State", March 16 at 7:00 p.m., Richland Public Library Gallery.

**For Sale:** Thousand Trails Unlimited Camping Membership. Campgrounds established in U.S. and Canada. Membership can be had at a very reasonable price. Browning Citori 12 gauge shotgun with 3" chambers, 26" barrel with Invector chokes, 4 extra sets of choke tubes. Shotgun is in 98% condition. Contact Bob McPhee, 943-5471.

## 1994 Officers

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Tom Davis, Treasurer (946-7747)	Mike Estes, Secretary (582-2212)

## MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

General Meeting - Tuesday, March 1, 1994, 7:30 p.m. - Richland Public Library

Board Meeting - Tuesday, March 15, 1994, 7:00 p.m. - IT, 1045 Jadwin, Suite C

Bulletin Deadline - Thursday, March 17, 1993, call Mike at 582-2212, evenings

## March General Meeting Program

Tom Davis, winner of the 1993 Quality Trip drawing, and his partner (and father) Bill Davis will be our guest speakers for the March 1 general membership meeting. Tom and Bill flew to the Alaskan village of Yakutat for salmon and halibut fishing in Yakutat Bay and the Gulf of Alaska. If you might be interested in taking a similar trip or just want to find out how these mighty fishermen fared, don't miss this meeting. As a reminder, time is running out for you to buy a ticket for the 1994 Quality Trip. Next year you might have an opportunity to tell the Club about your trip of a lifetime. Drawing for the 1994 Quality Trip winner will be at the Big Game Dinner on March 26.

## February General Meeting Report

The slides and video that Scott Nicolai showed were dramatic proof of the damage that livestock can cause to riparian habitat and streambeds. Loss of vegetation along creeks results in wider, shallower streams, riffles and pools disappear, and water temperatures rise. These factors often mean the difference between life and death for trout. Controlling the season and intensity of grazing as well as fencing farm animals away from the streams can allow the land to begin to recover in as little as two or three years. Scott presented a binder to the Club that contains a variety of resource materials that we can use in our habitat projects and in encouraging ranchers to manage their property for wildlife as well as for their farm animals. Meadows and creeks will store more water once riparian habitat is restored. More grass and plants will actually result in more feed for cattle and wild animals than would have been available if cattle had grazed all of the creekside land. Thanks for an excellent presentation Scott!

### More February Meeting Highlights

Lisa Fitzner announced plans by the Department of Wildlife to acquire funds to purchase the 14,000 acre McWhorter Ranch on the south face of Rattlesnake Mountain. Other proposed acquisitions include Bighorn Sheep habitat in the Ellensburg Canyon and acreage in the Skookumchuck north of Vantage that is home to sage grouse, chukar, and other wildlife. The projects are being proposed to the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition for funding through the Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation (IAC). The projects will require legislative support so RRGc will be asking you to contact state representatives and senators later this year so that funding can be approved next spring.

Door prize winners this month were Joe Carello, halogen spotlight; Richard Bada, tool box; Kris Hand, Washington Game Warden hat; Lisa Fitzner, thermometer and Fish Finder video; and John Pfeiffer and Ben Pesek, calendars.

### Hunter Education

Anita Gahimer and Dave Myers were recently certified as new Hunter Education Instructors. Congratulations to these two Club members on their accomplishment. Claire Cranston, another Club instructor, is asking for donations of old or no longer used firearms for the Hunter Education program. The guns do not have to be shootable to have value during the classroom training. Claire does need a .243 bolt action rifle in working condition for the kids to shoot at the range. If you have any firearms to donate or can help with this project, please call Claire at 547-6273.

### "Lunker Lake" - Jack Pickard

The first annual Tri-City Sportsmen Show juvenile fishing pond manned by RRGc members was one of the most gratifying projects that I have been involved with since joining the Club in 1986. This was our first opportunity to run the fishing pond and it proved to be quite a learning experience. Even though we encountered a few problems, everything worked out for the best.

Two things stick in my mind about this experience; the unselfish giving of time by Club members (we had 67 volunteers work on this project) and the look on the kids' faces when their fish broke water. There were 695 fish caught during the three day show. Top fisherman was Jerry Zeitler who had the pleasure of netting the leftovers in the pond. I wish that I had brought my camera! Jerry was standing in about six inches of water in hip boots with a net in each hand and smiling like a Cheshire cat.

Merle Shuyler, the producer of the Sportsmen Show, came down from Yakima for our February general membership meeting and presented a check for \$400 along with an invitation for RRGc to man the pond again next year. The money was a bonus because the primary intention of our involvement in this project was to introduce kids to fishing and to provide public exposure for the Club.

Special thanks go to Scott Rasley for knowing what to do when the fish were having problems. I hope that all of the volunteers had as much fun as I did. Thanks again!!!

Note: Two knives were left at the fishing pond. If you can identify either, call Jack at 582-5397 to claim yours.

### Big Game Dinner

Tickets to the 1994 Big Game Dinner on March 26 are sold out!!! We have already reached our maximum seating capacity for this annual event. Anyone who had ticket books who has not turned in the money and unsold tickets to Anita Gahimer yet should do so no later than the March 1 general meeting. Please call Anita at 943-0855 to make arrangements to settle your account. Also, thanks to everyone for the tremendous response to this event.

We can still use additional help in preparing the Big Game Dinner. There is meat to be smoked, door prizes to be solicited, food to be prepared, etc. If you have not already signed up to help, please call Jerry Zeitler at 545-6694 to offer your assistance. Also, donated game can still be dropped off at Chuck's Meat and Lockers. Our locker is J-16.

### Upcoming Habitat Projects - Larry Martin

Don Hand is scheduling some habitat plantings in Benton County in early March that he needs RRGc help with. The phone tree will be activated and you can expect a call. Please be ready to volunteer when your phone rings.

### New Shellfish/Seaweed License Required

Effective January 1, 1994, a personal use shellfish/seaweed license is required to harvest most seaweed and the following shellfish in Washington: crab, oysters, shrimp, sea cucumbers, sea urchins, cockles, mussels, hard shell and soft shell clams, geoduck, crawfish, goose barnacles, scallops, squid, octopus, razor clams, and Hood Canal shrimp. The license must be completely filled out, signed, and displayed on the outside of your clothing before you can legally harvest shellfish or seaweed. If you want to fish in Puget Sound (Catch Areas 5-13) or Lake Washington, you are required to have a valid personal use foodfish license and a recreational fisheries enhancement stamp in your possession. This is just a synopsis of the revised licensing requirement. Be sure to consult the appropriate fishing or hunting pamphlet for full details before you go afield for fish, fowl, big game, or seaweed.

### DOW Acting Director to Meet With Sportsmen

Jack Pickard and Mike Estes will be attending a "by invitation only" meeting with Patricia McLain and representatives of other fishing and hunting groups on Saturday, February 26, in Moses Lake. This is an opportunity to discuss issues and concerns of importance to sportsmen, and more specifically, to members of our Club. Please contact Jack or Mike immediately if there is an issue that you would like to be sure is discussed at this meeting.

### Quality Trip and Guided Fishing Trip Drawings

Just a reminder that if you will not be attending the Big Game Dinner on March 26, our March 1 meeting will probably be your last opportunity to enter these drawings. Full details were published in last month's newsletter. Quality trip tickets are \$15.00 each and are limited to maximum of 100 tickets to be sold. Tickets for the guided fishing trip for Mackinaw Trout with Mike Jones of Mid Columbia Outfitters are \$1.00 each, 6 for \$5.00, or 13 for \$10.00. See Tom Davis and Mike Estes at the March meeting or risk feeling sorry for yourself for a long, long time.

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APRIL, 1994

### RRGC Pledge

You may have noticed our new pledge on the cover of this month's newsletter. The RRGCC Board of Directors deliberated long and hard to come up with the final wording that they felt depicted our role and responsibility towards conserving our natural resources and educating others to do the same. Our pledge is a derivation of the old and new Outdoor Life Conservation Pledges, but the wording is unique to the Richland Rod & Gun Club. We hope that you will take time to ponder its significance and trust that you will do all that you can as sportsmen to support what it stands for.

### Columbia Point

At its March meeting, the RRGCC Board voted to support Alternative 1 for Columbia Point development. This alternative includes less development and would leave more natural areas than the other alternatives, and was therefore the least offensive of the choices that were offered. Just as we have encouraged members to support the Wild and Scenic River designation for the Hanford Reach, we encourage you to speak up to the Richland City Council or on the Tri-City Herald editorial page to let your feelings be known on what you want or don't want done at Columbia Point. Please don't count on others to protect these natural areas for you and your family. If you care, please become involved.

### NRA Banquet

The local NRA Banquet will be held Friday, April 8, at Cavanaugh's in Kennewick. For tickets or more information contact Clare Cranston (547-6273), Rose Iris Toberg (735-3107), or Keith Brady (967-5122).

**For Sale:** Female Vizsla pup whelped 2/10/94, AKC registered, show and field champion bloodlines. Ready for a new home soon. Contact Bob Lyness at 943-3506.

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Tom Davis, Treasurer (946-7747)      Mike Estes, Secretary (582-2212)

### MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

General Meeting - Tuesday, April 5, 1994, 7:30 p.m. - Richland Public Library

Board Meeting - Tuesday, April 19, 1994, 7:00 p.m. - Phil's Sporting Goods, Pasco

Bulletin Deadline - Thursday, April 21, 1994, call Mike at 582-2212, evenings

### April General Meeting Program

Fishing season is here! And that means that it is time for our Annual Fishing Forecast presented by Department of Wildlife biologists. Our guests for the April 5 meeting will be Mike Keller from Region I, Joe Foster from Region II and Eric Anderson from Region III. These men are a wealth of information about the lakes, rivers, and streams in their respective regions and can usually be counted on to bring a map or two with them to share with fishermen looking for a new place to wet a line. If you have questions or concerns about your favorite fishing hole, or if you just want to get a feel for what the season should be like, grab your fishing buddy and come down to the meeting.

### March General Meeting Report

Tom Davis won the Quality Trip last year and took his dad along as his partner on a fishing trip to Alaska, so it was Bill Davis who got the honor of sharing the highlights of their vacation with the Club at the March meeting. Tom and Bill fished with Fred Henry, a guide and harbor master, for halibut and salmon at the mouth of Yakutat Bay where it enters the Gulf of Alaska. Bill and Tom also flyfished for Sockeye and Humpies in the streams, but kept an eye open for bears in the brush. Bill and Tom fished from August 7 to 10 but recommended going a week later for better action for Coho Salmon in the streams. If you missed the meeting and want to know more about their trip, catch Bill or Tom at one of our upcoming events.

### More March Meeting Highlights

Mac's Racks of Maple Valley gave a demonstration of their Pickup Dog Restraints and donated two for door prizes. There were lots of prizes and lots of winners at the March meeting. John Pfeiffer won a fishing rod and reel, Dick Lewis won a backpack, and Ken Olson and Mike Estes won the dog restraint kits. Other winners were Kevin Kytola, Jim Saunders, John Propson, Jim Martin, David Oakley, Eddie Manthos, Anita Gahimer, Doug Schuetze, Gene VanLeuven, Oran Dodson, and Ken Olson (again). Thanks to Larry Martin for continuing to provide prizes for our raffle each month!

### Hunter Education

Claire Cranston is still looking for firearms in any condition for the Hunter Education classes and for a few rifles in good condition for range use. Please contact Claire at 547-6273 to donate to this worthwhile cause. Our Board of Directors meeting will be held at Phil's Sporting Goods this month to give the officers and directors a chance to review the instruction facilities and equipment that is used in the RRGC sponsored Hunter Education classes. Many thanks to Phil for making this space available and to the instructors for the many hours they donate while teaching the courses.

### "Lunker Lake" Proceeds Donated

Mark Jackson, 13 year old son of Blue Mountain farmer Don Jackson, was recently diagnosed as having leukemia. Don Jackson has won the Washington Department of Wildlife's land owner of the year award for his work in improving wildlife habitat. Don is also known for reserving his property for use by disabled hunters. Mark's bone marrow transplant will cost \$250,000 to \$300,000 and does not appear to be covered by insurance. It seemed appropriate to the RRGC Board of Directors that we should help this family that has done so much to help wildlife and sportsmen. The proceeds from the fishing pond at the Tri-Cities Sportsmen Show were recently mailed to Mark. Mark will have the bone marrow transplant in Seattle this month. We wish him a speedy and complete recovery.

### Upcoming Habitat Projects - Larry Martin

Club members have been busy the last few Saturdays helping with DOW projects. Rocky Ross and a hand full of volunteers met on March 5 to cut and plant willow and cottonwood shoots in the wetland area at the Windmill Ranch Wildlife Area. Rocky was assisted by Howard Gardner, Jack Pickard, Ben Pesek, Sean Pesek, and George Morris on this test plot project.

On March 19, RRGC members planted 1020 plants at Easterday Farms near Finley. Volunteers were Don and Kris Hand, Larry Martin, Jerry Zeitler, Howard Gardner, Jack Hampton, and Dennis Hiner. This planting will adjoin more than 11 acres of native grasses and food plots.

Upcoming projects include a planting of 200 to 300 shrubs near Dayton on April 9 with Scott Rasley and replacing dead plants in prior planting areas on Dodd Road with Suzanne Nostrant on April 23. Please call Larry Martin at 545-9647 if you are able to help with either of these projects, or sign up at the April 5 general membership meeting.

### New Members - Ben Webb

Please join me in welcoming our new members this month. They are Don Hall from Richland and Kevin Kytola from Kennewick. We hope to see them at our monthly meetings.

### "Pathway To Fishing" Clinic

The RRGC and the Columbia Basin Flycasters will co-sponsor a fishing clinic at the new Walmart store in Kennewick on Saturday, April 30. "Pathway To Fishing" is a program that teaches aquatic ecology and basic fishing techniques. It was developed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, BLM, Forest Service, and others. The class consists of up to 12 learning stations and takes about an hour to complete. Please contact Dave Myers, 375-0343 or Howard Gardner to volunteer a few hours to this project on April 30.

### Big Game Dinner Highlights

Nearly 300 persons gathered on March 26 with expectations of good food, fellowship, and a chance to win a prize or two. We weren't disappointed. Rich Landers, an outdoor writer and photographer, presented a program that reminded us that there are tremendous opportunities for enjoyment in the great outdoors, with very little strain on our pocketbooks. The thrill of nature is there for each and every one of us, but we need to take advantage of it.

It takes dozens of volunteers to put on an event like the Big Game Dinner and there is not room here to recognize every person individually, but please accept our genuine thanks for all your hard work. A few people who deserve special recognition are Jerry Zeitler, Committee Chair; Dave Myers, Master of Ceremonies; head chefs Bob Hinkle and Roger Renne, assisted by Bob Henke and Rocky Ross; salmon cooks Jerry Bloom, Jerry Massey, and Don Frick; Jack Hampton, flowers; Anita Gahimer, ticket sales; Dale Schielke, programs; and John Pfeiffer, Don Hand, Larry Martin, and Anita for soliciting the door prizes. Special thanks to Howard Gardner for doing all the shopping and for coordinating the hors d'oeuvres, and to Jim Choate and Don Frick for smoking the hors d'oeuvres. Steve Wray was our "Salad Man" again this year and Larry Martin was once again "Mr. Potato". It is imperative that we mention the meat donors because without their sharing, we would be "out of business." Thanks to Charlie Morbeck, Mike Estes, Rocky Ross, Howard Gardner, Don Frick, Sean Carr, Jerry Zeitler, and Jeff Fulks. On the topic of food, we also need to thank **Chuck's Meat & Lockers** for the excellent sausages and **Pasta Mama's** for the pasta and sauce.

Thanks to the generous donations of many businesses, some excellent prizes were available to the holders of the lucky tickets. Dick Lewis won the Members Only Drawing for a Browning BPS Stalker shotgun donated by **Wheeler Gun Shop**. Dave Wheeler won an art print from **Alexander's Art Gallery** in the Early Bird drawing. Steve Friar won a **John Clement** photo in the Volunteer Workers Drawing. A Remington art print was won by Rocky Ross in the Food Donor Drawing. John Cummings and Mike Estes won the guided fishing trip for Mackinaw Trout donated by **Mid-Columbia Outfitters** of Hermiston, Oregon. The big winner of the night was Arlen Schade, who will be going on his third Quality Trip in the last four years. If anyone who bought Quality Trip tickets would like to call Arlen to congratulate him on his stupendous luck, his phone number is 946-8460 and the best time to call is between 1:00 a.m. and 4:00 a.m. (If he asks, please don't tell him where you got his phone number.)

Other prize donors were **Les Schwab, Sgt. & Mrs. Bub's, Taylor Automotive, B B & M, Inc, Dawson Richards, Fred Meyer, Henry's Restaurant, The Towne Crier, Al's Auto Supply, Tri-City Americans, Bill's Fishing Hole, Finley Shopper, Hole In The Wall, Pay Less Drug Store, Metz Marina, Buffalo Country, Bonanza Restaurant, Phil's Sporting Goods, Mac's Racks, and Zebco Corporation**. These businesses were good enough to support us, so please make an effort to support them and mention how much we appreciate their donations.





# 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, 1994

## 1994 Officers

Jack Pickard, President (582-5397)      Anita Gahimer, Vice President (943-0855)  
Tom Davis, Treasurer (946-7747)      Mike Estes, Secretary (582-2212)

## MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

General Meeting - Tuesday, May 3, 7:30 p.m. - Benton County PUD, Kennewick

Board Meeting - Tuesday, May 17, 1994, 7:00 p.m. - Richland Public Library

Bulletin Deadline - Thursday, May 19, 1994, call Mike at 582-2212, evenings

## May General Meeting Program

Our May meeting will be held at the new **Benton County PUD Building, 2721 West 10th Avenue in Kennewick**. The PUD Building is at the intersection of Highway 395 and 10th Avenue and is most easily accessed via Highway 395 to 10th Avenue due to road construction in the area. The location change is for the May meeting only, due to a schedule conflict at the Richland Library.

Suzanne Nostrant, Habitat Development Specialist with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, will be our guest speaker. Suzanne will share information about habitat planting projects and will highlight work done on Grandview Farms by the Richland Rod and Gun Club in 1993. In addition, Dr. Chuck Coleman of Coleman Veterinary Clinic in Pasco will demonstrate the installation of a locator micro chip with Babe, Larry Martin's faithful companion. If you have been curious about the process and whether to have it done to your pet, this is a chance to get first hand knowledge.

## April General Meeting Report

If you think that you are ready for fishing this year but haven't taken a look at the new 1994-1995 Game Fish Regulations, maybe you should grab your reading glasses. The message from the regional fish biologists is that there are lots of changes. The fish management program is operating with a near record low budget and much attention is currently directed to the Endangered Species Act, including salmon and bull trout.

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## Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation Banquet

The Tri-City chapter of the RMEF will hold its annual dinner and auction at the Tower Inn in Richland on May 14. The doors open at 4:00 p.m., dinner is at 5:30, and the auction starts at 7:00. Tickets are \$35 for singles and \$50 for couples. 1994 marks the tenth anniversary of the RMEF and membership has grown to more than seventy-five thousand. RMEF has raised approximately \$35 million for wildlife habitat projects that benefit elk and other species. If you are looking for a fun night out and a chance to come home with a nice wildlife print or some hunting supplies, this is the place to be. For tickets or more information call Annette Aughey (783-4797) or Chuck Nelson (967-2219).

## Conservation News

One of the enjoyable aspects of being Club secretary is getting to read all the newsletters from other wildlife and outdoor groups. One that consistently gets my full attention is The Curlew, the monthly newsletter of the Lower Columbia Basin Audubon Society. These people are involved constantly on local issues of great importance to outdoorsmen. Examples are Columbia Point, the Lower Yakima River Greenway, the Hanford Reach, and the Hanford Advisory Board. A tip of the hat to Mike Lilga, Rick Leumont, and the other LCBAS members who work so diligently to protect and save out local natural areas and wildlife.

## McGee Habitat Project

The RRGCC Board of Directors has approved \$250 for a class habitat project just outside the James McGee Elementary school fence on private property in Pasco. The project includes a drip irrigation system and nearly 500 evergreen and deciduous plants. Cost sharing for the project will be provided by the Department of Fish and Wildlife. The land will be secured under a long term lease and should become an excellent green belt as surrounding property becomes developed. Thanks to Club members Rocky Ross and Jack Hampton for their involvement with this project.

### More April Meeting Highlights

Some of the "big" fishing regulation changes that caught my attention were: most lakes in Benton, Yakima, and Kittitas counties have gone to year-round, there is now a statewide wild Steelhead release requirement, the Yakima River is closed to Steelhead fishing, and the Tucannon River is closed for fishing with bait from the Hatchery all the way to Panjab. Most streams and rivers in eastern Washington will no longer be stocked with hatchery raised trout because they are viewed as being competitive with naturally spawning species. Hatchery fish will primarily be planted in lakes, reservoirs, and ponds. If you attended the meeting, you know that this is just a short list of items of interest. If you didn't attend the April meeting, pick up a copy of the new regulations and find out what the limits and restrictions are at your favorite fishing hole this year.

Prize winners at the April meeting were John Cummings, a Remington art print donated by Phil's Sporting Goods and a Pocket Workshop; Bob Utley, a Fishing Rod and Reel; Blaine Martin, a Fishing Reel and Lunkerline; Dale Campbell, a Towel; and Howard Chitty and Dave Oakley, Grab Bags. With all of John Cummings' recent good luck (he won a guided fishing trip at the Big Game dinner too), now would probably be a good time to invest in a few Lotto tickets.

### New Members

We are happy and proud to announce a long list of new members this month. Please welcome Dana and Rachel Morgan, Kennewick; Donald Morris, Richland; Bob Thornton, Richland; Tom Massman, Benton City; Sean Carr, Burbank; Heath Marlin, Kennewick; Mark Townsend, Kennewick; Mel VanNieuwenhuise, Carnation; Robert Boldman, Edmonds; Jack Oppett, Richland; Richard McFall, Kennewick; Larry Hayner, Richland; Dirk Hummer, Richland; Lorna and Jon Manthos, Kennewick; Mike and Mary Jones, Hermiston; Roy Brogdon, Richland; L.H. and Liz Henderson, Richland; Curtis Davis, Richland; Ted Takaoka, Richland; Paul Kison, Pasco; Robert Edwards, Pasco; Mike Nelson, Kennewick; John Robinson, Pasco; Dennis Spore, Richland; Don Board, Kennewick; and John and Kathleen Hall, Kennewick.

### Habitat Projects - Larry Martin

On Saturday, April 9, four RRCG members traveled to Dayton to assist the Walla Walla Chapter of Pheasants Forever and Scott Rasley of DOF&W with a habitat project. John Nesbitt, Howard Gardner, Bob Lyness, and Larry Martin were fed a very nice meal by the landowner and reported that they had a good time. Thanks too to all the volunteers who are scheduled to help replace plants on Dodd Road with Suzanne Nostrant on April 23.

### Annual RRCG Picnic Scheduled - Anita Gahimer

It's official, so you might as well mark your calendar now. The Club picnic will be held on Tuesday, August 9, at the Gazebo in Leslie Groves Park, Richland. If you have any ideas on how to make this event even more fun than in the past, or if you would like to volunteer to help with the salmon cooking or other preparations, call Anita at 943-0855 or chat with her at the May meeting.

### WSSC 1994 Conservation Camp- Larry Martin

Applications are now available for the Washington State Junior Sportsmen's Conservation Camp that will be held in the San Juan Islands again this summer. Girls Camp is from Sunday, July 17 to Saturday, July 23. Boys Camp is from Sunday, July 24 to Saturday, July 30. Campers must be between the ages of 12 (must be 12 by July 1, 1994) and 16 (must not reach the age of 17 before camp begins). RRCG will sponsor eleven (11) campers on a first come, first served basis. The Club will pay the \$125 registration fee for each camper but transportation to and from camp will be the responsibility of the parents. Call Larry Martin at 5459647 for an application form. Mail completed applications to Larry Martin, 2127 North 18th Avenue, Pasco, WA 99301.

### "Pathway to Fishing" Clinic this Saturday- Dave Myers

The RRCG and the Columbia Basin Flycasters will co-sponsor a fishing clinic as the new Walmart store in Kennewick this Saturday, April 30. "Pathway To Fishing" is a program that teaches aquatic ecology and basic fishing techniques. It was developed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, BLM, Forest Service, and others. The class consists of up to 12 learning stations and takes about an hour to complete. Share the word with your friends and neighbors and bring the kids out to this fun and educational event. If your schedule allows, please contact Dave Myers, 375-0343 or Howard Gardner to volunteer a few hours to this project, or just drop by and lend a hand.

### Turkey Hunting Safety- Mike Estes

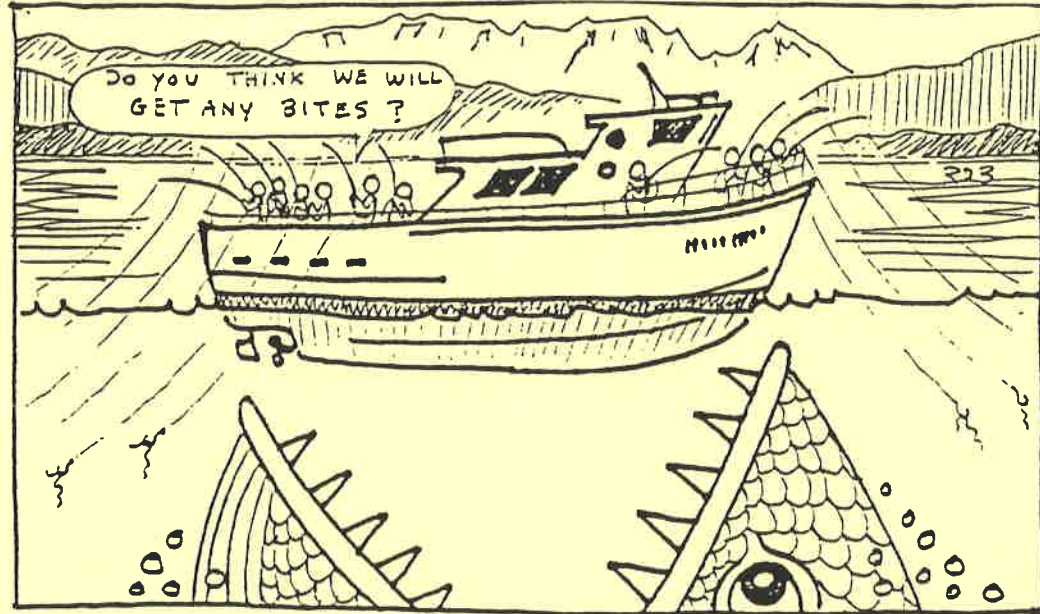
The spring turkey hunting season is underway and will last until May 16. Increases in the number of turkeys in Washington from about 2,000 birds fifteen years ago to about 5,000 birds now has brought a corresponding increase in the number of turkey hunters. Turkey hunting is a relatively new sport for many hunters in this state and that means that many of the hunters are still somewhat inexperienced. Therefore, safety should be a primary concern for anyone going into the woods and forests during turkey season.

Unfortunately, the needs of some persons to come home with a gobbler in order to count the hunt a success leads to unethical and unsafe hunting practices. This isn't hypothetical, but comes from my experience on opening day of this year's turkey season. In one instance, "hunters" who were aware that I was working a bird less than 150 yards away, attempted to move between me and the bird (which was still in the roost tree) to ambush the gobbler before it could get to me. In the second case, hunters stalked my hunting partner, apparently thinking that he was a turkey (which I have also suspected from time to time, only partially due to his calling prowess).

Important things to remember during turkey season are: don't wear anything red, white, or blue. These are colors that hunters associate with the head of a gobbler. Even white socks or a white hanky when seen through limbs and brush could make you into a target. Before you call, find a place to protect your back against a dirt bank or tree. Hunt defensively! Protect yourself and others. And finally, remember that you are out there for the enjoyment. If you really need meat for the freezer, turkeys cost less at the grocery store.

**CANADIAN FISHING ADVENTURE**  
*Off the West Coast of Vancouver with Oak Bay Marine*

**August**  
**11-13, 1994**



**2 Day**  
**Package**

We are off to experience the most fantastic fishing on the West Coast of Vancouver with Oak Bay Marine.

The Canadian Fishing Adventure is set for August 11-13, 1994. The two day package includes round trip air fare from Vancouver, B. C. International Airport, two 7-hour salmon fishing charters in 43' deep sea cruisers with experienced skippers and guides (includes first class gear), two nights accommodations, and the cleaning and packaging of your catch for the trip home.

For accommodations, you may choose between the experience of staying aboard one of Canada's heritage ships, with private berth style sleeping and wash basin in the room (shared toilet and shower facilities down the hall), or you may choose to stay in the deluxe shoreside chalets alongside the ship in Ucluelet Harbor, which offer two or four person suites with color TV, full private bathrooms and covered walkway access to the moored ship.

Fishing licenses are not included in the package, the cost is 7.50 per two days non-residence licenses, and they can be purchased at the airport before we leave. An optional four hour afternoon bottom fishing trip for giant-size halibut, ling cod, and a variety of rockfish is available on the first afternoon for \$39.00. Sign up is with the Purser when you check in at the Canadian Princess.

**COST**      \$341.55 U.S./Double occupancy on shore accommodations  
                  \$305.33 U.S./Double occupancy on ship accommodations

**DEPOSIT**    A deposit of \$100.00 is required by May 31, 1994. The balance is to be paid in full no later than June 30, 1994. The group size is limited, so please reserve your spot as soon as possible.

There are 20 spots available.

***For Additional Information Contact***  
***Jerry Massey at 943-8583 Home or 376-1678 Week days.***

### For Sale

If you are looking for a good tent for elk camp, look at this. 14'x12'x3', excellent condition, no floor, \$150. Call Richard Pettee at 375-0104.

### An Optometrist Who Understands Shooting- Bob Caldwell

Ever wish that you had a set of prescription shooting glasses? I have been interested for some time, but none of the optometrists I ever went to understood the needs of shooters. Until now. Dr. Laura Winkle is an avid trap shooter, and she works at Costco in Kennewick. My new glasses have Decot Hy-Wyd frames, and have interchangeable lenses. The lenses come in all of the normal shades associated with shooting. I'm sure the cost will vary somewhat, but my pair cost \$140. She can order glasses for you using your existing prescription, or she can give you an exam also. Delivery takes about two weeks. AND she is pleasant to deal with!

### Legislative Fish In- Jack Pickard

On Saturday, May 14, it was my pleasure to represent the RRGCC at the Legislative Fish In at MarDon Resort. I had a good time and got to meet a lot of people with an interest in wildlife. Among those who I got to talk to were Norm Richardson, John McGlenn, and Lisa Pelly of the Washington Wildlife Commission; Mick Hanson, 13th District Representative; George Orr, 4th District Representative; and Art Wang, 27th District Representative. I was also treated to a two hour walleye fishing trip with Lisa Pelly, courtesy of Washington Walleye Unlimited.

### Warmwater Fish Advisory Committee- Jack Pickard

On Sunday, May 15, the third organizational meeting of the Washington State Freshwater Fish Advisory Committee was held at MarDon Resort. Attendees included representatives from the Columbia Basin Walleye Club, King County Sports Council, Spokane Walleye Club, Inland Northwest Wildlife Council, Western Walleye Club, Washington Walleye Unlimited, the General Manager for Yakima Bait Co., the organizers Rod Meseberg and Ron Sawyer, and me representing the Richland Rod & Gun Club. The intent of this meeting was to continue discussions about the formation of an "umbrella" organization that could present a unified voice on issues relating to freshwater fishing in eastern Washington. Organizational progress has been slow. A constitution and by laws haven't been roughed out yet. The concept is to have a board of directors with representation from all of the major regional sporting clubs. Any decision on whether the RRGCC would participate in such an organization would be made by our Board of Directors. The next meeting of the Warmwater Fish Advisory Committee is scheduled for June 5 at 10 a.m. at MarDon Resort.

### "Save The Reach" Bumper Stickers

The Lower Columbia Basin Audubon Society has bumper stickers that say "Save The Reach" available for sale for \$1 each. If you are interested, contact Jeb Baldi at 783-8038. This is a terrific way to let everyone know how you feel on this important issue.

### McWhorter Ranch

Letters of support for this 14,000 acre acquisition by the WDFW will be needed soon. The property is only about 16 miles from Richland. The north boundary adjoins the Air Lands Ecology Reserve. Please read the July newsletter for a much more thorough description of the site and intended use and be prepared to write a letter of support.



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JUNE, 1994

## 1994 Officers

Jack Pickard, President (582-5397) Anita Gahimer, Vice President (943-0855)  
Tom Davis, Treasurer (946-7747) Mike Estes, Secretary (582-2212)

## MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

General Meeting - Tuesday, June 7, 1994, 7:30 p.m. - Richland Public Library

Board Meeting - Tuesday, June 21, 1994, 7:00 p.m. - Richland Public Library

Bulletin Deadline - Thursday, June 23, 1994, call Mike at 582-2212, evenings

## June General Meeting Program

Al Seibert of the Columbia Basin Bass Club will be our speaker at the June 7 genral membership meeting. Al will share his extensive knowledge on bass fishing, including tips that could help make one of your upcoming outings more successful. Al will also bring his fishing gear with him for a show and tell. Al has been a bass fisherman for more than 50 years and is past president of the Washington State Bass Angler Sportsmen Society. This is our last meeting before the summer break, so take this opportunity to get out and meet Al and pick up a little more fishing savvy before you head out to your favorite fishing hole.

## May General Meeting Report

Attendees at the May meeting were treated to presentations by Dr. Chuck Coleman of Coleman Veterinary Clinic in Pasco and Suzanne Nostrant, Habitat Development Specialist with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. Dr. Coleman demonstrated how quick and painless it is to implant an AVID microchip for quick identification of your pet if it should be lost or stolen and later turns up at the dog pound or at a veterinary clinic for treatment. The cost of the implant is only \$30 and provides a life long, non-removable method of identifying your dog, cat, horse, bird, or other favorite pet.

The big door prize winner of the evening was Gene VanLiew. Gene won a Shop Vac wet/dry vacuum.

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## Gun Rights- Bob Caldwell

As you know, the legislative fight at both the state and national levels has not been going well for gun owners for the last year or so. Most of us have allowed the National Rifle Association to run the defense up to this point. Unfortunately, the NRA has become so swamped that they can't seem to reliably get out timely information to their 3.2 million members.

That is where the Second Amendment Advocates (SAA) come in. The SAA is a local grass roots political action group which is forming in the Tri-Cities to deal with the "gun control" issue. The SAA is organizing a phone tree to keep local people informed. Bob Caldwell has been asked to organize this phone tree and is looking for people who are willing to participate. If you are interested in what your government is doing to your Second Amendment rights, please call Bob at 547-1176 or 376-2345 (work). He is looking for people who are willing to call their representatives, and maybe even pass the word on to some of their friends. If you elect to participate, either Bob or another of the SAA members will contact you when a critical issue is about to come before the Congress or the Washington State legislature. If you want more information about SAA, contact Rose Iris Toberg at 735-3107.

This is also a good place to thank everyone who called or wrote to Congressman Inslee concerning recent legislation to ban numerous kinds of firearms. Based on the Congressman's vote, he apparently didn't listen very well to the input he received, but perhaps we'll be able to send him a stronger message at some future date.

## Read Your Bulletin- Anita Gahimer

Upcoming guest speakers will discuss Turkey Hunting, Grizzly Bears, Black Bear and Cougar, and Dog Training. Our annual Hunting Forecast will be in October, and Congressman Jay Inslee has tentatively committed to address our Club. If you have a subject you would like to hear about or have any ideas on happenings of interest for our general meetings, please do not hesitate to contact me! Anita- 943-0855. This is your Club and our programs are for your enjoyment.

### More May Meeting Highlights

Suzanne Nostrant used a slide program to demonstrate changes in planting techniques that have resulted in less plant mortality and faster growth rates in habitat plantings over the past several years. The slides showed the Grandview Farms project that was planted by RRGc members in 1988. Damage from cattle, fire, and competition with weeds resulted in plant loss and slow growth for the surviving shrubs. The area is being replanted using a plastic ground cover that holds moisture in and eliminates competition from weeds. The new methods can result in 20 years of growth in 5 years. Mowing between the rows eliminates Canada and star thistle and gives grasses a chance to grow. Suzanne showed that some plants are now 5 to 8 feet tall and the plantings are home to all kinds of birds and animals, including deer.

Suzanne's presentation really hi-lited one of the primary activities of our Club. Many, many volunteers have worked on numerous habitat planting projects over the past several years. The cumulative effect of our efforts for the benefit of wildlife is considerable. Thank you to everyone who has worked on these habitat projects and thanks to Suzanne for reminding us of the importance of our efforts.

### Salmon Booth at Allied Arts Sidewalk Show - Howard Gardner

We will once again be operating the Salmon Booth in conjunction with the Columbia Basin Fly Casters at the Sidewalk Show in Howard Amon Park on July 29 and 30. Booth set up and fish preparation will be on Thursday evening, July 28. There are three work shifts each day on Friday and Saturday. Club members will be getting phone calls to schedule work periods and a sign up list will be passed around at the June 7 meeting.

Workers need to obtain a food servers card which is good for two years. RRGc will reimburse the cost of the card. Special test sessions will be held for Sidewalk Show workers on Thursday, July 7 and Wednesday, July 13 at the Allied Arts Center, 89 Lee Boulevard (at the entrance to Howard Amon Park). Be there by 6:45 p.m. because testing will start promptly at 7:00 p.m. and no one will be admitted late. Please plan to attend one of these testing sessions. Otherwise, food server cards may also be obtained from the Health Department by calling 582-2761 and scheduling an appointment.

As you are aware, this event is the major revenue producer of the year for RRGc. It takes a lot of workers to make it a success, but the burden on each person is small if everyone pitches in and it really is a lot of fun. Please volunteer for a shift or two. We look forward to another successful event this year.

### Pathway to Fishing - Dave Myers, John Pfeiffer, Howard Gardner

On Saturday, April 30, in the Wal-Mart parking lot, the walk-through Pathway to Fishing program was presented to approximately 30 youth and their parents. The 12 station, one hour program teaches fishing basics, aquatic ecology, and angler ethics. The practice casting station was popular. Many thanks are given to the following Richland Rod & Gun Club and Columbia Basin Fly Casters members who willingly donated their time on a rather cool, windy day: Mark Conway, Clare Cranston, Howard Gardner, Bob Henke, Bob Johnson, Lynn Logman, Bob Lyness, Bill Mandell, Dave Myers, Dick Nightingale, John Pfeiffer, Jack Pickard, John Propson, Rocky Ross, Dale Schielke, Sharon Taff, Gene Woodruff, and Jerry Zeitler. Thanks are also given to Jerry Crandall and Todd Ross of Wal-Mart for materials and to Mark Pederson and his squaw fish bounty team of the Department of Fish and Wildlife for their participation.

### Habitat Projects - Larry Martin

Many hands made quick work out of the replanting project on Dodd Road, east of the Iowa Beef plant, on April 23. Thanks to the following individuals for their efforts on this project: Suzanne Nostrant, Larry Martin, Brian Eberhart, Jim Saunders, Jerry Bloom, Jerry Zeitler, Howard Gardner, Eric Fullgrabe, Brian Fullgrabe, Larry Noggles, Richard Sharp, Bill Eberhart, Laura Martin, Jack Pickard, Lou Ladoucer, Eddie Manthos, Dana Mueller, Dale Schielke, Dennis Hiner, Katy Guzman, and Jack Hampton. We hope that everyone enjoyed the lunches provided by the Club.

### Upland Wildlife Restoration Council

Anita Gahimer, Don Hand, and Larry Martin represented RRGc to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's Upland Wildlife Restoration Program annual meeting on June 14 and 15 in Dayton. The program is now three years old and already has nearly 1.2 million acres in eastern Washington under cooperative habitat development agreements with 649 property owners. This represents approximately 9% of the private farm land in eastern Washington.

Meeting attendees toured several habitat development sites and saw a variety of wildlife. One of the highlights of the meeting for our Club was having Larry Martin elected to the Citizens Board which oversees and approves DOW wildlife restoration projects. **Congratulations Larry!** The Special Wildlife Account balance for the Wildlife Restoration Program to which RRGc donated \$500 last year is now up \$42,000.

### Squawfish Bounty

From May 2 to September 11, the Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife is offering squawfish bounty monetary incentives for sport-reward fishing to reduce the number of squawfish that feed on salmon smolts in the Columbia River system. Nearly 600,000 have been caught since 1990, resulting in a cumulative reduction of 31 per cent in squawfish predation on smolts in 1994. For additional information on the program, contact the WDF&W at 800-858-9015.

### RRGC Hosts Wildlife Commission

Representatives of seven local sports clubs met with Commissioners at the Richland Public Library on May 25 to discuss the role that the Commission should play in the newly merged Department of Fish and Wildlife. Historically the Wildlife Commission has been responsible for seasons, limits, and method of harvest on birds, mammals, and "freshwater" fish. One of the major issues is whether or not the Commission's role should be expanded to include anadromous fish (including commercial salmon fishing) and shellfish. Commissioners present at the meeting were Norm Richardson of Yakima and Kelly White of Kettle Falls.

Discussion ranged through a variety of topics relating to the Commission, the director of the WDF&W, and wildlife issues. It appears that there is support for the Commission to fill an expanded role in marine issues involving salmon and shellfish. Sportsmen would like for the Commission to have authority to select the director rather than having that appointment made by the Governor, or at least have the Governor appoint from a short list submitted to him by the Commission. There was also quite a bit of discussion about the status of elk in the Blue Mountains. Archery representatives along with one large property owner from the Dayton area submitted data showing that the spike only program is not working. Hopefully the exchange of information between sportmen and the Commissioners at this meeting will bring positive results in several areas.



# RICHLAND ROD & GUN CLUB

(INCORPORATED)

P. O. BOX 337  
RICHLAND, WASHINGTON  
99352

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JULY, 1994

## 1994 Officers

Jack Pickard, President (582-5397) Anita Gahimer, Vice President (943-0855)  
Tom Davis, Treasurer (946-7747) Mike Estes, Secretary (582-2212)

## MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

Board Meeting - Tuesday, July 19, 1994, 7:00 p.m. - Richland Public Library

Bulletin Deadline - Thursday, July 21, 1994, call Mike at 582-2212, evenings

Salmon Booth - Allied Arts Sidewalk Show, July 29 & 30, Howard Amon Park

## June General Meeting Highlights

Attendees at our June meeting learned that there is a lot more to being a bass fisherman than just fishing for bass. There have been tremendous technology changes over the last ten or fifteen years in rods, reels, lines, lures, and boating equipment. Knowing what to use and when and how to use it makes the difference between catching fish and just wetting a line. That is why our speaker, Al Seibert, explained that he has fished for bass for 45 years beginning with his childhood in Alabama, but has been a bass fisherman for only eight years.

Al fishes a minimum of twice a week, and records every fish he catches. Data includes the water temperature, barometric pressure, what it was caught on, etc. Over a period of time, trends become obvious and fishing success improves. Al uses good quality baitcasting reels, but buys inexpensive spinning reels which he discards when they break rather than spending the time and money to repair them. He demonstrated how he would use a stiff flippin' stick with heavy weight "Spider Wire" to jerk large bass out of heavy cover, but uses a much more limber rod when fishing open water. Graphite rods are very popular but many professionals have gone back to fiberglass rods because they lose fewer fish on the hook set. Al reminded us that sunlight and fluorescent light are the two hardest things on monofilament line so store your line in the dark and change line on your reels frequently.

Al was rewarded for his fine presentation by being the lucky winner of a \$100 gift certificate from Wheeler's Gun Shop in the door prize drawing. He has offered to speak again at a future meeting where he can spend more time explaining fishing techniques that we can use to catch lunker bass.

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## Annual RRGCC Picnic Scheduled - Anita Gahimer

Dust off your horseshoes, find your frisbee, and make sure your swimming suit still fits. The Club picnic will be held on Tuesday, August 9, at the Gazebo in Leslie Groves Park, Richland. If you have any ideas on how to make this event even more fun than in the past, or if you would like to volunteer to help with the salmon cooking or other preparations, call Anita at 943-0855. Look for complete details in the August newsletter and we will look forward to seeing you at the picnic.

## WSSC 1994 Conservation Camp- Larry Martin

RRGC is sponsoring eight boys and girls to week long camps in the San Juan Islands later this month. In addition to the registration fees, the RRGCC Board of Directors voted to send a \$500 donation to assist with the purchase of new equipment for the camp. Best wishes to all you campers for a fun and educational week on Orcas Island.

## Hanford Reach EIS Expected in July

Publication and release of the National Park Service's Final Comprehensive Study and Environmental Impact Statement has been delayed (again) but is expected in July. All the letters to the editor of the Tri-City Herald demonstrating support for the Reach have caused the Benton County Commissioners to rethink their opposition to the Wild and Scenic River designation and to consider holding public meetings to hear testimony on local concerns and support for the Reach. Keep an eye on the newspaper for any upcoming public meetings and please continue to keep those letters coming.

## 1994 Quality Trip and Odell Lake Fishing Trip

The bear hunters are home from Canada and the fishermen are back from the lake. Quality Trip winners Jerry Bloom and Arlen Schade harvested three bears on a successful spring hunt in British Columbia. John Cummings, Mike Estes, and their spouses spent a fun week-end fishing with guide Mike Jones at Odell Lake in Oregon for Kokanee and Mackinaw Trout. Mike and Mary Jones of Mid-Columbia Outfitters had donated the fishing trip for the Big Game Dinner raffle. All four fishermen caught Mackinaw, the biggest of which was Karen Estes' 35 pound "monster", and plenty of Kokanee. Thanks to the Jones' for making the trip possible. Details of the trips will be shared with the Club at one of our future meetings.

### Salmon Booth at Allied Arts Sidewalk Show

July in the Tri-Cities equates to summer heat, hydroplane races and art in the park. Part of the tradition of the Allied Arts Sidewalk Show in Howard Amon Park are the alder cooked salmon dinners served by the Richland Rod & Gun Club and the Columbia Basin Flycasters. The fragrant smell of the salmon attracts hundreds of hungry customers and makes this the major revenue producing event of the year for the RRG. The profits from the concession are used to support a variety of public service projects including wildlife habitat development, sponsoring youth to summer conservation education camps, hunter education, fishing and aquatic education, improvements to the Rattlesnake Mountain Public Shooting Facility, fly tying and fly casting classes, wildlife and conservation programs, and outdoor survival classes.

Understandably, it takes quite a few volunteer workers to make this project successful each year. That is why we need you to lend a hand! If you haven't already signed up for a shift or two, please call Dave Myers (375-0343) or John Pfeiffer (627-5429) and offer to lend a hand.

**Booth Set Up and Fish Preparation: Thursday evening, July 28, 6-9:30 pm**

**Salmon Booth: Friday and Saturday, July 28 and July 29**  
**Shift Times: 9 am - 1 pm, 1 pm - 5 pm, and 5 pm - 9 pm**

Workers need to obtain a food servers card which is good for two years. RRG will reimburse the cost of the card. Special test sessions will be held for Sidewalk Show workers on Thursday, July 7 and Wednesday, July 13 at the Allied Arts Center, 89 Lee Boulevard (at the entrance to Howard Amon Park). Be there by 6:45 pm because testing will start promptly at 7:00 pm and no one will be admitted late. Please plan to attend one of these testing sessions. Otherwise, food server cards may also be obtained from the Health Department by calling 582-7761 and scheduling an appointment.

**We are particularly in need of workers on Saturday. If you can help, please call Dave or John right away and offer to lend a hand.**

### McWhorter Ranch

It is time to grab a piece of paper and write a letter of support for acquisition of the McWhorter Ranch by the Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife. We have mentioned in our monthly newsletters that action on this proposal to purchase the 14,000 acre ranch are expected to be made this summer. The property is in close proximity to the Tri-Cities (only 16 miles from Richland) on the southwest flank of the eastern end of the Rattlesnake Hills. The outskirts of Benton City extend to within a mile of the eastern edge of the ranch.

About 3200 acres of the ranch is currently being farmed in dryland wheat. Much of the unfarmed acreage is bunchgrass with patches of big sagebrush. Elk are known to use the area and interest has been shown to build up a sage grouse population. The ranch is contiguous to the Arid Lands Ecology Reserve.

The ranch owners are in their 70's and the property is likely to be sold for development in the near future if not acquired by WDF&W. The beneficial wildlife habitat of the ranch and its location make it a prime candidate for our support for public acquisition. Please send a letter of support by July 15 addressed to Bob Turner, Director, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, 600 Capitol Way North, Olympia, WA, 98501-1091. If possible, please mail a copy of your letter to the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission at the same address.

### Wenaha-Tucannon Wilderness Trail Maintenance- Dale Schielke

Over 2-1/2 miles of Turkey Creek Trail were "brushed out" by seven scouts and four adults on June 11. Forest Service representatives met the crew at the Panjab trail head after breakfast. We hiked 1-1/2 miles up the Panjab trail to the fork where Turkey Creek Trail starts. After a short explanation on the proper/safe use of the tools, the crew proceeded to clear brush and tree limbs four feet on either side of the trail and about fifteen feet high. A light lunch of crackers, salami, cheese, peanut butter and jelly, apples, and cookies was consumed on the trail. A tired crew hiked back to the trailhead for dinner and an early bedtime. Several horseback riding groups indicated they were going to ride the trail the following day, now that it was brushed out. Thanks to RRG for providing the food for this outing.

### Columbia Basin BLM Scattered Tracts-Jack Pickard

A meeting was held in Pasco on June 2 to review the Columbia Basin Scattered Tracts Resource Management Plan which includes 89,585 acres scattered throughout the Basin. Several alternative actions were reviewed. The alternatives included returning some, most, or nearly all of the property to adjacent land owners. After public review of the alternatives, the Bureau of Land Management is expected to select a preferred alternative in November, 1994.

Clair Cranston and Jack Pickard represented the RRG at the meeting. A letter has been sent to the BLM supporting Alternative B (Biological Resource Conservation Emphasis) under which only about 10,000 acres would be transferred to private ownership for agricultural use. The RRG letter includes a recommendation that the hunting and fishing rights be retained by BLM for use by the public on any property that is deeded to private parties.

### 1994 RMEF Blue Mountains Project

RRG has donated \$500 to the Miller Shingle Elk Forage Enhancement Project that will improve forage conditions on elk summer and winter range currently being selectively logged in the South Touchet River drainage system of Columbia County. Estimated cost of the project is \$41,400 and will include aerial seeding of over 1,000 acres of skid trails, landings and logged areas. This property is being logged for the second time. It was first logged more than 120 years ago and it will not undergo major logging again for another 120 years. This represents the only opportunity that will exist to enhance all of the disturbed areas. Seeding will occur this fall with a special blend of grasses and clovers that will benefit a variety of wildlife including elk and turkeys. RRG is pleased to have been invited by Scott Rasley, WDF&W and an RRG member, to participate in this project.

### Benton County Commission To Consider Gun Transport Law

Part of what the State Legislature messed up last winter may be set straight for Benton County residents following a public hearing by the County Commissioners at the Kennewick Annex scheduled for Friday, July 1. Part of the youth violence bill that takes effect on July 1 prohibits the open transport of rifles in the cabs of pickups or laying on the back seat of a car. The Commissioners have indicated that they intend to enact an ordinance to exempt unincorporated Benton County from the "cased gun" provision of the state law. It is important to show our support on this issue. **Please call or write to the Commissioners (or attend the public hearing if you can) and let them know that we support the proposal to allow open transport of firearms.**





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## Blue Mountain Elk

On July 22, RRG board members traveled to Dayton to meet with landowner and sportsman Don Jackson to discuss the Blue Mountain Elk Control Plan and the current condition of elk herds in the Blue Mountains. Anita Gahimer, Howard Gardner, John Pfeiffer, and Jack Pickard met with Jackson who is active in the Four County Sportsman Council to discuss calf mortality, predation by bear and cougar, harvest data, damage claims filed in southeastern Washington for crop damage caused by elk, and elk population data.

The "spike only" general season that was implemented in 1988 has resulted in more mature bulls and increased breeding success, but calf survival is very low due to predation. The RRG committee is preparing a letter on the subject to be presented at a Senate Natural Resource Committee meeting that will be held in Dayton on August 18 at 7:00 pm.

## Warm Water Fish Hatchery

The Central Washington Fish Advisory Committee is attempting to raise \$200,000 to assist the WDF&W to acquire the Gloyd Springs Hatchery near Moses Lake. The property is currently in bankruptcy proceedings and the money is needed to supplement \$600,000 offered by WDF&W. Pledges for donations may be phoned or mailed to Rod Meseberg (509-346-2651) or Ron Sawyer (509-765-6718) and can be returned if the project fails.

## New Member

Please welcome new members William, Rebecca, and Kristin Lambert of Richland. The Lamberts recently moved here from California. We hope to get acquainted with them at the picnic.

## Lab Puppies For Sale

Chocolate and black puppies whelped June 11 from AKC Field and Show champion bloodlines, hip OFA, eyes certified, dewclaws removed, shots, wormed. Available August 6. Call Melissa and Bob Withrow at 586-8249

AUGUST, 1994

## 1994 Officers

Jack Pickard, President (582-5397)      Anita Gahimer, Vice President (943-0855)  
Tom Davis, Treasurer (946-7747)      Mike Estes, Secretary (582-2212)

## MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

Board Meeting - Tuesday, August 16, 1994, 7:00 p.m. - Richland Public Library

Bulletin Deadline - Thursday, August 18, 1994, call Mike at 582-2212, evenings

Salmon Booth - Allied Arts Sidewalk Show, July 29 & 30, Howard Amon Park

## Annual Club Picnic

Tuesday, August 9th, 6:00 pm, South Leslie Groves Park Gazebo

**Come One, Come All!** It is time once again for the annual Richland Rod & Gun Club picnic featuring our special alder smoked salmon. The picnic will be held at the South Leslie Groves Park Gazebo adjacent to the horseshoe pit and the swimming beach just off the end of Park Street in Richland beginning at 6:00 pm on Tuesday, August 9th.

For just \$3.00 per person (\$1.00 for children 12 and under) we will provide alder smoked salmon, beverages, bread and condiments such as tartar, lemon juice, butter, etc. Attendees/each family should bring a potluck dish to share. If your last name begins with A through L, please bring a salad to share. If your last name begins with M through Z, please bring a dessert to share. Please bring serving and eating utensils.

The park has a children's play area, restroom building, shade trees, swimming area, and horseshoe pit. Bring your lawn chairs, blanket, horseshoes, swimsuit, frisbee, and other play toys. Don't forget to bring the kids. We'll see you there!

For directions to the picnic area, see the top of Page 2 of this newsletter. If you are willing to help with preparation for the picnic and transporting some supplies, please call Anita on 943-0855. Your help will be appreciated.

### Directions to the Picnic

From George Washington Way, turn east (towards the river) on McMurray Street. Continue on McMurray until Davidson Avenue. Turn left onto Davidson. Go two blocks and turn right onto Park Street. Park Street will take you directly into the parking lot for Leslie Groves Park. We will be located under the gazebo by the big trees just to the left of the beach swimming area and adjacent to the horseshoe pit. If you can't see us, look for smoke or follow the smell of salmon on the grill.

### Saddle Mountain Recreation Management Plan

A draft recreation management plan and environmental assessment for approximately 23,000 acres of public lands located in the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Saddle Mountains Management Area (SMMA) in Grant County has been issued by the U.S. Department of the Interior. The purpose of the plan is to designate specific roads and trails that will be used to access the property and to identify sensitive areas that require special management considerations. The property extends for approximately 26 miles along the crest of the Saddle Mountains from the Columbia River east to the Adams County line. Five alternatives were identified for comparison.

The RRGC Board of Directors has notified the BLM of our support for Alternative 2, which was the preferred alternative. The alternative will make 4,300 acres available for off-highway vehicle use but will restrict vehicles to designated trails and roads in the remaining 18,700 acres. The alternative also provides for construction of a surfaced parking lot at the west end of the area near Mattawa, possibly with up to 20 picnic tables, and a looped trail system totaling about 25 miles. The alternative also designates two petrified wood collection areas and requires permits for collection on other areas of the mountain. Thanks to Howard Gardner for his leadership in reviewing the document and drafting the RRGC response.

### In Memory - Dennison C. McDaniel

We are deeply saddened by the recent passing of Dennison (Dan) McDaniel, a RRGC member for 32 years. Dan had assisted with many Club projects, most recently at the Lunker Lake Fishing Pond at the Tri-City Sportsmen's Show. A contribution has been made in Dan's memory to the Peter Canlis Cancer Unit at Virginia Mason Hospital in Seattle.

### Aquatic Education Program

The Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife's aquatic education program in the Tri-Cities is in need of additional instructors. The goal of the program is to teach people how to fish. The WDF&W supplies tackle and other training aids. Volunteer instructors can teach classes as time permits, at any frequency they desire. Teaching the class is a very rewarding experience. For details on how to become an instructor please contact Greg Greger at 943-3951.

### Salmon Cookers - Howard Gardner

Dave Myers has graciously loaned us his cooker for use at the past few Sidewalk Show Salmon Booths. The Club is looking for someone to build a cooker similar to Dave's which is collapsible for ease in transportation and storage. If you are interested in helping build a cooker, please contact Howard Gardner at 943-9084.

### Yakima River Watershed Council

You may have seen a recent advertisement in the Tri-City Herald that listed members and contributors to the newly formed Yakima River Watershed Council. The Council exists to create consensus between users of the Yakima River system in Benton, Yakima, and Kittitas County to provide adequate water for fish, game, agriculture, and other uses into the 21st Century. Pollution and water shortages already are having detrimental effects on fish and fowl in the Yakima Valley. The RRGC Board has sent a financial contribution to the Council to assist during its organizational stage. As a member, we will be receiving the news bulletin titled "Watershed Events" and we will share pertinent information with you as it becomes available.

### Rotenone Treatment of Fishing Lakes

RRGC has once again gone on record supporting the accelerated usage of Rotenone for lake rehabilitation. There are a number of lakes that need to be rehabilitated but only a few get treated each year because of budget constraints within the WDF&W. Through an accelerated program, better fishing opportunity would be available to more fishermen throughout a greater geographical area.

### Yakima Firing Center Expansion

In spite of protests by RRGC and other sporting groups over the past few years, withdrawal of 9,730 of public land for expansion of the Yakima Firing Center appears imminent. The RRGC Board has notified the Bureau of Land Management that if the lands are withdrawn from public use, it is our expectation that they should be replaced with acquisitions to maintain a like amount of wildlife habitat and public use, including acquisitions from private owners if appropriate. Deadline for comments is August 1, 1994. Comments should be sent to Oregon/Washington State Director, BLM, P.O. Box 2965, Portland, Oregon, 97208.

### Lower Yakima River Greenway

Planning staff from Benton County, West Richland, Benton City, Kennewick, and Richland are exploring the possibility of a 30-mile greenway along the lower Yakima River. As exciting as this may sound to those of us who enjoy nature and the great outdoors, it is imperative that sportsmen's interests be represented during the planning stage or we may find that we are restricted from traditional fishing and hunting sites. Natural habitats, nature watching, and scenic views should not eliminate sporting opportunities and access for those purposes. Jack Pickard has volunteered to represent RRGC at the Greenway meetings. If you have thoughts to share or want to become involved with this project, please call Jack at 582-5397.

### Gun Control

RRGC Board members Steve Friar and Jack Pickard attended the Benton County Commissioners meeting on July 1 where the Commissioners passed a resolution exempting unincorporated Benton County from the "cased gun" requirement of recent state legislation. The resolution was shared with other jurisdictions and Franklin County, Pasco, and Richland have now adopted similar exemptions. However, you should be aware that as you travel, you could pass through cities or counties that have not enacted an exemption to the state law and you could be cited for having a firearm uncased, in sight, inside your vehicle. Caution is advised! In any contact you might have with state legislators, please recommend that this provision of state law be rescinded so that honest gun owners don't get treated like criminals.

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### Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission

Public meetings will be held at 6:30 p.m. on September 6 at Cavanaugh's Inn in Yakima and on September 7 at the Shilo Inn in Moses Lake to discuss the role of the Fish and Wildlife Commission in the consolidated Department of Fish and Wildlife. The Commission is to submit recommendations by December 1, 1994 to the governor and the legislature on any necessary changes to the scope of responsibility of the Commission. Currently the Commission serves as a forum for public involvement; establishes goals and objectives to preserve and protect game fish and wildlife and habitat for those species while maximizing hunting and outdoor recreational opportunities compatible with healthy and diverse fish and wildlife populations; establishing hunting, trapping, and fishing seasons and methods of harvest; and classifying species (i.e. game fish, wildlife, threatened, endangered, or deleterious).

Six options are currently being considered for the Commission that range from discontinuing the Commission, leaving responsibilities as they are, or expanding the role of the Commission. In its most comprehensive role, if Option F were adopted, the Commission would appoint the agency director, approve the department budget, would have responsibility for all species including commercial and recreational hunting and fishing regulations (including salmon, marine fish and shellfish), and would set all regulations.

Under the current format, the Governor appoints the Director and the Director sets foodfish and shellfish regulations and is responsible for the budget. This is a very important issue! Please plan to attend one of the meetings or let a Board member know what you feel the Commission's role should be so we can incorporate your thoughts in a letter to the Fish and Wildlife Commission.

Elk Hunting Partner Needed Bob McPhee is looking for someone to go elk hunting with, either in Washington or out of state. Bob is open for suggestions. Contact Bob at 943-7681.

Northwest Women's Sport Fishing Conference September 24, 1994 at the Portland, Oregon Airport Inn Ramada. Seminars and demonstrations on bass, steelhead, salmon, and walleye fishing; fly fishing; boats and motors; and a style show. Registration cost is \$25. For information call 503-922-4046 or 503-829-9145.

SEPTEMBER, 1994

### 1994 Officers

Jack Pickard, President (582-5397) Anita Gahimer, Vice President (943-0855)  
Tom Davis, Treasurer (946-7747) Mike Estes, Secretary (582-2212)

### MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

General Meeting - Tuesday, September 6, 1994, 6:30 p.m. - Richland Public Library  
Board Meeting - Tuesday, September 20, 1994, 7:00 p.m. - Richland Public Library  
Bulletin Deadline - Thursday, September 22, 1994, call Mike at 582-2212, evenings

### SPECIAL SEPTEMBER MEETING KICK-OFF WITH U.S. REPRESENTATIVE JAY INSLEE

Our September General Meeting will include a special **members only** session beginning at 6:30 p.m., with our open general meeting following at 7:30 p.m. as normal. Our guest for this special session at 6:30 p.m. will be our U.S. Representative Jay Inslee. Jay will make a special presentation, responding to questions and issues provided to him by the RRGC officers and Board of Trustees. Seating is limited, so please arrive on time for this special presentation. We look forward to a productive and educational discussion with the Congressman and hope that you will join us in extending the courtesy and respect due a U.S. Representative as he addresses the issues that are so important to us today. A question and answer period will conclude this special session, as time allows. Let's show Jay, as we give our Club pledge, that we are sportsmen and women with ethics who desire to preserve our lifestyle for future generations.

Immediately following Representative Inslee's presentation, the doors will be opened to the public for our regular meeting which starts at 7:30 p.m. For all you turkey hunters and enthusiasts, this is a meeting you won't want to miss. Dan Blatt, Manager of the Upland Wildlife Restoration Division of the WDF&W, will share his extensive knowledge of wild turkeys with us. Dan worked closely with the National Wild Turkey Federation and other state wildlife agencies to bring the brood stocks to Washington that have led to the dramatic increase in turkey populations that we currently are enjoying. Come meet Dan and learn more about the fascinating wild turkey.

### Annual Picnic - Another Success

Good weather, good food, and a pleasant setting combined to help make the annual RRGCC Picnic on August 9 an enjoyable evening for the attendees. The salmon was absolutely delicious, thanks to Howard Gardner and David Ochu who did the cooking and had it ready to eat right at meal time. The food outlay was wonderful with many special dishes. Most unique were the dutch oven dishes prepared by Dave and Carol Myers. Dave and Carol cooked in their dutch ovens right there at the picnic on the charcoal grills!! The Antelope Bourgeois, made from an Antelope roast donated by Howard Gardner, was gone immediately and the peach cobbler (made with peaches from John Pfeiffer's tree) disappeared just as fast!! Many thanks go to Anita Gahimer for organizing the picnic this year, and to her daughters Michelle and Sarah and her son Robert who helped out by serving salmon, taking money, and running errands. Thank you to everyone for coming out for a fun evening.

### Dutch Oven Cooking - Anita Gahimer

Dutch oven cooking, although not new by any means, is becoming more and more popular. Dave Myers has suggested an overnight camp out with an all campers dutch oven dinner feast! If this sounds like fun to you, let Dave or I know. We will try to plan something for later this fall or next spring. Contact Dave (375-0343) or Anita (943-0855).

### Allied Arts Salmon Booth

Thanks to all the volunteers who helped make this year's Salmon Booth at the Allied Arts Sidewalk Show a resounding success! Approximately 1300 dinners were served on July 29 and 30 which resulted in a net profit of \$6180. The proceeds will be split equally between the Columbia Basin Flycasters and the Richland Rod & Gun Club.

Nearly 400 worker hours were needed to complete this project. Special thanks to Dale Schielke for his expert leadership and for the many hours he has donated to this project in 1994 and in previous years. Names of all the workers will be published in next month's Bulletin and each will be entered in our Volunteer Worker Prize Drawing with the winner's name to be drawn at the Big Game Dinner next spring.

Proceeds from the Salmon Booth will be used to fund a variety of Club projects during the coming year. The Use of Funds Committee, comprised of members from the Board of Trustees, meets several times during the year to review projects and funding requests from other organizations that will benefit fish, wildlife, the environment, and sportsmen. Recommendations of the committee are acted on by the Board of Directors. The next meeting of the Use of Funds Committee will be September 13 at 7:00 p.m. at Howard Gardner's. If you are interested in attending, please call Howard at 943-9084 for directions.

### RRGC Banner

If you worked at or visited the Salmon Booth at the Allied Arts Sidewalk Show, you probably have already seen our new banner. The Club name and logo are in royal blue printed on a bright yellow background. The 2'x10' banner is made of rip-stop nylon for indoor or outdoor use. It will be used at events like the Pathways To Fishing Clinic and the fishing pond at the Central Washington Sportsmen's Show to bring recognition to the Club. It is surprising to find that many people in our community, including hunters and fishermen, are not aware that RRGCC exists. The new banner will attract attention and should give us opportunities to let others know who we are, what we do, and what we stand for.

### Blue Mountain Elk

Six RRGCC members attended the Senate Natural Resources Committee meeting at the Dayton High School on August 18 to present our concerns about declining deer and elk populations in the Blue Mountains. Jack Pickard, Anita Gahimer, Clair Cranston, Howard Gardner, John Pfeiffer, and Ben Webb participated along with farmers, ranchers, loggers, and Department of Fish and Wildlife personnel to inform the Senators regarding the current condition of elk herds. Key points in the RRGCC letter to Chairman Senator Brad Owens tracked the steady decline in the elk harvest for more than a decade, increases in the bull to cow ratio due to the "spike only" bull season that was implemented in 1989, and the continuing decline of calf survival rates in the 1990's.

Radio collaring of elk calves in recent years indicates a high mortality because of cougar and bear predation. Discussions with landowners having property adjacent to the Umatilla National Forest and with users of the forest show a consensus that there is a high cougar population. The basis for the consensus is increased cougar sightings and identification of elk and deer carcasses attributable to cougar predation.

The number of cougar permits issued by the WDF&W has increased each year since the permit system was implemented in 1987, but based on the cougar harvest data since 1987, the increase has apparently not been enough. From 1987 to 1993 the cougar harvest in the Blue Mountains has ranged from 7 to 17 per year. Over this period only 24% to 46% of the permit holders have been successful, with the average being 37%. Only 65 cougar permits are being issued for 1994. The RRGCC Board of Trustees recommends that the number of cougar permits be increased to 100-125 per year until elk calf survival shows improvement.

The RRGCC presentation also referenced data from a study conducted on Coolwater Ridge in Idaho from 1973 to 1977. More than 50% of the calves collared between 1973 and 1975 were killed by predators. In 1976, 75 bears were removed from the study area. The next year, loss to predation was down to 27%. In addition, it was found that the winter calf to cow ratio had increased from an average of 21 in 1974-1976 to 61 per 100 cows in 1977. The study was used to demonstrate that bear predation is a very significant factor in elk calf mortality also. RRGCC recommended to the Senate Committee that bear season, and/or bag limits, be increased to reduce the bear population. A spring bear season was also suggested as a possibility until elk calf survival improves.

It is not clear what effect bear and cougar predation is having on deer populations but it seems reasonable that reductions in cougar and bear populations will also benefit the deer population. Jack Pickard concluded the RRGCC presentation with the summarization that we believe that on an ecosystem management basis the numbers of elk and deer should be restored to historic levels and an apparent over population of cougar and bear be reduced.

Important points were also made by other attendees. One farmer stated that when cattle were more abundant in the National Forest, the elk were not down in the farms as bad as they are now. His explanation was that when the ranchers had cattle in the forest they set out salt blocks which were also used by the elk. When the Forest Service had the cattle removed the ranchers stopped putting out salt blocks and the elk followed the cattle down to the farmlands. He suggested that the Forest Service and WDF&W need to work together to set out salt blocks in the forest for the elk and they will be less likely to come into the farmland so early where they damage the crops. Damage claims as high as \$40,000 are apparently not uncommon.

Thanks to Jack, John, Clair, Anita, Howard and Ben for taking time from their personal schedules to represent RRGCC at this important meeting.



# RICHLAND ROD & GUN CLUB

(INCORPORATED)

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OCTOBER, 1994

## 1994 Officers

Jack Pickard, President (582-5397)      Anita Gahimer, Vice President (943-0855)  
Tom Davis, Treasurer (946-7747)      Mike Estes, Secretary (582-2212)

## MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

General Meeting - Tuesday, October 4, 7:30 p.m. - Benton County PUD, Kennewick

Board Meeting - Tuesday, October 18, 1994, 7:00 p.m. - Richland Public Library

Bulletin Deadline - Thursday, October 20, 1994, call Mike at 582-2212, evenings

## October General Meeting Program

Fall is here again and so is our **Annual Hunting Forecast!** Wildlife Biologists from the three eastern Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife regions will join us at the Benton County PUD auditorium to review changes in the game regulations and discuss prospects for bird and big game harvests in your favorite hunting areas. WDF&W will be represented by biologists Pat Fowler, Region I; Mark Quinn, Region II; and Roger McKeel, Region III. If you haven't already reviewed the 1994 Hunting Seasons and Rules pamphlet, pick up a copy at your favorite sporting goods store and take a little time to look it over before the meeting. Changes in the regulations are hi-lited in green this year. Jot down any questions or concerns that you might have and bring them to the meeting to have them answered by the experts. Preparation is one of the keys to a successful hunting season, and you will already be off to a good start after attending this meeting.

The new Benton County PUD building is located at the corner of Highway 395 and 10th Avenue in Kennewick. This location change is for our October meeting only. We will be back at the Richland Library for our November and December meetings.

## September Meeting Review

Our kick-off meeting for the year was a double header that consisted of two programs in one evening. The first speaker was U.S. Representative Jay Inslee. Inslee spent an hour responding to a list of questions that were prepared by the RRGCL Legislative Committee. The future of the Hanford Reach, the Crime Bill, and Second Amendment rights were the hot topics. See Page 2 for Inslee's position on these issues.

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## Washington Fish and Wildlife Meeting - C. Clare Cranston

On September 7, Phil Van Noy of Phil's Sporting Goods in Pasco and I attended an afternoon meeting with the Department of Fish and Wildlife personnel to start the process of rewriting and combining the RCWs under which the old departments operated before they were consolidated. The department has asked to have one small committee of five to eight people formed in each Region to participate in this rewrite and culmination of the RCWs. The WDF&W would like to have continuity in the members of the committee and/or the clubs of business that they represent. Starting October 4 the Region II committee will begin meeting every other Tuesday afternoon at the department office in Ephrata. By some time next spring the meetings are expected to decrease to once each month for another year.

Phil and I also attended an evening meeting sponsored by the Wildlife Commission to obtain public input concerning the future role of the Commission. The primary question is whether the Commission should be abolished or whether it should continue and in what capacity. Fourteen people gave statements at the meeting. Two favored appointment of the WDF&W Director by the Governor with all other affairs handled by the Commission. The remaining twelve favored a Commission appointed by the Governor but where the Commission would have the power to appoint the Director, approve the annual Department budget, and the power to manage the overall duties of the Director and the Department. (Editor's note: This expanded role of the Commission is Option "F" in a current survey and was approved by RRGCL Board action on September 20, 1994.)

## Allied Arts Salmon Booth Thank You's - Howard Gardner

As indicated in last month's Bulletin, the Salmon Booth was a great success. Special thanks are due Gene Woodruff and Walt Allen for managing the booth on Friday day shifts. No less than special thanks are due the following Club members for their efforts on Thursday evening, Friday, and Saturday. Many of people worked more than one shift and their efforts are truly appreciated.

Dale and Chris Landon, Mike Schmidt, John Pfeiffer, Bob McPhee, Mike Estes, Lou LaDouceur, Jack Hampton, Bob Lyness, Don Hand, Larry Martin, Tom Davis, Dave and Carol Myers, Jack Pickard, Walt Allen, Jerry Massey, Lee Harrington, Sandra Myers, Bob Zinsli, Anita Gahimer, Rick McFall, Barb and Nelson Fox, Jim Martin, Gordon Hanson, Dave Elegg, Bob Hinkle, Ben Webb, Frank and Janice Case, Dale and Karen Schielke, Terry Loney, John Schmidt, Bob Henke, Harold Heacock, Russ and Leila Brown, Eddy and John Manthos, Jerry Caprio, Ev Weakley, Jerry Bloom, Larry and Dale Campbell, Clare Cranston, and Rocky Ross. Again, many thanks for a job well done.

### More September Meeting Highlights

Whether you are a turkey hunter or not, you missed an entertaining and educational presentation if you didn't catch the Dan Blatt program at our September meeting. Dan is definitely one of the true wild turkey experts of our state. Dan has been a major player in the reintroduction of wild turkeys in Washington as a professional with the WDF&W and also as a hunter and member of the National Wild Turkey Federation. The success of the program is demonstrated by the increase in Washington turkey tags sold from 1987 (425 tags) to 1994 (2,868 tags). Washington is unique in that it has three subspecies of wild turkey; Merriam's, Rio Grande, and Eastern. Beginning in 1995, Washington hunters will have an opportunity to purchase multiple tags to harvest one each of the three subspecies.

Dan brought boxes and boxes of clothing and equipment to the meeting. He demonstrated a variety of calls, shared a lot of hunting tips, and told several amusing stories. Dan offered three calling tips. Don't over call in the preseason; the birds catch on quickly. Try different calls; vary the volume and tempo. Never tell anyone what kind of call you use. If everyone used the same call, no one will be successful.

Door prize winners for the evening were John Pfeiffer, portable gun bench/rest; Charlie Morbeck, blaze orange shooting bag; Richard Badda, clay targets; and Jim Martin, shooting muffs. Thanks to Clair Cranston for providing copies of the Second Annual Edition **Hunter's Handbook** which is published by Outdoor Empire Publishing for our meeting attendees.

### Congressman Inslee

Use of this space in the Bulletin is not intended to speak for or against Congressman Inslee but is intended to share his responses to issues raised at the September RRGc meeting with the RRGc membership.

Hanford Reach. "The Hanford Reach is entitled to legal protection," says Inslee. His tendency is to support the Reach as a wild and scenic site. The designation can be worded to protect the unique resource and still allow access to water for the Hanford cleanup and agricultural purposes. "So much of the river is subject to human intervention, we need to protect the spawning beds."

Hunting. "One of the most beneficial experiences to develop appreciation of the natural resources; the relationship between environment and wildlife." He says that he recognizes and respects the rights of citizens for lawful use of firearms for hunting and recreational purposes.

Crime Bill. "It involves strong feelings and was a very difficult decision that I didn't make until the bill came up for a vote." Inslee explained that the intent is to reduce future manufacture of weapons that exceed the fire power of weapons used by police and to minimize weapons that are easily concealed for criminal purposes. It will provide prison space. "The lack of cell space is the reason that prosecutors plea bargain and let prisoners go free." Even repeat felons currently go free because there is only room to jail the worst. The Crime Bill "will reduce illegal crossings from Mexico with additional staff."

Brady Bill. "I voted against it and took lots of criticism. I felt it was an unreasonable restriction." An Arizona District Court Judge has ruled this is an "improper delegation of responsibility to the states by the federal government." "I thought the Brady Bill contravened the opportunity for private individuals to obtain a firearm and use it for legitimate purpose." Inslee said that he will not vote for "Brady II".

Second Amendment. "I read every court case from the Court of Appeals up for the last 100 years relating to Second Amendment rights." Inslee thinks the crime bill will be upheld by the Supreme Court because it still leaves hundreds of other firearms available for personal use.

Death Penalty and Other Issues. Inslee says he supports the death penalty. "We went from 2 death penalties to 60" with the Crime Bill. He says the courts have tightened down over the last year to reduce the opportunity for multiple appeals to delay sentencing and execution. "I believe in restitution by criminals. I believe in victim rights; the opportunity to suggest sentencing to the judge." "I don't support Patty Murray's approach to taxing guns and ammo to reduce usage."

### New Members

Please join the RRGc officers in welcoming our newest member, Dwight Hughes of Pasco. Dwight is interested in big game, legislative issues, and youth activities.

### 1994 Use of Funds

The following donations have been approved by the RRGc Board of Trustees for projects and organizations that support the purposes and interests of our Club.

Columbia Dive & Rescue	\$250
NRA Institute for Legislative Action	200
United Conservation Alliance	100
Hunter Education Associations	
Washington State	50
National	50
Fitzner Memorial Scholarship	500
Washington Game Warden Association	35
Upland Wildlife Restoration Program	500
Sport Fishing Institute	50
Adopt-A-Pothole	125
Washington Wildlife & Recreation Coalition	125
Northwest Sportfishing Industry Association	50
McGee School Habitat Project (Pledged)	250
Miller Shingle Elk Forage Project (Pledged)	500
Youth Conservation Camp	500
Warmwater Fish Hatchery (Pledged)	500
National Shooting Sports Foundation	50
Arizonans For Wildlife Conservation	100
Deer Feeders for WDF&W Region III	500

### RRGC Booth at WHC Picnic

RRGC was asked to set up an information booth for hunter education and firearm safety for kids at the Westinghouse Hanford Company Construction Division Family Picnic held on September 15 in Howard Amon Park. Anita Gahimer, RRGc Vice President and Hunter Education Instructor, provided brochures and pamphlets for the booth, and along with Hunter Education Instructor Nick Boyd, manned the booth for the Club. Anita and Nick both teach at the hunter education classes sponsored by RRGc and organized by member, Trustee, and instructor Clare Cranston. The classes are held at Phil's Sporting Goods in Pasco.

### Early Chukar Season Opens - Mike Estes

The early Chukar and Hungarian Partridge season opened on September 24 and runs until October 14 in Southeastern Washington. The limit is six birds of each species per day. Bird numbers are up this year. All you have to do is endure the heat, dust, rattlesnakes, stickers, and steep hills. Know your physical limits. Know the limits of your hunting partners, both human and canine. Carry lots of water! Don't wear new boots! Some of your strongest memories of your Chukar hunt will come the following morning when you try to get out of bed. Good luck you silly hunter!

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### 1995 Calendars Are Here

RRGC calendars will be on sale at the November 1 meeting. The price is still \$3.00 as it has been for the past several years and the quantity is limited. The calendars make inexpensive gifts for family and friends. Don't forget to get one for the property owner that lets you hunt on his place. It is a nice and easy way to say "thanks".

### Fitzner Scholarships Awarded

\$500 scholarships were awarded to two Washington State University wildlife management students for the 1994-1995 school year. Brian William Moser of Bow, Washington, the recipient of last year's scholarship, and Steven Wade Bell of Pullman, Washington are the lucky students. The scholarship was not awarded the first year that it was available. Therefore, the RRGCC Board of Directors decided to use the available funds to award a second scholarship this year in recognition of the qualifications of the applicants.

### Gun Show

If you are looking for a chance to buy, sell, or trade a firearm, there will be a Gun Show at the Red Lion Inn in Pasco on November 5 and 6.

### McGee School Habitat Project

Rocky Ross reports a 93% plant survival rate on this project. A long term lease is to be negotiated on the property soon and Phase II of the project is planned for next year. The funding that RRGCC pledged earlier this year will be used to purchase materials for the second phase.

### Second Amendment Advocates

Just a reminder that the SAA is always looking for people willing to help in the fight against gun control. If you are interested in retaining your Second Amendment rights and the rights of other law abiding gun owners, please give Bob Caldwell a call at 547-1176 (home) or 376-2345 (work).

NOVEMBER, 1994

### 1994 Officers

Jack Pickard, President (582-5397)      Anita Gahimer, Vice President (943-0855)  
Tom Davis, Treasurer (946-7747)      Mike Estes, Secretary (582-2212)

### MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

General Meeting - Tuesday, November 1, 1994, 7:00 p.m. - Richland Public Library  
Board Meeting - Tuesday, November 15, 1994, 7:00 p.m. - Richland Public Library  
Bulletin Deadline - Thursday, November 17, 1994, call Mike at 582-2212, evenings

### November General Meeting

We are back at the Richland Public Library for our November meeting, but the meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. rather than at 7:30 p.m. as has been the schedule in the past. The Library is now requiring us to vacate the building by 9:00 p.m. The earlier start will enable us to complete our program and comply with the Library schedule. The RRGCC Board of Directors felt that the time change was preferable to finding a new meeting location.

Our November meeting will consist of two programs. Larry Engbring, an artist who carves and paints waterfowl, will display some of his latest projects and will tell us a little about his work. Gene DeBattista of Columbia Basin Dive and Rescue will give a presentation and show a video on water safety when hunting and what to do in an emergency. A minor slip that fills your waders with water is a mere inconvenience in warm weather but can become life threatening if it happens while you are Steelheading or duck hunting in the bitter cold of winter. Don't miss this opportunity to refresh your memory about the "do's" and "don'ts" of cold weather outdoor activities.

The young adults that RRGCC sponsored to the Youth Conservation Camp on Orcas Island this summer will also be at the meeting to say thanks and to share a few highlights of their trip. If you ever attended camp, you can be sure that there will be something from that "magical" week that you will remember all of your life. I wonder what these campers will remember about their week at camp when they are our ages?

### October Meeting Highlights

Many thanks to Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife biologists Roger McKeel, Mark Quinn, and Pat Fowler for the annual hunting forecast. Ken Hoopengartner did a good job of recapping the forecast in his October 6 article ("Eastern Washington Fall Hunting Forecast Bright") in the Tri-City Herald. Based on hunter reports and harvest data from the general season opener, it looks like the biologists' forecast is "right on target".

One significant opportunity from attending the meeting was to be able to get answers to specific questions relating to regulations, property access, and prospective hunting areas. For example, if you are a pheasant hunter you could ask for directions to any of the 18 new Upland Wildlife Restoration (UWR) properties in Grant, Adams, and Franklin Counties. These properties represent nearly 1,100 acres of new hunting opportunity. Besides the maps that were provided at the meeting, the biologists mailed supplemental information to those who requested it. Thanks again to Pat, Mark, and Roger for a job well done!

There were four prize winners this month. Chris Landon won a gun case. Gene VanLiew, Charlie Morbeck, and Leo Pierce won belt buckles.

### RRGC is WDF&W 1993 Organization of the Year

Jack Pickard, Larry Martin, and Mike Estes traveled to Spokane on October 8 to represent RRGC at the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission meeting. Jack accepted a plaque from Chairman John McGlenn and Assistant WDF&W Director Pat McLain on behalf of the members of the Richland Rod & Gun Club. The following proclamation was read by Pat McLain.

"Recognizing the hard work and dedication to the principles of preserving Washington's wildlife heritage, the Richland Rod & Gun Club is named the Organization of the Year for 1993. This is an organization that puts "service" at the top of its agenda. With limited time, I can only mention a sample of their many efforts. Volunteers from the club have put in thousands of hours and dollars to such efforts as the Upland Wildlife Restoration Project, the Central Washington Warmwater Fisheries Project, and Columbia River Wild and Scenic Legislation. These efforts alone have greatly increased both the hunting and fishing opportunities in our state.

"The membership of this organization is involved and committed to the quality of life that fish and wildlife offers our community. In addition to the "on the ground" projects, this is an organization that understands that protecting our fish and wildlife also requires a political commitment. The board of the Richland Rod & Gun Club has met countless times with state legislators and members of congress to offer their support for legislation to benefit the state's natural resources.

"Whether working for a specific project, assisting in the political process with landowners and agencies, or raising money to benefit fish and wildlife, the Richland Rod & Gun Club sets an example of commitment. Therefore, it is with pleasure I present their president, Jack Pickard, with the "Organization of the Year" award."

Jack acknowledged that this truly is an "organization" award and credited the unselfish contributions of many, many people working on a variety of projects. RRGC was nominated for the award by WDF&W regional managers Larry Popejoy and Ray Duff. Many thanks to Larry and Ray for their support!

### For Sale

12 gauge shotgun reloading components; powder, shot, and wads. Call Bob McPhee, 943-7681.

### Deer Feeders for Chelan County Fire Areas

Summer fires, including the notorious Tye Creek Fire, burned more than 182,000 acres in north-central Washington. Fire destroyed virtually all of Game Management Area 308 (Entiat) which is home to approximately 9,000 mule deer. Only about 1,000 deer will be harvested during this year's hunting seasons and remaining forage will only sustain 3,500 to 4,000 deer. Therefore, the area is short forage for nearly 4,000 deer.

Pelletized feed will enable many of the deer to survive but most of the fawns and many of the older deer are expected to be lost if the winter is harsh. WDF&W has asked RRGC and other groups to build deer feeders that can be delivered to the fire area before the end of October. The RRGC Board of Directors approved funding for 10 feeders. Hughes Lumber and RRGC split the cost of the materials.

A work party was held at Jack Pickard's on Saturday, October 22. Special thanks to Dave Myers who pre-cut the dimensional lumber, Jerry Zeitler who donated wood stain and earned the title "Construction Superintendent", Don Frick who provided power tools and a paint sprayer, and to John Pfeiffer who arranged transportation to deliver the feeders to Region 3. Other workers included Larry, Jeff, and Laura Martin, Bob Henke, and Jack Pickard. Thanks to these volunteers who donated time on a beautiful fall day (during hunting season) for the benefit of wildlife.

### Election of Officers

Elections will be held at the December general membership meeting to select officers and Trustees for the next year. The Board of Directors is comprised of four officers, the immediate past president, and 15 Trustees. What that means to you is that there is a tremendous opportunity to become actively involved in the leadership of our club. If you are interested in becoming an officer or serving on the Board, please take the initiative and call a member of the Nominating Committee. Although the Committee attempts to contact members who they feel might be willing and able to serve, you may be missed. Please don't wait for your phone to ring, but be ready to volunteer if it does. Nominating Committee members are Jack Pickard (5822927), Mike Estes (582-2212), Jim Bach (783-7077), Howard Gardner (943-9084), Larry Martin (545-9647), and Dave Myers (375-0343).

### Meat Needed for Big Game Dinner

If you are successful in your hunting and fishing outings this fall, please remember that the meat to feed roughly 250 people at the annual Big Game Dinner is donated by our members. RRGC has a locker at Chuck's Meats on East First Avenue in Kennewick. Please write your name and phone number on each package that you put in the locker. Donors are entered in a special prize drawing at the Big Game Dinner. Please do not donate ground meat (hamburger) because it does not keep well and we have little or no use for it at the dinner. Any ground meat left at the locker will be donated to a local charity.

### Columbia River Streamflow at Record Low

Did you know that September streamflows measured at The Dalles Dam were about 64 per cent of average, the lowest in the 69 year record period? Last year the flow for September was 86 per cent of average. Precipitation for the Columbia River Basin above The Dalles for the first 20 days of September of this year was 52 per cent of average. We all enjoy the sunshine, but perhaps we need to rejoice in the rainy days too because they seem to be too few and too far between.



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## Thank You to RRG

We recently received a card from Don and Judy Jackson of Dayton, Washington, with the following message. "Dear Friends: As many of you know our son Mark Jackson was diagnosed with leukemia on December 17, 1993 and was given three months to live. Because of your support and prayers, today Mark is cancer free and played football this fall. His doctors call it a miracle and we know it is. Thanks again for your help when we needed it the most. Sincerely, Don Jackson" (Editor's note: RRG donated the proceeds of the Lunger Lake project this last Spring to the Jacksons to assist with Mark's medical expenses. It sure feels good to be a small part of such a happy story, doesn't it? Congratulations to us all!)

## Northwest Sportfishing Industry Association - Clare Cranston

I attended the NSIA meeting in Seattle on November 16, 1994. RRG is a member. Presentations were given by U.S. Fish & Wildlife Northwest Regional Director Will Steele and Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife Director Bob Turner. There was discussion about the Columbia-Snake River Salmon Recovery and Biological Recovery Plan that will be released in January, Snake River Coho salmon that will be listed as endangered in early December, and the need for habitat improvement as the key to salmon recovery. WDF&W is proposing to mark all Coho produced in Puget Sound. Bob Turner indicated that there is a higher mortality rate for recreational fishing than for commercial fishing due to catch and release practices. Estimated mortality for recreationally caught and released fish has been revised from 31% down to 13%.

## New Member Approved

Please join the Board and officers in welcoming the Bill Kieffer family of Benton City into RRG.

## Wanted

Trolling Motor, 4 HP Johnson or similar. Cannon Uni-Troll Downrigger. Call John Cummings at 627-4112.

.300 Winchester Magnum Hunting Rifle. Call Mike Estes at 582-2212.

Get your RRG calendar at the December meeting. Only \$3.00 each.

DECEMBER, 1994

## 1994 Officers

Jack Pickard, President (582-5397) Anita Gahimer, Vice President (943-0855)  
Tom Davis, Treasurer (946-7747) Mike Estes, Secretary (582-2212)

## MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

General Meeting - Tuesday, December 6, 1994, 7:00 p.m. - Richland Public Library

Board Meeting - Tuesday, December 20, 1994, 7:00 p.m. - Richland Public Library

Bulletin Deadline - Tuesday, December 20, 1994, call Mike at 582-2212, evenings

## December General Meeting

Recent newspaper articles have focused on illegal hunting activities in Benton and Kittitas counties during the 1994 Washington elk season. One wildlife official has been quoted as saying that this year was one of the worst for illegal kills in recent memory. Our guest speaker for the December 6 meeting will be Jim McColgin, Sergeant in the Enforcement Program of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. Jim will be accompanied by the robotic deer decoy (Robo Deer) that RRG bought for the WDF&W less than a year ago. Robo Deer has been busy and has some obvious battle scars to prove it.

Jim will share some stories and perhaps shed some light on what is at the root of these violations. It is important to recognize that anyone who hunts wild game is adversely affected by unethical and illegal activity of other hunters with respect to landowner relations, perceptions of the non-hunting public, and excessive harvest of our limited wildlife resource. What role can the ethical sportsperson play in counteracting the activities of the unethical "hunter"? We'll talk about that at the meeting.

Remember that the meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. in the Doris Roberts Gallery at the Richland Library. We will also be electing our 1995 officers and trustees at the meeting. The nominees are listed on Page 2 of this newsletter. Please review the names and come to the meeting to cast your ballot.

### November Meeting Highlights

Larry Engbring started carving duck decoys in the 1950's in Wisconsin. These were service decoys that he used for hunting. Many years later he started carving decoys for competition from a variety of woods including red cedar, sugar pine, yellow cedar, basswood, and white pine. The service decoys were rough "working" replicas of ducks that were weighted and balanced to float realistically on the water with no fragile parts and smooth surfaces. The competition decoys are highly refined with etched feathers, indented nostrils, and detailed painting. Larry emphasized that it is important to study a real bird or good photographs before starting a carving project. He generally uses only five tools to transform a block of wood into a decoy: a band saw, draw knife, gouge chisel, rasp, and carving knife. Our thanks to Larry for displaying his decoys and for the fine presentation.

Gene DeBattista of Columbia Dive Rescue showed part of a training video on drownings and how to recognize when a person is in trouble in the water. One important thing to remember is that a person who is really in trouble cannot call for help because they are gasping for air. It is impossible to talk while you are inhaling!

Columbia Dive Rescue has approximately 30 volunteer members and responds to 50 to 60 water accidents and drownings in South Central Washington and Northeast Oregon each year. The members provide their own personal gear which costs \$2,500 and up. They operate two rescue trucks that are based in Richland and Kennewick. Columbia Dive Rescue depends on donations to provide funds for its operating budget which goes primarily for insurance premiums. To date, the organization has provided water safety and rescue training to more than 9,000 persons.

Also present at the meeting were campers who RRGCC sponsored to the Washington Junior Conservation Camp last summer. The campers shared highlights from their week at camp. Prize winners for the meeting were Larry Hayner, collapsible fishing pole and reel; and John Cummings, Dave Kuntz, and Jack Hampton who won belt buckles.

### Election of 1995 Officers and Trustees

The nominating committee consists of RRGCC past presidents, the 1994 president, and 1994 vice president. RRGCC bylaws state that there shall five officers (president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and the retiring president) and fifteen other trustees. The following members are nominated as trustees for 1995. Additional nominations may also be made from the floor at the December 6 meeting prior to the elections.

<u>President:</u>	Anita Gahimer	<u>Trustees:</u>	Bill Lambert
<u>Vice President:</u>	Dick Bickerstaff		Dennis Shore
<u>Secretary:</u>	Dave Myers		Lyle Gilk
<u>Treasurer:</u>	Mike Estes		Everett Weakley
<u>Past President:</u>	Jack Pickard		Eddie Manthos
			Don Board
			Dale Landon
			Rocky Ross
			Dwight Hughes
			Frank Case
			Don Frick
			Don Hand
			Tom Davis
			Ben Webb
			Jerry Zeitler

### Committee Chairpersons and Special Volunteers

The success of any organization is directly proportional to the efforts of its membership. RRGCC is fortunate to have a number of past officers and trustees who have agreed to assist the Board of Trustees with committee work and special projects during the coming year. These gentlemen are easily recognized as leaders in our Club. Recognition and thanks go to Clare Cranston, Dale Schielke, Jack Hampton, Howard Gardner, Larry Martin, Arlen Schade, and John Pfeiffer. Their experience and commitment have served us well in the past and will enable us to accomplish more in the coming year.

### Tri-Cities Sportsmen Show

Lunker Lake will once again be an important part of the Sportsmen Show that will be held on January 20, 21, and 22, 1995 at the Benton-Franklin County Fairgrounds. Last year was our first experience running the fishing pond and Shuyler Productions has asked if we would run it again this year. It was a thrill watching the kids and gives us an opportunity to increase awareness of the Richland Rod & Gun Club. We had a great showing of volunteers that made the work much easier and everyone had a good time.

There will be sign up sheets at the December and January meetings, or call Jack Pickard at 582-5397 to volunteer. Please mark your calendar now so that you will be available to help with this fun project.

### President's Message - Jack Pickard

With 1994 winding down it is time for me to look back and reflect on the year that now seems to have flown by. I would like to thank all the members who have been active on all the projects that we have undertaken, with the preservation of hunting and fishing as the goal that we continue to strive for. The fight for sportsmen's rights has never been more important than right now. With all the "anti's" and special interest groups, it's time to become actively involved so we can insure that future generations will have the same opportunity that we have enjoyed.

Special thanks go to the officers, volunteers, and the board, who have donated their time chairing committees, making phone calls, and staying up on the issues, thereby allowing our Club to be one of the most recognized in the state. The 1993 Organization of the Year award which we accepted in October from the Washington Wildlife Commission proves this point. Thanks again for such a memorable year. It is one that I will never forget!

### Meat Needed for Big Game Dinner

The Big Game Dinner will be held on Saturday, March 11, 1995 at the Richland Knights of Columbus Hall. The menu consists of fish and game donated by our members. RRGCC has a locker at Chuck's Meats on East First Avenue in Kennewick. Please write your name and phone number on each package that you put in the locker. Donors are entered in a special prize drawing at the Big Game Dinner. Please do not donate ground meat (hamburger) because it does not keep well and we have little or no use for it at the dinner. Any ground meat left at the locker will be donated to a local charity.

### Let Us Know If You Move!

The Post Office will not forward your RRGCC newsletter to a new address. Please notify us before you move so your address can be updated and you can receive all of the Bulletins without interruption or delay.