



RICHLAND ROD & GUN CLUB
(INCORPORATED)
A 501(c)(3) Tax Exempt Organization
P.O. BOX 337
RICHLAND, WASHINGTON 99352

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

August 2023, Volume 78 No. 8

Club Website- www.richlandrodandgun.org

Club Facebook- www.facebook.com/RichlandRodandGunClub

2023/2024 Officers

President	Secretary	Treasurer
Matt Cummings	Mike Estes	Richard Libby
(509) 948-4905	(509) 551-9066	(509)947-0498

MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

Next General Meeting – September 5th, 7:00 PM at Richland Public Library

Next Board Meeting- August 15, 7:00 PM at Griggs Pasco Hunter Ed room

September Newsletter Contribution Deadline is August 22nd.

email: admin@richlandrodandgun.org

PICNIC – PICNIC- PICNIC

The annual RRGc potluck picnic and Liars Contest will be celebrated on **August 1** at Leslie Groves Park Gazebo #1 in Richland. Dinner will be at 5:00pm. Cost is \$3.00 per person. The club will provide barbequed chicken and salmon, plates, cutlery, napkins, and drinks (bottled water and various canned soda). Please bring a side or salad if your last name begins with M through Z, or a dessert if it starts with A through L. The Liars Contest will follow dinner with prizes awarded for first, second, and third place. Bring your lawn chair and a good lie and join us for a fun relaxing evening in the park. Even when it is hot there is usually a nice breeze by the river. Take either Davison or Harris Avenues to Park Street. Turn east towards the river and continue into the parking area. Gazebo #1 is just north of the swimming beach. We hope to see you there!

WDFW Organization of the Year

The Richland Rod and Gun Club was recognized as the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Region 3 Organization of the Year at an appreciation celebration held at Columbia Basin College's Byron Gjerde Center on July 26, 2023. President Matt Cummings accepted the award plaque for the club from WDFW Southeastern Region Director Mike Livingston.

Mr. Livingston said “We appreciate all the important work the Richland Rod and Gun Club does each year. That includes ensuring our hunting and fishing heritage is carried forward to the next generation, and your Club’s commitment to conservation, outdoor education, and community involvement.” Other RRG members in attendance at the event were Connie Cummings, Mike Estes, Larry Martin, John Merk, and Richard Sharp.

2024 Wild Game Dinner

If you attended the Wild Game Dinner in March you know that it was a well planned and executed event, and a lot of fun. However, we know that there is always room for improvement and we would appreciate any suggestions you might have for our next dinner that will be held on March 23, 2024 in the same building at the Benton County Fairgrounds as this year. If you have input to share or if you would be willing to volunteer to help with the dinner, please contact Marilyn Steele via email at momhoops46@gmail.com

Hunter Education

The next Hunter Education class will be a night class from 6:00pm to 9:00pm beginning on Monday, September 4 and ending with range day on Saturday, September 9. The instructors are aware that September 4 is Labor Day but due to scheduling constraints, the class will begin that evening. Register on line at [Hunter education training | Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife](#)

Introduction to Firearms Class

The next Introduction to Firearms class will be on August 12 at the Grigg’s Hunter Education classroom followed by a visit to the Tri-Cities Metallic Silhouette Association (TCMSA) range in the afternoon. Registration will be limited to about 20 participants. Contact Ron Ruth for more information at ronruth.huntered@frontier.com

Youth Conservation Camp

RRGC sponsored Brody Evans, William Dvorek, and Landin Brown to attend Youth Conservation Camp on Orcas Island from July 23-29. RRG had budgeted to send up to seven boys and girls to camp this summer and there was interest from families of other youth but summer schedules and logistics interfered. We look forward to hearing from the boys at an upcoming meeting about the highs and lows of their experiences at camp.

Wood Duck Project

RRGC receives partial funding for our Wood Duck Enhancement Program from a WDFW ALEA grant. ALEA is an acronym for Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account which was created in 1994 by the Washington State Legislature to allocate revenue generated from state-owned aquatic land leases to various state agencies that are then shared through grants to non-state or federal agency partners to protect and re-establish natural ecology and environments. Dale Schielke has applied for, and received, two year grants for the Youth Education and Wood Duck Enhancement project continuously since 2013. The newest grant started July 1, 2023 and goes through June 30, 2025. Dale recently submitted the final report for the 2021-2023 grant. More than 500 nest boxes were cleaned and maintained before each nesting season. Video recordings of duckling jumps after hatching increased from 10 in 2022 to 13 in 2023. Banding results for 2023 were 19 banded wood

duck hens recaptured, 23 new wood duck hens banded, 41 banded screech owls recaptured, and 49 new screech owls banded. That is a lot of owls! Congratulations to Dale, his #1 assistant John Merk, and to everyone who volunteered to help make this project a huge success again this year.

Guzzler Repair

Corrie Thorne-Hadley of the WDFW Walla Walla office located a fire damaged guzzler off Hatch Grade Road above Wallula Junction in Walla Walla County and only .2 miles from the Oregon border. Larry Martin constructed a new 8' by 10' rain catchment similar to the style Pheasants Forever Walla Walla Chapter uses except Larry's is all metal. Larry, Corrie, Jerry Bloom, Blaine Schwartz, and Bill Watson installed the new rain catchment on July 20. (See photo section below for photo.) Larry also applies for and administers an ALEA grant for guzzler inspection and rehabilitation. The 2021-2023 grant ended on June 30 and a new grant for 2023-2025 began on July 1. During the past two years Larry utilized the assistance of 26 volunteers to inspect and clean 62 guzzlers, make major repairs to 15 guzzlers, and install 5 guzzlers in new locations. The work required 637 man hours and 3,232 vehicle miles donated by volunteers. A big "Thank You" to Larry and his team.

Photo of the Month

The winning photo for July shows brand new RRG member Evan Kirkpatrick with a very nice sockeye salmon harvested below Wells Dam on July 15, 2023.

Update your contact information!

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

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

Get involved in one of our Committees:

Salmon in the Classroom: Gene Van Liew – e.van-liew@hotmail.com

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

Wood Ducks: Dale Schielke – dahlialou@gmail.com

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

Hunter Ed: Ron Ruth – RonRuth.HunterEd@frontier.com

Guzzlers: Larry Martin - larry49martin@gmail.com

Youth Conservation Camp - larry49martin@gmail.com

Scholarship: Mike Estes - estesm34@gmail.com

Website: Ron Moore – admin@richlandrodandgun.org

Lunker Lake: Matt Cummings – riverviewcounsel@gmail.com

Dale Schielke – dahlialou@gmail.com

RRGC Club Upcoming Activities

Club Picnic – August 1 at 5:00 p.m., Leslie Groves Park Gazebo #2

Hunter Education (night class) at Griggs Pasco – Week of September 4

Next General Membership Meeting – September 5 at 7:00 p.m., Richland Library