



# **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.

June 2025, Volume 80 No. 6

Club Website- [www.richlandrodandgun.org](http://www.richlandrodandgun.org)

Club Facebook- [www.facebook.com/RichlandRodandGunClub](https://www.facebook.com/RichlandRodandGunClub)

## **2025/2026 Officers**

President	Vice President	Secretary	Treasurer
Evan Kirkpatrick	Adrian Quinones	Mike Estes	Ron Moore
(414) 534-2817	(619) 861-9204	(509) 551-9066	(509) 521-4528

## **MEETINGS AND DEADLINES**

Next General Meeting – June 3, 7:00 PM at Richland Public Library

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

July Newsletter Contribution Deadline is June 22.

Email: [admin@richlandrodandgun.org](mailto:admin@richlandrodandgun.org)

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## **June 3 General Membership Meeting** **7:00pm at the Richland Public Library**

Sockeye salmon. They are not as big as some of their cousins but they are fun to catch, wonderful to eat, and will be arriving near us soon. Vernie Cross of Vern's Guide Service will be the program presenter for our June 3 meeting covering details about sockeye fishing to improve your chances of hooking more of these tasty fish. Vernie will cover fishing from shore and from boats, trolling speeds, anchoring techniques, the gear to use, how to rig shrimp, and more. He will be bringing his gear for a show and tell type presentation. Come join us for the evening and then use your new knowledge to catch some sockeye as they pass by the Tri-Cities.

June 3rd | 7 P.M

Richland Rod and Gun Club General  
Meeting

## The Richland Rod & Gun Club to Host

### Vernie Cross From Verns Fishing Experience!

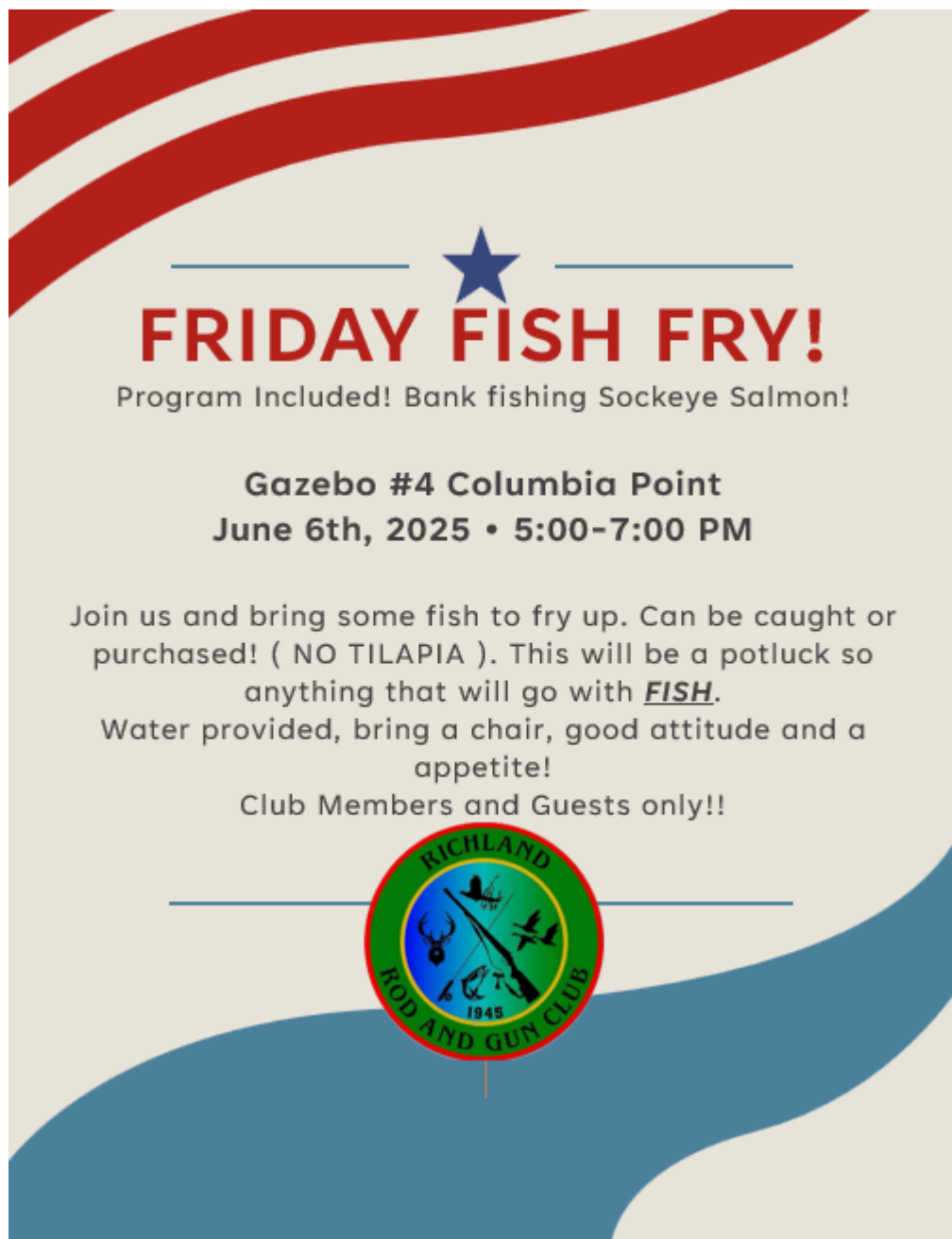
Vernie will be presenting on Sockeye! Vernie will cover trolling tactics, anchoring techniques, equipment, shrimp and bank fishing!



Vernie will be speaking at the Richland Public  
Library June 3rd at 7PM!!!

### **Fish Fry Fridays are back starting on June 6**

Thanks to Richard Sharp, Fish Fry Fridays (FFF) are planned again this year at Gazebo 4 at Columbia Point Marina Park in Richland. If you participated last year, this is the same location at the end of Columbia Point Drive near the west end of the I-182 Bridge. The first event will be Friday, June 6, from 5:00pm to 7:00pm. Bring your chair or a blanket, a potluck dish, and some fish for Rich to throw in the fryer and join us for a fun evening. Tableware will be provided. Rich plans to share some bank sockeye fishing tips to what you learn from Vernie's presentation earlier in the week. Additional FFF events will be held at the same location and time on July 18 and August 15. Please add the events to your calendar now.



### **Wild Game Dinner Planning Meeting on June 9**

A meeting to critique and close out the 2025 Wild Game Dinner and initiate planning for the 2026 dinner will be held on Monday, June 9, at 6:00pm at Marilyn Steele's home located at 41530 S. Morton Road in Kennewick. Do you have any ideas about what should be done differently or could have been done better? If you plan to attend, or if you cannot attend but have ideas to share, please call or text Marilyn at 509-392-2128.

### **Introduction to Firearms Class on June 21**

An Introduction to Firearms class will be held on June 21, 2025. The class will be co-hosted by the Richland Rod and Gun Club and the Tri-Cities Metallic Silhouette Association. Chief Instructor Ron Ruth reports that an article recently ran in the Tri-City Herald newspaper about the class and the class filled in less than two days, but call Ron at 509-737-7350 to get on a waiting list or express interest in possible future classes. Attendees must be at least 18 years old or accompanied by an adult to take the class. The class will be comprised of two parts. The first part will include an introduction to the safe handling of firearms, the different parts of a firearm and sights, the different types of firearms (pistols, rifles, and shotguns), and actual handling of firearms by participants. The second part of the class will include a demonstration of shooting of different calibers of firearms and actual shooting of firearms by the students.

### **Hunter Education Class Starts July 7**

The last classes of the year will be evening classes starting July 7 and September 8. Registration will open on line at <https://wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/requirements/education/basic> about 30 days prior to the start of each class. Don't miss this opportunity if you know someone who needs to complete the course to be allowed to go hunting this fall.

### **Youth Conservation Camp**

RRGC offers to pay the registration fees each year for several boys and girls ages 12 to 16 to attend Washington State Youth Conservation Camp on Orcas Island. Orcas Island is the second largest of Washington's San Juan Island and provides a unique and beautiful setting for campers to experience the outdoors as they learn about the environment and ecosystems around them. Boys Camp this year is July 20 to July 26 and Girls Camp is July 27 to August 2. Parents are responsible for arranging transportation to drop off and pick up campers at the Anacortes Ferry Terminal. Camp week is broken down into four days of classes focusing on outdoor skills, hunter safety, fishing, and conservation with Friday set aside for class competitions. There is also time for other activities like swimming, canoeing, and group sports. If you know someone who would like to attend camp this year contact Larry Martin at 509-521-2554 for additional discussion or visit <https://www.wsycc.org/> on the internet.

### **Welcome to Our Newest Member**

Please join us in welcoming Doyle Hurst of Richland back to our club. Doyle was a member in past years but let his membership lapse. Doyle rejoined while attending the May general membership meeting. Welcome back Doyle.

### **Guzzler Maintenance**

A team of nine volunteers from RRGC and Pheasants Forever repaired fire damaged

Guzzler 220 on May 10. The guzzler is located near Pepiot and Blanton Roads near Mesa. Larry Martin took the photos which explains why he is not in the group photo.



### **Wood Duck Banding**

The Wood Duck project team is currently checking nest boxes for nesting hens to band. 360 boxes have been checked as of May 21; 161 were used by wood ducks, and 53 boxes were used by owls. Some boxes have already hatched out chicks and others are nests in progress. New bands have been installed on 43 hens. 17 hens have been captured that were banded in prior years. 21 previously banded owls have been recaptured and 40 new bands have been placed on owls, many of them on owlets that are nearly ready to fledge. One recaptured female screech owl was banded 10 years previously in the same box.

Team leader Dale Schielke anticipates being able to resume live streaming from in-box cameras by about the end of May. Hardware compatibility issues were experienced last year with YouTube. Dale has been exploring new equipment to facilitate streaming to YouTube and believes we are close to getting everything operational. Watch for the links to the streaming on [www.rrgcwoodducks.org](http://www.rrgcwoodducks.org)

Youth from Nature School and Girl Scout Troop 5315 assisted with checking wood duck nesting boxes near Benton City and at WE Johnson Park. We were fortunate enough to find both nesting wood duck hens and screech owls with owlets. A great educational experience! Dale Schielke and Larry Martin represented RRGc at Jason Lee Elementary School Science Night with an informational display on wood ducks and guzzlers.



















### **RRGC Memorial Scholarship Awarded**

The Board of Directors has awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to Kathleen Petersen, a graduate student majoring in Fish and Wildlife Science at the University of Idaho. The title of her Master's program thesis is "Impacts of harvest on dispersal dynamics of gray wolves in Idaho", working as a researcher in collaboration with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game and University of Idaho. Kat's experience includes serving as a research lead on a Bighorn Sheep project with the University of Montana and Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks and she has worked as a field lead and research technician on several projects involving elk, black bears, deer, elk, sage grouse, and mesocarnivores in Idaho and Montana. Kat is an Idaho certified Hunter Education Instructor and taught an undergraduate Hunter Education course at the U of I last year. She is an archer who has harvested deer and elk with her bow but she admits that she uses a shotgun to harvest turkeys. Kat is a member of the Wildlife Society (an organization of wildlife professionals) and is a representative to the Idaho Backcountry Hunters and Anglers. We wish Kat the very best in completing her collegiate work and achieving a highly successful career.

### **Salmon Summit**

Nineteen RRGV volunteers donated a total of 69.5 hours for salmon egg deliveries to local schools and for the Salmon Summit fish release on April 29 and 30 in Columbia Park as part of the Salmon in the Classroom program. Kristy Pentico, Education Coordinator for the

Benton Conservation District told Mike Estes “We could not have put on this event without you.” According to Kristy, more than 3,000 students participated in the Salmon Summit this year. Thanks to everyone who volunteered their time for this educational and fun activity. Special thanks to Marilyn Steele for providing the folding tables we used as platforms to hold the glasses for the students to take for the fish release.













### **Pikeminnow Sport-Reward Program**

Northern Pikeminnow eat millions of juvenile salmon and steelhead each year in the Columbia and Snake River systems. Money can be earned from May through September by helping reduce the number of pikeminnow 9" and larger feeding on salmon and steelhead smolt during their outbound migration to the ocean. Anglers must register each day before fishing to be eligible to earn money and fish caught must be checked in at the station where you registered. Our nearest check stations are at Columbia Point Park in Richland, at Hood Park in Burbank, and at the Umatilla Boat Ramp. Visit [pikeminnow.org](http://pikeminnow.org) for more information including check in station hours and registration using the new Pikeminnow Registration mobile app. Rewards start at \$6 per fish for the first 25 fish checked and

increase to \$8 and \$10 per fish as you reach higher thresholds. You might even catch one of the specially tagged fish that is worth \$500.

### **Photo of the Month**

There were four contest entries this month. Richard Sharp submitted a photo he took of his son, Travis, and grandson, Richard, with a smallmouth bass caught on the Yakima River on May 4. Adrian Quinones submitted a photo of him with a full fan jake turkey he harvested on May 3 in the Spokane area. The photo was taken by his friend Jake. Evan Kirkpatrick submitted a photo of him with a gobbler he harvested on April 19 near Kettle Falls. The photo was taken by Jaimie Mullen. Micah Little submitted a photo of him with a largemouth bass weighing 5 pounds 4 ounces on the lower Snake River. The bass was released to swim another day. The photo was taken by James Bergin. Richard's photo was declared the winner.









Submit photos of some of your excursions so we can share the fun with everyone. All contest submittals will appear on the big screen at the 2026 Wild Game Dinner. Submit entries to [rrgcsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:rrgcsecretary@gmail.com)

**Update your contact information!**

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

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

**Get involved in one of our Committees:**

Salmon in the Classroom: Mike Estes [estesm34@gmail.com](mailto:estesm34@gmail.com) or

Wood Ducks: Dale Schielke – [dahlialou@gmail.com](mailto:dahlialou@gmail.com)

KOE Kids Fishing Day: Marilyn Steele – [momhoops46@gmail.com](mailto:momhoops46@gmail.com)

Hunter Education: Ron Ruth – [RonRuth.HunterEd@gmail.com](mailto:RonRuth.HunterEd@gmail.com)

Guzzlers: Larry Martin - [larry49martin@gmail.com](mailto:larry49martin@gmail.com)

Youth Conservation Camp: Larry Martin - [larry49martin@gmail.com](mailto:larry49martin@gmail.com)

Membership: Karen McNiven – [richlandrodandgunmembership@gmail.com](mailto:richlandrodandgunmembership@gmail.com)

Scholarship: Mike Estes - [estesm34@gmail.com](mailto:estesm34@gmail.com)

Website: Brayden Wodtli and Micah Little – [admin@richlandrodandgun.org](mailto:admin@richlandrodandgun.org)

**RRGC Club Upcoming Activities**

Next General Membership Meeting – June 3 at 7:00pm, Richland Public Library

Fish Fry Friday – June 6 from 5:00 to 7:00pm, Columbia Point Marina Park Gazebo #4

2026 Wild Game Dinner Planning Meeting – June 9 at 6:00pm, Marilyn Steele's home

Introduction to Firearms Class – June 21, 2025

Hunter Education Class – July 7 at Grigg's Department Store Hunter Education room in Pasco

Fish Fry Friday – July 18 from 5:00 to 7:00pm, Columbia Point Marina Park Gazebo #4

RRGC Annual Picnic – August 5 at 5:00pm Leslie Groves Park Gazebo #1

Fish Fry Friday – August 15 from 5:00 to 7:00pm, Columbia Point Marina Park Gazebo #4