



# 29th Edition Newsletter

SPRING 1998

NORTH AMERICAN  
WILDLIFE ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS  
ASSOCIATION

*"Working For Wildlife"*

## ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

The North American Wildlife Enforcement Officers Association now offers the opportunity for those persons who are not field fish and/or wildlife officers, but who are supportive of all fish and wildlife enforcement, to become part of NAWEOA as an associate member.

**INDIVIDUAL ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP** - Includes a patch, bi-annual newsletter and the opportunity to attend the annual convention as a non-voting member.

**AFFILIATED ORGANIZATION ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP** - (Such as sportsman clubs, gun clubs, conservation groups, colleges, etc.) - Includes membership certificate, bi-annual newsletter and eligibility to send one non-voting delegate to the annual convention.

If you desire to be a supporter of this 8,000 member professional organization of wildlife officers, please complete this form and mail, along with check or money order, to:

NAWEOA - C/O MERRYL BUSTIN  
RR#2 - WHYCOCOMAGH, NOVA SCOTIA  
B0E 3M0

\_\_\_\_\_ Individual Membership (\$20 per year)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Affiliated Organization Membership (\$200 per year)

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ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsored by: \_\_\_\_\_

## NAWEOA AWARD APPLICATION

Name of Person to Receive Award: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Surname) (First name)

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street) (City) (State/Province) (Code)

Jurisdiction: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Submitted: \_\_\_\_\_

Award Category (Check): Award of Appreciation \_\_\_\_\_  
Award of Valour \_\_\_\_\_  
Lifesaving Award \_\_\_\_\_

Certificate of Award \_\_\_\_\_  
Certificate of Retirement \_\_\_\_\_

Criteria: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please use reverse side if necessary)

I need this certificate by (date): \_\_\_\_\_

Award to be presented at NAWEOA Annual Conference Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail to the Secretary/Treasurer allowing plenty of time to process.

Make additional copies as needed.

Merryl Bustin  
Secretary/Treasurer NAWEOA  
R.R.#2 Whycocomagh, Nova Scotia B0E 3M0



# THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Gary Martin

Hello, everyone! As I sit to write this we are mid-Olympics. I am very tempted to send in my note to Gabby (Mike Gabbard, your newsletter editor) a couple of days late. If I do, potentially I could gloat over both the women's and men's hockey teams kicking butt and winning gold medals, which I am confident that they will do! (*Wrong Again - Ed.*) This reminds me of the teasing we were able to send out when the Blue Jays had a baseball team - and the crowd eating I have done since they haven't. Thank goodness we also won the tug-of war in Saskatchewan!

Things are very exciting these days in NAWEOA-land! You have a very dynamic and creative board which decided at our winter meeting a couple of weeks ago to undertake a couple of pretty exciting projects. Let me briefly tell you some of the things which have been, and will be, happening over the next few months.

We have looked at and decided to negotiate an agreement with an outside publishing company to print and distribute our newsletter. This has potential for significant cost reductions and even a source of income for NAWEOA. It will also give editor Mike a workload break, particularly on the distribution end of things. It will however, mean change. Most noticeably, we will be soliciting (through the publisher) advertising for the magazine in a big way. If this end of things is successful, we can realize some significant financial returns, which in turn will allow us to take on more projects to help wardens everywhere.

I have been working my way through an un-edited version of the "Warden Tips/Warden Notebook" manual. There is just an



absolute wealth of information in this document folks. I encourage every agency or association to subscribe to this project when it becomes available. We are hoping for a midsummer, early fall release of the first edition of this tool. (See the separate article elsewhere in the newsletter for more information on this project).

Del Tibke was over to our meeting to update us on the great work that he and his crew have been doing over the past months. I was particularly encouraged to hear that some forward thinking agencies are beginning to recognize the potential positive benefits that this project will bring to us all. Congratulations to Colorado, Montana and North Dakota. These agencies have done what really counts - they have put their money where their mouths are. Are there any other agencies out there who want to show their support for the great efforts that their officers have given over the years?

GREAT NEWS! As you may already of read on the "net" or maybe just heard a loud cheer coming from Central Canada, the

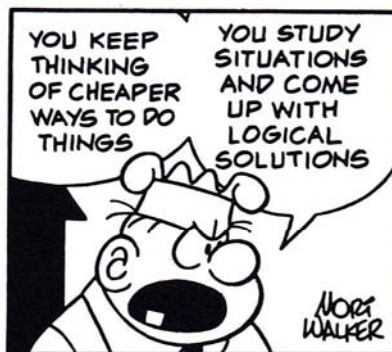
governments of both Manitoba and Saskatchewan have finally "done the right thing" and announced they will be issuing firearms to their officers. NAWEOA has been working with both associations for over ten years on this project and is happy to have contributed in any way to increase officer safety. It is simply incredible what we may be capable of doing when we share information and resources with our peers!

The board has been discussing getting NAWEOA linked up to the "net" for some time. We have decided at the winter meeting that we will hire a webmaster and establish a home page this spring. I will be working on this project and hope that we can have a page up and running by the time you are reading this. Likely, [www.NAWEOA.com](http://www.NAWEOA.com) or something very similar will be our address. We will definitely try to link in to as many other state and provincial associations, the NAWEM page as well, of course, to the "decoydoc" and any other officer friendly home pages.

If you check out the winter meeting summary elsewhere in the newsletter, you will find that we have a long list of ongoing and new projects which your board members continue to work on. HOWEVER, we can do so much more! We can move this organization into the next millennium, capable of doing things for our members which are only a dream. But we cannot do it with a couple of dozen folks doing the work while we have the potential for eight thousand active members. Imagine what we could do for this profession.

I realize that this is only a dream, but if you do your part, we will be one step closer to realizing that dream!

BEETLE BAILEY







## REGION 1 REPORT

By Kerry Wrishko

I had no trouble getting news from most of Region 1 jurisdictions this time and before NAWEOA newsletter editor Gabby grabs his big black pen, I'll get right to the news.

The society of Pacific Region Fishery Officers is growing in solidarity as they continue to work for officer improvements in the areas of officer safety and professionalism. They also wish to thank NAWEOA for the officer memorial donation to the Dean Miller family and also for NAWEOA getting the news out to all North American jurisdictions on officer Miller's untimely death. Thanks to all jurisdictions who have made donations to the memorial fund.

Greg Slatter reports that antler collecting continues to be a problem in many National Parks. Prince Albert National Park, in Saskatchewan, recently lost a case because a provincial court judge objected to the word "capture" in the charging section of a wildlife possession offence ((for possession of antlers collected inside a National Park but seized outside). On a more positive note: Prince Albert wardens successfully prosecuted two individuals for fishing and multiple lines, using bait, catching/possession in excess of limit and disposal of offal in water, after a week's remote surveillance. Riding Mountain National Park, in Manitoba, has appealed to the Manitoba Court of Appeal, a provincial judge's decision that shed antlers are not "wildlife", as defined under the National Parks Act. The judge decided that wildlife had to be alive or living to be included in the phrase "or parts thereof".

Over on the Pacific coast, at Gwaii-

Haanas, Park Wardens have been liaising with provincial Conservation Officers, Forest Officers, and federal Fisheries Officers, in cases involving deer, abalone, and timber poaching in and around the park. Canada is expected to add National Marine Conservation Areas to our system of protected areas in the next few years, and this will extend the boundaries of parks, like Gwaii-Haanas, up to 10 km offshore. This will substantially alter the role of Park Wardens as they have been traditionally land based.

In Banff and Jasper National Parks, wardens are investigating aircraft offences. Approximately 10 years ago, Parks Canada decided to close two grass air strips (one each in Banff and Jasper). These two strips were only open for recreational flying and were deemed inappropriate in a National Park. Recently, Parks Canada had made amendments to the National Parks Act closing these air strips. Before they could be decommissioned, however, the owners/pilots using the facilities successfully obtained a temporary injunction preventing their decommissioning. The court ruled, however, that takeoffs/landings were illegal. Since then, while the matter is being studied, Wardens have been investigating, documenting, and successfully prosecuting offenders.

The Mountain Parks group have been working on a firearm equipment and training standard. Last winter, Park Wardens from across Canada, attended a Basic Firearms Instructor Course at the RCMP Training Depot in Regina. A training standard has now been developed for the Mountain Parks group, and there is a lot of interest among instructors to develop it as a National Standard. Glacier National Park Wardens attended a "DNA Fingerprinting" course last winter. The course was designed to give wildlife officers a basic introduction to collecting DNA evidence in the field and the use of this evidence in wildlife forensic cases. The course instructor was Dr. John Coffin, of the University of Alberta. He has worked with wildlife investigators throughout North America and recently his analysis led to the arrest and charging of three persons in connection with the poaching of a mountain goat in Glacier National Park.

Colin Copland tells us the Wildlife Enforcement Section of Environment Canada had a busy fall doing the usual migratory bird enforcement patrols and also investigating and prosecuting under the Wild Animal and

Plant Protection and Regulation of International and International Trade Act (WAPPRIITA).

A joint Environment Canada and Revenue Canada Customs investigation resulted in charges against Princess Cruises (BC) Ltd. for unlawfully importing walrus ivory and whale bone carvings. The company plead guilty in Provincial Court in January to one count of unlawfully importing wildlife into Canada. They were fined \$ 1,000 and were further ordered to pay \$ 10,000 towards a public awareness fund to be administered by Environment Canada.

Also in January, a joint Environment Canada and Yukon investigation resulted in charges being laid against an individual for unlawfully killing a moose near Watson Lake, Yukon and the illegal interprovincial transportation of the moose from Yukon to British Columbia. A guilty plea resulted in fines of \$5,000 under the WAPPRIITA and the Yukon Wildlife Act.

Berny Bergman of the Northwest Territories says their officers have been brought on line with computers. Officers are on a departmental e-mail system and the majority are on the Internet e-mail system. The Northern Officer is now wired. As well, the Officers Association in the Western Northwest Territories have been addressing the issue of handcuffs, pepper spray, extendable batons and sidearms. As other jurisdictions know, this can be a very sensitive topic. A Health and Safety Committee was formed with representative from the Association and Management. To date there appears to be a willingness to proceed up to but NOT including sidearms. With respect to work, Northwest Territories officers are busy ensuring compliance in the hunting of the migrating caribou herds and harvesting of timber in the South Mackenzie Regions. Other officers will be travelling to tourism and RV shows in southern Canada and the United States to answer questions about the north. This is a new task as Tourism and Economic Development has just joined our department in the formation of a mega department.

Al Gibson states the 1997 hunting season in Alberta was quieter than usual, due to a lack of snow and a lower deer population resulting from last year's winter mortality. Report-A-Poacher calls, investigations and over all occurrences were down across the province.

Mr. Jim Nichols was recently appointed



as the new Deputy Minister of Environmental Protection. Mr. Nichols was a 25 year Fish and Wildlife Officer in Alberta and has worked his way through the ranks. Nice to see one of our own attain such a position.

Al also tells us the new enforcement uniform for Natural Resources Service was finally distributed to Alberta officers in late 1997. The Enforcement Services branch is currently looking at body armour and various carriers designs. It is hoped approval for purchase will be given this spring.

Finally, like many other agencies, Alberta's officer series review is in its final stages. The provincial workshops have been completed and data obtained is being put into a usable form. Hopefully we will see some resolution or decision by late spring.

Rick Hildebrand says the biggest news for British Columbia is that they are finally starting to hire some new recruits to fill numerous vacancies. They experienced significant reorganizing and downsizing a year and a half ago, and had not hired any new officers for over two years. An entry level competition was held and to date, five new recruits have been hired.

Conservation Officers in British Columbia are still embroiled in negotiations over a wage equity review that commenced three and one half years ago. Patience is beginning to wear thin, as it seems that there is a reluctance to consider Conservation Officers equitably in the public sector.

The NAWEOA 2005 Convention Committee has been pursuing agency support and participation to assist the Society of BC Conservation Officers in hosting the event. The Western Conservation Officer magazine, co-produced by BC Conservation Officers and Federal Fisheries Officers, has been faced with some financial challenges, but is persevering. The latest issue is now out. Anyone interested in a subscription should contact WC0, 1269 Pocha Road, Cranbrook, BC V1C 4H4.

Brent Webster says the big news from Saskatchewan is that Conservation Officers received approval to carry sidearms and soft body armour. It is expected that most if not all officers should be trained and carrying their sidearm by May 1, 1998. Officers will be issued the Glock .40 caliber pistol. This has not been an easy journey. It began in 1991 with SACO recommending that an independent study on the need for sidearms be commissioned. The report finalized in 1996, identified a need for officers to be armed for safety reasons. In the spring of 1997, an officer safety committee took this issue to the Minister of Environment and Resource Management (SERM), who agreed to take this to Cabinet for a decision. In September 1997, Cabinet announced that it would not support nor approve Conservation Officers being armed.

This was a devastating blow to the officers who felt a strong case had been presented. By October 15, approximately 95 of the 160 officers in Saskatchewan had filed a refusal to work under Saskatchewan's Occupational Health and Safety Act, which permits an employee to refuse to do work that is unusually dangerous. This prompted a review by the Department of Labour. At the same time, this was extremely big in the media across the province. Public support was building as the public became aware of the dangers we face while on duty.

In early November, the Department of Labour cited SERM as being in violation of the Occupational Health and Safety regulations. They also identified a need for a violence policy to contain clarification of the need for a sidearm or alternate safety measures if not provided. By early December, the Conservation Officer Safety Committee had written and presented SERM with a comprehensive violence policy that included sidearms as part of the safety equipment package. This policy was approved by Cabinet on December 15.

In other Saskatchewan news, recent court rulings on aboriginal hunting rights opened up the borders to aboriginal hunters from Manitoba and Alberta, creating intense hunting pressure in some areas. The fact that aboriginal hunters could legally hunt at night with spotlights on lands to which they had right of access, further enraged sportsmen and landowners. This prompted the government to announce that the use of spotlights would be outlawed and consultation with the aboriginal groups to resolve this are under way. This is a complicated issue and resolution will not be easy. Conservation Officers will be in the forefront for many years to come.

SACO would like to express it's sincere appreciation to NAWEOA President Gary Martin and to the many officer jurisdictions who supported us. The letters sent to Premier Romanow on our behalf did have an affect. We also appreciated the strong support we received from all the other law enforcement officers in Saskatchewan, including the RCMP and the municipal police forces. It is a good indication that we have a strong professional working relationship with these agencies. Issues like this clearly demonstrate the need for a network like NAWEOA to draw support and information to attain an objective.

All the officers in Region 1 salute the Saskatchewan and Manitoba governments for taking that giant step forward and deciding to issue their officers with sidearms, a move that is applauded by all concerned.

In closing, I'd like to thank Jock Smith and all officers of Mississippi for their hospitality in hosting the NAWEOA executive meeting. And thanks to Mike Gabbard of Oklahoma who acted as our unofficial tour guide. You'll have to ask Mike about Canadian's fascination with dead possums and armadillos. See you in Ohio!

## **ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS**

**ALL NAWEOA MEMBERSHIP DUES EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31 OF THE YEAR. DUE TO THE LARGE NUMBER OF MEMBERS, IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO SEND OUT RENEWAL NOTICES TO THOSE MEMBERS WHO PAY AS INDIVIDUALS. FOR THOSE WHO PAY AS JURISDICTIONS, PLEASE CHECK TO SEE THAT YOUR DUES ARE PAID. ANY INDIVIDUAL OR JURISDICTION WHO HAS NOT PAID THEIR DUES BY JULY 31ST WILL NOT RECEIVE A FALL NEWSLETTER.**





## REGION 2 REPORT

By Ian Anderson

The year 1998 will long be remembered in eastern Ontario, southern Quebec and parts of the Atlantic Provinces as dark, cold and icy! Record levels of freezing rain resulted in downed power corridors, effectively shutting off the hydro for millions. Even today, over three weeks since the storm, thousands are still waiting for electricity and for their lives to return to normal.

Dan VanExan of Ontario reports that the Ministry of Natural Resources staff, including Conservation Officers played a big role in the aftermath. Staff assisted with the clean up, emergency relief and some of the Officers assisted the police in security patrols in areas without power. Total property damage has been estimated to exceed one billion dollars making this natural disaster one for the history books!

In other news from Ontario, the Ministry of Natural Resources has a new Minister. John Snobelen has recently replaced the previous Minister, Chris Hodgson. While Hodgson was very pro fish & wildlife and Conservation Officers, Snobelen's sentiments are unknown at this time. Within the MNR the recent retirement of Guy Winterton, head of the enforcement program, has created a vacancy with big shoes to fill. His position and that of an assistant are on the board for filling at this time. Guy Winterton will long be remembered for his role in implementing our current enforcement structure.

This past fall, in addition to the normal heavy workload, several of Ontario's officers were "volunteered" to monitor the Aboriginal moose hunt in Algonquin Park. As many as 50 officers were involved at one

point with the project stretching out over two months. Long hours and days away from home (in some cases weeks without a day off) tested everyone's patience but in the end the goals were accomplished and according to senior management, the project was a success.

Ontario suffered some big losses recently, Conservation Officer Ben Attard passed away in December after a lengthy illness. Ben was an excellent officer, family man and a personable individual with a capability and love of photography, second to none. Many of us can recall standing for seemingly hours until Ben "got the right shot" and his work in the Intelligence Units will never be forgotten. The colour guard at his funeral comprised of over 75 Conservation Officers, plus other law enforcement staff which spoke volumes on the number of people Ben had touched.

In January, there was the sudden passing of Karen Barber, wife of Conservation Officer Kevin Barber. Karen was also an enforcement person, working with the Ontario Provincial police. Officers everywhere were shocked by this; it makes one realize how fragile life is sometimes. Both of these officers leave behind young families and our thoughts are with them.

After 35 plus years Ontario is getting a new piece of legislation to replace the old Game and Fish Act. The new Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act should be in effect by the end of June. Numerous changes include sections similar to the Lacey Act and new powers, penalties and statute of limitations to name a few. Training is in the works to bring Ontario's Conservation Officers up to speed with a new Act to enter the 21st century.

Jim Kamann of Manitoba reports that on December 15, 1998 Manitoba NRO's were informed they would be allowed to carry sidearms for personal protection and animal control. It has been over ten years since the Manitoba Natural Resource Officers' Association lobbied the provincial gov't for sidearms. Without question this has been a very large issue put to rest. A committee has been struck to implement this program. The sidearm will be a Glock 40 calibre. Psychological testing, policy and training will come next. (Congratulations MNROA, your patience and perseverance has paid off)

The MNROA will be celebrating its 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this March in Winnipeg, March

27-28th, 1998 at the Garden City Inn, another milestone reached!

All NRO's will be issued new uniforms this fiscal year. They will be receiving a new patrol jacket/parka, sweater and two new field style pants. This issue has been ongoing longer than the sidearms and again, the MNROA was largely responsible for this successful conclusion. This past September the Department went to centralized training for the NRO's. It covered recertification training in subject control, longarms and officer safety. As far as we're concerned, this was the only way to go.

Gerry Brunet of Environment Canada-Wildlife Enforcement Division would like to thank all those individuals involved in the organization of the 1997 NAWEOA Conference held last July in Colorado Springs. Seven of our officers (and families) attended the conference and fully enjoyed every event. Most memorable for us, will be Friday, July 18, 1997, the day we won the "Warden Skills Competition".

In the Fall 1997 Newsletter, Ontario Region reported that John Raimund GUINCHO of Leamington, Ontario was charged with smuggling one Appendix I Cuban Amazon parrot into Canada from Cuba on February 14, 1997. In late October, Guincho was convicted in a Windsor, Ontario court under the WAPPRIITA Act and fined \$750, plus forfeiture of the parrot to the Crown.

In June 1997, Ontario Region responded to complaints received against the Metro Toronto Zoo alleging that staff had rounded up several hundred flightless Canada Geese creating havoc on the grounds. After the round up, staff placed the geese in an enclosure and the local population of red foxes saw an easy meal. Zoo staff then realized the geese had to be removed and this was accomplished by herding them into a cube van on an extremely hot day! The net results were that approximately eighty (80) geese died and it was all done without the required permits under the MBC Act.

In November 1997, in Toronto Ontario, the Metro Toronto Zoo plead guilty to charges under the MBC Act and were granted a suspended sentence with a probation order in which they agreed to fund a two year research project to assess ways in which Canada Goose populations could be controlled. They were to work with other interested partners and submit a report with their



findings at the end of the two years. The amount they were ordered to fund towards this project was \$75,000

In news from the West, Richard Labossiere reports in October 1997 a CITES investigation resulted in 221,800 items of Traditional Chinese Medicine being seized through Customs FRT.

In September, 1997 three U.S. hunters were charged for violations of the MBC Act, provincial Wildlife Act (Manitoba) and the Criminal Code resulting in over \$4,000 in fines and loss of hunting privileges. Violations included waste and abandon wildlife, exceed bag limits, continue to hunt after limit reached and improper storage of firearms.

Bob Reside, of the National Park Warden Association, Region 2 reports that their Association held elections last fall with many of the originators of their new association being acclaimed, including Mark Halley, who is now the President. This association will now address many of the issues facing the Parks Canada Warden Service, including the creation of the Canadian Parks Agency and the Strategic Direction in Law Enforcement initiative.

The bill to create the Canadian Parks Agency has went forward to Parliament for first reading. It is expected that the Bill will be passed through the House and that the agency will be created by April 1st. Parks

Canada will cease to exist once the Agency comes into being and all employees will be given the opportunity to become employees of the new agency if they so wish.

Parks Canada continues to implement the Strategic Direction in Law Enforcement. This is a process developed to comply with guidelines established by the Office of the Solicitor General. The process will ensure officer safety needs are addressed as well as modernize the law enforcement program in Canada's National Parks.

At Georgian Bay Islands National Park on the opening day of the 1997 waterfowl season, park wardens found a male subject hunting in the national park. A twelve gauge shotgun was seized and this person was fined for possessing a loaded firearm in the park. In November, park wardens conducting patrols during the deer hunting season located five men who had broken into a building on the Park's Beausoleil Island. Four of the five attempted to escape after being discovered but all were arrested and charged for trespassing. In January park wardens were conducting snowmobile patrols around the park. One snowmobile check resulted in the discovery of a man transporting an uncased .22 rifle through the park, which was seized. Ice conditions are very poor this winter resulting in reduced snowmobile traffic within the parks. Park Wardens will be recertifying in

Ice Rescue in anticipation of accidents caused by thin ice around the park islands.

At Bruce Peninsula/Fathom Five National Park, the Warden Service has entered a joint operation base agreement with the Canadian Coast Guard where both agencies will work out of one location. Docking facilities and Coast Guard accommodations are completed and in use, while the storage and maintenance building is close to completion. The joint office is scheduled to be built in the spring. The park continues to work with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources including joint aerial night hunting patrols, trapping seminars and assisting in the enforcement program during the Manitoulin deer hunt. Parks Canada continues to work with the OMNR and local bands on a fisheries management plan for Fathom Five National Marine Park. A joint research project is also being looked at to study black bears on the Bruce Peninsula.

### OFFICER OF THE YEAR AWARD SELECTION, REQUIREMENTS, RULES FOR NOMINATION

- \* Must be a fully certified conservation officer in the state, province, territory or country in which employed.
- \* Must be a full-time field officer, up to and including first line supervisors from the field in the last calendar year.
- \* Both nominee and person submitting nomination must be a member of NAWEOA.
- \* An officer whose character is beyond reproach.
- \* An officer who is competent, knowledgeable and capable.
- \* An officer who promotes wildlife law enforcement.
- \* An officer who demonstrates professionalism in every facet of life.
- \* The person submitting the nomination shall provide background material, which shall be in written narrative format. Other supportive articles, certificates, awards, media coverage, etc. may also be included. Please submit your nominations ASAP!



*Following  
the Tradition  
of Lewis and Clark*



NAWEOA  
MISSOURI  
1999





## REGION 3 REPORT

By Mike Maillet

Many thanks to Jock, Bill, David, and all the other Mississippi Officers who hosted the winter executive meeting. They did an excellent job. I feel there was a lot accomplished and we still had some time for sight seeing and a little R&R.

Dougald MacNeil from Nova Scotia reports that Cameron Long who is better known to many of you as Spike, is now starting Dog Training. His partner in training for the next few months will be Storm. They will be working hard to develop skills in tracking, searching for articles (firearms, ammunition, casings, spotlights, etc.), building searches, and searches for lost persons. Discipline endurance, and agility, which have started with good grades will also be part of the program. Cameron and Storm should receive certification in July. They will join the present NS DNR Service Dog Team who are Paul Kendric and Rommel along with Robin Dawe and Tyson. Congrats to Cameron and Storm. Kim Huskins is a new member and the first female CO to be armed in Nova Scotia. Nova Scotia officers have been saying nothing but good things about the new policy manual. Chuck Moore, assistant manager, has put together an excellent set of operational guidelines. They now have a clear direction regarding equipment, use of force, firearms, arrest, search and seizure, exhibits and service dog.

Recently DNR enforcement staff have been given limited police powers. This hasn't been fully explained. That will come at the annual training workshop. John Mombourquette, manager, in his ongoing effort to upgrade the team, is stressing Law. To help in teaching he has Police Academy

instructor George Batt. The long awaited clothing items are starting to trickle in; the same old brown, but now much better quality. Meryll Bustin and John Mombourquette deserve a lot of credit for the redraft policy and an upgrade uniform. DNR officers around the province are reporting good success over the past few months. Some major violators will be looking at the possibility of heavy fines and, in some cases, jail terms. There is some chatter around NS about the Ohio convention, hopefully a few will attend. Dougald appreciates and encourages NS officers to send him news (big or small).

Terry Smith, Federal Fisheries and Oceans says he is more than pleased with the amalgamation of DFO and the Canadian Coast Guard. "We knew what needed to be done to get the job done and how to do it, but know we have the equipment and excellent crews to get done". Aquariel, a 42 footer (boat), was a major factor in DFO having an impact during the past seasons.

Sheldon Anstey the new NAWEOA Jurisdictional Rep from Newfoundland reports that the conservation officers have joined forces with Newfoundland and Labrador Forestry Service to create a new regime of conservation officers. In October 1997 they had the first ever province-wide enforcement meeting of all conservation officers. At that time they held the election of officers and changed the Association name to The Newfoundland and Labrador Conservation Officers Association. Training is still ongoing for both wildlife and forestry staff in such areas as immobilization drugs for wild animal control, officer safety training, forest fire training, timber scaling courses, etc. The total number of conservation officers as a result of the merger is now somewhere in the order of 140 for the Island and Labrador.

It was a busy year in 1997 as violations go with a large number of charges laid under both the Wildlife and Forestry Acts, and some under various other legislation. Two conservation offices attended a covert operators course in Alberta and, in addition to that, another officer completed a surveillance course which was put on by the Ontario Provincial Police. In the area of equipment they had a little set back in the standard of vehicles which were being issued. Back in 1994 they were successful in obtaining all four-wheel drive, extended cab pickups for conservation officers involved in law enforce-

ment duties. This came about after much lobbying to the government by the association and they are not about to let it slip back now. In the last round of vehicle purchases they saw some regular cab 4X4's issued as well as one vehicle replaced with a two wheel drive. Sheldon arranged a meeting with the Assistant Deputy Minister and that, along some lobbying from some conservation officers, enabled them to nip this problem in the bud. They have just received three new 4X4 extended cab pickups and more expected next year (CHALK ANOTHER ONE UP FOR PROVINCIAL ASSOCIATIONS).

Richard Kingston from New Brunswick reports that a recent court decision recognizes Native Aboriginal peoples as owners of all the trees on Crown Lands. The harvest began with nonnatives attempting to cash in on this "pot of gold" by assisting in the Native harvest. This decision came about the same time seasonal Rangers and Wardens were scheduled to be laid off for the Fall/Winter months. The Dept. of Natural Resources and Energy recognized possible problems with the monitoring of these operations and recognized the need of having trained staff to maintain dialogue between the Dept., natives, and non-natives. Districts where native harvest were expected were allowed to maintain extra staff until the beginning of the new year. This year will see some changes in "Uniform" items: color, material, and price. Most noticeable is the new shoulder flash. Recently a conservation fee has been added to the price of New Brunswick fishing, hunting, and trapping licenses. This fee will be administered by a select private group who will make recommendations as to enhance the fish and wildlife resource. Over the last couple of years we have experienced a restructuring of office complexes and shuffling of staff. The amalgamated offices became known as super districts. Those District Rangers and Asst. Rangers supervising the super districts received compensation for the increased workload.

New Brunswick Training Officer Willie Hamilton reports that after very little training in enforcement being done in 1997 he is pleased to advise that the following courses are some of the ones offered this year. Regular law enforcement (French), Sidearm Training (English), Forensic Interviewing Techniques (French), Practical Range Officer, and Verbal Intervention Skills Train-

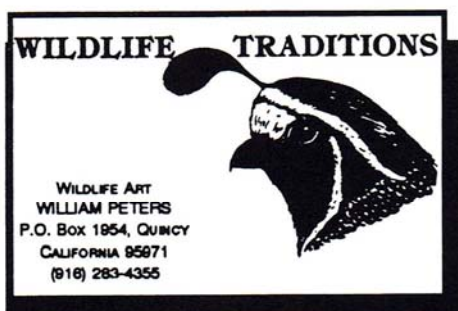


ing (French and English).

Greg Kenney from Parks Canada report that Atlantic Regional Parks are continuing downsizing, restructuring, reclassification, and other related negotiations involved in the movement towards special agency status. Some warden positions have been lost to early retirement incentives so these positions will not be filled. Some good news is that since the hiring freeze has been lifted some longtime employees have gained seasonal status. As far as news from around various Parks go, game patrols have slowed and for staff remaining, it is time for report writing business planning.

In Fundy National Park the evacuation of an injured man from the bottom of a steep-sided canyon, was carried out with the assistance of a DND Search and Rescue helicopter from CFB Greenwood. A problem that the Warden service radios could not communicate with the helicopter is resulting in an upgrade of the radio system. Of major concern is the low population of Atlantic Salmon, a species that was reintroduced in the 1980's. Prince Edward Island National Park reported a busy season in 1997 because of The Confederation Bridge. Wildlife violations were down, this was probably because of Migratory Bird License sales were down by 2/3's. Gros Morn National Park in Newfoundland is currently investigating two poaching of moose since the new year and help is being requested via Crime Stoppers. Park management did not renew the contract for the CPIC terminal with the RCMP this year and the Wardens have lost a great investigational tool. In Kejimikujik National Park Wardens were given assistance by Fisheries Officers who noted some illegal clamming activity while on a day off hike in the Park which cost them \$500 plus court cost.

Hope to see some of you in Ohio this summer. Stay safe.



## WORKSHOP REPORT

I'm pleased to advise that on May 15th and 16th, 1997, Region 3 of NAWEOA sponsored a Boating Safety Workshop. It was held in Fredericton, New Brunswick with thirty-nine participants registered from four agencies.

The two main instructors were George Geisler and Steve Boughter who are both from the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission and did an excellent job. Many favourable comments were made about the training opportunity.

We received overwhelming support from the New Brunswick Department of Natural Resources, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission and some private companies. After all expenses were paid, we had a balance of \$618.79 which was turned over to NAWEOA for the training fund.

I would like to give a special thank you to NAWEOA Past President Art Redden who worked with me from start to finish. His excellent work and support of NAWEOA is well known throughout our organization. In closing, I would like to thank everyone who participated or supported this worthwhile project. *Michael Maillet, Region 3 Director*

## NAWEOA STUFF

**Richard Kingston, past director of Region 3, is now responsible for distribution of NAWEOA promo items. Only prepaid orders over \$100 will be accepted. Make cheques or money orders payable to:**

**NAWEOA**

**4 Stacker Rd, Whitney, NB E1V 4J6**

### AVAILABLE ITEMS WITH PRICES

	<u>CAN</u>	<u>U.S.</u>
Print (Where Game Abounds)	\$200	\$150
Print (Quiet Watch)	\$ 45	\$ 35
Buckle (Original Design - First Issue)	\$ 20	\$ 15
Buckle (1993 South Dakota Conference)	\$ 20	\$ 15
Buckle (1996 Saskatchewan Conference)	\$ 20	\$ 15
Buckle (1995 Pennsylvania Conference)	\$ 20	\$ 15
Buckle (1997 Colorado Conference)	\$ Call	\$ Call
Ball Cap (Black, Green or Maroon)	\$ 10	\$ 8
Journal of Wildlife Law Enforcement - Vol I	\$ 10	\$ 8
Journal of Wildlife Law Enforcement - Vol II	\$ 10	\$ 8

**Some items are in short supply. All promo items will be available at the NAWEOA booth during the 1998 Ohio Conference.**





## REGION 4 REPORT

By Jerry Claasen

I'd like to begin the Region 4 report with a few Thank you's. First of all I wouldn't be sitting here doing this report without the support from those members who voted for me at NAWEOA '97 in Colorado Springs. I appreciate your support (that isn't the reason I was handing out the door prizes). Also, a large thank you to Jock Smith and his associates Bill and David for showing us some fine southern hospitality at the winter meeting in Jackson, Mississippi. And finally a thank you to the Denver Broncos for finally winning the big one.

For those of you who don't know me a little introduction may be in order. After a time in the military and the Highway Dept., I have been with the Colorado Division of Wildlife for 26 years having served stints in Denver and finding a home in Grand Lake at the headwaters of the Colorado River. I'm married with two daughters who are now experiencing college and the world and two horses who are still classified as dependents. The first NAWEOA conference I attended was 1984 in Whistler, B.C. and needless to say I became hooked. Since then I have found my way to 10 other conferences. It never ceases to amaze me that wildlife officers are so professional, competent and friendly.

On with the regional reports. From the sounds of it the Idaho hunting season was slow due to mild weather and abundant forage. A trend seen over much of the west this year. Hunting was sooo slow-How slow was it? Dwain Lowery had one subject shoot an hour after the legal hunting time and claim that no judge would convict him because hunting was so hard this year. Wrong. Several cases of shooting moose in self defense

were investigated. Upon careful examination one moose was shot at a distance of 80 yards and a second shot from slightly behind while quartering away. Both shooters were cited.

Al Nicholson reports that hunting mountain lions with hounds is becoming quite a controversy across the state. The crux of the problems seems to involve nonresident hunters and lack of permits. Washington and Idaho have worked jointly on an undercover operation involving nonresident houndsmen. A total of 18 charges have been filed on 4 people ranging from illegal outfitting to wrong class licenses. As the report states it is nice to see this type of cooperation between states and it should be a strong indicator of our need to maintain undercover operations.

Several officers in Idaho's Region 2 have been having such good fortune with simulated wildlife operations it is rumored they ran out of tickets. During a couple of weeks of deer and elk sets they filed 21 charges on 19 shooters. The best case involves a 19 year old who was convicted last spring of hunting turkeys with a .22. With his hunting privileges revoked he was contacted for shooting a whitetail buck with a muzzleloader. While waiting to appear he was apprehended shooting at a ASA deer. A slow learner wouldn't you say? There is legislation in the works on increasing the civil and criminal penalties for big game animals. Idaho officers are also hopeful that the recommendations of the State Personnel System for a 5 to 7% raise will pass this year. In addition a change in their regulation on the definition of "edible meats" should enhance their ability to enforce it.

We would like to congratulate Greg Johnson and John Hanson for being selected Conservation Officers of the Year from Idaho. In reading the nominations for both officers it is apparent that they are resourceful and unselfish toward their jobs and the community.

Dave Rzewnicki says that Oregon is still on the hot topic of Salmon issues. And while the budget hasn't been good, they did manage to muster 5 new fish and wildlife recruits who will start in March. Long time friend of NAWEOA Gaylen Chandler is out and about with a trailer full of decoys making great cases. He is now the official "Decoy Use Coordinator".

In New Mexico Officer Luis Rios was injured in a helicopter crash in December

while surveying for elk. Although he is still experiencing some problems with feeling in the arm that was pinned under the helicopter for 4 hours, he did not require hospitalization. Two others on board also sustained injuries. Brian Gleadle also reports eight new officers began their basic training class in February to be followed by their P.O.S.T academy.

Residency cases continue to plague Montana as well as nonresidents taking animals on resident licenses according to Jim Conner. Funding from the BPA for enforcement protection relating to water borne threatened species, such as White Sturgeon, has disappeared. The initial funding had allowed FWP to hire 2 new officers and supplement other budgets. When the funding was eliminated last fall budgets were reduced and discretionary pay was cut by one third.

With a new contract Montana has received a minimum amount of discretionary pay per year and payment to officers who use their homes as offices where no FWP facility exists. In a retirement issue the Montana system now incorporates other law enforcement personnel allowing for a more stable system with hopefully better benefits at an earlier age. At the seminar in June, Perry Brown was selected as the Shikar Safari Award winner and Kevin Schaal named the Officer of the Year for the Montana Game Warden Assoc.

Montana made good use of check stations throughout the year. One of the more interesting was one held the day after the big game season closed. Several good residency cases were made on the spot. One case netted a deer and elk as well as \$3400. Close to \$8000 was collected during the seven hours the check station was open. Also apprehended was a man who has been making bogus call to Tip-Mont. Game Warden ingenuity and a cell phone aided in the collar.

Jim also wants to advise NAWEOA on the new policy effecting officials and committee members of Ducks Unlimited who violate game, fish or habitat regulations. Those in violation face immediate review by Personnel Policy Committee and disciplinary action. They welcome reports on violator, even from officers.

Todd Vandivert of Washington indicates things are running smoothly now a year into combining forces. As always the officers are hard at work making things function properly. One major snafu last year had to do with



a shortage of licenses and tags in some parts of the state. I have a vivid mental picture of the upset sportspersons trying to buy a tag. Wow. It appears that Washington has an ally in newly appointed Commissioner Will Roehl. In an article for "The Informant", Mr. Roehl stated "A visible presence in the field is essential to increase compliance with our fish and wildlife laws and to educate the public." This opinion was derived from discussions with fishers, hunters and the commercial industry. We can all appreciate a decision maker with this insight.

The Washington Marine Unit has been active with duties involving gill net season and protecting killer whales. In addition to protecting whales, Brooks Charmical was called upon to save two persons in on the water rescues. They even had their Sgt. Brinson on Good Morning America. Good P.R. guys. Congratulations go out to C. Bruce Richards for being named the Washington and Shikar Safari Officer of the Year.

On the home front in Colorado, the legislature is in session. One of the main bills coming forward is a trophy animal surcharge. This bill is intended to increase the fines for certain species. While it is still being rewritten the current surcharge for an illegal big-horn could be \$25,000, a trophy elk \$10,000. The bill has a broad based support from sportsmen and law enforcement groups. Stay tuned for the outcome.

Dave Croonquist reports prosecution is continuing on "Operation Dinosaur" a joint investigation by Colorado, National Park Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Charges stemmed from illegal hunting activities for deer and elk on both public and private land in northwest Colorado. To date five people have pled guilty and been sentenced to fines and restitution amounting to \$55,229, loss of trophy mounts, an ATV and rifles. A federal grand jury has returned a 12 count indictment on 2 Colorado men and a man from Kansas for Lacey Act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act and Park Service violations. Another interesting case involved a Taxidermist out of Alabama who declared war on Colorado Big Game. While the instigator has yet to enter a plea, 11 other conspirators have pled and received sentences of \$10,846 in fines and loss of 14 big game mounts. Due to legislative pressure, all officers in Colorado were required to become P.O.S.T. certified. Since most officers already had the training just didn't have the

certificate, they were allowed to take a one week refresher and challenge the test. We are happy to report that all of the officers passed the P.O.S.T. test with the minimum score being 82%. We knew they could do it. On another positive note the State of Colorado restructured its retirement for all state employees (including wildlife officers). They now can earn up to 2 1/2% HAS payable

after 30 years. Bob Holder was honored with the John Hart Award as Officer of the Year. Although Bob is a rather imposing type of guy and relentless enforcement officer; he may best be known for his work with the youth in his district. Congratulations Bob.

So Jerry what are you going to do now that the Broncos have won the Super Bowl? I'm going to Ohio in June. See ya.

## **TORCH AWARD CRITERIA**

As mentioned in the last newsletter, retired officers attending the 1996 Conference elected to recognize the efforts of the newer members of our profession. These awards will be presented annually, to an officer from each region, to encourage the professional development of recently appointed officers. Selection criteria is as follows:

- \* Both nominating and nominated officers must be NAWEOA regular members
- \* Nominated officer must not have worked as a wildlife enforcement officer more than five years
- \* Must have demonstrated a genuine desire to protect the resource and develop professionally
- \* Has demonstrated exceptional ability and initiative in the performance of his or her duties, including public education
- \* Must be respected by his or her peers and the public
- \* Nominations must be received by June 1st each year - winners notified by June 15th
- \* Attendance at annual conference will not be mandatory for winners

Please submit your nominations as soon as possible to:  
**Art Redden, 3 Parker Place Cr., Enfield, Nova Scotia B2T 1C8**

## **MUSEUM SUPPORTERS! COOKBOOK ENTHUSIASTS!**

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## REGION 5 REPORT

By Mary Coleman

Owen Meadows, South Dakota, writes that this winter has been a huge break for many of the South Dakota Officers who spent most of last winter caring for wildlife and those folks having trouble with wildlife due to the severe weather. Unless late winter brings a big blast, the past few months have been great. All officers have completed their second round of bi-annual training. By mid-March all will have finished the annual week long training course which involves mostly classroom materials with some scenarios. If you remember comments of a year ago in reference to a change in how they acquire new vehicles and the administration involved, the only update is that nothing has changed. Vehicles will be operated into the high 100,000+ miles and when they are replaced the vehicle is scheduled to be a mid-sized pickup. The agency pays a management agency by the mile for use of the vehicles. Right now all are busy setting seasons for fall, handling late winter enforcement and gearing up for spring and summer activities.

Levi Krause writes that currently the Nebraska Conservation Officers Assoc. is at impasse with the State on contract negotiations. A benefit package has been agreed upon; however, they have not been able to negotiate a wage settlement. The NCOA is in the same State Law Enforcement Bargaining Council (SLEBC) as the State Patrol, Fire Marshals, and Carrier Enforcement Officers. They hope that this will ultimately result in a decision in their favor because of the larger group of law enforcement being represented. The main disagreement at this point is over the implementation of a step-

pay plan with longevity increments. Surveys by both sides have shown that this type of pay plan is prevalent among the Midwest array of states. It would appear that a decision by the Commission of Industrial Relations may not occur in the near future. After that decision, there will likely be an appeal to the State Supreme Court. SLEBC's chief negotiator feels that SLEBC has a good case and most officers involved seem to feel that the step-pay plan is well worth holding out for. CO Mick Gray from Valentine retired in December and wasted very little time in heading south for the winter. In a rather swift move, administration has already hired a new officer for the Valentine position. He is certified through the NE Law Enforcement Training Center and will begin field training in February.

Dave Hoffman writes that there is not much to report in Kansas. They are still involved in meet and confer and it is not moving fast. The department is in the act of getting them phones for our residences; this will be a first. They have tried to get cell phones but have been advised that it is impossible at this time. Their legislature has started and it remains to be seen how state employees will fare. They did not do well last year but this year there is a windfall in tax money so they will see.

Pat Harkins writes that Wisconsin hired 18 new wardens effective 1/5/98. These wardens all have law enforcement certification in Wis. or from some other state. They are in an extensive training program set up by the DNR Bureau of Law Enforcement looking at the needs and demands that will be placed upon wardens in the future. All have been issued laptop computers and are receiving training in their use. They are looking for this recruit class to be able to do most all reports, letters, e-mail, etc. with these laptops. Additionally, these computers will contain relevant statutes, NR codes, policy manuals, forms, etc. to simplify a warden's work. These computers will have the capability to be hooked into the new radio trunking system that is being planned for Wis. Officers will also have the ability to check into DNR data bases for licenses, permits, etc. They are also bringing in an extensive group of resource users to provide input to these new wardens to give them another perspective.. These new wardens are the first wardens hired since January of 1994. Wisconsin is said to rank 49th in the ratio of

wardens to population. Wisconsin is seeking to increase the number of wardens at this time. Many user groups support this effort and Chief Warden Tom Harelson is starting the process to gain legislative approval. The entire month of February is devoted to in-service training for all existing wardens. This training is held at the Wis. State Patrol Academy on Ft. McCoy, Wis. Approximately 45 wardens per week are trained on upcoming issues, legal update, refreshed on items like writing reports where force was utilized, field sobriety tests, etc. The academy is an excellent facility for classroom training and the relationship between the State Patrol and the Warden force has grown since the training started at the Academy in 1989.

From Missouri, Gordon Jarvis writes that they have selected the dates for the '99 NAWEOA convention as July 27th through August 1st. They are hopeful that the Missouri Convention will provide participants with a memorable experience. At this time, they have completed most of their work with the convention hotel. The Regal Riverfront Hotel in downtown St. Louis will provide participants with a spectacular view of the Gateway Arch, the Mississippi River, Busch Memorial Stadium, and many other landmarks. They have managed to obtain 25 rooms at Canadian currency for our friends and colleagues from Canada. This cost is \$99 per room, single, double, triple, quad. They have established their day trips and spousal events, including early bird specials. Choices for day events will include a barge ride down the Mississippi River for a limited number of participants and an enjoyable day at Six Flags over Mid-America for others. Spousal and children's activities will include the Science Center, Grants Farm, the Zoo, the Arboretum, and others. Early bird specials will include a Golf Tournament, Sporting Clays, and a canoe trip on the Meremec River for 100 participants. Air conditioned tour buses will transport participants to and from events. The theme for the conference is "Following the Lewis and Clark Tradition". So join with them as they continue into the next millennium in the Lewis and Clark Tradition. You'll be glad you did.

Gary Tarpely writes that Texas had a busy and successful hunting season. Unlike some years in the past, they escaped without any major incidents or injuries to their



officers. The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department graduated its 45th Game Warden Class. They now have 23 new field game wardens and one game warden pilot. They are hoping for another class this fall. Promotional exams were held in February; with 295 officers taking the exams hoping to improve their standings for a few possible supervisory vacancies. The Texas Game Warden Academy will be busy this year conducting instructor firearm training, boating accident classes and training for new first line supervisors. In between these classes, they will be providing training to outside law enforcement personnel for marine safety certification and a state licensed instructors' class. The Association of Natural Resource Enforcement Trainers (ENRET) will hold its annual conference and training session in June, 1998 at St. Simeon Island, Georgia. Registration will take place May 31, with the conference June 1st through the 3rd. The conference will focus on distance training, with one day that will provide class and tour of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Complex. The information and networking offered at this conference is a must for all natural resource enforcement trainers. For information, contact: Royce Wells, Texas Game Warden Academy, 100 W. 50th St., Austin, TX 78751, (512) 454-2502.

In Iowa, Bob Mullens is hard at work, finalizing the Enforcement Techniques Manual that NAWEOA is cosponsoring. Iowa Officers Mike Martin, Dave Elledge, Bob Mullen, Joli Vollers, Bob Moats and Asst. Chief of Enforcement, Lowell Joslin

have been nominated for the Midwest Law Enforcement Officers' Association Conservation Law Enforcement Award.

Jeff Wells of Indiana tells me that their Dept. has had a large amount of change in the upper management staff, as well as upper level field staff. This transition is going smoothly, and Dept. morale is high. The Indiana Conservation Officers' Association spearheaded the first conservation camp for kids this past summer, hosting over 100 children. This has been several years in the making. The DNR worked with the association, and many sportsman's groups are becoming involved, making this the first of many to come. The Indiana Turn In Poachers program also supplied funds to the project and sponsored several kids from inner city Indianapolis. Two Indiana officers recently returned from an 8 week K-9 training session put on by the Florida Fish and Game Commission. The officers and their Lab partners learned tracking and fish/wildlife identification. There are plans to expand this into a statewide program that will encompass all 10 districts. Indiana is just finishing up their annual in-service training for all officers; the K-9 officers demonstrated their abilities to make everyone aware of their capabilities in the field. The TIP program in Indiana is funded privately by donations, with most of their income generated at an annual banquet. This will expand to 2 banquets in order to raise additional funds for the program. The money raised is available for use in rewards for information, and also programs such as the K-9 training and the kids' conservation

camp. Indiana officers are sporting a new boating enforcement uniform - white polo shirt and zip-off pants/shorts. They're awfully happy to be out of the dark green wool pants in the summer sun. They're looking at some type of Class B field utility uniform in the future. Officers are currently receiving GPS units for use in the field. Finally, their lawsuit over a 1991 law which required conservation officers to receive salary parity with the state patrol (which did not occur), was won by the CO's just recently. The lawyers are still in negotiation over the settlement that the officers will receive.

Randall Reigh writes that Oklahoma is again faced with a 2% budget cut and the agency is starting to talk about a license fee increase. It's too early for a long range trend but the accident rate is down after all officers completed Law Enforcement Driver Training this year. Oklahoma is also in the process of setting up a critical incident response program. Three individuals recently pleaded guilty to Lacey Act violations involving box turtles. They had hidden several hundred turtles in a semi load of chickens. Randall says that this is a growing problem with what they see as nontraditional poaching of wildlife and suggest that all agencies probably have similar activities in their area.

Gary Wallace tells me that there isn't anything to report from Arkansas. I was unable to reach Daryl Kleyer, North Dakota, Tony Cornish, Minnesota (who is out of the country at the moment), and Kevin Bettis, Illinois.

## NAWEOA EXECUTIVE

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President	Gary Martin	RR#4	Campbellford, ON K0L 1L0	705-653-3066	705-755-1757
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Past-President	Rick Pallister	Rt 1, Box 66	Buffalo, WY 82834	307-684-5223	307-684-5585
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Region 1 Director	Kerry Wrishko	Box 70	Leader, SK S0N 1H0	306-628-3900	306-628-4410
Region 2 Director	Ian Anderson	P.O. Box 264	Gore Bay, ON P0P 1H0	705-282-2874	705-282-0329
Region 3 Director	Michael Maillet	#22 Abbott Street	St. Stephen, NB E3L 3C4	506-466-4527	506-466-7349
Region 4 Director	Jerry Claasen	P.O. Box 654	Grand Lake, CO 80447	970-627-8449	970-725-33487
Region 5 Director	Mary Coleman	1118 Northview Lane	Aberdeen, SD 57401	605-226-3378	605-626-2217
Region 6 Director	Bruce Lemmert	21 S. Church Street	Lovettsville, VA 20180	540-822-4219	703-771-5470
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Newsletter Editor	Mike Gabbard	P.O. Box 187	Elgin, OK 73538	405-492-4306	405-355-3099





## REGION 6 REPORT

By Bruce Lemmert

### Welcome West Virginia

Wild, wonderful West Virginia has affiliated all of their wildlife enforcement officers with NAWEOA. West Virginia DNR Officer Nelson Shaw has been coordinating this effort through their department headquarters in Charleston. This will bring approximately 120 new officers into the NAWEOA fold. We certainly welcome West Virginia on board as the "Mountain State" will be a significant addition to Region 6, and to NAWEOA.

Anyone familiar with West Virginia can tell you that their unique geographical position has blessed the state with some exceptional natural resources. But despite the beautiful mountains, forests, farmland, and waterways, West Virginia's wildlife enforcement officers may be their most valuable resource. Since Virginia borders West Virginia, we have professional contact with the West Virginia Officers, and they have always been courteous and professional. I trust that the Department and many of the West Virginia Officers will take advantage of the 1998 NAWEOA Conference in the adjoining state of Ohio. The Ohio Officers have another exceptional conference planned.

Our Jurisdictional Representative from West Virginia, David Long, reports that deer damage has become a problem for officers virtually across the state. West Virginia Officers typically find themselves spending more and more time dealing with the remedial problem of damage control. There is apparently legislation, instigated by a variety of groups that are pushing for a liberalization of the "Damage Permit" process. We will be watching West Virginia on this is-

sue, because several other Southeastern states are groping with this same problem. West Virginia DNR has put their official stamp of approval on the use of wildlife decoys as a wildlife law enforcement tool. Officer Long said that the Department has purchased the supplies to build several robotic deer decoys, and some officers have had decoys donated by various groups. David indicated that the decoys were a very effective tool in Mineral County where he works and that subsequent publicity about the decoys invariably serves as an added deterrent to illegal "road hunting".

The West Virginia training schedule for 1998, includes quarterly firearms training, with qualification required during two of the sessions. The firearms qualification will also include shotgun and night requirements. An in-service training session is also planned for an eight hour session on hunting accident investigations.

### Tennessee Officer Force Back to Full Strength

Tennessee's officer force is back to full strength with the hiring of eight new officers who began their employment October 1, 1997. Following five weeks of agency in-service, the new officers went to their assigned counties to be greeted the next day with the opening day of firearms deer season. Tennessee Jurisdictional Representative, Mike Stockdale, reported that as soon as the new officers were officially "baptized" by the close of deer season, they were treated to a ten week vacation.....at the Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Academy.

Professional, Tennessee wildlife enforcement personnel received their second pay raise of the year on July 1. This is a result of a new pay plan which is based on the border state average for wildlife enforcement officers. (Other southeastern states should take heed on this issue. Pay has been lagging in this region, and efforts such as we see in Tennessee can help us pull each other up to parity with other regions.) Pay raises for Tennessee wildlife enforcement officers ranged from one percent for those officers at the top of the pay scale to five and one-half percent increase. Note! Other state employees in Tennessee did not receive a pay increase during this same period of time.

Wildlife Officer, Joe Bunch, of McMinn County, was selected as the "Officer of the Year" in Tennessee, and Officer Darren Rider, of Cheatham County, was selected as

the Shikar-Safari Officer of the Year.

Significant wildlife enforcement cases in Tennessee include state charges being placed on twenty-two different individuals as a result of a successful undercover operation involving the illegal hunting of deer with dogs. On another case, an airplane was seized for violation of the Airborne Hunting Act and Federal Charges are pending.

Tennessee's Wildlife Forensic Lab seems to be leading the way for the southeastern states. This is in no small part due to the efforts of Jurisdictional Representative, Mike Stockdale. I know that Mike's consuming interest in this important aspect of wildlife law enforcement has brought Tennessee's Forensic Lab to the forefront. This year DNA gender identification has been added to the forensic tools made available to Tennessee field officers. Several cases have been successfully resolved in court as result of this lab technique and other cases are pending.

### Mississippi Hosts Winter NAWEOA Meeting

Region 6 member, Mississippi, served as the host for the NAWEOA Winter Executive Meeting in January of this year. True southern hospitality was shown from the Mississippi delegation that included Jock Smith, Bill Brace, and David Spencer. These fellow officers made arrangements at the Mississippi Law Enforcement Officers Training Academy, in Jackson MS. This was a productive and successful meeting due in part to the behind the scenes coordination of the Mississippi officers.

The Mississippi Wildlife Enforcement Officer's Association has strong leadership and the members appear to be behind them. The Association has become financially able to strive for and accomplish their goals. Association dues are five dollars per month, and this is financially supplemented by a successful Association magazine. The magazine is published three times per year.

### Mississippi State University.....A Student Membership?

Despite the fact that law enforcement personnel are the largest (in personnel numbers) division in most wildlife agencies, wildlife law enforcement, has traditionally not been recognized at most of our colleges and universities which offer programs/degreess for wildlife and fisheries management. Typically, there is no special option for wildlife law enforcement at the universities that



offer studies in forestry, wildlife, and fisheries. This may seem even more odd when it is realized that law enforcement was at the core creation of most state fish and wildlife departments. Professional biological management of wildlife and fisheries resources would typically come after professional wildlife law enforcement was already established. I can only speculate as to how this evolved.

Where do we go from here? Mississippi State University has created a "Law Enforcement Option" for students with a core curriculum of wildlife and fisheries science. Additionally, students from the wildlife law enforcement option, have created an association called the Wildlife Law Enforcement Club at Mississippi State University. This club has expressed interest in affiliating with NAWEOA. I believe that this is the start of something good. This is a link that should be made. It is not often we have the opportunity to be a part of something seminal, and the NAWEOA/student affiliation should be a "win-win", situation.

NAWEOA membership will have the opportunity to vote on whether to create a "Student Membership" at the upcoming Summer Meeting in Ohio. This proposal will be drawn up along the lines of other professional organizations that encourage student involvement. I encourage you to support a NAWEOA By-Laws change to allow a special "Student Membership".

The President of the MSU Wildlife Enforcement Club is Shelley M. McNamara, and the Faculty Advisor, is Donna L. Minnis, Ph.D.

#### **Virginia Seeking New Funding Source**

The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF) is currently seeking alternative funding sources to augment the traditional funding that has always existed. State audits have indicated that operational funds only from traditional sources (i.e. hunting and fishing license fees, boat registration fees, and Federal fish & wildlife funds) would project Department expenditures to start outstripping revenues at about the turn of the century. As of this writing the Virginia General Assembly is in session and two funding sources are being considered.

The main funding proposal for Virginia is to earmark two percent of existing sales tax revenue on wildlife (includes fisheries) related items, to go to Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries. This is not a new tax proposal but a diversion of an existing tax to VDGIF. The current sales tax rate in Virginia is 4.5%. Two percent of this 4.5% on hunting/fishing, and other wildlife related items would come back to VDGIF. The projected annual amount of money this would generate is twelve million dollars. Passage of this proposal should put VDGIF on firm financial ground for some time to come.

The second funding proposal is to al-

low VDGIF to incrementally raise license fees by no more than one dollar per resident license, per biennium. Traditionally, license increases have been on a much longer time span and require a significant increase, which consequently meets with resistance politically and in the free market. It is felt that the incremental license increases would be more palatable to the hunting/fishing public.

Part and parcel to VDGIF's funding problems is the lack of recruitment to hunting and fishing. Fishing still shows a slight upward climb in participant numbers but hunting is showing a net loss of active license buyers. In an economist's vernacular, hunting/fishing license revenues have reached the point of diminishing returns. Seeing is believing, and we are seeing this phenomenon in the field. I believe all states that depend primarily on the resident license, will have to face the issue of alternative funding. But then it has always been my perspective that all of society benefits from our work and all should contribute.

It goes without saying that The Virginia Game Warden Association (VGWA) has fell behind the new funding initiatives. VGWA pulled off of a legislative effort to secure law enforcement retirement for game wardens, for fear of jeopardizing the funding effort. The current administration has gained the respect of law enforcement and we are finding that it is productive to work together.



#### **PATCHES AVAILABLE**

Pictured here is the 1998 NAWEOA patch. These are limited to 1,000 per year and are going fast. Start your collection now while a few of the first issue (1995) are still available. Each patch is \$5.00 (U.S. or Canadian) and can be ordered from:

**Randall Reigh**  
802 E. Erie  
Yale, OK 74085





## REGION 7 REPORT

By Lisa Truffelli

Hi ya'll! Sorry, after a week in Mississippi for the winter meeting, I seemed to have picked up some of the lingo. I'm still trying to lower my cholesterol level from all the great fried chicken we ate. I would like to truly thank Jock Smith, Bill Brace and Dave Spencer for their hospitality. One of the things I really enjoy about NAWEOA, is just when you start getting "burned out" by the job, you get together with wardens from around the continent and discuss why we do our job, and you get recharged and ready for the next "season".

Much of the Northeast has faced a pretty tough winter this year with frequent ice storms. The bitter cold brought most of the activity in the northern areas to a standstill as most people were trying to deal with widespread power outages. I can guarantee that these areas will be facing a similar baby boom in nine months, that the New York Metropolitan area faced after the big snow storm two years ago. You gotta stay warm somehow!

Don Lauver, from the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, reports that the Commission went through a transformation in 1997 with six retirements and several transfers. The retired officers are: James Beatty, Warren Beaver, Gerald Crayton, Ronald Hoffman, Donald Hyatt, and Joseph Kopena. We wish all of them success in their future endeavors. In December, Assistant Regional Supervisor Gary Deiger was promoted to assume the duties of the Northwest Regional Manager. Also, Assistant to the Director Jeff Bridi received a lateral transfer from the Harrisburg office and is now serving as the Southeast Regional Manager. WCO's are

eligible to apply for the resulting vacancies and promotion positions. This is good news for everyone. A new regulation was recently passed by the Commissioners mandating educational requirements prior to the operation of personal watercraft. This was in response to the high number of accidents per number of registered watercraft and the increasing number of complaints from other boaters and the public. Effective January 1, 2000, no person may operate a PWC on waters of the Commonwealth unless they have obtained a Boating Safety Certificate by attending a recognized course. Also, legislation recently passed upgrading their Boating Under the Influence statute bringing it in-line with updated Driving Under the Influence laws. BUI has gone from a M3 to a M2 offense and those under 21 are culpable at .02%. Training continues to be a high priority for all full-time Waterways Conservation Officers and deputies. Equipment upgrades are occurring as funding is available. Over half of the WCO's are now supplied with personal computers to handle the ever increasing office and paperwork duties.

John Gingerella, from Rhode Island, reports that their Conservation Officers are now called Environmental Police Officers to more closely reflect their wide range of duties. They have also separated into two units, an inland and marine unit. It looks as though they will get a pay raise with the change in title and that it may be retroactive.

Ohio is very busy with the upcoming conference plans. Jim Abrams and Mike Taylor met with the Executive Board in Mississippi to inform us of the preparations. They have some new ideas to make this conference just a little bit different than the others. They are really hoping for a big turnout this year in Sandusky. The Ohio wardens are concerned about the possibility of losing dove hunting in the state. They are trying to persuade the public to allow trained wildlife managers to continue practicing wildlife management. The Wildlife Legislative Fund of America is supporting their efforts.

Maine experienced the brunt of the winter ice storm and is now beginning to tally up the long term costs. The lumber industry in Maine will be feeling the effects of this storm for a long time to come since the hardwoods were devastated by the ice. Most of the snowmobile trails in the state were

plugged by fallen trees and they are now facing a tourism problem. Unfortunately, they are still experiencing accidents and fatalities which are keeping game wardens busy. They are receiving quite a few grants for snowmobile enforcement which means more overtime money. Maine is looking to hire 8 to 12 new officers this June. They are also planning on holding a Field Day sometime in July.

Pete Mallette, of Michigan, reports that their officers are also being kept busy with snowmobile enforcement this winter. So far, they have had 18 snowmobile related fatalities this winter. However, they are finding that most of the fatalities are occurring on the roadways and not on the trails which shows that the Conservation Officer's efforts on trail enforcement are paying off. Michigan hired 13 new officers in 1997 and is planning on bringing 10 more on in June 1998.

Robert Lewis, from Vermont, reports that efforts are underway there to equip their officers with body armor. The Department finally saw a need for them in August when a New Hampshire resident went on a shooting spree, that crossed into Vermont, and ultimately caused four deaths and many injuries. They are hoping to send four officers to the Ohio conference this summer.

Region 7 is proud to announce our newest jurisdiction, New Hampshire, as well as their representative, Rich Marcou. They will be bringing aboard approximately 20 new members to the association. The New Hampshire CO's as well as all law enforcement officers in New Hampshire, had a rough time this fall. On August 19, an individual bent on causing death and destruction, shot and killed two New Hampshire State Troopers during a motor vehicle stop, stole one of the cruisers and drove into the town of Colebrook where he shot and killed a judge and a newspaper editor. He then drove over into Vermont where he shot NH Conservation Officer Wayne Saunders who had been in pursuit. Wayne was hit with a 223 round

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fired from an AR-15 rifle into his badge which deflected the round into his left shoulder. Wayne has been recovering at home since the incident and is looking forward to getting back to work. Ultimately, two other Vermont law enforcement officers were shot and injured before the suspect was shot and killed. New Hampshire Officers were recently issued body armor. They were able to fill three new positions this fall, bringing their enforcement force to 47.

Les Wilson, from New York, reports that the Division of Law Enforcement promotion package was approved which will offer many advancement opportunities for their officers. They will also be able to fill several vacant positions as well as create new positions. New York is also looking to improve its communication equipment. Radio equipment is being planned that would link all law enforcement in the state and include coded security for all transmissions. This radio system would have data channels that would be hooked to the new car laptop computers that the officers are receiving this year, to allow written information and data to be sent to and from the patrol vehicle. 1998 will

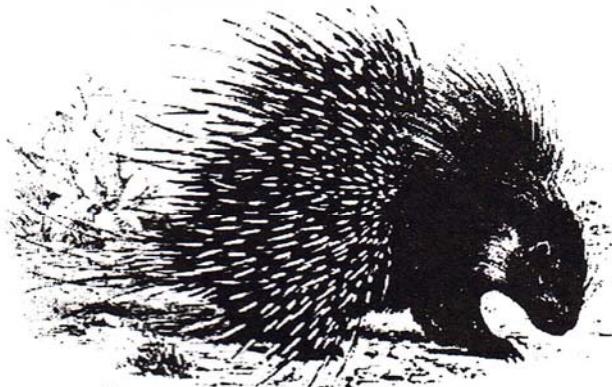
also mark the first time that every marked vehicle ordered will be a 4X4. New York will hold a multi-state training program in crisis intervention counseling. This training was requested as a result of sending several officers to New Hampshire last fall to help their officers deal with the shooting. A new fitness evaluation program is being developed by their DT/PT instructors which will test members' fitness against national standards. The program will be voluntary. They hope to someday offer monetary awards. New York also hopes to bring on 27 new ECO recruits with budget approval.

New Jersey was finally able to increase its work force, by one. Any increase, albeit small, is welcome. The officer hired had been a deputy conservation officer for five years, therefore, we had a trained officer ready for the fall hunting season. We were hopeful of more hirings until our license increase failed to pass. A bill legalizing baiting for deer, one that we were not happy about, however, did pass. A number of our CO's were trained and provided with collapsible straight batons. One advantage to these batons over the collapsible PR24 is that they can be carried

on our belt all the time. Conservation Officers in New Jersey faced a busy hunting season this year. One increasing problem we're dealing with is more development and an increase in the number of houses being hit by hunters.

Our Special Investigations Unit concluded its first investigation recently. New Jersey's SIU was created in July 1995. The first year was reserved for the recruitment, selection, equipping and training of the group, with July 1996 the operational start. The investigation took 19 months. The service of two search warrants in early February 1998 yielded parts of at least 8 illegally killed deer. Initially, 174 charges were filed as a result of the investigation, which included 61 different contacts with the subjects of the investigation. Twenty-seven individuals were charged with violations ranging from shooting from a vehicle, possession of a loaded firearm in a vehicle, hunting deer and turkey out of season, and killing a marsh hawk. The subjects were from New Jersey, New York, and Montana. As a result of the search warrants and subsequent interviews, additional charges will be filed.

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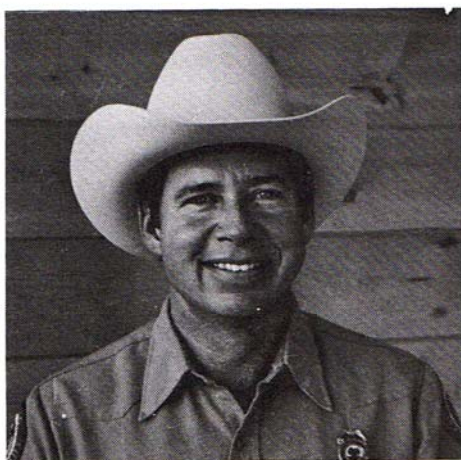
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Fax (505) 277-5483



## VICE-PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS By Randy Hancock



Once more spring is upon us, and we are all about to get very busy. I certainly hope that many of you will be able to avail yourselves of the hospitality of the Ohio officers for this summer's NAWEOA conference. They have an excellent program set up, and the location is going to be beautiful. Those of you who have never attended a NAWEOA conference before don't know what you are missing. Not only is the relaxation time away from the job nice, but at the same time you will be attending training sessions that will benefit your job. Probably the best part, though, is meeting officers from other jurisdictions. It truly is amazing that no matter where you work across this continent, many of the problems we face are the same.

By meeting with these other officers and sharing your ideas with them, and listening to their ideas, you gain invaluable knowledge and quite often make a lifelong friend in the process. The more conferences you attend, the more acquaintances you have, and before you know it, you have contacts all across North America! Start working on your supervisors now for travel money to

attend a conference. It is excellent training! You should be able to sell them on sending you for that reason alone. We have excellent speakers at the conference, and they are keyed in on wildlife law enforcement!

I want to switch gears now, and talk to you all about another subject: Awards! NAWEOA gives out numerous awards at our summer meeting. In the past, the biggest problem was trying to get nominations. Please take the time to look through this newsletter and find the categories and criteria for these awards. Then, think about your fellow officers, and see if someone you know doesn't fit the criteria, and deserve an award. This is a nice way to tell a fellow officer "Keep up the good work!" Too often our hard work and good results go unnoticed by our departments, fellow officers, and the public. Here is a good way to recognize someone for something they have done, and get some publicity both internally and externally. It only takes a minute, so sit down now and submit someone you know for an award.

There are many awards offered. The newest one is the Torch Award. This is to recognize a new officer (less than five years experience) for being a "go getter". Do you know an enthusiastic, hard working young officer? Put him in for the "Torch". We also offer Officer of the Year award, Award of Appreciation, Award of Valour, Lifesaving Award, a Certificate of Award (catchall), as well as a certificate of retirement. Do you know an officer who is retiring? Submit his name! Someone who acted with valour in the line of duty? Someone involved in a lifesaving incident? We need to hear from you on these awards. Get busy, and submit a couple so we can recognize them at this

summer's conference.

As an executive board, we do our best to represent you folks out there. Just remember, we are not mind readers, nor can we predict the future. We need your help all the time! Please keep us informed of things going on in your neck of the woods. If you have an officer pass away, no matter what the cause, please contact your regional representative. If you have anything exciting happen in your area, let us know. If you have problems that we can help you with, don't hesitate to ask. Generally, we do not get into pay or personnel issues, but we do work to help improve the professionalism and the working conditions of our members. We can't offer money (drat!) but we can write to people stating that NAWEOA believes in a certain issue. Perhaps having a national organization of wildlife officers contacting your department or your government personnel on an issue would carry some weight and help out your cause. Think about it, and if you have a project we can help on, let us know.

NAWEOA is also sponsoring regional training sessions. I don't know where these projects stand within each region, but hopefully there will be some information on at least part of these in this newsletter. If you need a specialized kind of training, or if you have attended an outstanding training session that would be beneficial to a group of wildlife officers, let your regional representative know. Perhaps NAWEOA can sponsor training near your area.

I think that is all for now from the Vice-President side of things. Help us be a more effective board by keeping us informed. Stay safe and work hard!

### NOMINATIONS OPEN

\*\*\*\*\*

Elections for all Canadian Directors will be held at the 1998 annual conference in Ohio. Nominations are now being accepted and you are encouraged to submit your nominations early. The Nominating Committee will not be soliciting individuals for these positions. It is the belief of the committee that any person interested in serving on the NAWEOA Executive Board will have enough interest to insure that their name is submitted in a timely fashion. Send nominations in writing to:

Art Redden, 3 Parker Place Crescent, Enfield, Nova Scotia B2T 1C8





# NAWEOA MEMORIAL FUND

A few years ago NAWEOA started the Fallen Officer Memorial Fund. This program is open to any officer association, individual or business who would like to donate \$50 each time an officer dies in the line of duty. The goal was to have fifty members so that a cheque for \$2,500 could be sent to the survivors of the fallen officers as soon as possible after notification to the Executive Board of NAWEOA.

However, when Secretary-Treasurer Merryl Bustin lost his home to a fire in 1996, the records listing those associations, individuals or businesses which were participating were also lost in the fire. If you or your association were one of the previous participants, we want to hear from you. Please reconfirm your commitment of participation by notifying Merryl Bustin as soon as possible.

If you were not participating, NAWEOA would welcome you to join. If more than fifty associations, individual or businesses join, the survivor family will receive a greater donation. Along with the cheque, the family will receive a letter of condolence that lists each sponsor.

Upon the fund being paid out, each sponsor will receive a letter from NAWEOA advising of the circumstances and will be requested to send in another \$50 to replenish the fund. If you are a new member, please complete the form below and send a cheque for \$50 made payable to NAWEOA Memorial Fund.

The Memorial Fund is one of the most important functions that NAWEOA performs and administers. We need to hear from old sponsors and new ones alike. Drop a line to Merryl today! (*Kerry Wrishko*)

NAME OF SPONSOR \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT PERSON - NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

Please send this form and check for \$50 U.S. made out to NAWEOA MEMORIAL FUND to:  
**Merryl Bustin, RR#2, Whycocomagh, Nova Scotia B0E 3M0**

## Bear Poacher Snared in Washington

Evidence that a poacher intended to sell bear parts was sufficient to convict him under the Lacey Act, *United States v. Senchenko*, No. 96-30241, U.S. Ct. App. (9th Cir., Jan. 8, 1998). The U.S. court of Appeals affirmed the district court ruling that Mr. Senchenko "knowingly engaged in conduct involving an intent to sell wildlife with a market value in excess of \$350...by knowing it was taken in violation of United States law or regulation." Lacey Act, 28 USC Section 1291. He was convicted under a federal regulation prohibiting hunting or trapping in a national forest in violation of state law. 36 CFR, Section 261.

From 1993 to 1995, federal wildlife agents located seven illegal bear snares in Colville National Forest, Washington. Agents also found a bear carcass near one snare with the front claws, skull and gall bladder missing. Under a search warrant of Senchenko's vehicle and house, agents found rancid bear meat, bear pelts, teeth and claws, three dried gall bladders, four snares and snare equipment.

The court rejected the defendant's argument that he snared the bears only for domestic use. The four snares and three gall bladders "exceeded his family's personal needs." Senchenko also argued unsuccessfully that the evidence was not sufficient to show that he "engaged in conduct involving an intent to sell wildlife." The bear parts found near a trap, in his vehicle and in his house led the jury to infer that he had transported the bear parts from the snares to his house. Other conduct included setting up the snares and harvesting the bears. *Reprinted from Wildlife Law News Quarterly*





**To our Friends and Fellow Officers of North America,**

**It is with great pride that I take this opportunity to invite you to Ohio for the 1998 North American Wildlife Enforcement Officers Association Conference. It will be held from June 19 through the 23 just east of Sandusky, Ohio along the historical shores of Lake Erie. This convention will coincide with the Ohio Division of Wildlife's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The event is being hosted by the Ohio Game Protectors Association, Ohio Wildlife Officers Lodge, and the Division. The host hotel "The Lodge" is working closely with us to make sure that your experience at the facilities is a good one.**

**During your stay in the Buckeye State, we hope that you take the time to enjoy some of the area's fine features. We plan to extend an invitation to the Bass Islands to experience the taste of the summer festivities associated with this area. From the Islands many wineries, unique gift shops, historic Perry's Monument, to the night clubs, the laid-back life of the area draws thousands to their shores. Cedar Point Amusement Park is just down the road and begs you to bring your family for a visit. For the sportsman, fishing charters will be available. If you would prefer to bring your own boat along, ramps are available nearby to get you on the water. We expect a great small-mouth and walleye year! For the romantic in us, there will be an evening dinner cruise for you to enjoy, complete with a dinner and live music. Sound like a lot to cram into so few days? Well, we don't want you to get bored!**

**The conference itself will be held at the guest hotel. We hope to provide the same type of quality speakers and presentations that all of our predecessors have done such a fine job offering. The Warden Games will be held at Camp Perry, home of the National Rifle and Pistol Championships. Dinner, live music, and beach will be available for your enjoyment.**

**Well, there it is, a formal invitation to you and your family. I may not know your name right now, but I do know something about your job, your sacrifices, and your dedication. That is what this conference is about. Hope to see you in the "Buckeye State in 98".**

**Sincerely,**

**Jim Abrams, President OGPA, Conference Co-chair  
Mike Taylor, Conference Co-chair**



# NORTH AMERICAN WILDLIFE ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

## ANNUAL CONFERENCE - SANDUSKY, OHIO

JUNE 19 - 23, 1998

♦♦♦♦♦ DO NOT MAIL THIS FORM AFTER JUNE 1, 1998: DO NOT FAX AFTER JUNE 15, 1998: ON SITE REGISTRATION ONLY AFTER THOSE DATES ♦♦♦♦♦

**Register by Mail:** Barb Niese, Law Enforcement  
Ohio Division of Wildlife  
952-A Lima Avenue  
Findlay, OH 45840  
Attn: NAWEOA Conference

**Register by Fax:** Fax registration can be sent to: (419) 422-4875

**Register by Phone:** Phone registrations will be taken at: (419) 424-5000 - Barb Niese  
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. est. weekdays. Have credit card information ready.

Please make checks payable in US funds to: NAWEOA Conference

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_\_\_ MasterCard \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ \_ | \_\_\_\_ \_ | \_\_\_\_ \_ | \_\_\_\_ \_

Name as it appears on card: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## Lodging

**Conference Host:** *The Lodge*  
at Sawmill Creek Resort  
609 Mariner Village, Huron, Oh 44839.  
Phone: 1-800-729-6455 FAX: 419-433-4049

**Features:** On-site 18 Hole Golf Course, Docking Facilities (inquire at time of registration), Beach, Indoor and Outdoor Swimming Pools, Tennis Courts, Night Club, Two Restaurants. **Rates:** Daily rate includes breakfast and appropriate taxes. \$135.40 single occupancy, \$70.60 per person double occupancy, \$59.35 per person triple occupancy. Children 18 and under, no additional charge when occupying same room as parents. Rollaways: \$15 per night, port-a-cribs \$10 per night.

**Other Facilities:** Comfort Inn  
5909 Milan Road, Sandusky, Oh 44870  
Phone: 419-621-0200 FAX: 419-621-0060  
Rates: Variable to season and availability.

**Sandusky-Huron Comfort Inn #OH405**  
5909 Milan Road, Sandusky Oh 44839  
Phone/FAX: 419-433-5359  
Rates: Variable to season and availability.

**Camping/Cottage Facilities:** Bayshore Estates 2311 Cleveland Rd., Sandusky, Oh 44870 419-625-7906  
Offering: Camp Sites. 15 minutes from Conference Site.  
**Smith's Cottage House** 5501 Cleveland Rd. West, Huron, Oh 419-627-8552  
Offering 7 Camp sites, 10 Camping cabins, & Bed & Breakfast.  
1 mile from conference site.  
**Camp Perry Clubhouse & Cottages**, Contact Deborah Wilson 419-635-4114  
23 Reserved Rooms. Site of Warden Games.  
30 minutes from Conference Site.





## NORTH AMERICAN WILDLIFE ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL CONFERENCE - SANDUSKY, OHIO

JUNE 19 - 23, 1998

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### REGISTRATION FORM

#### DELEGATE - SPOUSE/GUEST

DELEGATES NAME:		SPOUSE/GUEST NAME:	
MAILING ADDRESS:		PHONE:	
CITY:	STATE/PROVINCE:	ZIP CODE:	

#### CHILDREN:

NAME:	AGE:	SEX:	NAME:	AGE:	SEX:	NAME:	AGE:	SEX:
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#### DELEGATE INFORMATION

AGENCY NAME:	YEARS OF SERVICE:
WORKING TITLE:	RETIRED? YES NO

#### CONFERENCE REGISTRATION/FEEES

(ALL FEES MUST ACCOMPANY THIS FORM. PLEASE REMIT IN U.S. FUNDS ONLY - SEE REVERSE)

RESERVATIONS	CONFERENCE FEES		QUANTITY	SUB-TOTAL
REGISTRATION TYPE	THROUGH MAY 1, 1998	AFTER MAY 1, 1998	NUMBER OF PERSONS	NO. OF PERSONS TIMES \$ AMOUNT
FULL REGISTRATION (INCLUDES DAY EVENTS AND BANQUET ONLY NAWEOA MEMBER AND DOES NOT INCLUDE SPECIAL ACTIVITIES)	\$95.00	\$125.00		
NON-NAWEOA MEMBER (INCLUDES ASSOC. MEMBERSHIP IN NAWEOA)	\$130.00	\$150.00		
SPOUSE/GUEST	\$55.00	\$75.00		
CHILDREN ACTIVITIES - DOES NOT INCLUDE BANQUET	\$20.00	\$25.00		
DAY PASSES UNIFORM DAY	\$25.00	\$35.00		
WARDEN SKILLS DAY (SUNDAY)	\$35.00	\$45.00		
PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS DAY	\$30.00	\$30.00		
MONDAY EVENING BANQUET	\$35.00	\$40.00		
LAKE ERIE SOCIAL	\$15.00	\$15.00		
SPECIAL ACTIVITIES FISHING CHARTER - FRIDAY	\$50.00	\$60.00		
GOLF - 18 HOLES (DOES NOT INCLUDE CART)	\$45.00	\$45.00		
JET EXPRESS TO ISLANDS (CHILDREN: 5-12: \$2)	\$15	\$15		
EMERALD EMPRESS EVENING DINNER CRUISE (FRIDAY EVENING) CRUISE ONLY WITHOUT DINNER: \$15	\$40	\$40		
CEDAR POINT AMUSEMENT PARK (SATURDAY)	\$25.00	\$25.00		
GRAND TOTAL				



# NAWEM NEWS

By Del Tibke

\* The North Dakota Game Warden Association has raised about \$80,000 to date from four moose raffles. **They are to be congratulated of a job well done!** However, they cannot and will not be expected to carry the full load. While thirteen jurisdictions have come on board so far with a commitment of \$58,000. What happened to the rest of the association or individual member commitments in NAWEOA land to the museum building or operations fund? NAWEOA, by a vote of its members at the Colorado conference has committed \$100,000 over a ten-year period. Which brings total committed funds to the building fund of \$248,000.

\* A professional fund-raising company package is being reviewed and a decision will be made to hire them in a few months.

\* Museum promotional video is available to all jurisdictions by contacting the museum office at PO Box 28, Valley City, ND 58072-0028 or call (701) 845-3780. Also you can e-mail me at dtibke@fm-net.com for information.

\* NAWEM cookbook project continues with the help of Jan and Ken Maw of Ontario. They still need more recipes. The plan is to have the cookbooks done by the year 2000. I'm sure there are many more recipes out there that can be used in this book.

\* By the time you read this newsletter, many of you will have received a letter in the mail from the President of the museum board about the museum project. All NAWEOA members will be contacted.

\* Finally, we need help from every member of NAWEOA to raise funds for the museum by purchasing patron memberships or finding other individuals or foundations that would make donations. We need a building to show what our profession is all about, for future generations, and a place to honor our fallen officers.

## PATRON MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

### Individual Memberships

- ( ) \$25 Single
- ( ) \$750 Life (Payable at \$75 per year for 10 years. You must indicate you want to become a member this way)

### Organization Memberships

- ( ) \$100 per organization\*
- ( ) \$3,000 Life# (Payable at \$1,000 per year for 3 years)

### Corporate and Individual Sustaining Categories

- ( ) \$1,000 Bronze#
- ( ) \$5,000 Silver#
- ( ) \$10,000 Gold#
- ( ) \$100,000 Platinum#

### Patron Benefits

- NAWEM Membership
- NAWEM Patch (new members only)
- NAWEM Newsletter

*Membership levels marked by an \* receive an additional benefit of a certificate. Individual Life Members have a choice of a certificate, plaque or jacket. Memberships marked by a # receive a plaque*

- ( ) Please apply my donation to the good works of NAWEM. I would rather not receive the additional benefit.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE or PROVINCE \_\_\_\_\_ CODE \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to NAWEM and send to the address listed for your country of residence. All donations are tax deductible.

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Canada #0999441-50  
NAWEM (Canada) Inc.  
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Boissevain, MB  
R0K 0E0

501-(c)(3) Organization  
U.S.A. #45-0436114  
NAWEM (USA) Inc.  
P.O. Box 28  
Valley City, ND  
58072-0028





*These officers, from throughout the Northeast, attended the NAWEOA sponsored Boating Safety Workshop which was hosted by Region 3 in Fredericton, New Brunswick this past spring.*

**"WORKING FOR WILDLIFE"**

Mike Gabbard - Editor  
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