

"The Voice of Resource Law Enforcement"

# 2003 NAWEOA CONFERENCE July 21 - 26 ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND





Hosted by the Newfoundland and Labrador Conservation Officers Association and the



Provincial Department of Forest Resources and Agrifoods

SPRING 2003
39th Edition Newsletter

NAWE	OA AWARD A	APPLICATION	
Name of Person to Receive Award:			
	(Surname)	(First Na	me)
Address:(Street)	(City)	(State/Province)	(Code)
Jurisdiction:			
Title:			
Award Category (check): Award of Appreciation Award of Valor Lifesaving Award		Certificate of Award Certificate of Retirement Officer of the Year	
Torch Award			
Criteria:			
(Please attack I need this certificate by (date): Award to be presented at NAWEOA Annual Conf Please mail to the Secretary/Treasurer allowing ple Make additional copies as needed:		Phone:	
	NAWEOA POB 22 Hollidaysburg, PA 1		
ASSOCIA	TE MEMBERSH	IP APPLICATION	
The North American Wildlife Enforcement Off fish and/or wildlife officers, but who are support associate member.	ficers Association now ortive of all fish and wi	offers the opportunity for those Idlife enforcement, to become p	persons who are not field art of NAWEOA as an
INDIVIDUAL ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP - Ir convention as a non-voting member.	ncludes a patch, bi-an	nual newsletter and the opportu	nity to attend the annual
AFFILIATED ORGANIZATION ASSOCIATE it colleges, etc.) - Includes membership certification annual convention.	MEMBERSHIP - (Suc ate, bi-annual newslett	h as sportsman clubs, gun clubs ter and eligibility to send one no	s, conservation groups, n-voting delegate to the
If you desire to be a supporter of this 8,000 m and mail, along with check or money order, to		rganization of wildlife officers, pl	ease complete this form
,,	NAWEOA		
	POB 22 Hollidaysburg, PA 1	6648 USA	
Individual Membership (\$20 per year) Affiliated Organization Membership (\$			
NAME:		tar Hall	
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# **NAWEOA AWARDS CRITERIA**

#### NAWEOA Officer of the Year

Nominees must be a member of NAWEOA and a full time field officer up to and including first line supervisors. Nominations should show the officer has character beyond reproach; is competent, knowledgeable and capable; promotes wildlife law enforcement; and demonstrates professionalism in every facet of life. Background material supporting the nomination is welcome and shall not exceed five pages. Other supportive articles, certificates, media coverage, etc. may be included with the nomination. Deadline for this nomination is May 1 each year. Awarded to one recipient each year at annual conference.

#### **NAWEOA Torch Award**

Nominees must be NAWEOA members who have not worked as a wildlife law enforcement officer for more than five years; they must have demonstrated a genuine desire to protect the resource and develop professionally; have demonstrated exceptional ability and initiative in the performance of their duties, including public education. Background material supporting the nomination is welcome and shall not exceed three pages. Deadlines for this nomination is May 1 each year. Awarded to one recipient in each of NAWEOA's seven administrative regions each year at the annual conference.

#### Certificate of Award

Anyone who is eligible for regular membership may be nominated for this award. It is given for outstanding achievement or service in the field of wildlife law enforcement.

#### Certificate of Retirement

Anyone who is eligible for regular membership may receive this award. It is given to honor years of service to the profession.

#### Certificate of Valor

Anyone who is eligible for regular membership may be nominated for this award. It is given to the officer who performs a heroic act, or who risks or receives serious injury in the line of duty in an attempt to protect himself/herself or others from a dangerous situation. It infers bravery in the face of adversity.

# Lifesaving Award

Anyone who is eligible for regular membership may be nominated for this award. It is given for any act, at any time, which saves the life of another person.

# Certificate of Appreciation

Any person who, in any way, is helpful to the Association may be nominated for this award. This includes, but is not limited to: speakers, conference or workshop hosts, fundraisers, committee or special project members, citizens or politicians.

# Honorary Lifetime Membership

Anyone who has performed an extraordinary service to the Association over a number of years may be nominated for this award. It is one of our most prestigious awards and may only be given in rare circumstances. Anyone who is eligible for regular membership in the Association, upon receiving this award, shall maintain their voting privileges within the Association.

Note: Unless noted above, all above awards, with the exception of the Certificate of Retirement, must be submitted to the NAWEOA Executive for review not later than June 30 of any year for presentation at the annual conference. Contact your Regional Director for Certificates of Retirement as needed throughout the year.



# SOUVENIR PATCHES AVAILABLE

Here is the 2002 NAWEOA patch. Only 1000 have been produced. The first patch, 1995, has SOLD OUT. 1996, 1997, 1998 and 1999 patches are available for \$5.00 US each. The 2000, 2001 and 2002 patches are \$7.00 US each. Prices include shipping and handling. Make check payable to and send order to:

> WCO George A. Wilcox **POB 480** Millville, PA 17846

# DEPUTIES AND NAWEOA

Editor's Note: A given in an organization of almost 8,000 members is that not everyone is going to agree about everything. One of the things that NAWEOA does is encourage the exchange of opinions and information among its members. Recently a Deputy from Pennsylvania expressed displeasure NAWEOA's policy on deputy membership. In response Pennsylvania Game Officer & Jurisdictional Rep Bernie Schmader posted a reply on their association website. With Bernie's permission, here is that reply.

Thank you for your note. COPA is also grateful for your continued support. However, some of your observations with respect to the North American Wildlife Enforcement Officers Association (NAWEOA) are a little off track in my estimation. First, let me say that I cannot dispute your assertions regarding the personal correspondence you had with NAWEOA. I do know that there are/were some few individuals on NAWEOA's Executive Board who do not understand Pennsylvania's deputy programs and consider deputies less than "real" fish and game wardens. You should not be put off by that fact, however -- just understand that these opinions are based upon personal experiences with the deputy system in their own state or province. In nearly all other jurisdictions that have deputy officers, the majority of them are "wannabes" or other department employees who do not function, or even wish to function, as fish and wildlife enforcement officers.

Officially, PGC deputies have always been considered committed albeit dedicated and professionalism and the resource whether on and off duty. Let me hasten to point out that this is not a bad label; to the contrary, volunteering as a deputy is a commendable, honorable way to contribute professionally on a part-time basis to the Commission, to Pennsylvania's citizens and most importantly to the Commonwealth's wildlife resources. Although, initially, deputy WCOs could only join NAWEOA as Associate Members like your mother or an inmate, that situation has changed, so that deputy wildlife and waterways conservation officers currently can join NAWEOA as "Deputy Members." COPA and the PGC pay NAWEOA dues for all fish and game deputy WCOs providing the deputies are also current members of COPA. Thus, all qualified Pennsylvania deputies are actually "Deputy Members" not "Associate Members" of NAWEOA.

Just to play the devil's advocate for a moment: Are you really an equal to a salaried WCO? Would a deputy dispute the fact that he or she is not a subordinate of the full-time employee? Deputy WCOs can't compete for vacant WCO districts or for promotions within their respective agencies -- "rank and position have their privileges" as they say -- there are gold badges and silver badges after all. Volunteers or part-timers in any endeavor rarely, if ever, enjoy the same "status" as full-time workers? Can a deputy join the Pennsylvania Conservation Officer's Protective Association? Can all law-enforcement types join the Fraternal Order of Police, run for office or vote in that organization? Paramedics or paralegals are not admitted to the AMA or the BAR Association nor would they be allowed to vote on matters that effect those professional organizations? The term "professional" has many connotations, and such professional originations set their own parameters. COPA, for example, only allows district and deputy WCOs to join as regular members. Forest rangers, park rangers, municipal park police, police officers, even U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service agents are not accepted into our "Professional Conservation Officer's Association" as regular members. These officers, like our mothers, have to join COPA as Associate Members under our current By Laws.

Although it's true that deputies do not have a vote in NAWEOA elections nor can they vote on matters that come before that body, deputies regularly attend and are welcome at NAWEOA meetings and conferences. Likewise, deputies can utilize NAWEOA services, attend NAWEOA training seminars, receive NAWEOA Newsletters, are eligible to win the annual "Game Warden Exchange Trip" and are included in NAWEOA's "Memorial Fund." NAWEOA's Memorial Fund provides the family of a conservation officer (Including any PA Deputy WCO) killed in the line of duty \$2500.00 in immediate relief at no cost to the officer -- even if the officer is not a member of NAWEOA.

You are also correct when you point out that only regular members may submit nominations for NAWEOA awards; however, if a deputy knows another deputy or district officer, who is deserving and who is a current NAWEOA member all that deputy needs to do is write up a resume and ask a regular member to submit the nomination. It may interest you to know that at least two Pennsylvania deputy wildlife conservation officers have already received NAWEOA awards at NAWEOA annual Conferences -- one was an "Award of Valor" and the other a "Lifesaving Award."

I guess we all are free to join or support, or not, any organization we choose. However, I just want you to know that your perception of the current NAWEOA organization is something other than what I have observed to be the case based upon my personal knowledge and experience. Even though NAWEOA may not a be the all embracing organization your own "deputy" point of view wants it to be; like it or not, NAWEOA is THE organization that represents ALL PROFESSIONAL wildlife enforcement officers in North America. In this capacity, NAWEOA deserves the support and participation of ALL "professional" fish and wildlife enforcement officers despite actual or perceived shortcomings. Nothing is perfect; so, from my perspective embracing and lending support to NAWEOA and to COPA not only serves to demonstrate a measure of individual "professionalism" on our part, but improves the collective image of Pennsylvania's wildlife and waterways conservation officers whether we be part-time, volunteers (deputy WCOs) or full-time employees (district WCOs).

In any event, we will have little chance to exert influence upon those things we refuse to take part in. Keep the faith!

Bernie

# THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Kerry Wrishko



Where does the time go? My two-year term as President of NAWEOA is drawing to a close. I must say, it has been a most memorable two years. While some of the memories are not so good, overall it has been a great period of time.

With respect to the negative, as of this writing, we have lost twelve officers in the line of duty since August of 2001. There has never been a worse period in our 23 year history. On the positive side, NAWEOA will honour each of these officers at our annual conferences and we will have offered their families financial assistance from our Fallen Officer Memorial Fund. This fund is maintained by NAWEOA, but the contributors come from across the continent. It has not been easy on their budgets either, but with each note of appreciation received from the families, you know it is worthwhile. A "big thank" you to all who contribute to the Fund. NAWEOA still welcomes new contributors to the fallen officer fund. Contact any member of our executive for more details.

Moving on to some of the positives that have occurred during my term as President, nothing jumps out at me more than our decision to acquire the International Game Warden Magazine. Started by Don Hastings in Illinois about 17 years ago, this magazine had been most recently been owned by Creative Street in Indianapolis. However, they were looking at removing this project from their business, and luckily for us, they considered NAWEOA as the most appropriate home for this valuable trade magazine. Since we took over publication in the fall of 2002, our new editor has made some nice, subtle changes and we are confident that it will continue to serve all its subscribers well. Check out our web site at www.nawcoa.org for more information on how to subscribe. I would be remiss it I did not acknowledge the two people most important to the success of the IGW to date, and they are editor Doug Lucyshyn and subscription manager/data base coordinator Stephanie Kutch.

This past February, your NAWEOA executive was invited to hold our annual winter meeting outside of West Palm Beach, Florida. Florida Officer John Reed arranged the details for our meeting. We met John in Columbus, Indiana at last year's conference, where he assisted in the honoring of two fallen Florida officers. John was so impressed by our conference that he indicated he wanted to do more for NAWEOA. I can tell you that John went above and beyond the call of duty for us in making the arrangements for our winter meeting. In addition, we were able to meet with the Florida Chief of Enforcement, Colonel Julie Jones. Some wonderful interaction occurred between Col. Jones and the executive board. and she was able to learn a lot more about NAWEOA and we learned much about the issues in Florida. As a result of the meeting, I am pleased to welcome all of the Officers of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission as members of NAWEOA.

It is my understanding that about four years ago, an amalgamation occurred to merge the Florida "Wildlife" and "Marine" officers. Perhaps this would be an opportune time to explain a little about how the name "NAWEOA" came to be, and discuss how it only includes the term "Wildlife" and not "Fish". At the beginning, the founding fathers of NAWEOA felt the term "Wildlife" includes all wild creatures, including fish, reptiles and amphibians. Indeed, in many jurisdictions today, that will extend to living plants and other environmental issues. For those interested, by reading our Constitution, you will see that Fisheries Officers are clearly identified as regular members of the Association. Thus, for our brethren across the continent whose primary duties surround Fisheries Enforcement, I wish to make it perfectly clear, you are indeed part of our Association! Our name (NAWEOA) is a mouthful already, let alone what could have been (NAWAFAEEOA). Use your imagination to figure that one out!

I mentioned the conference in Indiana last year: the whole last issue of the NAWEOA newsletter was dedicated to reporting on conference events. At this year's winter meeting, Conference Chairman Jay Baker and Indiana Officers Association President Tom Lahay were present to give their final report on the event. From a financial point of view, there has never been a NAWEOA conference more successful than the Indiana event. However, more than financial, the Indiana officers have really stepped up to assist future conference hosts and for that, we are extremely grateful.

But, I want to speak about our annual conference. NAWEOA has approximately 8,000 members. However, it is my estimate that only about 1,000 have ever attended a conference. These conferences are organized for the field officer. They are meant to be affordable, and by moving them around the continent, we hope to give as many people as possible the opportunity to attend. I want to

encourage all members to consider making plans to attend a conference in the near future. Don't wait for your agency or officer association to send you: it may not happen. If you have attended but not for several years, I can only tell you they have probably improved tenfold since you were there last. For those who have never attended before, there is nothing I can say that would do it justice. I think John Reed of Florida captured it best, when after attending his first conference, said of his NAWEOA brothers and sisters: "This organization is like family, and this is a group of people I want to spend more time with." By the time you read this column, it may be too late for you to attend the conference in St. John's, Newfoundland this summer. However, our web site has the dates and locations for the 2004 and 2005 conferences, so start your planning now. If you like to meet new people and hear new ideas, this is the place for you.

In conclusion, as mentioned, this will be my last column as President. I just want to thank the membership as a whole; the extremely dedicated executive board (past and present) for their hard work; and finally my family for their support during my term as President. It has been a rewarding experience, and for that, I am extremely grateful to everyone. Take care and stay safe this summer.

# NOTICE OF **PROPOSED BY-LAW AMENDMENT**

There will be a vote at the 2003 General Meeting in St. John's on several by-law amendments. They

Article #1 Membership - Dealing with how membership applications are approved

Article #3 - Dealing with term limits for the Secretary/treasurer and Vice-President

Article #6 - Dealing with custody & use of the corporate seal

If you have any questions about these proposed amendments contact Past President Randy Hancock at randy.hancock@state.co.us.



# Region 1 Report by Doug Forsdick

I would like to thank Kevin Carr for the excellent job he did representing NAWEOA as the Region 1 Director. He was good enough to meet with me last summer in Saskatchewan to pass on some tips and advice that have come in quite handy. In February I had the opportunity to attend my first NAWEOA winter meeting in Florida. I would like to thank the rest of the board for welcoming me aboard. We covered a considerable amount of new and exciting NAWEOA business in the four days. As I am sure you will read in other parts of this newsletter, John Read from Florida was an awesome host and went above and beyond the call of duty to make us feel at home. The 80 + temperatures were a welcome break from the Canadian winter.

I would like to welcome Rich Elson aboard as the new President of the Pacific Region - Department of Fisheries and Oceans. Rich reports that the union and management recently met and have put together a proposal that would see the working level officer rise one full increment. DFO is continuing to strengthen an already good working relationship with the Conservation Officer Service in British Columbia. The next year will likely be challenging for the Pacific Region as they will face continued fiscal restraint. Rich stated that Fishery Officers are excited about the upcoming 2005 NAWEOA convention in Penticton. Many Fishery Officers are involved in the various committees. Have a look at their society's new website at www.pacificfisheryofficers.org.

I would also like to welcome Kristen Dunn on as the new President for the Society of British Columbia Conservation Officers and the Jurisdictional Rep for BC. Kris is currently posted on Queen Charlotte Island. Since taking over she has done an excellent job in keeping the membership up dated on all the NAWEOA business and goings on. We also would like to wish Brent Juergenson all the best with his move to Alberta. Kris provided the following report:

Changes to the B.C. CO Service have been extensive over the past year, and it is taking some time for both Officers and the public to digest these changes. The lack of public contact

resulting from offices being locked has built a wall between officers and public informants that needs to be addressed, and the Provincial Call Centre has opened up an efficient, 24 hour system that has dramatically decreased the number of "information only" calls that tend to tie up Officer's time. Somewhere between locked offices and 24 hour call centres, there is a workable medium.

Cutbacks this year saw us lose about 20 positions and several offices throughout the Province, and although most positions were taken through retirement and empty posts, these are positions we are not likely to see returned to us in the near future. An early retirement package was offered and several of our long term officers have decided to take the option. The vast amount of knowledge that these guys are leaving with is a great loss us all.

Our organizational structure has also changed and in December, our Chief, Mark Hayden, became the Director of Enforcement. Mark is, with support from Bill Bresser, Manager of Headquarters Operations/Acting Chief, currently wearing both the Chief and the Director hats. A Manager, Conservation Officer Service is responsible for each of the three newly consolidated Regions. With approximately 40 Officers in each region, regional meetings and shoots are a hoot.

The first Provincial meeting for Conservation Officers in about 40 years was held in Kamloops in December, and was well attended. The swapping of stories, information and ideas was a much needed boost for morale, and headquarters was provided with the Conservation Officer's own vision of the future CO Service. The COS has developed a physical fitness standard test called the PATCO (Physical Abilities Test for Conservation Officers) that is mandatory for all incoming recruits. In the spirit of health and fitness, regions are running all existing CO's through the test as well, for informational purposes only. It turns out that CO's are a darn tough lot. The Society of BCCO's website is: http://www.bcconservationofficer.org/

Rick Hoar, Chairman for the 2005 conference in Penticton BC reports that the committees for the 2005 Conference are working full speed ahead and making excellent progress in the planning for the 2005 conference in Penticton. see <a href="http://www.naweoa2005.com/">http://www.naweoa2005.com/</a> for more information.

Brian Lacey from the Yukon states that they currently have a Mongolian Officer that is working on an officer exchange program with a Yukon Officer. There will be more information in the next newsletter.

Brian Petrar the Jurisdictional Rep. for the Canadian Wildlife Service was good enough to make his report prior to leaving for some sunny location to sit on the beach. Brian reports some staffing changes that include new Wildlife Inspectors Marko Goluza and Brenda Buchart and Wildlife Investigator Todd Boychuk.

Brian reports that a number of multiagency, cross-border meetings have led to improved communications, better field level contacts and a number of "bad guys" active on both sides of the border have been identified. Plans are in the works to initiate Joint Force investigations into some of these subjects. A joint enforcement blitz at a major commercial border crossing has been initiated.

Jason Hanson from Alberta has been working hard on the Alberta Game Warden Associations 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. One of the events was a 30th Anniversary Conference and Educational Workshop at which our president Kerry Wrishko was a keynote speaker.

The following information was taken from the **Saskatchewan** Association of Conservation Officers' website at: <a href="http://www.wwwdi.com">http://www.wwwdi.com</a>:

On June 26, 2000 Elmer Rasmussen from Marshall, Sask. received the largest penalty ever handed out for poisoning wildlife by a Saskatchewan court. Provincial court Judge Young heard that Mr. Rasmussen's activities initially came to the attention of a conservation officer at Smeaton after a call to the Turn in Poachers Line in April of 2000. The officer investigating the call found a total of at least 28 poisoned animals and birds on and near Rasmussens' land near Smeaton. The kill included wolves, covotes, foxes, ravens, one eagle, a snowy owl and numerous other birds and mammals. The investigating officer in Smeaton contacted conservation officers in Lloydminster as Mr. Rasmussen had previously resided there and had only recently acquired land in the Smeaton area.

After hearing the details of the Smeaton investigation, the Lloyminster officers indicated that they also had a similar situation. The Lloydminster officers indicated that their investigation was initiated in May of 2000 when a concerned individual found a dead eagle and brought it into their office. Suspicions were that the eagle had been poisoned. Lloydminster conservation officers attended the area where the eagle had been found and recovered an additional 15 coyotes, seven magpies, three ravens, three hawks, one fox and one cat.

Mr. Rasmussen was subsequently contacted and explained to the investigating officer that he had placed poison baits out in the Smeaton area to poison wolves, although he did not have any cattle in the area. He also indicated that he had placed several poison baits out in the Marshall area because he had experienced minor problems with coyotes. In both instances he had neglected to contact conservation officers in either Smeaton or Lloyminster with regard to any concerns about coyotes or wolves.

The poison used by Rasmussen was furidan, an agricultural insecticide that in recent years has been responsible for the poisoning of dozens of eagles and other non-targeted species in Saskatchewan. Furidan is a highly toxic chemical that kills any birds or mammals that ingest even minute amounts of it. Mr. Rasmussen was fined a total of \$6000.00 in provincial court. Several other individuals have recently been convicted of poisoning wildlife in Saskatchewan. Two individuals from the Spring Lake Hutterite Colony were convicted in May

of poisoning wildlife with furidan. In this case, five coyotes and four magpies were found. These individuals were fined \$2000.00. Another individual from the Box Elder Hutterite Colony was charged for an incident in which he placed chicken eggs laced with liquid furidan and other poisons near a beehive in an attempt to eliminate skunks. His efforts netted him at least two skunks and a \$680.00 fine. Conservation officers throughout the province have numerous ongoing investigations regarding the use of poison to kill wildlife. These types of violations are hard to detect and it is even more difficult to convict the violators.



# **Behind the Scenes**

by Randy Hancock and Mike Maillet

These articles are designed to acquaint the reader with people who assist NAWEOA but who are not on the Executive. This installment highlights **Richard Kingston** and **Bill Peters**.

These two gentlemen work endless hours during each conference. They man the NAWEOA booth, where they sell NAWEOA items, run the election, answer hundreds of questions, and make sure that everyone has a good time. Richard is in charge of handling NAWEOA's extensive inventory of promotional material. He orders nearly everything that NAWEOA sells in the booth, and has to track each sale as well as keep track of the entire inventory. In NAWEOA's earlier days, many of these inventory items were often misplaced. Sometimes they would show up years later, sometimes not at all. Richard volunteered many years ago to run the NAWEOA inventory, and has done an excellent job.

Bill Peters came along and began helping Richard, part time at first, but now he can be found in the booth nearly all the time. Bill volunteers his time, just as Richard does. Since Bill has become a fixture in the booth, it has alleviated much of the pressure that used to be on Richard's shoulders. It is much easier for two people to man the booth than one. They get occasional assistance from other volunteers, but for the most part, they run the show. Elections are a major activity at the booth, and Bill takes a particular pride in making sure that portion of the conference runs smoothly. In addition, Bill has become NAWEOA's "unofficial" official photographer. Bill is also an accomplished artist whose painting have graced the covers of more than one conference program, and that talent obviously bleeds over into his photography work. Most of the photos you see on NAWEOA's official photo CD come from Bill. Bill is from California, and served as Regional Director, Vice President, President and Past President from 1987 through 1993. He and wife Cathy are familiar faces at the annual conference.

Richard Kingston, who is better known in his home province as Mr. NAWEOA, is one of the dedicated members of this organization that has make it what it is today. He resides in Whitney, New Brunswick with his wife Susan and son Peter (the young Lad). He has been a Forest Ranger for the last 24 years. His involvement with NAWEOA started when he attended the conference in Virginia (1989). Since then Richard has attended all but one conference (he had broken his leg). Over the years he has served two terms as Region 3 Director and several years as NB Jurisdictional Rep. He also took control of the NAWEOA promotional items which he and others sells from the NAWEOA booth at conferences and from his home the remainder of the year.

Both Richard and Bill have continued to be dedicated to NAWEOA, not only as active members, but also through their hard work in the NAWEOA booth. We could not operate without these two gentlemen. Give them a big thank you next time you see them hawking their wares behind the counter.

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Region 2 Report by Gerry Brunet

On behalf of the Region 2 membership, I hope this report finds each of you enjoying life, family, and work. The weather in Ontario this winter has been excellent for 'winter lovers' with good snow accumulations and plenty of cold weather. Watercourses around the province have heavy ice accumulations that could lead to significant spring run-offs. Bruce Ward advised that Georgian Bay nearly froze over this winter, only the second time in almost 50 years.

Unfortunately, the trend continues, and we have lost more officers this year in the line of duty. Each will be honoured during the opening ceremonies at the Newfoundland conference, but until then please remember each one and the supreme sacrifice they have made while protecting our natural resources. Bruce Ward reports below on CO Ceolin, taken from the OMNR ranks in January. I attended the funeral for CO Ceolin and I was most impressed with the honour guard that paid tribute to him. The OMNR did a tremendous job of honouring and saying goodbye to Walter.

I just returned from the NAWEOA winter executive meeting in West Palm Beach, Fl. from February 19-24. Your executive is working extremely hard for you, the membership. Lieutenant John Reed and all assisting officers from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission outdid themselves. Their hospitality was exhilarating! Thanks for everything you did to make our stay so enjoyable and memorable.

Earl Simmons, Manitoba DNR, advises the Manitoba Natural Resource Officer Association, 2004 NAWEOA Conference committee, co-chaired by Al Meyers and Dennis Hlady, is putting together an excellent event for Winnipeg, Manitoba for the summer of 2004. The hotel (Fairmont Winnipeg) and a great number of venues have been chosen. Officers, their spouses, families and friends should start to plan to attend this convention. Check out their website at <a href="https://www.MNROA.com">www.MNROA.com</a> for details. The MNROA annual convention will be at the end of March in Winnipeg and

will prove to be an excellent time.

In October 2002 a new Minister of Conservation was appointed. Minister Steve Ashton, was quick to respond to the association and met with us in early November. While no promises were made at this meeting, he promised to review our concerns of poor remuneration and benefits. This was quite refreshing. On the bargaining front, because of the lack of support from the Government on wages and benefits, the association executive became involved in the union negotiation process. For most officers this proved to be a foreign and uncomfortable method of bargaining. However, because of the dire situation they found themselves in they decided to get heavily involved in the union bargaining process. MNROA members came out in droves to local area meetings to elect an officer representative. Then, the officer representatives would choose one person from their particular component to sit on the bargaining table. Unfortunately, they were one vote short of controlling the process, although they sent a clear message to

On a sad note Manitoba lost two retired officers at the end of January. Jack McKay, who was fifty-nine years old when he passed away, was a Chief Natural Resource Officer when he retired at the end of the 1990's with thirty-five years of service with the department. As well, eighty-one year old Denny Allen, a retired officer living at Norway House, passed away. Denny worked for the department for over 25 years and after retirement continued to do fire detection patrols. On one occasion while on a patrol in a twin-engine aircraft Denny called in a 'smoke' to the fire centre. When the radio operator asked Denny where the fire was he said "in the right engine". Apparently the plane landed safely even with engine fire. We as officers have the opportunity to work with and meet many colourful people over the years. It is always sad when they pass on, but the stories about them live on for years.

Julie Horvath, National Capital Commission (NCC), reports that in January 2003, all NCC employees received a salary increase of 2.5%. The CO's are also pleased with the 4 new Dodge Dakotas that will be added to their fleet along with a new zodiac. They are also hoping for new uniforms in the near future. NCC Conservation Officers are practicing self-defence techniques while earning their belts in tae kwondo. As for the NCC's Large Mammal Relocation Agreement with the city of Ottawa, they have successfully relocated 7 deer and 3 moose out of the Ottawa area.

Bruce Ward, Ontario MNR, states that sadly Ontario lost a career CO and three other colleagues in a tragic helicopter crash on January 21/03. CO Walter Ceolin, chief pilot Michael Maguire, and resource technicians Chantelle Walkey and Bruce Stubbs, died when the MNR helicopter they were conducting aerial moose surveys in crashed north of Sault Ste. Marie. The last time an Ontario CO died in the

line of duty was in October 1987 (CO Henry Kujala, also in a helicopter crash). One hundred and eighty eight OMNR CO's attended Walter's funeral on January 27, alongside fellow resource protectors from BC, Quebec, Michigan, Canadian Wildlife Service, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Parks Ontario, National Park Service, numerous other enforcement agencies, friends, family and coworkers.

Walter was 52 years old, and is survived by his son Matt and longtime friend and companion Donna. He had passed his first retirement window last year, and stayed on in the capacity of district intelligence officer working on special projects. He wasn't scheduled to work on the day of the crash, but had come by the office on his day off, and as was his style, stepped up when asked to round out the crew who were short one member that day. He loved his job, especially flying, and exemplified the commitment many share to this calling. While we are sorry for the loss of these precious lives and the hurt felt by the families and friends, we are thankful for their friendship and accomplishments. It is a quiet reminder to look out for each other, appreciate our loved ones and be thankful for each day

Ontario CO's are in the midst of a reclassification grievance to re-establish a job description that accurately reflects the duties we perform and skills required to perform our positions effectively. In 1990 after the last reclassification grievance was won Ontario CO's wages increased from about \$34,000 annually to about \$47,000 (almost the same as a first class constable's wage with the Ontario Provincial Police at the time). The same OPP level is now about \$65,000 per year, while the CO salary is closer to \$50,000.

As a result of a recent Grievance Settlement Board decision, for the first time in almost a decade, CO's are looking forward to being able to receive payment for their banked overtime hours at the end of the fiscal year. While the Collective Agreement had always indicated this option, managers had claimed the organization was too poor to allow this option and effectively pressured CO's to use up their banked overtime as time off, carry it over into the next year, or lose it.

The resulting number of officer years lost in time off reduced our field strength and continually eroded the provincial enforcement effort. But as operating budgets across the continent shrink or are restrained, Ontario reaped a windfall in the spring of 2002 as the majority of its Public Service was on strike for almost 10 weeks, reportedly saving almost \$6,000,000 per day in unpaid wages. Upon returning to work, officers expecting to be reimbursed for their unused compensating time were still strongarmed into taking it off before the end of June 2002 rather than being able to exercise their option of pay in lieu, despite the wages saved during the strike! The long-term effect of this recent decision awaits, since the organization is reviewing how it will find the anticipated overtime capital in the severely restrained budgets.

Richard Labossiere, Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS - Manitoba), reports that from November 01-17, 2002 he attended the CITES, COP 12 conference in Santiago, Chile. The Canadian delegation included representatives from the Minister's office, CWS staff from Ottawa, Office of Enforcement in Ottawa, provincial/territorial representatives. DFO personnel and a representative from Natural Resources Canada. Numerous resolutions were debated including the down-listing of elephant ivory in certain South African countries, the listing of Basking Shark and Whale Shark as Appendix II, and the listing of Big Leaf Mahogany on Appendix II. Officer Labossiere had an opportunity to meet representatives from various government departments as well as representatives from nongovernment organizations, and took advantage of this opportunity to discuss open investigations with key officials from various countries.

Further to Richard's report I can advise that CWS - Ontario has played an active role in an illegal bear gall trafficking investigation having links to Quebec, Ontario, the United States and Asia. On February 14, 2003, CWS Ontario Region and OMNR officers laid charges against 3 members of a family operating a clothing/jewellery business in Toronto, Ontario. The charges involve 84 offences of illegal possession, transport, and export of black bear gall bladders and black bear paws, and were laid under the Wild Animal and Plant Protection and Regulation of International and Interprovincial Trade Act (WAPRIITA) and the Ontario Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act. The charges resulted from a series of search warrants executed simultaneously in Ontario and Quebec on November 20, 2002, when hundreds of black bear gall bladders were seized. This has been a cooperative investigation involving CWS, the OMNR and La Société de la faune et des parcs du Québec. The USFWS were involved early in the investigation alerting Canadian officials that bear gall bladders were being sold via the Internet.

Ontario Region has also been busy performing Migratory Bird Convention Act (MBCA) investigations. Two investigations resulted in convictions under s. 35(1) of the MB Regulations since the Spring 2002 NAWEOA newsletter. Section 35(1) of the MBRs prohibits the deposit of oil, oil wastes or other substances harmful to migratory birds in any waters or area frequented by migratory birds. On June 10, 2002, Tandet Transportation plead guilty to depositing 22,000 litres of Jayflex 77 (phthalate plasticiser) into Red Hill Creek in Hamilton and was sentenced to penalties totaling \$12,000. On November 26, 2002 Premier's Choice Gourmet Entrees Ltd. pled guilty to depositing 25,000 gallons of vegetable oil into the Little Etibicoke Creek in Mississauga and was sentenced to penalties totaling \$15,000. In both cases, innovative sentencing options were utilized and the monetary penalties were paid to the Hamilton Harbour Fish and Wildlife Habitat Restoration Project and to the Toronto Wildlife Centre respec-

CWS has committed to hosting a national officer meeting in St. John's, Nfld. the Monday through Wednesday preceding the NAWEOA conference. As a result as many as sixty officers from across Canada should be in attendance at this year's NAWEOA conference.

In conclusion, for those planning to attend, I am sure each of you is looking forward to this summer's conference in Newfoundland. Safe travels all, and we'll see you there as we 'Rock on the Sea'!

# NAWEOA PROMOTIONAL ITEMS

Richard Kingston is responsible for the distribution of NAWEOA promotional items. Items on hand include:

	Price*
Ball Cap (black, green, maroon, camo)	\$5.00
Journals of Wildlife Enforcement Vol. I	4.00
Journals of Wildlife Enforcement Vol. II	3.00
Buckles (original, New York, Pennsylvania & Saskatchewan)	15.00
Buckle (Nebraska)	20.00
Buckle (Indiana)	25.00
Golf / Polo Shirt	25.00
Denim Shirt (long or short sleeve)	26.00
Lapel Pins (NAWEOA)	3.00
Bill Peters Owl Print	35.00
Lapel Pin (New York, Nebraska)	1.00
2 ½" Case Knife (NAWEOA engraved)	30.00
4" Barlow Knife (NAWEOA stamped)	14.00
Where Game Abounds Print	125.00
Video (Innovative Sentencing)	5.00
Conference Lapel Pins from Indiana, Nebraska, New York, Missouri or Saskatchewan	1.00

- Canadian orders paid in Canadian dollars, US orders in US dollars
- There will also be a charge for shipping.
  - ~~ COMING SOON...COLLECTOR PATCHES AND T-SHIRTS ~~

Mail orders to:

Richard Kingston 4 Stacker Road

Whitney. NB E 1V 4J6

Home Phone: 506-622-7615

Fax: 506-836-7015

e-mail: Richard.Kingston@gnb.ca

# NAWEOA NEEDS A NEW LOGO

The North American Wildlife Enforcement Officers Association is going to celebrate its 25th birthday in 2005! In anticipation of this exciting event, your executive is looking for a new logo. We are inviting all members and their immediate families to submit their proposals for a new logo.

Keep in mind that the logo needs to be reproducible as an embroidered patch, on letterhead and other promotional items, as well as in the newsletter and wherever else NAWEOA decides to use it. In developing your ideas, keep in mind the international nature of our association.

Send your proposal either by regular mail or as an email attachment to:

Pat Brown

editor@naweoa.org

**RR #1** 

Hilton Beach, ON P0R 1G0

All submissions must be received no later than December 30, 2003. The winning design will be chosen at the 2004 Winter Executive Meeting and will appear on the spring 2004 NAWEOA newsletter. Official NAWEOA promotional items will be offered for sale using the new logo at the 2004 summer conference in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

A prize of 1 conference registration for the 2005 Conference in Penticton, BC will be awarded for the winning design.



Region 3 Report by Mike Maillet

Hi everyone from Region 3, it is great to be back on the board again. I would like to thank all the officers and others from Indiana for the great job hosting last summer's conference. I would also like to thank John Reed and others for hosting the Winter Executive Meeting in Florida.

Joe McCarthy from Fisheries and Oceans in Newfoundland and Labrador advises me that their 98 officers from Fishery Officers Association Newfoundland and Labrador are now members of NAWEOA, and that several of them will be attending this year's Conference. Welcome board.

Colin Cheater from Newfoundland and Labrador says that with the record snowfall this year travelling has been very difficult, resulting in a reduction in activities. Brent Cole, president of their Association and chair of their Officer Safety Committee, has been busy canvassing COs for possible job action on the sidearm issue because the government is dragging their heels on a decision. Officers are hopeful it won't go to that way. On a positive note the Dept. did issue soft body armour to the officers. Colin advises that the Conference Committee is working tirelessly to bring everything together to make this year's conference in St. John's one of the most successful ever. The key is to book everything early (now).

Bob Yorke from New Brunswick reports that their association meet in December with a small attendance. He said that they approved a \$1000.00 donation to support Newfoundland with the conference. The Dept. is once again sponsoring two officers to attend the conference and several officers plan to go on their own. Officers are busy finishing up court cases from last hunting season and patrolling the snowmobile trails.

J.C. Babineau from New Brunswick reports that on Oct. 10 and Oct. 30, 2002 the enforcement staff from the Bouctouche and Harcourt Districts with assistance from adjoining districts seized 12 freshly killed moose as well as meat cutting equipment and storage equipment from two brothers in the Cocagne area after a three year investigation. They were us-

ing aboriginal people from a reserve nearby to harvest the moose and selling it in the shop owned by their father. Officers believe that they have illegally harvested 80 moose over the past few years. As well as arresting the two individuals the staff seized illegally purchased moose meat from several homes which will result in an additional 15 major charges. Job well done.

Roland Richard from Prince Edward Island reports that CO's are involved in training in officer safety, police pursuit driving, and range officer certification, which takes place at the police academy in PEI As a result of numerous fish kills caused by heavy rain officers were busy conducting foot and aerial inspections of potato fields for buffer violations. Several farmers were found in violation. The fall goose hunt was a big success again with more hunters coming from the U.S. and Atlantic Canada every year.

Dougal MacNeil from Nova Scotia reports that the Conservation Enforcement Officer Association of Nova Scotia met in January and heard from several excellent speakers on CSIS, (Canadian Security Intelligence Service), the new Canadian Firearms Legislation and how it may affect CO's work. Guy Le-Franchaise and Les Sampson of the Canadian Wildlife Service gave some insight on the plant and wildlife import/export laws. Restructuring, downsizing, reorganization, or whatever the buzzword is these days, has been implemented in Nova Scotia. As of last April there are 30 full time officers and about the same number of seasonal officers dedicated, almost exclusively to law enforcement. This is down from 50 permanent staff with the majority involved in various operational services along with law enforcement duties. The focus has been expanded to include more habitat protection with the introduction of the Wildlife Habitat and Watercourse Regulations, Wilderness Protection Act and Endangered Species Act. Market hunting for moose and theft from Crown Land of high value timber will also be getting more serious attention in the near future. As a result officers will have to learn new investigative techniques. Training has become a priority and a plan is under way to have all officers trained to the standards of the Conservation Law Enforcement Program at the Canadian Justice Academy. Dougal would like to thank Brent Cole for serving so well as Region 3 Director and congratulations to Mike Maillet as the new Director.

Heather Davis from Atlantic Canada National Park Service reports that Park Wardens are still in the standby mode in regards to law enforcement duties. (See full report on this in this newsletter issue). Throughout the region parks are gearing up for spring training. A Swift Water Safety Operations course is being set up by Fundy National Park while all parks are updating law enforcement training with Wardens in preparation for the summer season. Though budgets are tight wardens are still working on many resource projects in the region. Cape Breton Highlands is in the third

year of the Moose Population Ecology Study in partnership with Nova Scotia DNR and with important input from Unama'ki Institute of Natural Resources. In studying the size, composition and movements of the population, wardens have collared over 45 moose with satellite and VHF systems. Heather advises that Wardens at Terra Nova National Park are assisting NFLD officers in the preparations for the NAWEOA conference to be held this summer in St. John's.

# NAWEOA information available on the Net!

You can find regularly updated rosters, minutes, financial information, Memorial Fund information, pay your dues on line, and much more at www.naweoa.org/private

At the prompt, just enter user ID "naweoa" and password "fishcops".

# NAWEOA Retirement Certificates

Did you know that every retiring member of NAWEOA is entitled to receive a certificate from NAWEOA honouring the event?

These are signed by the president and your regional rep and look great.

To get one for a fellow officer contact your jurisdictional rep!



Region 4 Report by Kurt Bahti

OK, OK, I admit the Winter Executive Meeting was outside of West Palm Beach and we got to fish, go on airboats and eat well but...we did have 24 hours of meetings on NAWEOA business. The winter meeting is a reward for dealing with over 3,000 emails a year as a Director. I'm sure the President's email load is much higher!

Alaska's representative, Steve Arlow, has changed duty stations from Cordova to Bethel "C" Detachment. Guess he wasn't cold enough where he was. These Troopers spend a lot of time policing the commercial fishing industry where competition is fierce and tempers flare. They use fixed-wing aircraft, choppers and a variety of boats. In addition to 'normal' duties troopers arrested a fugitive from LA on a million dollar warrant. "C" Detachment also raised funds to help a Kodiak family with 7 children at Christmas. This blossomed into a "Shop with A Cop". "A" Detachment FWP Trooper Scott Carson received an Alaska Chapter NWTF Award of Law Enforcement officer of the Year. Darn good work in a 6,000 square mile district.

California Fish & Game recently wrapped up a yearlong investigation into bear poachers. It resulted in 11 people being charged for hunting in closed season, waste of meat, illegal deer hunting, cruelty to animals and guiding violations.

Arizona's Ron Thompson reports that they are in a precarious position while the legislature is in session. With a major state deficit they are looking at cutting anything including trying to force the sale of a couple wildlife areas that were purchased with federal funds. The officers are worried about a few bills that would take away all the sick leave they have earned (2300 hours in my case) as well as reduce the amount of annual leave accrual and have no sick leave, only 5 personal days a year. The legislature is also looking at taking away a health insurance stipend for retired officers in rural areas. That could cost about \$400+ extra a month for retirees. The Arizona

Game Ranger Lodge raised about \$20,000 for an officer assistance fund. They were able to help two families, one who had a son with a type of fetal cancer and another officer who lost his wife to leukemia leaving him as a single parent. This will be an ongoing fund. If you want to know how they did it contact Ron.

Lorraine Doyle, the rep from California says the morale is pretty low with position cuts and low wages. The loss of wardens could be as high as 31. The wages for new officers are so low they qualify for subsidized childcare, free State preschool programs, HUD Assistance Program, reduced fee school lunches and more. Not much incentive to be a Game Warden. Wardens make about half of what their highway patrol does. (That sounds a bunch like Arizona.)

Colorado Rep Doug Homan reported last September about the loss of Jim Olterman, an officer who was piloting a plane during a fish stocking flight.

Dan Hislop reports from Idaho that even though their state budget has been bad they are not getting hit as hard because they don't receive general tax dollars. Dan says the topic of wolves is very heated in the state's elk country. The Idaho wardens have quite a number of big game violations. Some of their decoy shooters are pretty quick. Wardens Dafoe, Sands and Westfall had a violator shoot the decoy five times before they could jump out of their hiding spot. Sands gave new meaning to undercover when he had a man shoot a doe at the end of his driveway. The ticket was written in his PM uniform - sweats and slippers. SW Region officers made a great case on a supposed member of the Shoshone Bannock tribe. Illegally taken deer, elk, bighorn and moose are involved. Unfortunately Tribal Warden Brett Haskett was fired by the tribe for his cooperation in the case. Anybody need a good officer who doesn't let politics affect what is right? The Idaho newsletter is full of cases they have had last fall involving repeat offenders, felons with firearms, spotlighting, waste of game meat and much more. It's great to see how active their officers are. Wish I could fit more in this report for them.

Montana Rep Jim Conner informed me earlier of a bill in their legislature that would have done away with their Enforcement Division-read wardens- and given the authority and money to the local county sheriffs. Luckily the bill failed. Jim would like to know if there are any other jurisdictions that operate with the sheriffs doing the F&W work now or in the past.

Nevada Rep, Barry Adkins reports a busy winter trapping season with the rise in fur prices and a corresponding rise in citations issued. Some western Nevada officers worked with California on a bear baiting case in the Sweetwater Mountains of Nevada. California houndsmen baited bears to make it more effective to run their hounds. Over a month of surveillance produced charges and fines totaling

\$6500. Cameron Waitham was selected as Nevada's Warden of the Year. Congratulations! Drew Spencer of New Mexico says their officers were hoping for a pay increase but it doesn't look like it now. There is a bill in their legislature to make it illegal to shoot "artificial wildlife' during daylight hours. This will solve their problems with District Attorneys not prosecuting because decoys are not "wildlife". New Mexico is currently hiring a bunch as they cannot keep officers. The salary is the concern as well as stymieing promotions by reducing the promotional increase from 15% to 5%. The NM Officer Association is moving ahead with their Game Warden Magazine to hope to make some money and increase interest within the agency.

Dave Rzewnicki, common spelling, the Rep. for Oregon has sad news. Wardens in Oregon work for their State Police and are called Troopers. The state is laying off 129 troopers of whom about 50 will be F&W folks. Some of the F&W positions were back-filled by none F&W troopers. In March the agency hired back about 45 troopers but only 4 were F&W. Obviously morale is very low with these happenings.

Wyoming Rep Joe Gilbert says that their association is working on legislation to re-direct money received as restitution from wildlife cases. Currently it goes to the general fund and they would like to see it go to the law enforcement section of the wildlife division of their agency. Hopefully it will pass. Their association is also working with the Wyoming State Troopers Association to improve the employee benefits package. Proposals would increase disability retirement benefits and another would convert accumulated sick leave into health insurance benefits upon retirement. The same thing that AZ has that the legislature is trying to take away.

Utah Rep Rudy Musclow says they are also experiencing severe budgetary problems. Ten percent of their districts are vacant with more cuts on the horizon. Their legislature did a positive action by increasing restitution values on their wildlife. Fish went to \$25 and peregrines to \$1000. Utah's Help Stop Poaching program is growing with sportsmen groups donating over \$6000 to purchase a display trailer to promote the program. A citizens group, Sportsmen On Patrol, has formed to help support the program and all wildlife enforcement activities.

It appears that all the states in the region and probably the entire US are suffering major deficits and their agencies are feeling the pressure to reduce their budgets and downsize. Hopefully the economy will turn around so we can all breathe a little easier. I wish everyone the best of luck while their legislatures are in session. Does anyone remember when we did our jobs and didn't have to wonder what was being done "to us" at the capitol?

# Past President's Report by Randy Hancock

As I look back on many years of serving NAWEOA on the executive board, I have several interesting observations about the board. I attended my first NAWEOA conference in 1985. I remember being awed by those guys up front during the meeting. Guys like Lew Ramstead, John Fallows, Tom Bivens, and many more. These officers founded NAWEOA, and put in enough time and effort in those early years to make their dreams a reality.

Through the years, I watched others sit up front and lead this organization. I remember distinctly J.C. Romines, and his leadership. Bill Peters and Art Redden, John Edwards and Rick Hildebrand. Then there were all the other board members, way too many to mention. I looked up to these officers as they lead NAWEOA through the years. However, it wasn't until I was fortunate enough to be elected to the board that I began to have a real appreciation for how much work they put in for this association.

In my early years on the board, communication was sporadic, at best. We would call each other occasionally on the phone if an issue was brewing, or we would write once in a great while. But, effective communication was difficult. Receiving timely input on issues was extremely tough, and lots of issues were handled by just one or two of the executive board. The number of issues handled by the board was substantial, but most of the business was conducted during the summer and winter meetings.

Now, the board is in almost daily contact through e-mail on the internet. A typical day finds me spending up to an hour sorting through all the NAWEOA messages, reading comments, responding when I feel it necessary. The number and scope of issues handled is tremendous. I know that as President, Kerry Wrishko's workload is even greater than the rest of us. He handles correspondence daily, taking questions and answering them one by one. He adds a personal touch in responses to the innumerable questions that are being posed by our members and people outside the association who find NAWEOA to be a source of information on a variety of topics.

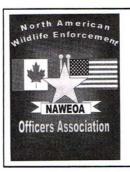
This heavy workload shows me how important and effective NAWEOA has become. Since Steve Kleiner has come on board as our Secretary/treasurer, he has brought us into the age of technology. Steve, more than anyone else, has guided us in our efforts of communication. It probably would have happened anyway, but Steve's talents with computers and knowledge of internet use have advanced the board's abilities at lightning speed. On top of that, Rob Brandenberg, our webmaster, has put NAWEOA on the Internet and has made a major impact on how we do business. Rob is a wildlife officer in Missouri, and has a side business of designing web pages. He is a professional at both jobs, and our NAWEOA home page is top notch. The web site has become an integral part of NAWEOA. We have our minutes stored there for all to view. We have information, questions and answers, conference information, and much, much more. It truly is one stop shopping.

Another subtle change has been the work that Pat and Val Brown have done with the newsletter. They continually are looking for ways to improve the looks and communication value of our twice-annual publication. It was Pat who came up with the idea of hilighting the summer conference in our fall issue, and letting folks know what the conference was all about. We still keep the spring issue as a venue for talking about happenings within jurisdictions. Pat and Val have improved the quality and general appearance of the newsletter. In addition, they have instituted many cost savings in the way the newsletter is produced and distributed. Through the work of board members Brent Cole and Mike Maillet, we now offer a French insert in all newsletters in Region 3. The newsletter continues to be a dynamic document, and Pat and Val continually strive for improvement.

Another major change in NAWEOA has been the acquisition of the IGW magazine. This was a huge undertaking. A committee met last year, and hashed out all the pros and cons for days on end. There were many times during those discussions that we said it just could not be done. Then we would approach from a different angle. In the final analysis, through the kind generosity of several officers willing to work on the magazine for very little pay, the committee determined that the IGW purchase could be accomplished. It was a good decision. So far, the magazine is holding its own financially, and with planned improvements, will continue to be on sound financial footing in the future.

My purpose in writing this article, which is also my farewell article as an executive board member, is to document for all to see just what kind of changes have happened through the years. NAWEOA has become a source of information for national publications, radio, TV, agencies, students, lawyers, etc. We have made ourselves available, and have thus become known across the continent as the source for information relating to wildlife law enforcement. NAWEOA is a member of IAFWA, NACLEC, and board members attend the International, Northeastern, Eastern, Midwest, Southeast, and Western associations meetings. One example of this type of meeting is the Dakota States meeting, where officers from four or five states get together to share information and training. Kerry Wrishko, Jerry Claassen, and I have all attended this meeting in recent years. Board members use their days off and vacation time to attend these meetings. This is NAWEOA's way of interacting with local officers.

Your Executive Board is working hard for you. They are very dedicated folks who are very capable in accomplishing their tasks. Since I was not on the Board in the 80's during the formative years, I cannot say how many hours were spent by those NAWEOA pioneers as they strove to create such a useful organization. However, in just my time on the Board, the workload has increased tremendously. This is a good thing. It means that NAWEOA has come of age, and is an important organization in the overall scheme of wildlife law enforcement. The folks I have been fortunate enough to work with on the boards over the past ten years or so have all been extremely dedicated and hard working. As association members, you are being well represented. A list of NAWEOA's accomplishments can be found on our web page. Visit the site, and you may very well be humbled by what this organization has become.



# NAWEOA WINDOW DECALS!

All members of NAWEOA are eligible to receive this great looking decal. To get yours contact your jurisdictional representative. Not sure who that is? Go to www.naweoa.org and look under rosters on the private pages Display it proudly!

# **OFFICER EXCHANGE 2002**

by Sgt. Jim Dever, Illinois Conservation Police



Columbus, Indiana was my third NAWEOA Conference. What a thrill when I heard my name announced, at the Officer's Luncheon, for the annual Officer Exchange Program. Ironically, when the Canadian Officer and the Canadian Alternate were selected they both were sitting at the same table as I was. Honest, it wasn't fixed, although our entire table decided we should all go in on a lottery ticket. As the luncheon continued it began to sink in-WHAT AN OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFETIME! I don't remember eating I was so excited. Where should I go in Canada? WOW!

I spent my free time talking to as many Canadian Officers as possible. I talked with officers who had previously participated in the officer exchange. I went home undecided, although I had narrowed it down. A phone call to my residence made my decision easy. After being home for a few days, British Columbia CO, Rick Hoar called me. He had heard that I'd been asking a lot of questions about his province. Rick was professional, informative and had a great sense of humor. I felt as though I'd known him for years. I committed to doing my exchange experience in British Columbia.

E-mail is great. A barrage of e-mails went back and forth, to and from, involving a variety of people to make the necessary arrangements for the exchange. I was fortunate as well that my Captain and department that backed me 100% in this unique adventure. Preparations were completed, timeframes locked-in, airline ticket purchased. I was ready to go. My exchange dates were September 21 to October 05, 2002.

The departure date finally arrived and I found myself standing in line (very early in the morning), at the Peoria, IL airport ticket counter. At this point, I'm compelled to share an experience that you can avoid. The experienced Canada/USA traveler will laugh in disbelief at my ignorance. But, to the novice traveler - avoid what I did, especially during this time of heightened security.

When I purchased my airline ticket I was informed to bring two photo ID's and an e-receipt of my airline ticket with me on the day of my flight. These I had in hand as my turn came at the ticket counter. I presented my ereceipt and two photo ID's. The employee at the counter asked also for a certified copy of my birth certificate. I informed her that I did not have a copy with me, nor was I advised to bring one. I was then informed that I could not board the plane without it. I had one at home, but there was not time to go back and get it. My heart sank. I produced more credentials and stated the reason of my travel. Again, I was informed that I could not board the plane. I produced additional photo ID's, my department badge and ID and went into detail concerning my trip.

I'm not sure if it was my stacks of credentials now on the desk or the long line still behind me, but a call was made to the International Desk, in Chicago's O'Hare Airport. I was informed that I would be allowed to board the plane, but I would be placed on "At Risk Travel" status. I was almost afraid to ask. "At Risk Travel" meant I could board the plane, but I may or may not be allowed into Canada. If allowed into Canada I would not be allowed back into the USA without a certified copy of my birth certificate. I advised my wife I was going forward and that I would call as soon as I had a

mailing address where she could mail my birth certificate!

Needless to say there was some anxiety on my trip from Peoria to Calgary. I was allowed into Canada after producing my stack of credentials and a longer than normal conversation with Customs. What a relief as I cleared Customs with my luggage and met up with Rick Hoar and his wife Carol. They took me to Tim Horton's for a doughnut, a cup of coffee and a chance to calm my nerves.

The drive from Calgary, Alberta to Rick's home in Invermere BC, was approx. 100 miles north of the Idaho/Montana border. For the next two weeks my primary base camp was Rick and Carol's beautiful home in the Columbia River Valley, surrounded by mountains. Every direction you travel you are near a National or Provincial Park, without a doubt some of the most awesome and magnificent country GOD has ever created.

I worked with Rick Hoar and CO Lawrence Umsonst. These CO's patrol an 11,000 square mile area (Kootenay-Region 4 management area). No, that's not a misprint-11,000 square miles. Like many CO's the work never seems to end as e-mails, phone calls and complaints steadily came in. This was a busy time of year. The summer had turned to fall and the giggame seasons were open. The Columbia River contained hundreds if not thousands of bright red/orange spawning Kokanee salmon. The bears were eating everything in sight to store up fat for their winter hibernation and were causing several nuisance problems. Where does one begin? I was fortunate to see an abundance of wildlife during my exchange: turkey, grouse, waterfowl, white-tailed and mule deer, elk, grizzly and black bear, big horn sheep, wolf, salmon/trout and more.

We checked numerous elk and other big-game hunters, in the field and at their base camps. We also stopped at several commercial outfitter base camps. Whenever we went deep into the bush (back country) the CO's would contact Vancouver with their satellite phones and advise our location and in/out time. At times it appeared to me that we had dropped off of the planet. They taught me the true meaning of four wheel drive. The weather changed constantly, at the various elevations. We might start out in sunshine and easily end up in snow, rain, clouds or hail and then back into sunshine.

A local bed & breakfast complained of a nuisance bear problem. We went to the local grocery store, obtained meat scraps for bait and set a culvert bear trap in the area. This resulted in the capture of a large adult male grizzly bear. The bear was transported back to the Invermere Office, tranquilized, ear tagged and relocated. The bear was taken to an area known to Rick and Lawrence as the "Black Hole." A GPS reading was taken and the bear was released. The bear was not a happy camper. He came out of the trap with a serious attitude. He charged Rick's truck then spun around and charged the truck Lawrence and I were in. I took photos until the Grizzly Bear was literally 5'-10' from my truck window. I was amazed at the size, muscle mass and speed of this bear. We were all relieved when he decided to move on.

As an added bonus, I was able to spend three days in Alberta with Parks Canada at Banff National Park. Arrangements had been made for a three day horseback patrol, into the back country, with Park Warden Ivan Phillips. Our patrol started near Lake Louise. We cleared trail as we went and saw a variety of wildlife, including a wolf. Ivan said that it was the first wolf he'd seen all season. On our second night we were serenaded by the howls of several wolves. We stayed in rustic warden cabins. We ate like kings and absorbed the majestic scenery. I had to pinch myself to make sure this was really happening. I took lots of photos. Ivan was great company, extremely capable and informative. Our last day out we topped 8,000 ft. and rode through snow. Reflecting on this experience and the many potential dangers, I found it difficult to believe that the park wardens currently are not allowed to carry sidearms.

I'd like to thank NAWEOA, Kerry Wrishko, Steve Kleiner; Parks Canada, Reg Bunyon, Ivan Phillips; British Columbia Ministry of Water Land and Air Protection, Mark Hayden, Bill Bresser, Lawrence Umsonst; Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources-Law, IL Conservation Police Lodge #146. A very special thank you to Rick and Carol Hoar for their kindness, hospitality and fantastic meals. Thank you all for a trip of a lifetime. I look forward to seeing you this summer in Newfoundland. Take care and be safe.



# **NAWEOA Officer Exchange 2002**

by Brad Romaniuk, Canadian National Park Warden



Last July when fellow Park Warden Randy Fingland and I travelled to the State of Indiana to attend the 2002 NAWEOA Conference, I had no idea what fate had in store for me. The main purpose of our attendance at this NAWEOA Conference was to participate in the Tribute to Fallen Officers Ceremony, which included honouring Canadian National Park Warden Mike Wynn. On January 12, 2002 Mike Wynn, Randy Fingland and myself were caught in a large avalanche while conducting avalanche assessments in Jasper National Park, Alberta, Canada. Mike Wynn died as a result of his injuries.

As fate would have it, I was drawn as the Canadian Officer for the 2002 Officer Exchange and had the very unique opportunity to select and visit the state of my choice. After receiving numerous wonderful offers from states around the US, I elected to visit the State of Texas. With the support of NAWEOA, the State of Texas's Parks and Wildlife Department, and Jasper National Park the exchange became a reality.

On January 22, 2003 I left the —40-degree Celsius of an Alberta winter and flew into the +10 degree rain of Houston, Texas. Waiting were Major Wes Clogston and Lieutenant William Skeen from Region IV of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Wes had been my primary contact with the State of Texas since the conference in Indiana, and along with all the staff in the Region IV, had put a great deal of effort into setting up and coordinating my visit to Texas. Wes and his lovely wife Karen also allowed me to use their home as base for the 15 days of my exchange.

To start things off Wes and I traveled to Austin, Texas to visit the Headquarters of the Parks and Wildlife Department. Here I met Colonel James Stinebaugh, the Director of Law Enforcement and all the dedicated staff that work in the various sections of the Department. Along with Wes's dedication, it was the support of Colonel Stinebaugh and his staff that had made my exchange possible. Thank you. After a quick stop at a commissioner's meeting I was off to tour the State Training Academy. Here I had opportunity to tell the cadets and the training staff about Jasper National Park and the job of a Canadian Park Warden. With a good understanding of how the department was set up and my first taste of Blue Bell ice cream under my belt, it was time get in the field and start working along side the Texas Game Wardens.

Back in Houston I joined up with Dick Herzog and John Rao and spent a very unique day checking the Airport terminals, Asian Markets, Exotic Pet Stores, and Seafood Distributors for compliance with various state regulations. It was while conducting these inspections I first noticed the strange reactions I got from the people we interacted with. The general expression was one of confusion, with a lot of people wondering what the heck a Canadian Warden was doing walking around in Texas. This turned out to be a reliable source of entertainment for the duration of my trip. As far as this day went, we dealt with a real multi-cultural group of individuals and I later learned that my green uniform and yellow

patches were very similar to that of US immigration. That explained why people would rather quickly shy away or run up and show me Canadian salmon.

Next I was off with Rick Snitkin to check the goose and duck hunters in the Katty Praire part of Region IV. After walking through rice fields and checking numerous bird hunters, we went to check deer hunters at a local meat-processing store. As the afternoon progressed, cool weather conditions caused most hunters to retreat early, which in turn forced us to round out the day by making ourselves available to educate the public at the local Pro Bass Shop.

The next day was the first of five spent working the fisheries and waterways of the coastal region. Day 1 brought heavy rain and wind which caused Dick Herzog and I to modify our Homeland Security Detail to a driving patrol / tour and a Super Bowl party. Day 2 was my introduction to the Oyster Industry. Aboard a 26 foot Boston Whaler I joined the wardens of La Marque County to conduct a patrol of Galveston Bay. This was another day of completely new experiences, from measuring oysters to having the unique pleasure of enjoying my first fresh live oyster. I can't think of anything in my part of Canada that compares to that distinct texture. To complete my understanding of the industry, I joined up with Eddie Tanuz to tour the state-of-the-art Oyster Processing Facility of Hillman Shrimp and Oyster Co.

With a good understanding of the oyster industry it was time to jump on board the 65 foot Capt. Murchinson and head out for an overnight offshore patrol. Our objective was to patrol the gulf coastline for fishing boats working state waters or boats entering state water from federal or international waters. To me there was not a moment of this patrol that I was not experiencing something entirely new: from trying to walk and eat in the cabin and wheelhouse to rolling around in a bunk in 6 foot choppy seas. Special thanks to the crew and wardens who joined me on this patrol and knew exactly what to do when we had any free time. To round out my exposure to the salt water, I spent a day with Preston Miculka and Arthur Lawrence on an airboat patrolling Matagorda Bay for crab pots and sport fishermen. I truly felt like I was in the Everglades.

Next on my schedule William Skeen and I headed down the coast to join up with the wardens in Region X and patrol the Famous King and Kennedy Ranches. By this point of the trip I had realized that there is no better company than a Texas Game Warden if you want to go and see just about anything. This was even more apparent when we met up with Hector Garza in Kingsville and spent a day patrolling the restricted roads and exclusive hunting camps of the King Ranch. I could write an entire book outlining who I met and what I experienced. This was especially true on these large ranches considering the extensive history, diverse wildlife and landscape, and the money and people that are involved. After experiencing more of the great Texas hospitality with Warden Mike Fain and his wife Patti, we rolled onto the Kennedy ranch with Matt Robinson, Sam Ilse and 4 Quads. I could not have imagined how I could have spent a better day than quading around the vast sand dunes and terrain of the Kennedy Ranch. But a caution to those that follow in our tracks those "Big Wild Boars" can turn around really, really, quickly....

Now for the unscheduled part of my exchange: On February 1 the Space Shuttle Columbia stunned the world as it broke apart on re-entry in the skies above Texas. The next portion of my trip was scheduled to be in east Texas, which just happened to be the center point of the recovery efforts. On February 3 I arrived in San Augustine, Texas to start two and a half days participating and assisting in recovery efforts. How do I describe this experience? From finding shuttle pieces to seeing and working with the Incident Command Organization, this is a situation I never dreamt I would be involved in. I was honoured to be of assistance and my deep sympathy and respect goes out to all those that were involved and especially to the astronauts and their families who really did make the ultimate sacrifice for all of us.

In the end I could not have had a more diverse and amazing experience. The people and families that make up the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department really are some of the finest individuals I have ever had the opportunity to meet or work with. They not only invited me into their homes, workplace and families but also gave me the opportunity to experience some things that I will treasure for the rest of my life. A special thank you to Wes and Karen Clogston, Mike and Patti Fain, and Mike and Tammy Hanson for making me feel at home in their homes. Finally "Thank you" to everyone from Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and all the members of NAWEOA, it was truly my greatest honour to have had this opportunity.

Stay safe and see ya'll in Newfoundland.



# President's Message

Each year the Game Warden Fraternity mourns the death of officers. We have now documented more then 240 officers that have died in the line of duty and will be honored at the museum. The time has come to recognize these fallen officers and this means donations to the museum fund to finish the project.

This summer launches the construction of phases one and two. North Dakota will host the grand opening in July 2004. Phase three to be built at a later date. Now is the time for every wildlife officer or member of NAWEOA to step up to the plate and become a supporter of the museum. If

every officer had sent \$25.00 annually and become a supporter of the museum fund, the project would now be completed. Life memberships are available at a cost of \$750.00, which can be paid on a ten-year installment. Several life members have purchased life memberships at \$250.00 per year over three years. If you prefer not to become a member, a donation in any amount to the museum fund is welcome.

This year the Officer's Association of Maryland, Louisiana and Oklahoma have committed \$5,000 each to the museum construction fund.

We will be operating a booth at the NAWEOA conference

in St. John's. Delegates should take the time to stop and visit with the museum executive to get an update on the museum and look over the drawings of the building plan. This gives the conference attendees an opportunity to learn more about the Game Warden Museum.

A thank you to all the officers who have become member of the museum and persons who have made donations to the museum project.

Hope to have a chance to visit with all of you at the conference this summer.

Delbert Tibke, President

# **Field Notes**

Volume 1,Issue 1 Spring 2003

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#### Did You Know?

Donations form

- The Museum is open to the Public in June, July & August
- Students visit the Museum on school field trips during the month of June
- New exhibits are being prepared for this years programming
- Building the Museum is made possible with your support
- The Museum is a Canada-U.S. initiative of NAWEOA

# Summer Program 2003

The spring program will for the first time focus on aquatics. With the help of the Turtle Mountain staff we have been able to erect a Learning Platform on Lake Udal. "We have incorporated the pierlike structure into our selfguided interpretive trail," said Dennis Hlady museum director, "which will allow both the organized school groups and individuals to

learn more about aquatic life."

Plans for summer programming may have to be carried out away from the museum site depending on the construction of Phases I and II of the permanent center.

Hlady says that the staff will be flexible enough to ensure programming continues even if the museum itself has to

temporarily close. The opportunities to develop new programs and work on the interpretive trail will only enhance future educational opportunities.

The game Warden Museum thanks the Fisheries Enhancement Fund of Manitoba Conservation for its contribution towards the Learning Platform.

# North Dakota Moose Raffle . . . Another Museum Success Story

Williston's Lana Lynde called local Game Warden Daryl Kleyer at 10:00 PM back in August. Lynde and her husband, Steve, had just returned from vacation. She had to know if what a friend had told her was true. Had she really won the 2002 North Dakota Game Warden's Association Moose Raffle?

Kleyer laughed when she called. Then he confessed—it was true. Lynde is the only person in North Dakota to have legally taken two moose in modern history of the state. Despite a little twinge of guilt, she would have the rare opportunity to bag two North Dakota moose while Steve was still moose-less. It was a chance she did not pass up. She loves to hunt.

This time around with the moose license, Lynde hunted closer to home in Unit M10. She got her bull on October 19th near Stanley. Landowners would call her if they saw a moose. Kenmare game warden Jim Norud was also helpful.

This year's bull will be an antler mount, Lynde said. It is a little smaller than her 1994 bull, but they can be so deceptive in body and antler size, she said. The North Dakota moose hunt raffle has raised over \$150,000 for the Game Warden Museum.



\*Condensed from an article originally printed in the Minot Daily News.

# Thank you Treeline Lodge for the Donations of a Fishing Trip

# Looking for a hunting or Fishing Trip?

The Game Warden Museum has been very fortunate over the last couple of years with hunting or fishing trips being offered as a donation.

The challenge is deciding what to do with them. We have one or two trip raffles every year as well auctioning off one or two trips off at the annual conference. But we have more!

Do you think your association would be interested in taking on one of these donated trips and use it to raise some money?

The museum board would be willing to share in the profits from this type of venture with any association or individual up to the challenge. The Museum is always interested in these types of partnerships.

For more information please contact in the USA, Del Tibke at (701)845-3780 or email dtibke@ictc.com. In Canada contact Dave Grant at (204)726-6303 or email dgrant@gov.mb.ca Begin your commitment to your project NOW!

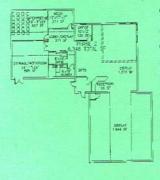
# Now is the Time to Show your Association's Support

# Construction to Begin in 2003

The Architectural/Engineering Firm of Ritterbush-Ellig-Hulsing of Bismark, North Dakota have prepared an impressive design for the Game Warden Museum that will begin construction during the summer of 2003. The plans will be presented to the International Peace Garden, Board of Directors, for final approval and tenders for construction will be issued shortly thereafter. Construction will be completed in three phases. Each phase will be approxi-

mately 2,100 square feet for a total of 6,300 square feet upon completion.

Plans are also being made to begin construction of the Memorial Garden that will honor the Hero's of our profession. Every State and Province will be able to recognize their Fallen Officers and pay tribute to the sacrifice that each made. In addition there will be an opportunity for family members to make a personal tribute to the loved one that they lost.



To find more about the construction and the Memorial Garden contact the Museum Board of Directors or visit the Museum website

at www.gamewardenmuseum.org

Page 2 Field Notes

# Denny Allen, The Museum Remembers a Friend

Dennis Allen, Denny to his friends, died on Wednesday, January 22,2003. Denny was a paid up life member of the Museum. He was a dedicated Conservation Officer in Norway House, Manitoba for over thirty years. Denny retired as a fulltime Officer in 1981. He continued to work as a casual employee spotting forest fires until the year 2000.

Denny's career epitomizes the life of the early Conservation Officers and their families. His posting was in a remote fly-in community where Denny was often the only outside or government contact the local residents had. His children had to be flown out, away from home for months at a time, to attend

schools in their junior and senior years. Denny's wife Kathleen (Kay) worked as a secretary and radio operator for Denny for those 30+ years. However, she was paid for it only in the last couple of years of his career. For them it wasn't a job, it was a way of life.

With his love of the outdoors and the desire to learn more, he became a legend, a teacher, and a philosopher. His knowledge was sought after by the media, university professors, government and non-government organizations, and authors. He is referenced in many books and papers written about the North.

He was fluent in the Ojibway language and was intimate with their culture.

The museum is grateful for his support. Through the museum Denny's legacy will live on.



Thank you Turner Enterprises for the Donation of the Antelope hunt.

# Turner Enterprise Donates Hunt

New Mexico's Armendaris Ranch, owned by Turner Enterprises, has donated an Antelope hunt to the Game Warden Museum.

The recently purchased hunt generated \$3,500.00 for the Museum. It is a fully guided hunt on a ranch that has seen numerous trophy bucks taken over many seasons. Eight bucks in the past three seasons have qualified for Boone & Crockett entry of 82 inches and larger. Hunt success is generally over 90%. Neil Lawson of the Amendaris Ranch

and Tom Waddell have been very helpful. They are working on a Bison hunt donation for the future. The Game Warden Museum thanks them.

Thanks to Arizona's Kurt Bahti for arranging this contribution.

Contact us at our website www.gamewardenmuse um.org

Become a Partner in this Worthy Project

# Museum golf Tournament a Success ... and Fun Too!

On Monday, August 26,2002 the Game Warden Museum held its first Annual Charity Golf Tournament at the Sandy Hook Golf & Country Club located fifty miles north of Winnipeg, Manitoba. Our sponsors, Winnipeg Moving & Storage, organized a tremendous event that had several members of the IHL's Manitoba Moose and the CFL's Winnipeg Blue Bombers in attendance. A total of 30 foursomes enjoyed a fun filled afternoon of golf and activities

hosted by the Blue Bombers Blue Bridge cheerleaders and members of the Hooters fan club. The one-day event raised over \$4,500.00 in support of the Museum.

This year's event will move to the Teulon Golf & Country Club to be held in early September. Organizers are expecting a full attendance and even more fun than was had last year. Anyone interested in attending should contact

Dave Grant (204)726-6303 or email dgrant@gov.mb.ca

Those Officers close to Manitoba such as Minnesota, North Dakota, Ontario, and Saskatchewan are encouraged to attend. It is guaranteed good time for a good cause.



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#### GAME WARDEN MUSEUM

Game Warden Museum Box 1239, Boissevain, MB, ROK 0E0 Box 28, Valley City, ND, 58072-0028

Can. Tel.: 1-204-726-6446 U.S. Tel.: 1-701-845-3780

We're on the web!



Join us in Conserving and Celebrating Our Wildlife Heritage





Educating Honoring Celebrating Natural Resource Protection

The ambitious plan to build a museum at the Peace Garden grew out of NAWEOA's concern for public education about resource protection and for promoting wildlife law enforcement as a profession.

Please consider making a contribution to the building fund by completing the pledge card on this page. Your support is important to the project. Thank You.

# North American Game Warden Museum Membership & Donation Form

■\$25 Annual Indi	vidual Membership	
\$100 Annual Fa	mily Membership	
\$750 Lifetime In	ndividual Membership	
		Check Money Order Visa MasterCard
Please check method	of payment: Personal	
Please check method  Card #:	of payment: Personal  Expires:	Signature:
Please check method  Card #:  Name:	of payment: Personal	

P.O. Box 1239 Boissevain, Manitoba R0K 0E0 (Canada)



**Region 5 Report** by Dave Nichols

Illinois reports: Jeff Lane, a former CPO and current administrative employee of the Office of Law enforcement, was diagnosed this year with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) or Lou Gehrig's Disease. In September, many of our officers joined Jeff and his wife Debbie on a four-mile walk called "Walk to D'Feet ALS" in Chicago. Nearly \$800 was donated by DNR employees. We are all here for you Jeff!

Illinois is in the process of hiring 13 new recruits. Our force is presently are down to about 114 field officers due to early retirement incentives and other factors. The recruit class however is still in jeopardy due to a projected \$4 billion deficit in Illinois coffers.

When Sgt. Mark Simon and Officer Mike Bronson checked a couple of shotgun deer hunters last fall, Sgt. Simon felt a tug on his uniform coat. One of the hunter's young sons wanted to show off his dad's 2002 successful deer hunter pin to him, bragging that his dad had killed an 8-point buck earlier in the day. Trouble was dad didn't have a permit to do that and dad eventually confessed he had covered the illegal kill with someone else's tag. "Out of the mouths of babes."

Officers James Mayes, Robert Liebl and William Bergland were awarded Awards of Merit for the rescue of a person who had jumped into Lake Michigan to save his dog. Their first responder skills and expert use of rescue equipment saved the person's life.

Oklahoma reports: Paddlefish harvest and management have become a pressing issue. The limit has been reduced from three per day to just one, but to soften the cut for the massive number of non-residents migrating here in the spring, possession limits were raised to 4 when leaving the state. Wardens are hopeful that a year round season will distribute the pressure on this resource.

The Commission is studying the possibility of extending the deer season from 9 to 16 days. Officers are concerned that rather than lessen the workload this change will merely make 9 crazy days 16 days long. Further complicating the situation is a proposal to have archery and gun seasons run concurrently, each with its own limit!

With budget problems slamming the state legislature, many creative ideas are being tossed about as they seek solutions. One is a bill to raise the price of licenses (that has failed on previous occasions). The other is a proposal to consolidate the Department of Wildlife with the Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism, an issue that requires more room than this publication has to dis-

Lastly, congratulations to Warden Curtis Latham of the Texoma lake region, chosen as this year's officer of the year.

Missouri reports: The end of 2002 and the beginning of 2003 has seen a lot of things happen for the Missouri Conservation Agents Association. We started a magazine! The format of the magazine is that the publisher sells advertising, using our name while we furnish the articles and get a percentage of the gross. So far it looks like our share is averaging about \$750 per week. We really feel that this magazine will be an excellent means of improving our organization. It will give us some money to work with and that is what it takes to get things done.

For the second year Missouri will be entering into a gun cable lock give away program through the Missouri Conservation Federation and the National Shooting Sports Foundation that is turning into a model for other states. Last year we distributed 135,000. This year the NSSF received a considerably larger grant from Congress and it looks like we will have about 750,000 locks to give out.

As with many other states Missouri is suffering through severe economic times. It has been a couple of years since state employees have seen a pay raise, and things do not look promising in the immediate future. In our Department we are working to reduce manpower. So far this is being accomplished through attrition, rather than lay-offs, but it still amounts to an increased workload to those of us still in the field.

Kansas reports the normal hectic deer season. Officers worked the deer season very hard and ended up with some excellent cases. Seems out-of-state poachers like to take the Kansas white-tails. Officers see a steady increase in work loads as other law enforcement agencies continue to harvest the benefits of working with and asking for assistance from local game wardens. Felony bench warrants and meth lab seizures are common examples of outside agency assistance that Kansas COs continue to work.

Long time L.E. Supervisor Jim Kellenberger of Dodge City, retired in March. CO Dan Hesket was promoted to officer & boating trainer at state headquarters.

Kansas officers continue to work without a pay raise or a cost of living increase for the third consecutive year. The officers association is looking at being represented by an FOP and starting an officers association magazine.

Iowa writes: Our budget is hurting like everyone else's, but no one has been laid off yet. At least 8 officers will be retiring sometime this year with as many as 15 or so eligible to go. Some or all of these positions may be left vacant.

Indiana reports that Indiana currently has 17 officer vacancies with plans to fill them this summer. A testing process began in November with 690 participants. The numbers have been cut down to 158 and background investigations are being conducted on those individuals. The ICO Training Academy will begin on July 7 with 40 trainees. The goal is to graduate 22 - 25 of those trainees from the 16 week school. The top 17 of those will have jobs with the remainder being put on the waiting list.

Indiana Conservation Officers, along with officers of the Indiana State Police, and the Indiana State Excise Police, have recently chosen the International Union of Police Associations as the union to represent them in labor issues with the state of Indiana. The members of the 3 state law enforcement agencies, collective bargaining unit #11, will be paying union dues very soon. Their local chapter of IUPA will be referred to as the Indiana Professional Law Enforcement Agency, Local #1041.

Wisconsin has a new Chief Warden after 29-year veteran Tom Harelson retired from the top job in mid-November. Assuming the Chief's position is Randy Stark who was previously Training Director. Two other senior wardens Stan Schneider and Tom Solin have also recently retired.

The major story of 2002 in Wisconsin was the discovery of Chronic Wasting Disease in their wild and captive white-tailed deer herds. 40,000 samples from the wild herd are currently being tested to determine the extent of the outbreak.

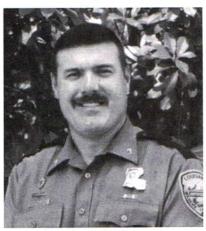
# Advertisers Wanted!

Do you know a company or organization that might be interested in advertising in the NAWEOA Newsletter? If so, why not pass on their name and contact information, or better yet, approach them yourself. Their ad will reach almost 8,000 Conservation Officers

all across the continent. Rates are reasonable.

For more information or a copy of the rate sheet, contact the editor by emailing

editor@naweoa.org



Region 6 Report by Darryl Galloway

Mississippi had a good hunting season and now is headed for spring and fishing season. This winter we lost one of our own, Officer Michael Andrews was killed in a one vehicle accident while responding to a headlighting report. He will be missed by family, friends, and fellow officers. MWEOAI is fighting to get a realignment for Conservation Officers that is long overdue. Field officers were overlooked during last year's realignment where some officials in management positions received \$4,000 - \$6,000 in realignments. When the question was asked who had looked at the field officers salaries to see if they to needed realignment, no one could answer. Several bills have passed dealing with CWD, giving MWFP powers to test deer in hunting enclosures and set up guidelines for them. MWFP has collected brain stems to be tested for CWD.

Captain Kaven W. Ransom of West Virginia reports: During the year, conservation officers investigated 8,234 complaints of violations of state laws, and issued 6,489 citations and 3,556 warnings to violators. Officers also investigated 2,385 complaints of wildlife damage. The Law Enforcement Section is subject to call during any "declared" emergencies. In July 2001 and May 2002, conservation officers were involved in law enforcement duties in the several counties that were damaged by flooding. They provided security patrols in the towns and rural areas of the counties. They also delivered much-needed medicines and supplies to areas that were only accessible by 4X4 and ATV. After the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on September 11, 2001, security nationwide was increased drastically. The Section provided 24hour patrols along the entire length of the Ohio River and the Kanawha River. Most patrols were heavily concentrated around the chemical plants and barge staging areas, as well as near the locks and dams. Officers were also responsible for sporadic land patrols around the numerous dams and power plants in the state. Legislation passed during the 2002 regular tial increase in the base salary of a conservation officer. This increase brings conservation officer salaries into the same range paid to WV State Police Officers.

Mandatory Boating Safety Education became effective January 1, 2001. Every year, a boating safety class is offered by US Coast Guard Auxiliary, the US Power Squadrons and DNR in each of the 55 counties; however, few take advantage of them. The DNR Law Enforcement Section is the also regulatory agency for the commercial whitewater rafting industry in West Virginia. State Whitewater Enforcement Specialist, Sergeant Larry Case, has begun a program of instructing conservation officers in swift water rescue and paddling to better prepare them for emergency situations they may be encountered on whitewater rivers, as well as dealing with any floodwater

Tony Robinson of North Carolina reports that after skipping last year, a recruit school is scheduled to begin in March. Approximately 20 new officers are expected to attend the 20 week school. By spring all NC officers will be carrying Sig-357mag bottleneck semi. The NCWRC continues to acquire some valuable parcels of land to include into its game lands program. The wild turkey population continues to thrive. The proposal is for the entire state to have an open season next year. There are also plans to have a one week winter season in about a dozen counties next

Hampton Yates of Florida reports that: the FWC is progressing well since is creation almost 4 years ago. Our new director of law enforcement, Colonel Julie Jones, has hit the ground running and is meeting the challenges quite well. Recently Officers Derrick Velez & Paul Alber took the Colonel on familiarization patrols in the Jupiter Inlet and Loxahatchee River, as well as the boating safety zones in northern Palm Beach County and the manatee zones in southern Martin County and then Lake Worth Inlet and Port of Palm Beach.

New equipment is being considered with emphasis on equipping officers with laptops and wireless communications. Investigators and supervisors are finding the Nextel phones useful, especially the radio feature which saves on long distance phone calls. The agency is also considering changes to sidearms and long guns as well as uniform improvements. Recruitment emphasis is at an all time high due to the state's early retirement opportunities which are proving very popular. Any applicant interested should contact our training academy in Quincy. For details go to our web page www.floridaconservation.org.

The following are examples of some recent events encountered in Florida by our field officers and investigators: Officers Randy Cory and Alan Hofmeister conducted a search and rescue on Black Creek within the Jennings Forest WMA. The search began after two adult men and a 5 year old child capsized their canoe in the rain-swollen creek and had to take refuge in a tree. Fortunately, one of the men had a cell phone and was able to call for help. Officer Hofmeister knew the area well enough to figure out the victims' location and, with other rescue personnel, reach the victims. On Saturday, March 8, Officer Matt Hurst was patrolling a lake near Okeechobee Blvd. As he approached a fisherman, he passed by the man's vehicle and peered into his open trunk. In the trunk was a fresh alligator hide that was salted and mounted to a piece of cardboard. Upon being asked where the remainder of the alligator was, the suspect replied, "I ate it." Appropriate citations were issued and the hide was seized as evidence.

On Sunday, March 9, Lieutenant Thomas Haworth responded to a call of a stranded vehicle in a remote area of the J.W. Corbett Wildlife Management Area. The individual who just purchased his new Hummer was showing his 12 year old son and his friend how the vehicle could go anywhere. He was wrong. Lieutenant Haworth managed to locate the explorers after a three-hour buggy ride through very difficult terrain.

Recently a 6 year old boy was attacked by an alligator at Lake View Trailer Park near U.S. 27 in northwest Palm Beach County. A visiting uncle ran to the boy's aid and rescued him, but not before the uncle was also bitten. Lieutenant Pam Thorn, Officers Lance York, and Jesse Lee, along with trapper Dennis Perkins responded to the scene. At 6:00 pm, the 9.5 foot alligator, which appeared healthy and weighed almost 325 lbs, was captured. Early indications are that the park's residents were feeding the animal. Both victims are very fortunate.

Officer Jason Reiff worked an evening water patrol shift in the Marathon area. Shortly after 2000 hours, he heard a call that a US Customs Black Hawk helicopter was following an inbound go-fast vessel several miles offshore, which was carrying 30 to f40 illegal migrants. Officer Reiff responded along with vessels from US Customs. They located the suspect vessel heading for the Coco Plum area at a high rate of speed. Officer Reiff followed a short distance behind. The suspect vessel became disabled. Two men jumped into the water and Officer Reiff was able to locate one of the men with his spotlight. A short time later, Officer Reiff retrieved the man from the water, and he was turned over to US Border Patrol for processing. A total of 35 migrants were promptly returned to Cuba.

Tennessee News: Three Tennessee Wildlife Officers were recently recognized for their outstanding work. Mike Stockdale, Wildlife Officer Supervisor/Wildlife Forensic and Analytical Specialist/Wildlife Forensic Lab Director, was recognized by the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies when they presented its prestigious Conservation Law Enforcement award to him at their annual meeting in Montana for his outstanding achievements in conservation law enforcement. Wildlife Officer Pete Creech was named as the TWRA's 2002 "Officer of the Year." Creech was cited both for his work as

session of the Legislature included a substan-

an officer and his public relations efforts for the agency. Officer Creech is located in a small rural county and this honor shows what a dedicated officer can accomplish.

Wildlife Officer Dale Grandstaff has been named the Shikar-Safari International "Officer of the Year" for Tennessee. In addition to an outstanding law enforcement effort, Grandstaff was cited for his frequent television appearances on behalf of the agency and his work with the Northwest High School Environthon team which has participated in national competition.

Louisiana: Agents from the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries in Sabine and Vernon Parishes started receiving calls shortly after 8:00 a.m., on February 1, 2003, from their respective Sheriffs Departments. Debris from the Space Shuttle Columbia was falling in two Texas border parishes. Local citizens reported seeing debris fall into Toledo Bend Reservoir, Anacoco Lake, and Vernon Lake, as well as wooded areas. Wildlife agents were called to assist in search and recovery operations.

At the request of NASA, agents closed Vernon Lake to all boat traffic until the FBI Evidence Recovery Team could recover debris the lake, which included a payload bay door. On February 5, a ground search in Sabine and Vernon Parishes and lead by the FBI began with seven teams consisting of 20 to 22 members. Each team had members from LDWF enforcement, Louisiana state police, the Na tional Guard and the FBI. A local wildlife agent was assigned as a Team Leader for each

team, due to their knowledge of the remote, wooded areas. Despite the rain, sleet and cold weather, as well as rough terrain and dense undergrowth, the ground search was completed by the afternoon of Sunday, February 9. Many small items were recovered during the ground search, including personal items belonging to the Columbia crew. Two of the largest pieces recovered were a landing gear strut and an actuator from a motor.

South Carolina: The South Carolina Department of Natural Resources control, reduce and eliminate litter along roadsides and highways and in natural areas like lakes, beaches, rivers and streams.

he South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (DNR), along with Litter Buster's partners Palmetto Pride and the state Department of Public Safety (DPS) have launched a new program that gets motorists, boaters and concerned citizens involved in the state's fight against litter. Members of the public are encouraged to call a toll-free number to report littering violations.

"This is a great tool for law enforcement that will contribute to a cleaner South Carolina," according to DNR Law Enforcement Division director, Colonel Alvin Wright. "We're combining the watchful eye of the public with contemporary communications technology."

Many people consider red drum to be the most popular saltwater gamefish in the state. Regulations that changed the size and catch limits on these fish were enacted in 2001 to help sustain the population. State conservation

officers are making sure that these regulations are followed in order to protect red drum. Recently DNR officers operating in plainclothes came across anglers fishing from the shore in Folly Creek near the bridge, and the officers decided to check their catches. In addition to what the men had in their coolers, officers found fish hidden by the boardwalk at the nearby clam farm. As a result, 14 cases were made for possessing undersize red drum, and 7 cases were made for possessing more than the legal limit of red drum.

Virginia: RICHMOND, VA - In October 2002, the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF) initiated a surveillance and monitoring program for Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) in free-ranging white-tailed deer. VDGIF game wardens and biologists collected 1,047 white-tailed deer samples from hunters across the state. In addition, tissue samples from hunter-harvested elk were collected. Nearly 75 percent of the samples have been tested and CWD has not been detected in any of them. With the growing concern about the impact of CWD, Virginia officials are anxious to keep their state free of this problem. Deer hunting alone generates more than \$184 million in expenditures in the state, according to the 2001 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation produced by the US Fish and Wildlife Service.



# It's a small world...by Pat Brown

One of the things that I do besides editing the newsletter is teach resource law at the community college in Sault Ste Marie during the winter semester. This is a mandatory course for all 2<sup>nd</sup> year students in the forestry, parks and recreation and fish and wildlife streams. After almost 30 years in the business it is not a hard task and I really enjoy staying in touch with the next generation of gamies. I always start the first class by telling

them who I am and what I do and did, including my involvement with NAWEOA. Imagine my surprise at the end of the first class this year when a student approached and said,

"Hi my name is Stephanie and I work at the museum."

"What museum?" I asked.

"The Game Warden museum at the Peace Gardens, I've worked there for 3 summers!"

Stephanie Eligh is a 2<sup>nd</sup> year F&W student from Brandon, Manitoba. She has worked for NAWEOA at the Peace Gardens for three summers. Being a true supporter of NAWEOA, the second thing she said to me was: "Do you have your tickets for the museum draw?" and proceeded to sell me three tickets on the trip to Neulton Lake. After that we had a good chat about the museum project and people we both know – Del Tibke and Dennis Hlady among others.

Stephanie has landed a position as an Ontario Fire Ranger at Red Lake this summer but she is still a big supporter of our museum.

It is a very small world!



# Region 7 Report by Marion Hoffman

Hi everyone. Hope this finds all of you in good health and anxiously awaiting spring. I would like to take a moment to thank everyone for getting their reports back to me for the newsletter. I truly appreciate it. I would also like to thank the Officers of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission for hosting our Winter Executive Board Meeting. Special thanks go to Officer Hampton Yates and Lt. John Reed for making the board feel welcome. Now on to the reports:

Ryan Healy reports that Connecticut is experiencing budget woes, and has been forced to layoff 9 conservation officers. Unfortunately one of the officers let go was their Conservation Officer of the Year, Tate Begley.

In a recurring theme, Major Thomas Santaguida of the Maine Warden Service reports that they too are going through some difficult times and are facing a severe personnel cut. The proposal would mean the elimination of 3 of 5 Lieutenants, 3 field Sergeants, and 2 field game wardens. On a positive note, Maine has just hired 7 new wardens. Maine just got straight 25 year retirement (at 50%) for wardens hired after Sept. 1, 2002 but not unfortunately for the career wardens already in service.

The Massachusetts Environmental Police have received a commendation from the United States Coast Guard for their assistance in securing the port of Boston after the 9/11 attacks. The MEP was responsible for the escort and security of over 150 cruise ships carrying more than 250,000 passengers. They continue to be active in the homeland security operations in Boston Harbor. In December 2002 the MEP assisted in the apprehension of a fugitive for the Louisiana Dept. of Corrections. He was working on a barge in Boston The MEP and the Coast Guard boarded the vessel via a 60 ft. crane and removed the fugitive by the same means. As the M-2 region is fond of saying, "they will go to any height to make an arrest!'

Also of note is a recent joint enforcement agreement signed by Maine and Massachusetts with the National Marine Fisheries Service. This agreement allowed the Maine Department of Marine Resources Bureau and the Massachusetts Environmental Police to join forces in the enforcement of lobster regulations. During the two and half days of this joint exercise the officers were able to haul and inspect 200 traps and found and seized 48 out-of-compliance traps. Massachusetts also recognized one of their own in the renaming of the Scorton Creek Public Fishing Area in Sandwich, MA to "Craven's Landing" after James Michael Craven, a Massachusetts Environmental Police Officer who died of cancer on November 14, 2001 at the age of 51.

Michelle Wiegand from Michigan reports they are facing a huge budget deficit. Currently they have 18 recruits in training. Michigan has increased the highly successful use of citizen watch patrols for the protection of walleye, steelhead, salmon and sturgeon spawning runs. A program to allow retired Conservation Officers to ride along with active officers is being considered.

Conservation Officer Michael Borkovich was awarded the Shikar Safari Officer of the Year for MI. Officer Borkovich was instrumental in obtaining the issuance of Springfield M1-A 308 caliber rifles for all field officers. Congratulations Mike.

New Hampshire Officer Todd Szewazvk reports that David Walsh has received the NECLEC Officer of the Year award and Jim Kneeland has received the Shikar Safari Officer of the Year Award. Way to go gentlemen! On a down note, Todd also reports major budget cuts that could result in the loss of four positions.

New Hampshire has had a very busy snowmobile season with seven fatalities reported. A recent incident involved a hit and run with a snowmobile and a dog sled. The musher received two broken legs as a result of the accident. Also of note, New Hampshire Fish and Game have become the first state to receive the Intoxilyzer S-D5 Preliminary Breath Test Instrument for field sobriety checks

New Jersey reports they have hired 5 new Conservation Officers and hope to hire 4 more in 2004. They have assigned one officer full time to the "Hooked on Fishing Not on Drugs" program encouraging inner city school children to become involved in fishing rather than drugs or alcohol. New Jersey's Marine Region has stepped up enforcement of the illegal sale of black fish to the New York and Philadelphia markets and collected \$35,000 in fines for their efforts.

New Jersey continues to have a significant number of human vs black bear conflicts. Their training section has been actively training municipal police officers and rangers in the recommended methods of handling these conflicts (i.e. the shooting of rubber buckshot pellets). CO's in NJ are glad to report another 6 1/2 months of deer season have finally concluded with 63,000 deer harvested.

Lt. William Crain of New York is pleased to report on the following NY officers being recognized for their outstanding service. NAWEOA Torch Award Winner ECO Matthew Revenaugh and NAWEOA Award of Valor recipient ECO Jeffrey Cox were recently honored in a ceremony at the Albany Central Office. ECO Keith Isles has been awarded the Shikar Safari Officer of the Year, and the NECLEC Officer of the Year was John Fitzpatrick. ECO Michael Terrel received the National Turkey Foundation Award and ECO Robert Doe received the NYS Rifle and Pistol Association Award for Hunter Safety Instruction.

This spring the Division will take possession of four 31ft. Safe Boats. These vessels will be stationed on various large bodies of water and will be primarily used for extended marine patrols. These vessels will provide a safe working platform in any type of marine disaster. A grant has been received from the Governor's Highway Traffic Safety Council to provide equipment and training in use of the Standardized Field Sobriety Tests.

Waterways Conservation Officer Martha Mackey of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission reports that they continue to experience budget reductions affecting officer training, overtime pay and deputy pay. Despite those budget worries they were able to graduate 10 new Waterways Conservation Officers. The BLE conducted several specialized enforcement details throughout the year. BUI enforcement details resulted in 70 arrests across the state setting a record for the second year in a row.

Bernie Schmader of the Pennsylvania Game Commission reports on a draft resolution currently before the PA House of Representatives that would provide for public hearings on the feasibility of combining the PA Game Commission with the PA Fish and Boat Commission. The Game Commission has gone on record opposing such a merger and many of PA's conservation officers are anxious about the prospects. Bernie asks that if any of you out there have gone through such a merger to please get back to him and let him know your thoughts.

COPA has been very active in sponsoring training sessions this past year. In conjunction with the Game Commission and a grant provided by CLECA a 3 day Wildlife Forensics Class was held. Subjects included shooting incident reconstruction, crime scene photography, evidence collection, DNA collection, blood spatter analysis, time of death, and forensic entomology. COPA is also sponsoring a 3 day training session entitled "Waterfowl Identification and Enforcement Techniques". And last but not least, COPA and NAWEOA will be hosting a 3 day training session this May 6, 7, and 8th. More details and registration forms are available on the NAWEOA website.

Wildlife Conservation Officers Guy Hansen, David Carlini, Chris Ivicic, Steve NAWEOA website.

Wildlife Conservation Officers Guy Hansen, David Carlini, Chris Ivicic, Steve Bernardi, and Team Coordinator Tom Grohol received 1st place in the Four-Man Conservation Officer Revolver Team match held in Jackson, Mississippi during the most recent National Police Shooting Championships.

The PA Game Commission has historically had a viable effective Deputy Wildlife Conservation Officer program unlike any other in the nation and has enjoyed the services of their deputies for over a century now. Bernie reports that plans are currently being formulated to recognize and commemorate the significant contributions these dedicated part-time officers have made to the overall protection

and conservation of their states natural resources.

Rhode Island Environmental Police were very busy last fall investigating two major hunting incidents. One is currently in court and the other is still under investigation.

RI Environmental Police have also been called upon to assist the US Coast Guard with security escorts of liquid petroleum gas tankers heading in and out of the Port of Providence. New mobile data terminals have been placed in several of their patrol vehicles allowing officers to do reports in their vehicles and communicate with dispatch and other officers via

Bob Lewis of Vermont is please to announce that David Gregory has been selected

Vermont Game Warden of the year 2002. David also received the Directors Award by the Vermont State Police for his assistance in solving a large arson case. Congratulations David. Wardens Jim Patch and Norm Brown have retired from the Department after 35 years of service. Congratulations on a job well done. Bob also reports that Wayne Laroche has been appointed Commissioner of Vermont's Fish and Wildlife Department.

Vermont has noticed more hunters and fishermen using talk-about type radios while they are in the outdoors. Some are using them to aid in their illegal activities. More and more cases are being made by the Vermont wardens by monitoring these radio frequencies. Nice going, keep up the good work.

# Vice-President's Report by Jerry Claassen

Since this will be my last report as a member of the NAWEOA executive, I would like to take this opportunity to share a few thoughts. First of all, it has always been a pleasure to be a member of NAWEOA. Although a member since inception, I did not attend a conference until Whistler BC in 1984. The first person we met upon arrival at the Conference was a frazzled Rick Hoar (not until we hosted the 1997 Conference did I realize why Rick was so busy). Since that time we have missed only two of the get-togethers. I am now able to count as friends; officers from California to Nova Scotia, Louisiana to Northwest Territories. I am amazed at how each conference is its own special event. The training just gets better and better, the family participation makes it a wonderful experience for the entire family and the camaraderie is world class. These summer meetings are the only time that the members and the executive are able to come together as a body. At times we have seen a sparse attendance at the business meeting. I would encourage everyone to make an extra effort to participate in these sessions. It is after all YOUR association. If I have any regrets it is that we missed the first two conferences and the activities associated with them.

I often wonder if the founding fathers realized what an organization they were creating. NAWEOA has its own web site at www.naweoa.org (in 1981 a web site had something to do with spiders), NAWEOA owns and publishes its own trade magazine - The International Game Warden, NAWEOA through NAWEMMEC is preparing to break ground on the museum and educational center, NAWEOA has established a Fallen Officer Memorial Fund, NAWEOA sits as an associate member of the National Chief Association, supports regional training sessions and is truly a voice for all officers across North America. Good job to those early pioneers.

I have been fortunate to be elected to the Executive Board; first as the Regional Representative for Region 4 and then as Vice President. I can tell you from my experience that you have a phenomenal executive. I had the pleasure of serving under presidents Gary Martin, Randy Hancock, and Kerry Wrishko. These men, along with the other ladies and gentlemen of the board spend countless hours, forgo many of the fun activities at the conference, and pay much of their own expenses when it comes to NAWEOA functions. Their leadership and dedication to the membership is tremendous. I can assure you all issues brought before the board are given a thorough review and discussion before any action is taken. Also the board is fortunate to have Pat Brown as Newsletter Editor (this is a combined effort with Pat and his wife Valerie). Pat brings a broad knowledge from his days as an officer and now as a college instructor of wildlife law enforcement. We are continually investigating ways to make the newsletter better. Rob Brandenburg has brought NAWEOA (and most of the executive) into the 21st century as our webmaster. When a suggestion is brought forward Rob just exclaims "We can do that!".

NAWEOA is truly fortunate to have a secretary treasurer the caliber of Steve Kleiner. Steve took over after the devastating fire to Merryl Bustin's home and helped resurrect many of our files. Steve has used his organizing skills to provide reports on all phases of NAWEOA business and created a fiscal budget which has allowed us to focus our resources and accomplish many exciting projects. You all know of Del Tibke and his passion for the museum. He lives the museum project day and night.

I would be remiss in not recognizing the jurisdictions who have hosted the annual summer conference. What a monumental task! Without these conferences we would be floundering for funds and most likely not drawing new members. The chairpersons and all who participated in the conference are to be congratulated many times over. The agencies who supported these conferences have demonstrated what fine organizations they really are.

The key link between the Executive board and the membership is the jurisdictional representative. It is the job of these men and women to pass information up and down the line to keep everyone informed. I hope you appreciate the work of these fine folks as their job is crucial to our organization.

One last group to recognize is the hosts for the winter executive meeting. The members might only see a brief "Thank you" in the newsletter recognizing their participation. I can tell you this is a very critical time for the board. Because we only have one day at the annual conference, we must rely on the winter meeting to conduct most of our business. The winter hosts have allowed us to do that in some very special surroundings (from Youth Camps, to law enforcement acamedies to hunting and fishing clubs). Expense to NAWEOA is kept to a minimum and the hosts arrange for cooks so we can keep our nose to the wheel. We would be making very slow progress without those folks. Thank you.

Several times I have been asked "What is NAWEOA doing for me?" To those folks I would first suggest they look on the web site. We will shortly be listing the NAWEOA accomplishments to date. I have given a few of the accomplishments in this report. I believe the primary achievement of NAWEOA is bringing together a group of independent, hardworking individuals who care deeply about the wildlife and fishery resources of this continent. I can personally attest that the more you put into the organization the more you get back. Thank you for the opportunity to participate. I hope to see you in Newfoundland.

# PARKS CANADA – SIDEARM ISSUE UPDATE

A dispute between Parks Canada and its wardens over the question of sidearms has been going on for several years. This dispute ended with a hearing in front of a Canada Labour Board. What follows is a report by National Park Warden Mark MacIntyre on what has gone on since that hearing and the current situation for National Park Wardens.

Most recently Parks Canada appealed the Canada Labour Code ruling, directing them to issue sidearms to national park wardens. The appeal was decided in favour of Parks Canada. The Appeal adjudicator also strongly recommended that Parks Canada address the numerous concerns it had neglected to address over the years, which in part resulted in the original officer safety complaint.

Following the Appeal adjudicators' decision, park wardens applied to the Federal Court of Canada for a Judicial Review of the decision. The application for Judicial Review was accepted and should be concluded in May or June 2003.

In July 2002, Parks Canada senior management officially "outlawed" the term "Warden Service", replacing it with Resource Conservation Function. Park Wardens were informed this was not a form of punishment for their organizing and identifying an employment safety concern though the Canada Labor Code. Many park wardens in the field hold a very different belief. Specifically, park wardens were informed; "The new name "Resource Conservation Function" reflects the broader role of this group of Parks Canada employees. Staff within this function, are not park wardens. Dispatchers, trail crew, fire crew, and marine, ecosystem, human use, CEAA and GIS specialists are included in this function as well."

Parks Canada announced that all maintenance of the public peace (public order) law enforcement in national parks would no longer be the responsibility of park wardens. This was decided after a report commissioned by Parks Canada recommended that unarmed wardens were at risk of injury or death when conducting resource and public peace law enforcement.

Parks Canada's senior management also communicated their belief that park wardens were providing too high a level of enforcement service to the public in national parks. Parks Canada therefore decided that park visitors should no longer receive enforcement service inside national parks beyond the level provided by the nearest area police detachments. Parks Canada made plans for these areas police services (RCMP, OPP or SQ) to conduct all public peace law enforcement in Canada's national parks.

The financial cost to have the RCMP conduct public peace enforcement in all national parks for the last two years was \$43 million dollars. The contract expires in April 2003. The extra police service effort now being requested is again likely to cost more than Parks Canada is able to afford. Any funding for extra police enforcement service in national parks must come from within Parks Canada existing budget. There seemed to be a recent concern that if public peace enforcement is allowed to decline, then Parks Canada revenues may also decline, as national parks become "party parks".

Parks Canada has been fully aware of the lower cost and increased efficiency of having park wardens carry out full law enforcement in national parks. During a federal government initiated enforcement review, the RCMP reviewed the enforcement duties and mandate of all federal departments with law enforcement roles in which Parks Canada

participated at a cost of over \$1,000,000. The review concluded that there was very little law enforcement duty or mandate over-lap between the RCMP and Parks Canada and that maintaining park wardens in their full law enforcement role in national parks was the most cost efficient and effective option. The RCMP Report was finalized and a Cooperate Agreement signed by the RCMP and Parks Canada in April 1997 acknowledging and accepting the full law enforcement role of park wardens in National Parks.

Parks Canada has recently changed its stance with regard to the risk of serious injury or death to park wardens conducting public peace law enforcement in national parks. Parks Canada is now proposing to reinstate unarmed park wardens back into their former role of conducting resource management and public peace law enforcement in national parks. This appears to contradict Parks Canada's previous assertion that public peace enforcement was too dangerous to be conducted by unarmed park wardens.

Parks Canada recently issued new law enforcement policy, ordering that park wardens not put themselves in danger as defined in the Canada Labor Code. This goes without saying; not only would such a thing be unhealthy for a park warden but unlawful under the Canada Labor Code. This direction also dictates no direct intervention when wardens have determined they are at risk of serious injury or death. Contrary to what this policy implies, wardens are not about to put their lives at risk for Parks Canada, especially now! Additionally, park wardens who inadvertently encounter violent subjects must only rely on police intervention to stop the attack. These park wardens can not request backup by fellow wardens since such a scenario would place backup wardens at risk of serious injury or death and contradict the new policy. The concern remains that no park warden will intentionally engage in any law enforcement duty or intervention unless they reasonably believe the intervention can be conducted safely. The ever-present safety concern remains the unpredictability of human behaviour and the ability to deter or stop serious injury or death to a park warden. These safety concerns are the reason resource enforcement officers are issued defensive tools.

Parks Canada accepts that park wardens have a statute-imposed duty to enforce the Canada National Parks Act and maintain the public peace in national parks. However, the new enforcement policy minimizes the role of park wardens in actively protecting national parks and the public who visit them. The new policy indicates that park wardens "first on the scene, are not required to directly intervene in all situations pertaining to the enforcement on the CNPA and the preservation of peace in national parks." The policy suggests that park wardens can avoid the responsibility of their enforcement duty by recommending; "The form of intervention required to discharge their duty in a particular case may vary considerably depending on the assessment of the risk in any given situation. For example, wardens may discharge their duties by calling the police." This begs the question, what use is a statute and policy imposed enforcement duty, if the expected response or involvement is insignificant and/or ineffective?

I will finish off with a quote from the introduction of the Final Report of the Third Party Review of the Strategic Policy and Operational Guidelines of the Parks Canada Agency Warden Service commissioned by Parks Canada, September 2001. "The passion of Wardens for their work as stewards of the environment is, n the opinion of the researchers, unmatched in law enforcement in Canada, and is a resource in itself for the Agency and the National Parks of Canada."

Dear Friends of NAWEOA,

Thank you for your thoughts for our family during our terrible loss of Kris, our son. It has been a blessing to us to know that there are so many people & organizations who have come to us with offers of help. The generous check will help us as we finish up all expenses of funeral, burial and headstone. We appreciate it so much.

The Fallen Officers Participation group are wonderful people. May God bless you all in your endeavours to help others. I know we will be in touch and want more information on the crapping tion.

the organization.

Our son was a wonderful young man. He will be missed forever by so many. We know we need to continue and carry forth his good works.

Thanks again for your support,

The Eggles – Bob, Bonnie and Jennifer Cadillac, MI

Dear Mr. Wrishko,

Thank you so much for your donation in Michael's memory. The children and I have sent the money to the Culver Stockton College softball team in Mike's memory. Our daughter Ashley is a member of the team and Mike was never prouder than when he was watching her play.

Please convey our heartfelt thanks to the other members of NAWEOA. We were deeply touched by your thoughtfulness at our time of grief.

Mrs. Mike Bethell and family Fulton, MO

Thank You ...

# Thank You Note From Family of Tom 0'Hara





Tom O'Hara

We have been traly overwhelmed with the outpouring of love towards our family to our time of loss. Thank you for bloosing no with your pengers and offis.

Dean N.a.w.E.O.a, much for your some some some for your generous giff. It will be a big persons for fore fore, forechon Nebbe, Heide O Hara King Jahnon. AK

October 02, 2002

Dear Randy,

Thank you for your letter and for the very generous check. I thought I was all cried out, but I guess not. Jim didn't have a will so my finances are a bit tied up until the estate is set up and a 6 month minimum probate takes place on the accounts and property that was in his name. Augh! I'm learning all kinds of new things I'd rather not.

Anyways I will probably apply the check to badly needed new tires for my personal truck, and since my chainsaw master is gone I will need to purchase a couple cords of wood, and last but not least I need to pay a hefty bill for the annual inspection on our airplane that we had done just prior to Jim's death. The remainder will go into the scholarship fund if that is appropriate. When all the legal stuff clears up I'll be fine financially, but at the moment I was running a little thin and the NAWEOA check will be very helpful. Please let me know of the best avenue to thank all those who contributed and have very generously thought of me.

Sincerely and with much thanks, Robin Olterman

# 3rd Annual **NAWEOA Museum** 5k Torch Run/Walk

Thursday, July 24, 2003 St. John's, Newfoundland

# ENTRY FORM

# **Entry Fee:**

Adults \$14.00 US -- \$20.00 Can
Children (age 5 through 15) \$10.00 US -- \$13.50 Can
Family Maximum \$48.00 US -- \$67.00 Can

Adult		T-shirt size (cir	Entry fee	
Child? Circle one		Adult	Child	166
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Make check payable to: Federal Wildlife Officers Association

Send check & entry form to:	
Mark Webb	DATE:
5500 Aaron Circle Lincoln, Nebraska 68516	SIGNATURE:

Must be received no later than July 10, 2003 FEE INCLUDES T-SHIRT, ENTRY TO RUN/WALK AND MEAL

# The Newfoundland and Labrador Conservation Officer's Association invites you to the...

# North American Wildlife Enforcement Officers Association's 22nd Annual Conference



Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada - the land of scenic beauty and home of hospitality. Where wildlife abounds.... whales frolic.... icebergs drift lazily by. This is truly where the North American Continent meets the North Atlantic Ocean. Has there ever been a more appropriate place for the annual North American Wildlife Enforcement Officers Conference? Come join us and "Rock on the Sea in 2003" at St. John's, NF, the Province's capital city, from July 21st to July 26th, 2003.

Our guarantee...."The only people disappointed will be the people who didn't make it!"

#### CONFERENCE AGENDA

Wednesday, July 23
NAWEOA Executive Meeting

Thursday, July 24 (morning)
Opening Ceremonies and Tribute to Fallen Officers
Officer's Grand March and Group Photo

Thursday, July 24 (afternoon)

Training sessions

Thursday, July 24 (evening)
Future Conference Bid Presentations

Friday, July 25 (morning)

Training sessions

Friday, July 25 (afternoon)

Warden Skills Day

Saturday, July 26 (morning)

Training sessions

Saturday, July 26 (afternoon)

Training sessions Closing Ceremonies

Confirmed presenters: Royal Newfoundland Constabulary's, Connie Snow (Spousal Impacts of Enforcement Careers); Canadian Wildlife Service's Senior Enforcement Officer, Guy LaFranchise (International Animal Trade); Memorial University's Anthropology Professor, Dr. Elliot Leyton (Anthropology of Wildlife Law Enforcement); Government of Newfoundland and Labrador's Director of Science, Research and Technology, Shane Mahoney (Impacts of Poaching on Big Game Management); and Criminal Defense Lawyer, Jerome Kennedy (Rights of the Wrongfully Convicted). Also presentations by Trent University's Forensic Wildlife Laboratory and The Canadian Coast Guard.

#### Other notes:

Conference registration booth will be open daily from Monday, July 21 to Saturday, July 26 Exhibit booths will be open throughout the Conference



# SPECIAL EVENTS AGENDA

#### Monday, July 21

½ day (AM) - City of Legends Tour ½ day (PM) - Salmonier Nature Park Full day - Conception Bay Tour

### Tuesday, July 22

Full day - Bird Island Boat Tour Full day - Stan Cook Sea Kayaking ½ day (AM) - Cape Spear Tour

#### Wednesday, July 23

Full day - Bird Island Boat Tour Full day - Stan Cook Sea Kayaking Golf Tournament at Pippy Park

#### Thursday, July 24

Officer's Luncheon at hotel Spousal/Guest Luncheon at The Battery Torch Run and BBQ

#### Friday, July 25

NAWEOA Executive Breakfast Retiree's Luncheon Warden Skills Day and Lobster Boil/BBQ

#### Saturday, July 26

Prayer Breakfast

½ day (AM) - Walking Tours of St. John's

½ day (PM) - Downtown Shopping

Final Banquet

Live Auction

Entertainment

#### Social tidbits.....

....hospitality rooms (Monday to Friday).

....silent auction/raffles (Monday to Friday).

....exhibit booths and displays throughout the conference.

...chaperoned youth hospitality rooms (Monday to Friday).

...lots of fully chaperoned youth activities including interpretative events.

...youth pizza party to run concurrently with final banquet.

...enjoy the Newfoundland Fluvarium located at Pippy Park (site of the Warden Skills events).

...the Grand Concourse Walkway bypasses the hotel.

# .... and of course our greatest social event of all...... the City of St. John's !!

Easy transportation links and plenty to experience makes our continent's oldest city, rising spectacularly from the North Atlantic Ocean, a marvel in it's own right. Don't be shy, it's yours to explore.

Visit: www.city.st-johns.nf.ca

A note on planning...our Island - 'til now our best kept secret - is becoming a world renowned tourism destination, meaning travel arrangements can never be made too early. Please book flights, rental vehicles, hotels, and ferries (if driving) well in advance to avoid disappointment.

# **Need more Conference info? Contact:**

Newfoundland and Labrador Conservation Officers Association P.O. Box 640, Bishop Falls, NF, Canada A0H 1C0 Telephone: 709-258-5334/ Fax: 709-258-5873



or visit our website at: www.gov.nf.ca/NAWEOA

# HOTEL RESERVATION INFORMATION

The Holiday Inn - St. John's, conveniently located minutes from St. John's International Airport, and the Trans Canada Highway at exit 47A, has been selected as the host hotel. The hotel is directly adjacent to Pippy Park, site of the warden skills day and golf tournament, and The Grand Concourse trail system which will be used for the Memorial Torch Run.

Amenities at the Host hotel include: outdoor pool, gift shop, beauty salon, fitness center, coin operated laundry, fenced playground, complimentary parking, wheelchair access, and complete dinning service. All 250 rooms include high speed internet, 25" remote control TV with cable, in-room movies and games, hair dryer, iron/board, coffee/tea, and room service.

RATES (up to 4 persons) -- \$120 Can. (Double / King) + applicable taxes Non-Canadian visitors may apply for a 15% sales tax rebate on accommodations

For reservations contact: Holiday Inn - St. John's, 180 Portugal Cove Road, St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada, A1B 2N2
Tel: (709) 722-0506 Fax: (709) 722-9756

or visit: www.holidayinnstjohns.com

Identify yourself as **NAWEOA Conference** guest when making reservations.

Our overflow hotel is The Battery Hotel and Suites. We will be providing a shuttle service from The Battery to all Conference functions and events. Amenities include: indoor pool, sauna, whirlpool, laundry service, complimentary parking,, and complete dinning service. All rooms include internet, remote control TV with cable, in-room movies, complimentary coffee/tea, and room service

For reservations contact: The Battery, 100 Signal Hill Road, St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada, A1A 1B3

Tel: (709) 576-0040 Fax: (709) 576-6943

or visit: www.batteryhotel.com

Identify yourself as NAWEOA Conference guest when making reservations.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Both our host hotel and the overflow hotel are booked near capacity. Some other conveniently located hotels are: Quality Hotel (1-800-228-5151); Airport Plaza (1-800-563-2489); Hotel Newfoundland (Fairmont) (1-800-441-1414); Hillview Terrace Suites (1-888-754-9822); and Delta (1-877-814-770).

#### AIRPORT TRANSPORTATION REQUEST

Fax to: Dave Butler at 709 647 3416

Mail to: Dave Butler, P.O. Box 279 St. George's, NF, Canada A0N 1Z0

E-mail information to: davebutler@gov.nf.ca

NAME:	
NO. OF PEOPLE IN PARTY:	
AIRLINE:	FLIGHT #:
ARRIVAL DATE:	ARRIVAL TIME:
DEPARTURE DATE:	DEPARTURE DATE:

Please note that this service is available from Sunday, July 20 to Sunday, July 27. St. John's Airport is only 5 minutes away from the host hotel in the event you are arriving or departing outside those dates or do not wish to avail of this service.

# North American Wildlife Enforcement Officers Association Annual Conference - St. John's, Newfoundland - July 21 - July 27, 2003 \*\*Do not mail this form after July 1, 2003; On site registration only after this date\*\* (Questions about registration? Call Karen Northcott at 709-256-1460)

Registration also available online - Visit <u>www.gov.nf.ca/NAWEOA</u> and follow the link.

REGISTRATION FORM

*Please print - Total payme		pany this fo	rm. Remit in		ınds only.
DELEGATE REGISTRATION	Name Address				
City	Province/State Postal Code/Zip			p Code	
E-mail	Phone Yrs. Of Service Retired Y			N Voting Member* Y	
Only 1 Spouse/Guest per Full Registration			*For voting	status, cont	act your NAWEOA representative
SPOUSE/GUEST	Name				
YOUTH(18 & Under)	Name				Age
YOUTH(18 & Under)	Name				Age
	l				
REGISTRATION TYPES:					
	Before 5/15/03	After 5/15/03	# of persons	Total	PAYMENT INFORMATION:
Full registration NAWEOA member - Includes all Day	\$115.00	\$130.00	· ·	\$	Cheque# -
Passes Full registration Non-NAWEOA member - Includes Association Membership & all Day Passes	\$135.00	\$150.00		\$	Cheques payable to:
Spouse/Guest - Includes all Day Passes	\$60.00	\$75.00		\$	NLCOA NAWEOA 2003
Youth (5-18); Banquet NOT included	\$20.00	\$25.00		\$	Credit Card: (circle one)
		Sub	o-total	\$	MC VISA
DAY PASSES:					Card #
Note: These items are included in both full registrations	s, spouse/gues	t, and youth	registration		Expiration date:
					Name on card:
	Before 5/15/03	After 5/15/03	# of persons	Total	Signature:
Banquet only - Saturday, July 26	\$50.00	N/A		\$	Date:
	40 				
Skills day - Friday, July 25	\$40.00	\$45.00		\$	
Fraining sessions - Thurs Sun.	\$35.00	\$40.00		\$	REGISTRATION CONTACTS:
Uniform day - Thursday, July 24	\$35.00	\$40.00	o-total	\$	Mail registrations to:
SPECIAL ACTIVITIES.		Sui	o-total	Þ	1. Mail registrations to:  NLCOA Registrations
SPECIAL ACTIVITIES: **No reservations after 5/15/03**					Dept. of Forest Resources & Agrifoods
	Cost	# of persons	Total	1	P.O. Box 2222, Gander, NF
Mon, July 21 (am) - City of Legends Tour	\$30.00		\$	1	Canada, A1V 2N9
Mon, July 21 (pm) - Salmonier Nature Park	\$50.00		\$	1	
Mon, July 21 (all day) - Conception Bay Tour	\$75.00		\$	1	2. Phone registrations to:
Tue, July 22 (am) - Cape Spear Tour	\$30.00		\$	1	1-709-256-1460 (ask for Karen)
Tue, July 22 (all day) - Bird Island Boat Tour	\$55.00		\$	1	(M,W,F; 12 noon - 2:30pm EST)
Tue, July 22 (all day) - Sea Kayaking	\$100.00		\$	]	
Wed, July 23 (all day) - Bird Island Boat Tour	\$55.00		\$	]	3. Fax registrations to:
Wed, July 23 (all day) - Sea Kayaking	\$100.00		\$	]	1-709-256-1459
Wed, July 23 (all day) - Golf Tournament	\$80.00		\$		
Sat, July 26 (am) - St John's Walking Tour	\$30.00		\$	]	4. E-mail registrations to:
Harmoni	ized Sales Tax	(HST) 15 %	\$	]	knorthco@mail.gov.nf.ca
	Sub-t	total	\$	_	5. Visit:
					J. Visit.
				7	www.gov.nf.ca/NAWEOA

Total amount enclosed

#### THE GAME WARDEN MUSEUM NEWS (FORMERLY NAWEM NEWS)

In the last NAWEOA newsletter, we shared the good news about the Museum project:

- 1) We have hired an architect and will be undertaking construction of at least the first phase of the North American Wildlife Enforcement Memorial Museum and Education Centre in
- We will be having our Grand Opening in conjunction with the NAWEOA conference in 2004.

The Game Warden FAQ's article on page 22 of this newsletter provides more information about the project.

#### What Can I do? How Can I help?

Although our supporters have contributed thousands of dollars, this project is still a long way from completion. In addition to "bricks and mortar" there will be costs for exhibits, programming and maintenance. Here are some of the ways, through your own officers association, that you can help:

- · Officer Associations from across the continent have committed To supporting the project with pledges of \$1000, \$5000, \$10,000 and even \$100,000 dollars! These pledges can be spread over any time period-typically this has been five years.
- Several associations are doing special and annual fundraising projects to generate support for the project. For example, the North Dakota Officers Association has raised over \$100,000 through their annual Moose Hunt draw. The Federal Wildlife Officers Association has raised thousands of dollars in just two short years by hosting and coordinating the very successful "Torch Runs" which are rapidly becoming a tradition at the NAWEOA conferences.
- If you or your association can find donations of fishing or hun Ing trips, which you wish to turn over to the Museum project as fundraisers, we will make good use for them.
  - Your association may want to make a contribution to the GAME WARDEN MUSEUM in the name of a fallen officer from your jurisdiction. There are opportunities to purchase or help create exhibits, rooms, fixtures, plantings, or other parts of the project specifically "in memory of Fallen Conservation Officer " You may wish to work with the families of your fallen heroes to be a part of this type of initiative.

#### Other - Non-Monetary Items

In addition to fundraising, associations can help be a part of the Game Warden Museum in many other ways:

We are in the process of creating a database of "stuff" which officers, agencies, or associations may be able to contribute or loan to permanent or temporary displays or exhibits. Some of the items which will be invaluable when that time comes include:

- Equipment, from uniforms and sidearms, to vehicles, vessels, decoys, seized items
- Critters mounts, pelts, bones, study skins,
- Photos and videos especially historical
- Papers and documents including licences, permits, signs, and seals which are a part of our heritage
- Stories of the 'old days", of characters (good guys and bad guys); of innovative officers and techniques, of fallen officers, of funny or otherwise unique cases

Please do not send any items to THE GAME WARDEN MUSEUM yet! If you or your association have items which may be of value, please send a description of the items and contact information to Marion Hoffman at MJFishcop@aol.com OR Phone (845) 331-0899.

#### The NAWEMMEC Board of Directors

Carol Drury Del Tibke, President Gordon Jarvis Dave Grant, Vice President Gary Rankin Dennis Hlady Gary Martin Marion Hoffman Dwayne Strate Paul Hopkins Richard Knapp **Bob Marts** 

#### **Patron Categories**

(	) \$25.00 Single
(	) \$100.00 Organization*
(	) \$750.00 Life
(	) \$3,000.00 Organization Life Membership #
	(\$1,000.00 payment for 3 years)

\* The \$750.00 Life Membership can be purchased by paying at least \$75.00 per year for 10 years. Please let the treasurers know if you are gong to purchase an individual life membership in this manner.

#### Corporate Sustaining Categories #

( ) \$1,000.00 Bronze	( ) \$10,000.00 Gold
( ) \$5,000.00 Silver	( ) \$100,000.00 Platinum

#### **Patron Benefits**

- NAWEMMEC Membership
- NAWEMMEC Patch (new membership only)
- NAWEMMEC Newsletter

Membership levels marked by \* receive a benefit of a certificate. Individual life members have a choice of a certificate, plaque or jacket. Membership levels marked by # receive a plaque.

( ) Please apply my donation to the good works of the NAWEMMEC (The Game Warden Museum). I would rather not receive the additional benefit.

Name	
Address	
City	
State/Prov	Zip/Postal Code

Please make your checks payable to NAWEMMEC and send to the address listed for your country of residence.

All donations are tax deductible.

149(1)(f) Charitable Organization Canada #891309148 RR0001 NAWEMMEC (Canada) Inc. Box 1239

NAWEMMEC (USA) Inc. P.O. Box 28

BOISSEVAIN, MB R0K 0E0 \*www.granite.mb.ca/mnroa

Valley City, ND 58072-0028

501(C)(3) Organization

U.S.A. #45-0436114



(L-R) Director Lawrence E. Johnson; Environmental Conservation Police Officer Jeffrey Cox (Award of Valor); Environmental Conservation Police Officer Matthew Revenaugh (Torch Award); Environmental Conservation Police Officer Marion Hoffman (NAWEOA Director Region 7); and Lt. Col. Leslie Wilson, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation - Division of Law Enforcement.

### NAWEOA

Pat Brown - Editor P.O. Box 676 Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783-0676 PRST STD U.S. POSTAGE PAID SAULT STE. MARIE, MI 49783-0676 PERMIT NO. 73